

Two Trillion 1411

Chapter 1411 - Shocking 4 Thrones

Luo Yuefeng watched Bai Xiaosheng take out his gift, visibly intrigued.

"I wonder what this young man will present as a birthday gift for Wei Tianhe? Is it really a handmade item? Even so, it must be adorned with gold and jade and worth quite a bit," he speculated.

In Luo Yuefeng's eyes, this young man was essentially half a romantic rival to his grandson. His presence at Wei Tianhe's birthday celebration clearly indicated the Wei Family valued him.

This meant his grandson was facing a formidable opponent!

Time to take things seriously!

The Luo Family, starting with him, Luo Yuefeng, had always been proud and couldn't allow themselves to be bested.

Especially when dealing with the Wei Family, and especially during significant events like this!

It was all the more important to protect their reputation!

Noticing his grandfather's focused expression, Luo Danlun bent down and whispered a few words into Luo Yuefeng's ear, briefly summarizing Bai Xiaosheng's background.

Which was, practically none.

Luo Yuefeng couldn't help but glance at Luo Danlun, then turned his stunned gaze back to Bai Xiaosheng.

This young man carried an extraordinary aura, yet he hailed from a small family in China with no connections to speak of?

Not even considered part of a proper clan?

Listening to Danlun's account, Bai Xiaosheng had admitted this to Wei Tianhe's face directly—it seemed unlikely he was lying.

Earlier, the young man had also stated that his gift was handmade. Considering his humble background, jewels and gold embellishments seemed impossible.

Luo Yuefeng unconsciously chuckled, feeling a bit relieved, and exchanged a knowing glance with Luo Danlun.

"If it's about the gift, Danlun's victory is assured!" Luo Yuefeng breathed easier, his confidence restored.

Watching Bai Xiaosheng hesitate before uncovering the red velvet draped box, insisting Wei Tianhe uncover it himself as though aiming for a surprise, Luo Yuefeng found himself amused.

"Young man, what exactly did you make with your own hands that's so mysterious?" Luo Yuefeng couldn't resist laughing.

Bai Xiaosheng turned his head with a smile. "Perhaps Grandpa Luo doesn't know that I have long been aware of Grandpa Wei's fondness for purple clay teapots. So, with a friend's help, I spent half a month meticulously crafting two handmade purple clay teapots."

So that's it—purple clay teapots, handmade ones?

Luo Yuefeng let out a soft laugh.

Judging by his tone, this young man seemed to have realized his gift would fall short and had turned to emotional sentiment instead.

Clearly, they had picked the same gift. His side had chosen the famous Ming Dynasty prime minister Zhang Juzheng's "Whisper" teapot—did this youngster really intend to present his lesser gift head-to-head?

Playing on emotions wasn't necessarily a bad strategy, but making it such a mysterious and precious affair...

Kid, are you alright?

Luo Yuefeng smiled knowingly, watching Bai Xiaosheng.

Born in China, does he know the saying "Comparisons kill people, goods get thrown away when compared"? Does he understand that first impressions of something special can make ordinary things pale by comparison?

...

"Brother Wei, the child's intentions are heartfelt. Hurry and open it so we can take a look," Luo Yuefeng laughed and urged Wei Tianhe.

Wei Tianhe, having already reached out to lift the red velvet covering, paused at Bai Xiaosheng's words and shot him a curious glance.

It seemed he hadn't expected the gift to also be a purple clay teapot.

"Actually, Bai's handwriting has some merit too, and Grandpa Wei appreciates it. Perhaps if you'd presented a handwritten copy, Grandpa Wei might have preferred that." Luo Danlun finally couldn't resist, smiling as he spoke to Bai Xiaosheng.

His smile carried a heightened sense of enjoyment.

Luo Yuefeng also smiled, waving his hand to summon a group still admiring the "Whisper" teapot.

"Ladies, Old Yang, stop fussing with that! Haven't you heard the young man is presenting a gift too, and it's a purple clay teapot! The three of you are elders, couldn't you show him a little respect?"

With that, Luo Yuefeng turned to Bai Xiaosheng with a warm voice and a smile. "Young man, your sincerity matters most. Honestly, gifts don't have to be extravagant—our Wei Family won't mind."

Luo Yuefeng suddenly appeared to comfort Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng merely responded with a faint smile and nodded slightly.

From Bai Xiaosheng's perspective, to be fair, judging the gift purely on value, the purple clay teapot crafted by him and Li Ni lacked fame, had not been market-tested, and would be overstepping to compare it to an antique.

As for the veiled satire in Sir Luo's words, Bai Xiaosheng chose to overlook it out of respect for his seniority and his connection to Grandpa Wei.

"I hope Grandpa Wei doesn't dislike it," Bai Xiaosheng said sincerely to Wei Tianhe.

The contrasting attitudes made the three elders playing with the "Whisper" teapot frown in displeasure.

At a distance, Lin Weiwei couldn't resist showing some discontent. Her glare at Luo Yuefeng's back was sharp and resentful.

Lei Ying nudged her arm subtly, signaling her to stop. If noticed, it could hurt Bai Xiaosheng's standing before Old Mr. Wei.

Lin Weiwei grasped Lei Ying's advice and quickly withdrew her gaze, though her expression retained a hint of frustration.

"Old Luo, I can't stand the way you talk! What, you're just flaunting how great your things are? Or showing off how rich your family is?" The plump elderly lady glared harshly and huffed coldly. "How can you talk like that to a junior, so passive-aggressively?"

"Handmade items exhibit sincerity. If my grandchildren gifted something like this, I'd treasure it far more than some antique," the slender elderly lady interjected softly.

Even the thin elderly gentleman chuckled along and agreed with the two elderly ladies. "I think they are absolutely right. Old Luo, couldn't you just quietly observe while the young man offers his gift? Why must you butt in? You've already brought acclaim to your gift by pulling us over—aren't you satisfied yet?"

Noticing Luo Yuefeng shoot him a resentful look, the thin elderly gentleman pursed his lips with a sly smile and altered course, "Of course, good things are good things. After all, they're both purple clay teapots. How could they compete with your 'Whisper' teapot?"

This thin elderly gentleman was like a leafy twig swaying in the wind, entirely unreliable.

The two elderly ladies initially nodded approvingly at his words, but upon hearing the last line, they both glared at him.

The elderly gentleman chuckled awkwardly and quickly fell silent.

"Alright, alright! We're all getting on in years; let's not argue anymore! We all know each other's personalities too well," Wei Tianhe sighed helplessly, with a hint of amusement, attempting to mediate. "Settle down; I haven't even seen what Sheng brought me yet."

Wei Tianhe offered Bai Xiaosheng a reassuring smile, indicating he shouldn't worry so much.

With all the commotion, everyone's attention turned to Bai Xiaosheng's opened box.

Expecting the worst, the elders couldn't help but root for Bai Xiaosheng, planning to heap compliments on his gift once the velvet cloth was lifted—even if it proved merely average or ordinary. They were determined not to let Luo Yuefeng remain too smug!

Amid everyone's anticipation, Wei Tianhe finally uncovered the red velvet cloth.

"Wow!" The two elderly ladies immediately leaned forward. Before seeing the item clearly, they let out cries of surprise, prepped and ready to lavish praise.

The thin elderly gentleman mimicked their approach.

But once the gift beneath the velvet was revealed, the two elderly ladies and the thin elderly gentleman froze in place. Their gazes locked, their expressions blank before sharpening into pure, astonished fascination.

"This... this..." the plump elderly lady suddenly found herself short of breath.

The slender elderly lady widened her mouth, her voice caught in her throat, unable to take her eyes off the gift.

Even the thin elderly gentleman's eyes bulged visibly. His hands began trembling uncontrollably, as though struck by convulsions.

In just a few moments, these well-established, informed elders were reduced to stunned silence.

With his view blocked, Luo Yuefeng could only distinguish a pair of purple clay teapots. What he could see clearly, however, was the unmistakable shock etched on the faces of the three elders.

"You old geezers! When you were looking at the 'Whisper' teapot earlier, you didn't act like this. Are you doing this on purpose, trying to annoy me?!" Luo Yuefeng scoffed indignantly.

To him, they were merely putting on a show to rile him.

Luo Danlun smirked quietly, believing the elders were playing around.

Standing upright with a clear line of sight, his gaze drifted to inspect Wei Tianhe's expression.

However, upon glimpsing it, his smile froze, replaced by an impossibly astonished look filled with disbelief!

Wei Tianhe's eyes shone like never before, overflowing with brilliance!

The former Family Head of the esteemed Wei Family—acting in such an uncharacteristically unrestrained

Chapter 1412 - These People, They've All Gone Mad...

Luo Danlun felt deeply unsettled, his eyes filled with confusion and disbelief. He couldn't resist glancing at Bai Xiaosheng, who stood right beside him.

Bai Xiaosheng wasn't looking at him but instead at the elders seated around the room.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng's face carried a calm smile, devoid of any hint of arrogance, his demeanor utterly respectful and composed.

"What on earth did this guy bring as a gift? Is this truly handmade?!" Luo Danlun couldn't believe it.

"How is this possible? Something he made with his own hands could astonish these family elders, even Sir Wei, to such an extent!"

He couldn't fathom it and couldn't help but swallow hard.

The elders before him—none of them lacked wealth, possessing riches like mountains of gold and silver.

Their level of discernment was unimaginable to ordinary folk.

Even an ancient artifact like the \$20 million purple clay teapot "Whisper" would merely pique their interest; it would never trigger such a reaction!

Shocked beyond belief, Luo Danlun stepped forward, craning his neck to look inside.

He had to see for himself what kind of object Bai Xiaosheng had brought!

Luo Danlun's grandfather, Luo Yuefeng, initially sat composed, unaffected by the astonished expressions of his old associates.

"These old fellows are just pitying the boy, giving him face on purpose to embarrass me," Luo Yuefeng thought dismissively, even sneering. "Heh, a mere handmade purple clay teapot—how good could it possibly be? These old fellows might want to call black white and a stag a horse, but there are limits. Who's fooling whom here?"

He casually glanced at the two elder companions who weren't particularly interested in purple clay but had sharp judgment.

They'd give an impartial verdict soon enough.

With a cheerful expression, Luo Yuefeng turned his head and suddenly noticed his grandson, Luo Danlun, leaning forward and displaying utterly improper behavior, craning his neck to investigate.

At this, Luo Yuefeng frowned deeply.

Luo Danlun, someone he raised from a young age, had been impeccably taught in etiquette by both Chinese scholars and European butlers. He should never act so discourteously!

But as Luo Yuefeng took in his grandson's expression, he froze.

Luo Danlun's wide-open eyes betrayed sheer astonishment and disbelief, as if he'd seen a ghost.

"The boy's possessed!" Luo Yuefeng was startled, but he quickly dismissed this absurd thought.

At the same time, he noticed that Wei Tianhe from across the table didn't look quite right either.

Even Wei Tianhe's expression had drastically changed, making Luo Yuefeng finally realize something was amiss.

Could those old associates' reactions be genuine?

Were they truly astonished?!

How could this be possible!

Luo Yuefeng refused to believe it.

When the velvet cover was lifted, everyone acted as if they'd lost their minds. Was this a gift in the box or some kind of enchantment?

Luo Yuefeng immediately stood up, placing both hands on the table, leaning forward for a closer look.

He had to see for himself what on earth had caused such shock among his old companions!

Opposite him, Wei Tianhe carefully, reverently lifted out a single purple clay teapot with both hands.

As it came into view, even someone like Luo Yuefeng, who didn't particularly appreciate purple clay teapots, had his eyes light up.

The teapot's body was full and round, its lines elegant, featuring a circular lid with a spherical knob, a short curved spout, and lovely rounded contours, supported by a base with multiple petal-like feet.

While the teapot was free of any ornamentation, its simplicity exuded such understated elegance that it seemed imbued with a unique, almost magical charm.

Most strikingly, the purple clay seemed to emit varying hues depending on the angle of view, reminiscent of a halo-like aura.

Perfectly simple yet profoundly exquisite!

Eight words resonated in everyone's hearts: Remarkable talent lies in pure simplicity.

This teapot transcended the typical realm of purple clay craftsmanship—it was nothing short of a masterpiece!

Even Luo Yuefeng found himself transfixed, whereas Wei Tianhe and three other elders didn't even blink as they stared.

Silence pervaded the room with only the sound of breathing audible.

This extraordinary scene lasted for a full minute until someone finally spoke!

"Brother Wei, let me buy this teapot from you. I'll offer \$50 million!" A plump elder woman directly addressed Wei Tianhe.

Her face was alight with uncontrollable excitement, like a woman beholding a rare gemstone—but in this case, it was a purple clay teapot that had taken her fancy.

"I'll offer \$100 million!" Not waiting for Wei Tianhe's response, a slim elder woman exclaimed.

Her gentle personality contrasted with the plump elder woman's boldness, yet both had suddenly deviated from their usual poise.

"Sister, are you competing with me?!" The plump elder woman glared at the slim elder woman, infuriated.

"Elder sister, we're not short on money, but this item is unique—whoever bids higher wins!" The slim elder woman maintained a polite smile, her tone firm and unyielding.

The bidding quickly skyrocketed to \$100 million!

In US dollars!

Luo Yuefeng watched in disbelief, eyes fixed on the seemingly inconsequential object in Wei Tianhe's hands.

After a few strained breaths, he finally managed to speak, laughing dryly, "This is ridiculous! Is this thing really worth \$100 million?!"

It was a modern product, not a historical artifact. Spending that kind of money was sheer madness!

After all, their own "Whisper" purple clay teapot with documented historical significance was only worth \$20 million!

Could Bai Xiaosheng's handmade teapot achieve such a value?!

Luo Yuefeng refused to believe it.

When he voiced this thought aloud, the plump and slim elder women immediately shot him sharp glares.

Their eyes expressed a unanimous sentiment:

"You're not qualified to comment!"

On the side, a thin elder man hurriedly gestured at Luo Yuefeng, implying, "You're an outsider—don't interrupt!"

Luo Danlun stared in stunned silence, unable to utter a word.

Nearby, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged a glance, their fists clenching quietly.

Two unfamiliar elder women competing fiercely in bidding, with astronomical figures no less—this was true recognition!

Just moments before, Luo Yuefeng and his grandson had scoffed and belittled.

Now behold! This was the genuine value of Xiaosheng's gift!

It utterly eclipsed their "Whisper"!

Watching the two elder women bickering, even Bai Xiaosheng was startled.

"It's already reached \$100 million—around ¥ 600-700 million!" Bai Xiaosheng could hardly believe it himself.

"Maybe I should give up business and just make teapots," Bai Xiaosheng thought cheekily to himself.

But then he dismissed the idea immediately.

These two purple clay teapots had taken every ounce of effort from him and Li Ni, nearly costing them their lives.

Bai Xiaosheng had once overexerted his mind to the point where Red Lotus had issued him a strict warning.

Sure, earning ¥ 600-700 million by risking his life might seem tempting to most, but Bai Xiaosheng wasn't willing—not when achieving promotions like Senior Affairs Officer already granted him a hefty ¥ 500 million, and his next step to Regional President would bring at least ¥ 1 billion! It wasn't worth the risk!

Besides, without that immense motivation driving him before, he wouldn't be able to produce such divine craftsmanship by risking his life again.

Ultimately, it was heaven-sent inspiration that had led to the creation of these masterpieces!

And furthermore, the only people willing to pay such astronomical prices were Wei Tianhe and his circle.

But Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't dare take their money...

With the elder women still "battling" to claim the teapot, the thin elder man couldn't hold back; he ran his tongue over his lips and approached Wei Tianhe.

"Brother Wei, look. If you sell it to either of them, it's bound to cause drama. Maybe... you could sell it to me instead. I'll offer generous concessions on our European partnership deal, collaborating with your Wei Family!"

This elder tried to insert himself into the fray.

Before Wei Tianhe could answer, the two elder women simultaneously glared at him.

"Scram!"

"This isn't your turn!"

The thin elder man flinched, evidently wary of provoking these formidable women, and quickly grinned sheepishly.

"Who said I was selling it? This is a gift from the boy!" Wei Tianhe carefully placed the purple clay teapot back in its box, smirking as he jokingly chided them. "And there's another one. Do you want to see it?"

"Of course!"

The two elder women responded in unison, while the thin elder man's eyes sparkled with anticipation as he nodded repeatedly.

Luo Danlun glanced at his grandfather in silence.

Having learned his lesson, Luo Yuefeng knew better than to speak up again—nobody would listen anyway.

All he could do was watch silently, his expression complex.

Wei Tianhe brought out the other purple clay teapot.

The crowd let out a collective gasp.

This teapot featured decorations of plum blossom, orchid, bamboo, and chrysanthemum—the "Four Gentlemen" of Chinese artistry. The orchid served as its base, its body adorned with plum blossoms and chrysanthemums, while its spout and handle took the form of bamboo.

"Four Gentlemen" combined into one, encapsulating their nobility, grace, resilience, and tranquility within a single design!

The craftsmanship, both in form and artistry, was nothing short of breathtaking—lifelike and harmonious in every aspect!

Purple clay teapots are categorized as either "simple wares" or "decorative wares."

If the previous teapot was the pinnacle of "simple wares," then this one was a "decorative ware" divine artifact!

"Brother Wei, leave one for me—the price is negotiable!"

"You can't hog both of these divine artifacts, Brother Wei!"

"If you won't sell, can I at least rent one to keep at home?"

The two elder women and the thin elder man, seemingly going mad, began shouting at once.

Wei Tianhe quickly put the teapot back into its box and covered it with the lid, clutching the box protectively against his chest.

"Are you three insane? This belongs to the Wei Family! It's not for sale! And renting it? Forget it!"

Wei Tianhe turned to Bai Xiaosheng, his eyes glowing brightly, and laughed heartily. "Good boy, I didn't know you possessed such talent! If only I'd known, I would have invited you to the Wei Family long ago for some quality time together!"

Wei Tianhe's words seemed to spark realization in the other three elders.

They all turned toward Bai Xiaosheng in unison, their expressions predatory, as if he were prey, startling Bai Xiaosheng.

"Young man!" This time, the thin elder man shouted first.

He nearly jumped in exhilaration, pointing at Bai Xiaosheng as he cried, "I also have a granddaughter—she's gorgeous! Let me introduce you two!"

Chapter 1413 - The Wei Family's Acknowledgment!

Bai Xiaosheng's two handcrafted purple clay teapots unveiled, instantly making him "famous" and the center of attention.

The plump old lady, the thin old lady, and the scrawny old man didn't hold back; they pulled Bai Xiaosheng directly into a seat and surrounded him.

The three elders beamed at Bai Xiaosheng, their smiles overflowing. If not for their glowing eyes giving off an eerie vibe, they might have appeared truly kind-hearted.

The scrawny old man was the first to bring it up—he wanted to introduce his granddaughter to Bai Xiaosheng.

The plump old lady, however, quickly seized control of the conversation, firmly taking the reins while shooting down the scrawny old man's claims. "Kid, don't listen to him! His granddaughters? Either already married or still in diapers! The ones I've met who are of age look just like him—skinny as a rail. How can they compare to my granddaughter!"

As she spoke, the plump old lady smiled warmly and held Bai Xiaosheng's hand.

"I can tell we're destined to meet, just you and me. This young man has striking looks, polished manners, and such rare craftsmanship—truly exceptional. I heard just now that you excel in other areas too, didn't your couplets get framed by Wei and hung in his study? Tsk tsk, look at that! Wei treating it so highly—surely, your calligraphy is as extraordinary as your teapot-making skills! Now, how about this: I'll have my granddaughters send their photos over later, so you can take a look first. We see if anyone catches your eye, okay?"

Upon hearing the plump old lady, the scrawny old man wasn't happy at all.

"Hey! Sister, I don't like what you're saying! What do you mean skinny as a rail? My granddaughter is well-proportioned, graceful, and beautiful! She's a medical doctor—a true stunner, prettier than a

celebrity. You must've been talking about her childhood days!" the scrawny old man protested, craning his neck forward.

"Quit crowding, move over!"

The plump old lady glared at him, then gave him a shove. The move nearly had the scrawny old man sliding off his stool.

Embarrassed and flustered, the scrawny old man muttered, "Resorting to force, huh..."

"Sister, it's unfair to swoop in and claim this promising young man for your family!" On the side, the thin old lady spoke up, defending justice in a dignified tone.

From the moment she stepped in, her graceful demeanor and excellent manners shone.

In this situation, she remained calm and composed.

"Well said," the scrawny old man chimed in.

Finally, someone who hadn't been blinded by bias!

The scrawny old man thought he'd found an ally and seized the moment to jump in.

"My granddaughters aren't bad either, so shouldn't we balance the opportunities a bit?" The thin old lady ignored him, instead cheerfully proposing to the plump old lady, "We're all from prestigious families, already so close across generations. When we meet exceptional talent like this, hogging him without leaving a chance for others—it simply doesn't sit well, does it?"

The scrawny old man stared at the thin old lady, shocked, then burst out angrily, "Oh great, you too..."

"My family can't be left out!" The scrawny old man straightened his neck and declared forcefully.

Bai Xiaosheng, sitting off to the side, was utterly speechless.

Being pulled into a seat was initially a gesture of honor. Didn't you notice Luo Danlun's envious gaze?

But the more he listened, the more something felt off!

Starting with the scrawny old man's remarks, the topic seemed to have veered wildly, as if it had reached the South Pole!

How did it turn into matchmaking for him!

These elders, so enamored with purple clay teapots, were even willing to put their granddaughters on the line?

Was it really that exaggerated?

Bai Xiaosheng was baffled.

To be fair, in ordinary families, elders often treated matchmaking as a matter of "sizing people up." If they liked a young man or thought a girl was decent, they'd instinctively want to introduce their unmarried children and grandchildren, hoping they'd hit it off. With both families' circumstances aligning, it would result in a match.

Among elite families, the stakes were higher; sometimes marriage even became a bond of mutual interests between clans. Yet deep down, the process followed the same formula!

Bai Xiaosheng, being invited into Wei Tianhe's inner circle, naturally had impeccable character and abilities—undoubtedly vetted thoroughly by the Wei Family.

Then there was his purple clay teapot craftsmanship. Producing just a few teapots a year could rival the profits of a prosperous company. And hearing that his calligraphy matched this level of mastery? Simply remarkable!

Such accomplishments at such a young age—if nurtured and guided properly—he’d become an extraordinary talent!

Not to mention his decent looks and impeccable manners!

An absolute rarity!

How could these elders not be moved!

Luo Danlun, standing off to the side, was feeling downright bitter!

Without comparison, there’d be no harm!

Watching this peer become the darling of these family elders while he himself stood abandoned and unnoticed—it was crushing...

He felt like no one wanted him, like he was worthless...

Luo Yuefeng, seated nearby, looked on at the events unfolding with an equally sour expression.

Earlier, those three geezers had complained he was blocking their space and shoved him aside.

Absolutely outrageous!

His precious grandson was also sidelined, ignored by everyone—how utterly embarrassing!

But what could he do?

Years ago, he'd tentatively proposed a union between the two families, pushing for a match involving Luo Danlun.

And what came of it?

The plump old lady had flatly rejected him, claiming modern marriages value freedom and shouldn't sacrifice children's happiness for family interests, even mocking him for his outdated views that failed to keep pace with contemporary family values!

He'd similarly hinted to the thin old lady—and failed there too!

So how could he explain this now!

These two opponents of arranged marriages, the so-called trendsetters, were happily matchmaking for their own granddaughters!

Chapter 1414 - Wei Family Recognition!_2

Luo Yuefeng was feeling utterly depressed inside.

He knew speaking up now would be asking for trouble.

Who would've thought, after maintaining his dignity for a lifetime, damn it, he'd lose all face over his grandson's marriage...

My grandson isn't bad at all!

Luo Yuefeng glanced at Luo Danlun, and the more he looked, the more satisfied he became. He couldn't find a single flaw in the boy.

Which only made him feel even more stifled...

On the other side, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged speechless glances.

Even they were stunned and found themselves at a loss for words.

How did things come to this?

Bai Xiaosheng came to the Wei Family seeking approval, but somehow he turned into the coveted target of several family elders?

Nonetheless, even in this odd situation, the two of them were secretly delighted. Bai Xiaosheng was simply too outstanding. Being recognized by so many people might actually help him win the Wei Family's approval.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying couldn't help but look toward Wei Tianhe.

The argument had been going on for a while now, yet Old Mr. Wei hadn't spoken up.

"Have you all had enough of this ruckus?!"

Wei Tianhe lightly tapped the table, finally speaking up to put a stop to the commotion.

Just a moment ago, he'd quietly called over a servant to discreetly send the box containing two Yixing teapots away, lest his old friends fixate on it. Now bringing his focus back, he decided it was time to end this embarrassing scene.

The two old ladies and the thin old man jolted in surprise, all turning to look at Wei Tianhe.

"This boy came to the Wei Family to court my granddaughter. What are you all doing, trying to snatch him away?" Wei Tianhe said with authority. "Well, I don't agree to that!"

The trio exchanged glances before smiling back at Wei Tianhe.

"Come on now, Old Brother Wei, don't be angry. You know, every year there are plenty of boys coming to court your precious granddaughter. How many have actually become your granddaughter's husband? Fate is quite mysterious. What if they don't end up liking each other? What if your Wei Family doesn't approve of them being together?"

"Exactly, and besides, Luo's grandson is here, isn't he? What if he becomes your grandson-in-law? Why can't we take this boy then, huh?"

"Right, nothing's been decided yet. You can't just tie him down like this."

The three elders took turns spouting their twisted logic.

Wei Tianhe found it both infuriating and amusing to listen.

"When did the three of you become so united?" Wei Tianhe sneered, then turned to Bai Xiaosheng, his expression softening. "Kid, do you truly like Xuelian? Did you come here today hoping for our blessing to pursue her?"

Hearing Sir Wei ask this question, Bai Xiaosheng immediately straightened his back, his eyes lighting up as he firmly nodded and declared, "Yes!"

"Good! Then I'll allow it. I give you permission to pursue her. No one in the Wei Family will oppose you, and anyone who dares to interfere will have to deal with me!" Wei Tianhe slapped the table decisively.

"Thank you, Sir Wei!" Bai Xiaosheng's eyes gleamed with joy as he repeatedly thanked Wei Tianhe.

As the patriarch of the Wei Family, his approval and support meant that no one else would dare to oppose.

Besides, Bai Xiaosheng's future father-in-law and brother-in-law both seemed to be supportive of him as well.

The Wei Family had acknowledged him!

Thinking about the smooth road ahead, Bai Xiaosheng felt the burden that had weighed on his heart for three years lift in an instant.

Finally, he could openly meet with Xuelian and go out with her!

Finally, he could be with Xuelian legitimately!

This happiness was something no one else could truly understand!

On the other side, Lin Weiwei's beautiful eyes subtly shimmered with tears. She felt incredibly happy, yet at the same time, a touch of sadness lingered.

That strange feeling of smiling with an urge to cry—it was such an odd sensation...

Seeing Wei Tianhe's decision, Luo Danlun grew anxious, and Luo Yuefeng couldn't resist wanting to speak up but once again fell behind.

The plump old lady started mumbling, "Allowing him to pursue doesn't mean it's locked in... Fine, if it works out, I'll give the boy a big red envelope. If it doesn't, I'll still keep him in mind!"

The thin old lady and the thin old man silently nodded.

But Wei Tianhe couldn't be bothered to argue with them.

"Where are those two Yixing teapots?!" the thin old man suddenly exclaimed, as if snapping out of a trance.

The other two immediately realized as well.

The teapots were gone!

"I was afraid they'd get stuck in your eyes, so I took them away first," Wei Tianhe grumbled.

At that moment, the elder no longer looked like the calm, dignified patriarch of the previous generation of the Wei Family. He even seemed to lose the imposing aura he had just displayed moments ago.

He looked, unmistakably, like a cranky old child guarding his treasure.

The two old ladies and the thin old man began clamoring, demanding to see the teapots, but Wei Tianhe stubbornly refused.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but smile at the sight.

"I can't wait to share this wonderful news with Xuelian!" Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself, his gaze turning distant.

Xuelian, where could she be right now...

At this moment, halfway up the mountain, there was a slate-paved platform where stoves were neatly arranged to one side. The Wei Family's chefs, dressed in pristine white uniforms, were busy with their teams preparing the midday feast.

Most of the ingredients here came from their own estate.

The pork was from black-soil pigs, the chicken was free-range, and the fish, shrimp, and crabs had just been caught, brimming with freshness. The vegetables were all organic, and even the mountain mushrooms were specially cultivated.

Of course, a few exceptionally rare and premium ingredients for this meal were flown in directly from overseas via private jet.

Wei Xuelian was here, effortlessly overseeing the preparations.

Her parents, Wei Changzun and his wife, had intentionally arranged for her to handle things here.

The reason was simple: to keep their precious daughter occupied and create an opportunity for her to meet the young man she had feelings for.

Wei Xuelian, being gentle and virtuous, naturally saw through their intention, but she complied anyway.

There wasn't much for her to actually manage, so she just wandered around at her leisure.

Chapter 1415 - Recognized by the Wei Family!_3

The weather in Ganande has always been nice, with fresh air and little wind. On this terrace, many redwood dining tables are lined up for the older generation and even their grandchildren to dine here.

At Grandpa Wei Tianhe's place, in past years, only outstanding children from the family and the Family Head would accompany him.

Wei Xuelian is on a call from her cousin Wei Moran. She originally planned to come back, but the filming in Europe is at a critical stage. Grandpa Wei Tianhe also dotes on this little girl and made a special allowance for her not to return.

"It's been a long time since I've seen Bai Xiaosheng. I didn't expect he'd really visit your house. Say hi to him for me and tell him to keep up the great work." Wei Moran specifically instructed on the phone, half-jokingly adding, "I really like him too."

Wei Xuelian replied with a smile and also reminded her to take care of her health.

Just after hanging up, someone came looking for Wei Xuelian.

It was Wei Xueqi.

"Brother, why did you come over?" Wei Xuelian couldn't help but ask curiously.

"Just came to look around and have a few words with you." Wei Xueqi smiled.

Then, he gestured for Wei Xuelian to come over to the corner.

"This time, I've met the young man you like." Wei Xueqi smiled, "He's not bad, quite an interesting guy."

"What did you guys talk about? Brother, you didn't threaten him, did you?" Wei Xuelian looked at her brother suspiciously.

Wei Xueqi laughed loudly, "They say daughters are born to leave the family, but even my extraordinary sister couldn't escape that fate, huh? Do you look at your brother this way because you care about him?"

Wei Xueqi's teasing made Wei Xuelian blush, muttering, "No... I didn't."

"Alright, knowing you're here but your mind is elsewhere, you must be thinking about how things are on his side. So, I specially came over, firstly, to check on the lunch preparations since it's about to start. Secondly, to tell you about his situation." Seeing Wei Xuelian's expression, Wei Xueqi smiled, got straight to the point without beating around the bush, and stopped teasing his sister.

Bai Xiaosheng speculated that Wei Xueqi might have planted spies in his own family. Yes, but also no. In any event, someone was informing Wei Xueqi of various things.

So what Wei Xueqi knows is timely and detailed.

From when Bai Xiaosheng arrived to when Lu Yun and others came by to support, then to Bai Xiaosheng visiting Grandpa Wei Tianhe's place.

Wei Xueqi told his sister everything he knew.

Wei Xuelian listened intently, her smile exceptionally charming.

"It's been a long time since I've seen Xuelian smile so genuinely from the heart." Wei Xueqi thought to himself with a smile, "Bai Xiaosheng, you really are the one my sister wholeheartedly likes! I hope you don't let her down, or I won't let you off!"

"Alright, now you know the general situation. I'm not sure of more than that. Anyway, right now, Bai Xiaosheng can sit with Grandpa and others, chatting and joking. That's his ability, and everything should go smoothly! With Grandpa's approval, your matter should have no obstacles." Wei Xueqi smiled, "This year is different from the past. Grandpa has friends over, and so does Dad, so uncles and we younger ones will eat here. Discuss with the butler for some seating arrangements. You can have Bai Xiaosheng sit right next to you. You shouldn't busy yourself; you deserve a little benefit, right? How does that sound, tempting isn't it?"

"Brother, what are you talking about?" Wei Xuelian said, a bit embarrassed.

Wei Xueqi laughed heartily, "Alright, I should also go check if there are any new developments."

"I'll see you off," Wei Xuelian said quickly.

Wei Xueqi nodded. Just as he was about to leave, his phone rang in his pocket.

He took out his phone, glanced at the name, and was puzzled, "It's Mr. He? Is Grandpa planning to start the meal early?"

There was still half an hour until lunch, but it wouldn't be surprising if some old friends wanted to have a drink first.

In fact, Wei Xueqi had called ahead of time to notify the kitchen to be prepared.

Wei Xuelian thought the same, waiting for her brother to hear the request from the phone and make arrangements.

"Bai Xiaosheng should be coming down shortly. I need to arrange for him to sit at my table," Wei Xuelian thought to herself, a blush spreading over her cheeks.

"Yes, alright, no problem." Wei Xueqi replied with a smile on the phone, but then he suddenly froze, looking a bit surprised, "Did you say, Bai Xiaosheng!"

"Yes, understood!" Wei Xueqi said seriously.

Wei Xuelian watched as Wei Xueqi's expression changed, becoming tense. She immediately felt nervous.

What did brother hear from Mr. He to have this expression, and why mention Bai Xiaosheng's name? Is something wrong on that side!

Did Bai Xiaosheng run into some trouble?!

Wei Xuelian immediately became anxious, focusing intently on Wei Xueqi.

Putting away his phone, Wei Xueqi looked at his nervous sister and laughed, "Don't worry, it's not bad news."

Upon hearing this, Wei Xuelian let out a sigh of relief.

"It's just that the person you admire is quite impressive!" Wei Xueqi exclaimed, "Today, at Grandpa's table, besides a few old friends of his, the only younger person accompanying is him!"

Wei Xuelian was stunned.

Wei Xueqi couldn't hold back his admiration, "My future brother-in-law, truly impressive!"

Chapter 1416 - I Will Buy It, Your 20 Years of Youth

The "Bell Chime Pavilion" in the mountaintop courtyard is an elegant pavilion with rich traditional Chinese style, renowned within the Wei Family.

The pavilion is situated on elevated ground, offering excellent views, with a stream trickling in front, and wind chimes ringing under the pavilion eaves, creating a unique charm.

Inside the pavilion, there's a round rosewood table with eight rosewood stools, accommodating eight people.

In previous years, Wei Tianhe would dine here on his birthday, and this year is no exception.

In past years, apart from Wei Changzun, the Patriarch of the Wei Family, the remaining seats would be allocated to the most outstanding juniors in the family over the year.

This is both an honor and a reward, as well as a deliberate measure by the elders to encourage the younger generation.

However, this year is different from previous years, as Wei Tianhe is accompanied by a group of old friends.

There is one exception, which is Bai Xiaosheng.

Even Luo Danlun was asked to leave by Mr. He, saying he would take him to the mountainside to dine with the other geniuses of the Wei Family.

On normal occasions, this would be a great honor.

But today, seeing Bai Xiaosheng being allowed to stay, Luo Danlun was genuinely reluctant as he departed.

Luo Yuefeng was also quite helpless.

"Bell Chime Pavilion" only has eight seats in total; Wei Tianhe occupies one, and six of his old friends came, leaving just one seat. Wei Changzun had important guests to attend to, so he naturally couldn't accompany. Thus, the remaining seat had to be found from among the juniors. Bai Xiaosheng alone received the support of Wei Tianhe and four of his old friends, so what else could be said!

Luo Yuefeng felt disheartened as he watched his grandson walk away dejectedly.

Fortunately, Wei Tianhe hadn't forbidden Luo Danlun from pursuing Wei Xuelian, but it was just a non-rejection without direct support, unlike the considerable backing for Bai Xiaosheng...

"Perhaps, I shouldn't get involved, letting the younger generation handle their own affairs. Am I really worried Dan Lun won't find a wife?" Luo Yuefeng couldn't help but mock himself silently.

In the "Bell Chime Pavilion," everyone took their seats.

Wei Tianhe kept Bai Xiaosheng by his side, with the plump old lady right next to Bai Xiaosheng.

The evening in the mountains was a bit cool, but at this time of day, it was quite comfortable, with the sky blue and high, calm and windless. Enjoying the view while sipping drinks was truly one of life's enjoyments.

It seemed like the two purple clay teapots were out of the question. Wei Tianhe, being frugal, put them away immediately, not allowing anyone to even glance at them.

However, the maker of the purple clay teapots was right there!

The two old ladies began an emotional offensive, chatting with Bai Xiaosheng, with even the thin old man frequently interjecting, trying to build rapport.

Learning that Bai Xiaosheng, at such a young age, had already become a Senior Affairs Officer for the Greater China Region of the Zhenbei Group, solely through his own efforts, rising step by step from the bottom, they were full of praise.

The intention behind their words was clear, merely a thin windowpane away from being explicit.

"Elders, I understand your thoughts. But right now, I truly have no time to make purple clay teapots. My energy is entirely focused on my career," Bai Xiaosheng sincerely apologized.

Hearing this, Wei Tianhe stroked his beard and laughed heartily, "Yes, yes, for a man, career should be the priority, one shouldn't neglect the essential for the trivial."

The future son-in-law of the Wei Family ought to be a talent in business.

Moreover, Wei Tianhe didn't want Bai Xiaosheng creating exquisite purple clay teapots that his old friends would covet, leaving him envious.

The two old ladies and the thin old man were immediately disappointed.

"Why not resign from that Senior Affairs Officer position and come to our family instead? We'll double your current compensation!" The thin old man's eyes lit up as he couldn't help suggesting.

The eyes of the two old ladies, which had dimmed, suddenly glowed with excitement.

"Double the salary! Is that really what Bai Xiaosheng cares about? He can sell a single purple clay teapot for a million US dollars, suffice it to say. Would he care about money! What the child wants is a promising future! Child, come to Grandma, I will tailor a high position for you, guaranteeing your fame in the business world within ten years!" The plump old lady continued her talent-snatching tactics.

Her words left the thin old man mumbling in irritation.

"Thank you, but I think I'm quite satisfied with my current job." Bai Xiaosheng smiled as he politely declined.

The plump old lady was about to speak again when the thin old lady interrupted—

"Child, is it the Zhenbei Group's brand that you're fond of? Indeed, that group is more powerful than our families, even more than Wei's here. You liking it is right. I have some acquaintances among the senior management of Zhenbei Group, I can help you climb higher. How about it?"

The thin old lady spoke earnestly.

This was not just for a purple clay teapot but also a wise investment if investing in a young man valued by the Wei Family, it was a sound relationship, a kind of cultivation.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the thin old lady in slight surprise.

This granny even has connections among the high ranks within the Zhenbei Group?!

"Sister, why are you always against me today!" The plump old lady complained unhappily, "It's as if no one else has connections! Xiaosheng, if I make some maneuvers, I too can help you become a regional head in the Zhenbei Group in five, no, three years, or even further!"

The thin old man hurriedly said, "I can also give it a try!"

In this "scramble," the three elderly people were also demonstrating their formidable capabilities.

If they were willing, Bai Xiaosheng would undoubtedly find his path even smoother.

Wei Tianhe couldn't help but watch Bai Xiaosheng with a smile. Although he hadn't spoken, the Wei Family's influence would only surpass others.

Chapter 1417 - I Will Buy It - Your 20 Years of Youth_2

Wei Tianhe just wanted to see if Bai Xiaosheng could resist this temptation.

"I, Bai Xiaosheng, thank you all for your kindness. However, the path I walk must be my own; that's the only way it holds meaning."

Bai Xiaosheng said something that sounded rather "juvenile," yet it was undeniably the truth: in the Zhenbei Group's development, no one could truly lend him a hand.

What's more, the elders' promise was to help him rise to greater heights within three to five years.

For others, this would undoubtedly be thrilling.

But for Bai Xiaosheng, it didn't resonate much, because—

Too slow!

With Red Lotus assisting him, with promotion scores and tasks, he could progress far faster than they ever could help him!

If he could do even better on his own, why rely on others?

Besides, his next step was heading to headquarters to defeat Shen Peishen and directly aim for the president-level position in the Greater China Region!

Thus, Bai Xiaosheng didn't even hesitate before rejecting the offer outright.

To Wei Tianhe and the others, Bai Xiaosheng's decisive refusal of this monumental temptation gave them a favorable impression of his character.

Wei Tianhe grew even fonder of Bai Xiaosheng, smiling as he remarked, "This is how a real man should be—walking his own path is the only way to go further!"

The two elder ladies exchanged glances, smiled, and gave a nod, their opinion of Bai Xiaosheng rising even higher.

Even the thin elder gentleman couldn't help himself and gave a thumbs up, "Kid, you've got guts! No wonder the Wei Family allowed a boy without any background to pursue their most outstanding daughter! With such poise, there's no doubt you'll make us see you in a new light someday!"

Such praise was genuinely significant.

Luo Yuefeng and the other two elders couldn't help but give Bai Xiaosheng a second look.

To be honest, they too found Bai Xiaosheng's ambition and determination admirable.

Luo Yuefeng even harbored a passing thought: "Dan Lun might not measure up to him."

"What a pity, such a fine young man, why isn't he a descendant of my Luo Family!" Inside, Luo Yuefeng felt a wave of regret.

Seeing that "bribery" wasn't going to work, the two elder ladies seemed somewhat low-spirited.

But Bai Xiaosheng smiled and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I actually have a friend in Huaxia who specializes in crafting purple clay teapots. The two I gifted to Sir Wei had a great deal of his heart poured into them. Perhaps I could have him send a few of his best works here later; how about that?"

Bai Xiaosheng was, of course, referring to Li Ni.

As soon as he said this, the three elders' eyes lit up.

Wei Tianhe, however, got anxious and kept staring at Bai Xiaosheng. How could this kid be so naive, blurted it out without consulting him first? Good stuff should naturally stay within the family!

Smiling, Bai Xiaosheng continued, "However, my friend doesn't like being disturbed, so his creations can only pass through me. I wouldn't dare trouble you all directly, so how about I send them to Sir Wei, and you elder friends can see them and chat when you gather? As for how to divide the teapots, I, as a junior, have no right to interfere."

With that comment, Wei Tianhe beamed, looking at Bai Xiaosheng with increasing approval.

The plump elder lady, the thin elder lady, and the thin elder gentleman were all sharp enough to notice Bai Xiaosheng was simultaneously trying to please them while catering to Wei Tianhe, and they couldn't help but look at the young man fondly.

Initially, they thought he was just an honest and straightforward junior—now look at him, brimming with tactful cleverness...

As everyone chatted, the food and wine were soon served.

The dishes, while not all rare delicacies, were undeniably crafted with top-tier culinary skill, making them a delight to savor.

Bai Xiaosheng sat with the elders, enjoying the Wei Family's fine brews and exquisite food.

At the Bell Chime Pavilion, laughter filled the air.

Meanwhile, halfway up the mountain, peers of Wei Xueqi were also taking their seats. Those remarkable figures of the Wei Family—rarely assembling together—naturally had endless topics to discuss. The hottest of all? The outsider who'd come today to woo Xuelian and had even managed to dine with Grandpa.

These Wei Family prodigies, each renowned in their own right, couldn't resist gossiping about this unexpected development.

Sitting at the lowest-tier table, Wei Xueyuan heard this news and was utterly stunned, sitting there dumbfounded, his mind awash with complicated emotions.

...

The banquet lasted until two in the afternoon before finally concluding.

Wei Tianhe, who often took afternoon naps, was clearly running late for his rest.

During post-meal tea, Mr. He insisted that Wei Tianhe take a break, and he eventually agreed.

Luo Yuefeng and the others also took their leave.

Luo Yuefeng, having come in high spirits but left disappointed, departed with a sense of defeat, his gait showing traces of lethargy.

The three elder ladies, though they didn't receive any purple clay teapots, felt there might be opportunities ahead and left with a sliver of anticipation.

Before leaving, they repeatedly instructed Bai Xiaosheng and Wei Tianhe, only departing after the reminders.

When the group of old companions was gone, Wei Tianhe prepared to rest as well.

Before leaving, he specifically called Bai Xiaosheng forward, "What I promised you has been communicated, and Zhangzun will handle the arrangements. But that doesn't mean it will be smooth sailing for you and Xuelian... There's still a massive hurdle waiting for you, though I believe you'll overcome it..."

Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily puzzled.

Wei Tianhe smiled and patted his shoulder, "You'll understand soon enough. I have faith in you!"

With this cryptic message left, Wei Tianhe strode away.

Mr. He arranged for someone to escort Bai Xiaosheng down the mountain.

At the mountain's top trailhead, Bai Xiaosheng reunited with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, and they began heading down together.

Before reaching the halfway point, they were intercepted by someone who said the Family Head wanted to see them.

The Family Head, Wei Changzun, was Wei Xuelian's father and Bai Xiaosheng's prospective future father-in-law. Bai Xiaosheng didn't dare tarry and immediately followed the person down the mountain along with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

Chapter 1418 - I Will Buy It, Your 20 Years of Youth_3

Upon reaching the mountainside courtyard, the man led Bai Xiaosheng through a winding path into a yard. Then, he stopped Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, pointed to a room, and smiled, "Mr. Sheng, that is the Patriarch's study—it's generally off-limits to outsiders. You're a special exception; the Patriarch is waiting for you inside."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, expressed his thanks, and walked over alone.

Opening the wooden door, Bai Xiaosheng saw that Wei Changzun was indeed seated behind a redwood desk in the room. Upon his arrival, Wei Changzun gave him a smile.

"Come in, Sheng. I have a few things to say to you alone," Wei Changzun said with a calm and even demeanor, smiling.

"Yes, Uncle Wei." Bai Xiaosheng dared not be disrespectful, turned to shut the door, and then walked over. Following Wei Changzun's indication, he sat down on the chair opposite him.

Before speaking, Wei Changzun carefully studied Bai Xiaosheng.

Although Bai Xiaosheng felt slightly puzzled, he smiled and maintained his composure.

"Not bad," Wei Changzun said approvingly, as if commending Bai Xiaosheng's calm determination.

As the Patriarch of the powerful Wei Family, Wei Changzun possessed an authoritative presence; his gaze alone could inspire fear, causing even the strong to lower themselves. Yet Bai Xiaosheng remained undaunted, meeting his gaze head-on—a remarkable feat.

"So, you wish to pursue Xuelian? Her grandfather has already agreed, and my wife and I also think highly of you," Wei Changzun stated directly.

Wei Changzun had summoned him here just to discuss this matter? Bai Xiaosheng felt there was more to it.

"However, if you want to be with Xuelian, there's possibly a major issue you'll have to face!" Wei Changzun's smile faded as his tone turned serious and solemn.

Bai Xiaosheng's expression immediately became grave.

Wei Changzun continued, "Cultivating an heir in the Wei Family is no easy task. The process begins at the age of fifteen and spans ten years of evaluations, followed by an additional five years of specialized training! During the ten-year period, three contenders emerge from the process. Xuelian is the top contender! Unless something unexpected happens, she will take on the management and leadership of the Wei Family in the future."

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but be astonished.

"You might wonder how a young woman can lead the family. What if she marries? Or perhaps whether the Wei Family would only accept a son-in-law," Wei Changzun continued.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded slightly.

"This issue was discussed between her grandfather, myself, and a few uncles. You are not required to become a son-in-law."

"However, Xuelian—whether she marries or not—once she assumes the role of Family Head, her life for the next twenty years will wholly belong to the Wei Family!" Wei Changzun spoke with a serious tone, "She must dedicate herself to managing the family's affairs until the age of fifty!"

Bai Xiaosheng was stunned.

Wei Xuelian's future—twenty years dominated by obligations to the Wei Family?

How would she have any freedom left to enjoy life, let alone a normal life with him?

Bai Xiaosheng was unwilling to see her tied to the Wei Family.

Wei Changzun seemed to perceive his thoughts and smiled, "However, there is a way to free her from this destiny."

"What way?" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but ask directly.

Wei Changzun looked at him with a faint smile, "There are three potential heirs. If you can 'buy' Xuelian's twenty years of freedom, the Wei Family will allow her to step down so the second heir can take over."

Buy freedom?

Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily stunned.

This term seemed inappropriate coming from Wei Changzun, her father, yet Bai Xiaosheng saw a faint trace of helplessness in Wei Changzun's otherwise calm expression.

Bai Xiaosheng recalled what Wei Tianhe had once said, and instantly understood.

"Uncle Wei, how can I 'redeem' Xuelian's freedom?"

Wei Changzun, seeing Bai Xiaosheng free of anger or resentment and focused solely on the question, felt a wave of satisfaction.

This was the proper attitude of a man who truly cared for his daughter.

"Based on the average growth rate of Wei Family's businesses during my tenure as Patriarch, if you can help the Wei Family achieve, or even exceed, this growth rate ahead of schedule, every additional year of growth will reduce her term as Family Head by one year!" Wei Changzun looked deeply at Bai Xiaosheng and asked earnestly, "For Xuelian, will you try? Will you work hard for the future of the Wei Family?"

...

At this moment, outside the courtyard, Wei Xueqi and Wei Xuelian—siblings—had already arrived, waiting for the conclusion of the conversation.

They stood there for over ten minutes.

Finally, the door of the study opened.

Bai Xiaosheng stepped out, saw Wei Xuelian and her brother, and smiled brightly, striding toward them.

Behind him, Wei Changzun emerged, his face carrying a satisfied smile.

Wei Xueqi pursed his lips into a smile and whispered softly to his sister, "Seems like the man you fancy has quite the sense of responsibility. Once he leaves, you should see him out."

Wei Xuelian couldn't wait to hear the rest; she dashed forward with an emotionally charged smile.

Under the gaze of everyone present, Bai Xiaosheng embraced Wei Xuelian without hesitation and whispered in her ear, "I will buy back twenty years of your youth!"

Chapter 1419 - Encountering an Unexpected Person

Bai Xiaosheng walked down the mountain alongside Wei Xuelian. This was the moment when Bai Xiaosheng would leave, and Wei Xuelian was bidding him farewell.

Lin Weiwei, Lei Ying, Mr. He, and others had already gone down ahead of them.

Even the Patriarch of the Wei Family, Wei Changzun, had given instructions forbidding anyone from going up or down the mountain during this period. This was meant to give them some time alone.

As they walked side by side, Wei Xuelian's cheeks were flushed red, an indescribable mix of charm and beauty.

Bai Xiaosheng stared at her, lost in thought, involuntarily recalling a verse: "In the north, there is a beauty; unparalleled and alone. At one glance, cities fall; at another glance, nations collapse."

Holding Wei Xuelian's soft and delicate hand, Bai Xiaosheng made a silent vow to himself: he would fulfill his promise, no matter what!

At present, Wei Xuelian still had six to seven years of family cultivation before she could truly inherit the position of the Patriarch of the Wei Family.

Once Wei Xuelian took on this role, even her future marriage would have to prioritize the family's business. She would spend her days, months, and years traveling endlessly across the globe.

To put it bluntly, even if Wei Xuelian were pregnant one day, even if she had a child, the vacation days she would get might not even rival that of an ordinary person.

Twenty years as the Family Head would demand her freedom, her youth, and the most beautiful period of her life as a woman!

This was precisely why Wei Xuelian had been steadfastly unwilling to walk this path back in the day. Although being the Patriarch of the Wei Family promised a life of wealth and privilege beyond ordinary imagination, in her eyes, what was gained always seemed much less than what was lost!

Had it not been for her falling in love with Bai Xiaosheng, with the Wei Family using Bai Xiaosheng as leverage against her, she would never have succumbed.

At that time, Bai Xiaosheng was no more than an ant, while the Wei Family, this colossal giant, had countless ways to obliterate him!

Even though Wei Changzun was benevolent, the uncles of the Wei Family were far from easy to deal with!

Nowadays, with Sir Wei Tianhe's decisions, those uncles finally dared not act arbitrarily anymore, to Wei Xuelian's slight relief.

Bai Xiaosheng had heard some things from Liu Wudao and knew what Wei Xuelian had sacrificed for him.

That was why Bai Xiaosheng resolved to do whatever it took to help her escape such a fate!

As they walked, Bai Xiaosheng calculated the time. Six or seven years later would coincide with his deadline to inherit the Zhenbei Group.

If he succeeded, he would become the owner of the top-tier Zhenbei Group, and "buying back" Xuelian's freedom wouldn't be an impossible task!

Moreover, Bai Xiaosheng had his own ideals and ambitions as a man. He wanted to accomplish great things—aligning both his career and his love with effort brought forth by his own hands.

Thus, Bai Xiaosheng was brimming with enthusiasm.

He wouldn't consider the possibility of failure—only the necessity to work harder and harder, propelling himself at full speed toward success!

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng looked at Wei Xuelian in front of him, his gaze growing ever more resolute.

Wei Xuelian noticed Bai Xiaosheng's intense gaze. Feeling an added tinge of shyness, her heart raced, and her steps felt like walking on clouds.

If there were any words in this world that could move Wei Xuelian, perhaps it would be Bai Xiaosheng's pledge: "I will buy back twenty years of your youth."

"Xuelian." Bai Xiaosheng looked ahead and suddenly spoke softly, "With my current abilities, saying something like that might seem a bit overconfident. But I hope you'll understand—because of you, I'm willing to try anything and create any miracle! Just like when we first met, I was nothing more than a small employee, but now I've been striving for the position of Greater China Region President of Zhenbei Group!"

"I hold significant shares in Zhengdong Province, and Shengsheng International is developing rapidly. Given time, it will become a world-class company. In addition, I own two companies myself. While they may not have the backing of Tengyun like Shengsheng International, I firmly believe their potential is no less than Shengsheng International! These are some of my trump cards, one of which I'll share with you right now regarding those two companies' actual situation..."

Bai Xiaosheng was about to reveal some details to Wei Xuelian, but before the words left his mouth, a delicate finger softly pressed against his lips.

Bai Xiaosheng paused in his steps and looked over.

"I've always believed in you!" Wei Xuelian said with a smile. "You don't need to tell me anything! I've never doubted you for a second!"

She had never once suspected that Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't be able to achieve what he set out to do.

Bai Xiaosheng looked steadily at her, at her smile and the trust shining in her eyes. He couldn't suppress the warmth in his heart, gently holding her hand.

Their eyes met, brimming with affection.

Unable to resist, Bai Xiaosheng pulled Wei Xuelian close and deeply kissed her soft lips.

In that fleeting moment of ecstasy, both of them felt slightly dizzy.

It took a long while before they parted.

"Your belief in me—I know it well. But can you guess how I managed to convince Wei to place his confidence in me?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

When Wei Changzun sent him off, his face had been full of smiles.

"How did you convince my father?" Wei Xuelian's face was as red as a ripe apple, but there was a hint of curiosity in her eyes.

She knew her father well, yet it seemed as though Bai Xiaosheng had somehow succeeded in earning his trust.

"I made a bet with him!" Bai Xiaosheng said, his smile tinged with mystery.

"A... bet?" Wei Xuelian's eyes lit up with intrigue.

The Patriarch of the Wei Family, her own father, made bets?

"I told him about what Sir Wei Tianhe's friends had said: that they could assist me in achieving the title of Zhenbei Group's Greater China Region President within three to five years. But I told him I could do it on my own—and I wouldn't need that much time..." Bai Xiaosheng raised a single finger.

"One year?" Wei Xuelian asked in amazement.

Bai Xiaosheng grinned and curled his raised finger halfway, "Half a year!"

Bai Xiaosheng was usually a cautious man, rarely boasting in front of others. But when it came to expressing his confidence in front of the woman he loved, showing off for once didn't seem so bad...

Chapter 1420 - Encountering an Unexpected Person_2

Here is the translated text:

Wei Xuelian was startled and said seriously, "Zhenbei Group is truly a top-tier conglomerate, far stronger than my Wei Family. They have a strict promotion system, not based on family operations, and promotions are extremely difficult. Xiaosheng, you say... half a year! Could this be..."

A bit overconfident!

Wei Xuelian didn't dare say it outright.

"If I can achieve this within half a year, I hope Uncle Wei can give me some confidence and support, and allocate more resources to cultivate your family's second successor," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"If I can't achieve it..." Bai Xiaosheng continued with a smile, "I promise Uncle Wei I will help him build connections and deepen cooperation with Mr. Lu Yun and his team! Exclusively occupying certain markets and resources in Huaxia. Of course, any losses sustained by Mr. Lu Yun's side will be compensated using the profits of my company!"

Bai Xiaosheng revealed the "bet" he made with his future father-in-law.

Wei Xuelian looked at Bai Xiaosheng in astonishment.

This bet offered little visible benefit if he won, but if he lost, it would truly be a huge loss.

"How could..." Wei Xuelian said anxiously, but the latter half of her sentence was silenced as Bai Xiaosheng placed a finger lightly on her lips.

"I can do it!" Bai Xiaosheng said earnestly, "Even if it's just to show off a bit of my strength to my future father-in-law for your sake!"

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't explain to Wei Xuelian about the artificial intelligence in his mind, with its system that allowed him to gain promotions through upgrades.

He had to make this bet with Wei Changzun, which, at first glance, didn't seem advantageous, but was absolutely necessary!

Bai Xiaosheng evaluated his current assets and roughly explained them to Wei Changzun. Combined with the rapport he had built with Lu Yun's team and the recognition he earned from Wei Tianhe, he finally gained the acknowledgment of his future father-in-law regarding his potential.

Moreover, Bai Xiaosheng needed to show Wei Changzun that his potential could be realized!

With Wei Changzun's trust and support, many future troubles would be avoided!

Therefore, this seemingly "arrogant" bet was a challenge Bai Xiaosheng had to take!

Besides, half a year was a generous timeline.

Bai Xiaosheng's words deeply moved Wei Xuelian.

The two embraced as they descended the mountain, reluctantly saying their goodbyes.

By the time they reached the estate at the foot of the mountain, Mr. He had already prepared the car.

Wei Xuelian couldn't send him off too far and could only stand there fixedly, watching until Bai Xiaosheng's vehicle disappeared from sight, remaining motionless for a long time.

Bai Xiaosheng looked back from the car as well, only averting his gaze once Wei Xuelian was out of view.

The journey was silent.

Following Bai Xiaosheng's request, the driver still took them back to Sun Jierui's residence.

Sun Jierui and Little Emma were visibly delighted to see the return of Bai Xiaosheng and his companions.

...

In the days that followed, Wei Xuelian frequently came looking for Bai Xiaosheng.

This time, their outings around Ganande were open and carefree.

Wei Xuelian explained to Bai Xiaosheng that it was her grandfather's idea. In a few days, she would leave Ganande again to fly to Australia for business. The upcoming period would entail spending very little time together, and the elderly man was empathetic toward the longing of the young couple.

On the final day of their outings, when Bai Xiaosheng and Wei Xuelian bid each other farewell, the two embraced for half an hour without speaking a word.

When they finally separated, Bai Xiaosheng smiled and said one sentence, "Wait for my good news! I've never lost a bet!"

Wei Xuelian nodded firmly, her eyes brimming with laughter.

After seeing Wei Xuelian off, Bai Xiaosheng, feeling a bit melancholic, returned to Sun Jierui's home.

Upon entering, Bai Xiaosheng realized everyone was waiting for him.

They had all witnessed the farewell scene.

"Brother Xiaosheng, you two... will have a long and happy future together!" Lin Weiwei said earnestly.

Bai Xiaosheng offered her a smile.

Lin Weiwei returned the smile and reminded Bai Xiaosheng, "The day after tomorrow is the scheduled visit to headquarters!"

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, heading upstairs silently. His voice drifted down, "Tomorrow, let's go to Wall Street for another walk. It's about time to settle some 'family' matters!"

"Family" naturally referred to the affairs in the Greater China Region, and "matters" specifically meant Shen Peishen and his associates!

These cryptic remarks left Sun Jierui and Little Emma exchanging puzzled looks. They turned to Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying for clarification.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying's eyes were bright and sharp, brimming with a faint sense of battle readiness.

The final showdown with Shen Peishen and his faction was about to begin!

The night passed without incident.

...

The next morning, Bai Xiaosheng and his companions had breakfast, bid goodbye to Sun Jierui and Little Emma, and took a taxi directly to Wall Street.

In the car, Lin Weiwei shared updates from Huaxia over the past two days.

"Elder Xia's recovery has brought immense trouble to Shen Peishen's faction."

"Senior Affairs Officers Zheng Honghu, Li Haofeng, and Xu Youruo, alongside Chen Yucheng and others, have coordinated efforts, pushing them into a state of disarray."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

"However, yesterday, Shen Peishen's associate Cheng Liu called me, insisting that you must return to the Greater China Region Headquarters tomorrow to receive adjustments to your work. I think they're uneasy with you so far out of their sight," Lin Weiwei added.

Bai Xiaosheng chuckled, "Are they concerned about my whereabouts? Well, tomorrow they'll find out for sure!"

Lin Weiwei smiled faintly.

From the side, Lei Ying, who had remained silent until then, furrowed his brows, "Tomorrow is a big day at the group headquarters—the intercontinental regional meeting will be held. Regional leaders are supposed to report on their interim work. Greater China Region's Xiahou Qi should have attended, but he's still bedridden. It's likely Shen Peishen will be present. At this time, for his assistant to insist on your return to headquarters—could they have sensed something? Moreover, at Zhenbei Group headquarters, Shen Peishen also has people positioned! If we go there, could something unexpected happen?"

