

Two Trillion 2211

Chapter 2211 - A Difficult Young Man to Deal With!

Caroline was full of herself, thinking she'd just "given" Bai Xiaosheng a huge favor, allowing him to resolve the Taylor Family crisis with aplomb.

Before this, Bai Xiaosheng had caused her so much trouble, yet she hadn't pursued it.

That was already quite considerate!

She thought that, even for the sake of returning a favor, Bai Xiaosheng should express some gratitude.

Moreover, this was cooperation between the Greater China Region and the North American Region within the large framework of the Zhenbei Group; it didn't affect Bai Xiaosheng's personal interests, and would even boost his performance. He had no reason to reject it because of the slightly tilted clause.

In this cooperation, Caroline intentionally did not mix in her family's business.

From Caroline's perspective, her family's business could profit from this cooperation later on without making things complicated now, giving Bai Xiaosheng, the "righteous" deputy head of headquarters' inspection department, a reason to object.

Caroline felt that, even though Bai Xiaosheng had always gone against her deliberately, at this moment, even if it's just for cover, he had no reason to refuse.

Caroline was sure that, considering all the aspects, Bai Xiaosheng would agree.

Yet unexpectedly, Bai Xiaosheng opened his mouth and refused, without hesitation.

Caroline glanced at Bai Xiaosheng in surprise, then smiled, though her smile faintly carried a bit of displeasure.

"What's the matter, Mr. Bai? Do you find something wrong with these contract terms?" Caroline asked.

Bai Xiaosheng chuckled.

It wasn't just problematic, it was immensely problematic.

"Speaking of problems..." Bai Xiaosheng looked at the thick contract on the table and said, "I feel this piece doesn't quite resemble a business cooperation, but more like... a support plan."

His words left Caroline momentarily stunned.

"Like a proposal where the group arranges powerful regions to support weaker ones," Bai Xiaosheng chuckled, "If we say, our Greater China Region now stands as the most affluent, wealthiest, and most powerful among the six business divisions, and Miss Caroline's North American Region ranks at the bottom, then this cooperative document poses no issue at all."

"But..." Bai Xiaosheng grinned while looking at Caroline, "Miss Caroline's North American Region is backed by the strongest economic entity, with partners that are world-class giants, each as wealthy as a small nation. Offering such cooperative terms to our burgeoning region, isn't it a bit of a joke!"

Bai Xiaosheng was both complimenting Caroline's North American Region and expressing his refusal.

Caroline gazed at Bai Xiaosheng, still maintaining a smile, yet her smile now carried a hint of chilliness, "So, according to Mr. Bai's thoughts, we should lower the cooperation conditions?"

Bai Xiaosheng didn't rush to reply; he leaned forward, appearing to share his innermost thoughts with Caroline, "Miss Caroline, there's no outsider here now, so I'll be straightforward with you."

Caroline had never seen this side of Bai Xiaosheng, immediately gazing at him with curiosity, unaware of what he was about to disclose.

"Honestly, over the past two years, our Greater China Region enterprises have exhausted every strategy and pushed to their limits just to achieve such modest results. It's also so headquarters will support our reforms—we had no choice." Bai Xiaosheng confessed with a bitter expression, "I've become the villain, endlessly pressuring my subordinates, driving them to work frantically to the brink of mental instability. The criticism is endless; in merely half a year, over a dozen top managers have left. Someone even mailed a knife to my office, terrifying me to the point where I didn't dare sleep for days. Would you say it's tragic or not? And that's not even the worst—now the public opinion on our side has labeled me a vampire, exploiting employees' lives, constantly attacking and cursing me!"

Was Bai Xiaosheng... venting?

Caroline frowned, "Are you really suffering that much?"

"Absolutely!" Bai Xiaosheng slapped his thigh, lamenting, "I may seem successful outwardly, but I'm actually quite miserable."

"But does any of this relate to what we're discussing, to the cooperation between our two regions?" Caroline frowned, questioning.

Bai Xiaosheng disagreed with that cooperative document, so she proposed Bai Xiaosheng give some suggestions. It would be better to discuss the matter directly—why introduce this 'tale of woe'?"

Besides, don't Huaxia people often say "a general succeeds on the bones of thousands"? To transform a relatively mediocre Greater China Region in just two years, elevating it to second place among the six divisions, Bai Xiaosheng surely employed extraordinary methods.

So his ordeal might not be implausible.

Nonetheless, what bearing does it have with her here?

Seeing Caroline question like this, Bai Xiaosheng restrained his somber tone a bit, seriously responding, "Of course it matters. Our Greater China Region's strategic development plan is to slow down its growth. With all internal and external cooperation, we must strive for a stable approach. This strategy wasn't solely decided by me, but is also the request of Mr. Jiang Kuo, our Asia Region Business

President. This stable development means that in choosing partners, we must exercise caution and not merely aim for rapid growth, accelerating, leaping to the top, or pursuing grand cooperation. Naturally, we also shouldn't... suffer too much loss. These extremes are highly detrimental. The modest achievements we've painstakingly built in the developing Greater China Region, simply cannot bear... and that's not something I'm saying; Mr. Jiang Kuo says it too. Although I am at the business president level now, within Greater China, I'm merely the executive president, and the division of powers follows its own rules, so I dare not disobey."

Chapter 2212: A Difficult Young Man to Deal With! (Part 2)

Bai Xiaosheng kept explaining and evading, going around in circles, clearly still feeling that the cooperation was a loss.

Why can't he just be direct and straightforward about the terms of cooperation?

Caroline found it unbearable to see Bai Xiaosheng being so "soft," even feeling a slight disdain for him, but outwardly she maintained her patience and nodded, "That's really difficult, it was my oversight."

Caroline continued, "In that case, we could lower our conditions. If all the terms we proposed in this cooperation document are ten, how much does Mr. Bai think we should reduce?"

Caroline had a lot going on today, and had only taken time off to talk to Bai Xiaosheng. She didn't want to waste time on nonsense, so she asked for a straightforward response.

As long as the contract was signed and everything was on track, she could respond to Vice Chairman Morgan's call to deal with this Bai Xiaosheng!

Now, seeing Bai Xiaosheng's demeanor, Caroline fully agreed with Vice Chairman Morgan's suggestion.

No matter whether Bai Xiaosheng had offended her intentionally or unintentionally, it was best to consider it his own fault!

Instead of wasting effort on analysis or speculation, wouldn't it be better to be straightforward and decisive?

Caroline was a decisive and efficient woman, striving for decisiveness in both actions and deliberations!

Bold and resolute!

“This...” Seeing Caroline say this, Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Earlier, while he had been rambling, his mind was actively analyzing the entire cooperation document at lightning speed.

A normal person couldn’t possibly do that.

After all, a human brain is singular, and multitasking has its limits.

However, with Red Lotus as an assistant, Bai Xiaosheng found it effortless to achieve this level.

“Miss Caroline, I was thinking, how about reducing your side’s conditions by forty percent?” Bai Xiaosheng probed carefully with Caroline.

After listening to Bai Xiaosheng’s long “nonsense,” Caroline had thought he would cut the conditions by sixty or seventy percent and was prepared for it.

But Bai Xiaosheng only suggested reducing her conditions by forty percent, which was beyond her expectations.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng wasn’t joking, Caroline’s expression softened, and she smiled, “Mr. Bai, you truly know how to negotiate; reducing our conditions by forty percent at once is quite substantial!”

Caroline was pleasantly surprised inside, but outwardly she remained calm, perfectly concealing her emotions.

Then Caroline sighed, “However, with what you mentioned earlier, the achievements in your Greater China Region today are truly not easy, and you’ve worked tirelessly. Ah, beneath great fame, who isn’t worn out? Seeing you work so hard, with your Greater China Region still having so much to revive and thrive, I’ll agree to your request and reduce the conditions by forty percent.”

Even with a forty percent reduction, as long as certain clauses were held, the North America Region would still profit greatly, and Caroline just wanted to finalize the signing swiftly.

Caroline’s words seemed to greatly move Bai Xiaosheng, “Thank you, Miss Caroline, for your understanding.”

“On our side, we’ll offer you discounts in raw materials, agricultural products, fisheries, and retail sectors.” Bai Xiaosheng smiled, “In return, we’ll also need some discounts, like in pharmaceuticals, tech products, and so on. Do you have any objections, Miss Caroline?”

Caroline’s smile froze at Bai Xiaosheng’s words.

Zhenbei Group in the Greater China Region, with over a hundred large enterprises in North America and countless small and medium-sized companies; negotiating cooperation also involves various industries, thus using industry-based terms for cooperation.

This Bai Xiaosheng! He completely broke down the favorable terms from the cooperation document she showed him into a sixty and forty percent allocation, allowing him to yield sixty percent while enjoying the remaining forty percent benefits.

At first glance, it seemed favorable to her side.

Bai Xiaosheng had agreed to their sixty percent conditions, and enjoying forty percent was understandable.

But!

In the Greater China Region, involving raw materials, agriculture, fisheries, and competitive retail sectors, Europe, South America, and Africa have plenty of alternative partners, and enjoying the preferences in North America doesn't necessarily mean a big advantage!

The reason it's pointless, Caroline had those included in the contract to "cover" the core forty percent terms!

Earlier, when Bai Xiaosheng said the cooperation terms were too high, she didn't react too strongly because she anticipated that Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't fully accept them.

At that time, those concession parts would become those insignificant conditions.

But Caroline never expected that despite her calculations, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't foolish either and reacted that way!

A clever strategy to play hard-to-get and caught her off guard!

Despite being pleased earlier that Bai Xiaosheng agreed to sixty percent of the conditions, now she felt deceived.

This guy is even more cunning than a monkey!

What truly shocked Caroline was Bai Xiaosheng's incredible ability to remember the contents of the cooperation document so clearly after scanning through it once!

This is not something an ordinary person can do!

This Bai Xiaosheng turned out to have such a monstrous side!

Caroline stared intently at Bai Xiaosheng, who kept smiling at her, suddenly on high alert, raising her guard against him to a new height.

It seems that someone who has risen to the same level as her, or even been appointed as the second-in-command of the headquarters' division, is truly not simple!

Caroline began to seriously regard Bai Xiaosheng as a worthy opponent!

"Miss Caroline, what do you think? If it's possible, we can sign an intention now, and by today, we can reorganize a cooperation document to sign it for real today." Bai Xiaosheng patted his chest, "I know you're busy with the election affairs and have no time to spare, you can rest assured, I'll draft the cooperation document, ensuring it matches our current agreement perfectly!"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and asked, "What do you think?"

What do I think?

Of course not!

Caroline's eyes turned a bit cold.

"If you think it isn't suitable, I can further lower the conditions..." Bai Xiaosheng smiled as he willingly reduced the conditions by another ten percent.

Suddenly, in terms of benefits, they occupied three parts, and Caroline's side took seven parts.

However, considering long-term implications, Bai Xiaosheng's three-part benefit far exceeds Caroline's seven parts.

Caroline listened with increasing frown lines.

She genuinely wanted to ask Bai Xiaosheng —

Do you think I'm stupid!

Or that I'm an idiot!

How could I agree to such terms?

"If I swap places with you, with me getting three and you getting seven, would you agree?" Caroline slowly spoke, expressing her dissatisfaction.

"Agree." Bai Xiaosheng laughed readily, "But what I initially mentioned must also be included in my seven parts; that point won't change!"

When Bai Xiaosheng spoke these words, even with a smile and without a strong tone, it gave an impression of unwavering firmness.

Caroline looked calmly at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng also smiled, looking at her.

The atmosphere suddenly became subtle and a bit heavy.

In Bai Xiaosheng's eyes, Caroline didn't see any intention of backing down.

He was determined not to suffer losses, only to gain!

Caroline concluded that no matter how much she tried, ultimately, she wouldn't gain massive profit from this young man.

Perhaps, Vice Chairman Morgan was right, this man was with Lu Cheng'an and Li Yunyuan, inherently opposing them. To cooperate with the Greater China Region and make money with the Huaxia people, talking to him is out of the question!

Caroline suddenly smiled.

She raised her wrist to check the time, picked up the contract from the table, and placed it back in her bag.

Bai Xiaosheng silently observed her every move.

"It's getting late, I think we'll end our discussion here today, it's time for me to leave." Caroline smiled.

"I'll walk you out, we'll chat later." Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

While speaking, the two of them got up and headed out one after the other.

At that moment, their smiles hid any underlying issues from the onlookers.

Perhaps, even on the day they clash directly in the future, they would still share such smiles.

This is business, this is how businessmen operate.

Chapter 2213: After the Talks Fell Apart

When Bai Xiaosheng and Caroline walked out of the business room together, Taylor and Ye Liena just happened to return, with Melanie following behind.

They were hurrying to take care of business, hence their quick pace.

Seeing that Bai Xiaosheng and Caroline had also finished their talk, everyone was surprised, thinking to themselves how efficient these prominent figures were, wrapping up just as quickly.

Was everything going smoothly?

Caroline glanced at Ye Liena and Melanie, then turned to Bai Xiaosheng with a smile, “Well, let’s leave it at that for today. Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, farewell!”

“We’ll meet again, Miss Caroline. Farewell!” Bai Xiaosheng also replied with a smile.

The two spoke politely, their expressions calm.

Those watching felt a bit curious.

How could they be so composed, neither happy nor sad, as if... nothing had been agreed upon.

Yet, thinking of Bai Xiaosheng and Caroline as part of the Zhenbei Group, reaching a collaboration should be simpler and more straightforward than between outside companies.

Everyone couldn’t help but think to themselves, look, these prominent figures are different, appearing calm and unassuming. Perhaps they’ve already concluded cooperation worth billions or even tens of billions of US Dollars without a word.

Eventually, Caroline led Ye Liena and Melanie away, with Bai Xiaosheng symbolically escorting them a few steps, and then it was over.

As Caroline and the others disappeared from sight, Taylor cheerfully said to Bai Xiaosheng, “Mr. Bai, congratulations to you!”

Bai Xiaosheng turned to Taylor with a curious look, “Why would I deserve congratulations?”

“You must have negotiated some major collaborations with Miss Caroline just now; isn’t that worth congratulating?” Taylor laughed.

Only then did Bai Xiaosheng realize, and he laughed, “Actually, I should be congratulating you instead. The shackles on the Taylor Clan are lifted, beginning today, you have a new starting point for development.”

These words made Taylor and Xiya's smiles broaden with happiness and gratitude towards Bai Xiaosheng.

"As for me, unfortunately, I didn't reach any agreement with Caroline today."

Bai Xiaosheng maintained his smile, speaking this sentence in a calm manner.

This surprised Taylor, and Xiya was also shocked.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, however, were not surprised.

In fact, regardless of today's outcome, they wouldn't have been surprised.

After all, Bai Xiaosheng had already discussed with them all possible outcomes of his talks with Caroline beforehand.

It seemed Caroline's terms were unacceptable to Bai Xiaosheng.

And Bai Xiaosheng's opinions were not accepted by Caroline either.

To them, this was all too normal.

As the saying goes, Morgan, the Vice Chairman of North America, has always been antagonistic towards the Greater China Region; no result would be surprising.

Furthermore, the arrogance and assertiveness of the people here is another variable.

Compared to Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying's relief, Taylor was very puzzled.

This result was in stark contrast to the signs evident from beginning to end.

Caroline readily agreed to resolve the Taylor Clan's issues and eagerly discussed matters with Bai Xiaosheng. When Bai Xiaosheng spoke of Caroline coming, he was also expecting, clearly indicating a willingness to cooperate.

Taylor even judged that Caroline brought the contracts ready for signing.

Since both parties were under the umbrella of the Zhenbei Group, wasn't it easy to agree on something? At least there should have been some results.

That's why Taylor hurried to congratulate Bai Xiaosheng.

The result, however, was that Bai Xiaosheng actually said he didn't reach any agreement with Caroline!

When they parted, they were both smiling warmly at each other...

Taylor was momentarily overwhelmed by his own family's happy events, but now thinking back, the smiles of Bai Xiaosheng and Caroline gave him a faint sense of soberness.

Taylor's pupils even slightly constricted.

Bai Xiaosheng looked deeply in the direction Caroline and the others had left, murmuring, "Fortunately, you and Ye Liena acted quickly, settling all the contracts, otherwise..."

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Taylor, smiled, and said, "So you see, I should be the one congratulating you!"

Taylor couldn't help but swallow heavily, feeling fortunate.

Beside him, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also had a focused look in their eyes.

It seemed that the situation was developing in the worst possible direction they had anticipated. Especially since Bai Xiaosheng said no agreements were made, it meant the severity of the situation exceeded their expectations.

Xiya also heard the conversation between Bai Xiaosheng and her father, sensing a subtle yet solemn atmosphere.

"I've made up my mind!" Xiya suddenly announced.

This sudden declaration drew everyone's attention to her.

"I've decided to quit the academy and enter the business world!" Xiya said decisively, her voice crisp and firm.

Upon hearing this, Bai Xiaosheng and Taylor were taken aback, even Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were startled.

Becoming a law enforcement officer, defending justice, was Xiya's ideal and pursuit, why would she suddenly say such a thing?

Especially at such a time.

"Daughter, what are you talking about? Quitting the academy? You are the best student in the academy! You're almost about to graduate! Entering the business world? What business do you mean? There's nothing pressing at home now! There's no need for you to do this!" Taylor hurriedly advised.

He knew his daughter's temperament better than anyone, everything she did was single-minded, and once she said something it was hard to change.

Back when she applied to the academy, no one could persuade her otherwise.

Now that everything is settled at home, she suddenly says this.

Quitting the academy, entering the business world?

Taylor couldn't understand her intentions.

"Tell me, what's your reason?" Bai Xiaosheng gazed at Xiya and asked.

Facing Bai Xiaosheng, Xiya earnestly replied, "I went to the academy with so many ideals, and over these years, through studying, interning, and handling cases, I have come across many people and situations. I've grown confused, realizing that many things cannot be managed better with just an idealistic officer. Perhaps, some styles I used to dislike actually handle things more effectively."

Chapter 2214: After the Collapse of Negotiations (Part 2)

"Besides, there is never a shortage of outstanding police officers in this world, right? My ideal... better to remain as something beautiful in my heart."

"Ever since these events happened at home, I've actually been blaming myself all along. If I could stay by my father's side to help, if I could keep an eye on White, Moke, on Shaun, and Kaiden, maybe things wouldn't have gone so wrong, even a little less would be good. I've been too willful, too focused on myself. I should really do something for the family now!"

Xiya's words were spoken with a lot of emotion, and Taylor was extremely surprised, deeply moved, and extremely delighted.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Xiya also smiled and said, "Besides, after today, I find the business world very interesting. It has light, darkness, and shadows. If I am someone who pursues light and detests darkness, then I can also find my joy and achievements in it!"

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Taylor with a smile and said to Xiya, "How about you come work for me, starting as Mr. Taylor's assistant! If you're excellent enough, I'll let you manage a big company."

Taylor nodded with a smile.

Xiya immediately stood up straight and said loudly to Bai Xiaosheng, "Understood, boss!"

Bai Xiaosheng watched and smiled, but he couldn't help thinking, "I never thought one day I'd poach an academy's talent. I wonder if Elder Yun Guangzhi would hate me when he finds out such an outstanding student like Xiya has been led away by me..."

"However, Xiya truly is a good candidate for business. Maybe in the future, I can gain an outstanding manager."

"And, should I select some reliable, smart, loyal business talents to hand over to Clan Leader Taylor to train, creating my own senior management team? Once they gain experience, I might even have Clan Leader Taylor establish a business school..."

Bai Xiaosheng thought it over and felt indescribably wonderful.

While Bai Xiaosheng and Taylor chatted with each other, Caroline was leading Ye Liena, Melanie, out of the hotel.

Along the way, Caroline's face darkened, looking somewhat unpleasant.

Originally, Ye Liena and Melanie thought even though there was a small mistake this time, Miss Caroline didn't blame them, so they were feeling smug, but they suddenly realized something was wrong.

They initially thought Miss Caroline had signed some cooperation deal with Bai Xiaosheng, and would be happy, so she wouldn't hold them accountable.

Now it seemed, the situation was not as imagined!

Ye Liena and Melanie didn't know how Miss Caroline's talk with Mr. Bai Xiaosheng went, nor dared to ask.

None of the people behind Caroline had followed, and no one else knew the situation either.

But it seemed the situation wasn't as good as imagined...

Ye Liena and Melanie assessed this, and immediately followed cautiously, not daring to make a sound.

As they left the hotel, Caroline suddenly paused, glanced at Ye Liena, and asked in a deep voice, "Have all the collaborations with the Taylor Clan been terminated? Are all the procedures completed?"

"All completed." Ye Liena didn't dare be negligent, quickly replied, "At the time, you said..."

Caroline squinted her eyes, sharp in her gaze.

Ye Liena didn't dare to continue speaking.

Following behind, Melanie couldn't help swallowing, feeling deeply oppressed, deeply sympathizing with Ye Liena, while also feeling a bit of relief.

But then, Caroline looked at her and said calmly, "You were following all along, didn't you stop it?"

Melanie suddenly felt a chill on her back, hurriedly said, "I, I back then... you..."

Caroline didn't listen at all, turned around, and descended step by step from the hotel entrance.

Her car was already parked below.

Ye Liena and Melanie were frightened, following behind.

Just before getting in the car, Caroline turned her head, said a sentence to the two of them, "Everything you did today truly disappointed me!"

After saying this, Caroline directly got into the car.

Ye Liena and Melanie stood there in panic, watching as Miss Caroline's attendants swiftly got into the vehicles in front and behind.

With privacy glass obstructing, they could not see any expression of Miss Caroline.

The two dared not step forward to defend themselves.

Because they knew, Miss Caroline disliked that most.

Ye Liena and Melanie just watched Caroline's convoy leave, their faces turning pale.

Miss Caroline said, she was very disappointed with them!

This made the two, who had been cautious lately, fearing any small mistakes, feel chest tightness, panic, and even a bit short of breath.

"Miss Caroline must have said it impulsively, didn't she." Ye Liena forced a smile, saying to her friend Melanie.

The latter swallowed, also squeezed out a smile, "Probably, right."

Then, Melanie added, "You're the CEO of BL Technology, and I'm Miss Caroline's favorite assistant, how could it be possible to be disliked for such a small issue today... right?"

This was Melanie comforting Ye Liena, and also consoling herself.

“Indeed, I think you’re right, today’s situation was beyond our control, especially with Mr. Bai Xiaosheng’s arrival!”

Ye Liena couldn’t help but glance back at the hotel top floor.

Mentioning Bai Xiaosheng, her eyes were subtly bright, with admiration and awe.

Bai Xiaosheng, he was an existence even more outstanding than Miss Caroline!

Ye Liena couldn’t help but feel an urge in her heart to approach him, understand him.

Chapter 2215 - After the Breakdown of Negotiations (Part 3)

Melanie was not in the mood to think about these things, biting her lower lip in frustration.

Ye Liena also fell silent shortly thereafter.

Both of them kept quiet, both burdened with heavy thoughts.

Although they tried to comfort each other, the unease remained...

Because they knew Miss Caroline too well, knew what it meant when she said harsh words on the spot...

At this moment, in the car, recalling Ye Liena and Melanie, Caroline couldn’t help but frown and mutter angrily, "Useless idiots!"

Caroline was angry not only because they failed to notice anything unusual from the Taylor Clan, failed to recognize Bai Xiaosheng’s identity, but also because they so readily signed all the contracts, lifting all the restrictions tied to the Taylor Family.

Although the decision was made by Caroline herself, she wouldn't blame herself.

Such anger naturally had to be directed towards others.

Speaking of which, even if Ye Liena managed BL Technology and handled it meticulously, considered an outstanding senior manager, she meant nothing in Caroline's eyes!

Caroline is the type of woman who, when enraged, can break her own brother's leg, so expecting any deep affection from her for others is futile.

Moreover, the North American region is too prosperous, leading to a plethora of talent; there are too many people who could occupy the seat of BL Technology's CEO and do well!

Sometimes, to retain talent, Caroline would have them rotate some important positions, such as the CEO of BL Technology...

As for the promises given to Ye Liena and Melanie, Caroline at least said the same thing to twenty or thirty people.

It was worthless to begin with!

To have someone wholeheartedly work for you, painting a big picture is inevitable, but the key is how to paint that picture.

As for fulfilling those promises...

If it's really impossible to fulfill, and that person is oblivious...

Finding fault with someone is always easy.

Caroline was adept at handling such matters and would make others recognize her decision at that moment, turning the person being dealt with into "a shameless ingrate."

This time, Caroline communicated with Ye Liena, asking her to relinquish the position of BL Technology's CEO, and the situation was different.

This time, the position was not for others to rotate, but for someone Caroline's own family was inserting into!

A loyal outsider is always less reliable than a loyal family member, and business will proceed more smoothly!

After all, even if there's a blind spot at the headquarters, it's better to be more cautious when benefiting the family.

Caroline said she would support Ye Liena in becoming a regional chief, which was good, but when the time comes, multiple people will be pulled into a competition.

Only one will succeed, and it won't be Ye Liena; many will fail, and then they'll rotate to lead their own enterprises, which originally included Ye Liena.

This way, it also prevents someone from staying in one company for too long, building their own territory and influence.

This is what the so-called balancing act of those in power is about.

Pitiful Ye Liena and Melanie always thought they were the most valued, working hard to do everything perfectly, afraid of making the slightest mistake.

At this moment, Caroline no longer thought about her two "foolish" subordinates but took out her phone, thought for a moment, and dialed a number.

It was Vice Chairman Morgan's number.

Soon, the call was connected.

Caroline's gaze was as sharp as a blade, smiling into the phone, she softly said, "Mr. Morgan, I've finished talking with Bai Xiaosheng."

"Yes, it's done!"

"I'm willing to adopt your initial suggestion!"

Chapter 2216 - Bai Xiaosheng Targeted

Caroline took the initiative to call Vice Chairman Morgan and, over the phone, candidly informed him that Bai Xiaosheng refused to collaborate with her.

In terms of collaboration with the Greater China Region, Caroline's appetite was only so large; she could lower it a bit, but not too much.

She needed to secure enough performance results for the group and also wanted to gain a share for her family.

The price Bai Xiaosheng offered was simply too low, and he firmly held the bottom line, refusing to give in.

This made Caroline feel there was no necessity to continue the negotiation.

Caroline believed that if she were to "compromise and be flexible," first establishing cooperation with Bai Xiaosheng and hoping to raise stakes later, it would be impossible.

Firstly, there was an existing cooperation price to refer to; secondly, there was a lack of sufficient reason to raise the stakes later.

Since Bai Xiaosheng was not agreeing now, it was unlikely he would agree in the future.

Thus, Caroline was also convinced that collaboration with Bai Xiaosheng was impossible.

If that's the case, then pull him down and replace him with someone else!

According to Vice Chairman Morgan's instructions, support the person they wanted to support, and by then, would there still be fear of failing to agree on cooperation terms!

Vice Chairman Morgan first expressed sympathy for Caroline's plight, then had a confidential conversation with her over the phone for over twenty minutes.

This duration, for a time-precious vice chairman, was indeed quite significant.

After hanging up, Caroline closed her eyes for some rest. Externally, she revealed nothing, but internally, she was conducting meticulous calculations.

How to bring down Bai Xiaosheng, it's difficult but not impossible!

After half an hour of silence, Caroline suddenly opened her eyes, her beautiful gaze almost bursting with light. She had enough calculations.

The tactics she used against the Taylor Clan were enough to show her schemes were indeed insidious and vicious.

Caroline picked up her phone and dialed a number.

The first call she made was to Ye Liena, who an hour ago she referred to as "useless."

When the call connected, Ye Liena sounded very excited, even her voice carried a tone of trepidation and fear.

Caroline was very satisfied with Ye Liena's current mindset.

Only someone who knows fear will exert their utmost effort, even at the expense of breaking boundaries to get things done.

At the beginning, Caroline had calculated it this way, but had not specifically figured out how to use Ye Liena to get things done. Now, her thoughts were clear, and she had a good grasp of people's minds.

"Ye Liena, I have a task for you, listen carefully!" Caroline said solemnly over the phone.

"I will make every effort to complete your instructions!" Ye Liena immediately replied, even her voice was trembling with excitement.

Caroline lowered her voice and gave some instructions over the phone.

Opposite her, Ye Liena seemed very surprised, and even her breathing became noticeably more rapid.

After speaking, Caroline emphasized in a heavy tone, "This time, don't let me down again! I won't give too many chances!"

In Caroline's eyes, Ye Liena was either incompetent or just "not quite aligned."

BL Technology was the optimal choice to target the Taylor Family, but initially, in choosing what means to use, Ye Liena always seemed a bit "restrained," which led to Caroline personally strategizing with Fang Cheng.

Afterwards, Ye Liena did manage to fulfill her demands diligently.

However, Caroline just felt that Ye Liena was not the most handy person for her because she wasn't ruthless enough.

Due to this incident, Caroline no longer considered Ye Liena as her "key target for cultivation."

Now, Caroline formally and seriously warned her not to show "unnecessary kindness" again.

On the other end of the phone, Ye Liena hurriedly said, "No more, Miss Caroline, I will definitely handle this matter well this time!"

Caroline had no time to listen to her promises or loyalty pledges and hung up directly, then called someone else.

Just like that, before returning to her own mansion, Caroline had finished all the things.

Holding the phone, Caroline's eyes flickered, repeatedly sneering, "Bai Xiaosheng, it was you who forced all this!"

While Caroline was planning to deal with Bai Xiaosheng, Bai Xiaosheng was having lunch with Taylor and others.

To be precise, it was a celebration feast.

Originally, Bai Xiaosheng didn't plan to stay for the meal, but couldn't resist the earnest invitation from Taylor and Xiya, so he agreed.

However, Bai Xiaosheng said there was no need to go too far or make too much of a fuss, as it was already noon, they might as well eat at the hotel.

Even so, Taylor personally reached out to the chef and specially instructed him.

In such a five-star hotel, as long as you're willing to spend money, there's good stuff to be had.

The wine was fine, and the dishes made by the chef were incredibly exquisite. With everyone already in a good mood, the meal was naturally very joyous.

Bai Xiaosheng also discussed new company issues with Taylor.

According to Bai Xiaosheng, the new company would be named "Qidian Power."

"Does the name have any special meaning?" Taylor couldn't help but ask.

Xiya, Lin Weiwei, and Lei Ying also looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

"It means 'to attack at one point,' symbolizing professionalism and industry depth." Bai Xiaosheng replied with a smile.

Taylor and Xiya were not completely fluent in Chinese, but hearing there was deep meaning, they nodded repeatedly.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also did not find anything inappropriate, so they nodded as well.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled calmly on the surface, but inside he was quite dubious.

This name, he had casually come up with, and later cobbled together an explanation...

In fact, in this world, how many companies' brand stories are actually true...

A statement, an explanation, no matter the truth, as long as people feel it sounds profound, it's enough.

Chapter 2217 - Bai Xiaosheng Targeted

In the end, it's just a name, just a symbol.

"The point is to prevent you guys from using your imagination and linking the company name to me." Bai Xiaosheng muttered in his mind, "Mr. Taylor may seem proper now, but who knows if deep down he's like Ron and those other foreigners..."

While thinking, the Taylor Clan Leader sitting next to Bai Xiaosheng suddenly turned his head and sneezed loudly.

Xiya quickly pulled out a tissue and handed it over.

The Taylor Clan Leader tidied himself up, turned to Bai Xiaosheng, and said apologetically, "I'm so sorry, I couldn't hold it in just now!"

"It's okay, everyone sneezes." Bai Xiaosheng laughed and brushed it off, but couldn't help muttering to himself again:

Could it be that I guessed it right? Otherwise, how did it come true so quickly...

The meal was enjoyable for both host and guest.

After dinner, Taylor and Xiya had to return to prepare for the new company and wanted to send Bai Xiaosheng and his group back to their residence first.

Bai Xiaosheng declined the Taylor Clan Leader's kind offer.

Their residence was not far from here, just over half an hour's drive, so there was no need to make a special trip.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's firm attitude, Taylor did not insist and left with Xiya and his entire team of assistants.

Ending the contract with BL Technology didn't solve all their problems as there were many matters that required the father and daughter to address.

Moreover, Shaun, Kaiden, and their group were also a hidden threat that needed early resolution.

Meanwhile, Taylor also decided to downsize the family business and relinquish his position as Clan Leader, which all required time.

Watching the cars of Taylor and Xiya's convoy leaving, Bai Xiaosheng and his two companions were in no hurry to take a cab. Instead, they decided to walk two or three streets as an after-dinner exercise.

On the way, Lin Weiwei curiously asked Bai Xiaosheng about his conversation with Caroline.

Bai Xiaosheng briefly recounted it.

"This Miss Caroline has quite an appetite!" Even Lei Ying couldn't help but comment.

Lin Weiwei also clicked her tongue and shook her head.

"But, Xiaosheng, you could first discuss part of the cooperation with her, give her a bit of profit, and we can first open up the market here." Lin Weiwei couldn't help but say.

"That's not how it's said." Bai Xiaosheng said seriously, "Caroline has a big appetite and won't settle for small gains. Moreover, just to open up the market here, we shouldn't make concessions in key cooperations."

Bai Xiaosheng emphasized, "Although our cooperation involves two major business units under one group, it involves too many companies from both sides, across too many industries. Those companies are registered in their respective countries! Looking deeper, on our side, it might affect the development of some domestic industries, economic, and employment issues. So, I cannot make concessions!"

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng's eyes shone brightly, revealing the vision and responsibility of a dedicated businessman.

Lin Weiwei couldn't help but look at Bai Xiaosheng, her gaze revealing hidden respect.

Lei Ying was the same, watching Bai Xiaosheng with a solemn respect.

One's success does not lie in how much money he earns, how big his name is, or how high his status is, but in having great sentiments and broad vision.

The martial arts novel grandmaster Master Jin once said, the true hero works for the country and its people.

Though Bai Xiaosheng is merely a businessman, at this moment, he also has the heart of a hero.

Reflecting on Bai Xiaosheng's cooperation with the European and global elite family, he never suffered any losses, not because he had to take advantage, but because he had such sincere intent.

Of course, this intention is not to be shared with outsiders, but to be acted upon.

The three of them walked and talked, covering three entire streets before calling a car to return to their hotel.

...

After that day, Bai Xiaosheng was busy for several more days.

Completed all the appointment procedures.

Actually, it shouldn't have taken so long, but Bai Xiaosheng was "dragging out the time," waiting for news.

A few days ago, Dr. Cui Chen and Cui Xuexue bade them farewell and went to Europe.

Yesterday, the news was published that Dr. Cui Chen officially began cooperating with Feisheng Biotechnology Pharmaceuticals, engaging in an entirely new collaboration model with partners from thirty countries, using Bai Xiaosheng's method.

As soon as this news spread, it sparked media attention.

Seeing this matter settled, with potential benefits for more people, Bai Xiaosheng was equally delighted.

Lin Weiwei felt somewhat regretful.

Bai Xiaosheng performed such a large charitable deed, yet not many people knew about it, and even his name did not appear in the news. Lin Weiwei felt it was unfair to Bai Xiaosheng.

To this, Bai Xiaosheng laughed heartily and even comforted her.

Sometimes, charity is a very personal affair, it's not about how much money is donated, nor about high-profile actions, just knowing that one can help many people and feeling happy about it is enough.

To be unsung is also a blessing.

Lin Weiwei was still somewhat unable to let go.

Lei Ying, however, praised Bai Xiaosheng's perspective.

Fortunately, not everyone was unaware; on that day, Cui Chen and Cui Xuexue called Bai Xiaosheng to specifically thank him for everything he did.

Dr. Cui Chen also expressed the intention to establish a long-term stable cooperation with Feisheng Biotechnology Pharmaceuticals.

This was certainly another pleasant matter, naturally making Bai Xiaosheng extremely happy.

Good fortune comes not just in pairs, but more than one.

This morning at ten o'clock, Bai Xiaosheng's eighth company, Qidian Power, officially made its appearance and held a press conference.

This was thanks to Mr. Taylor, who had recently resigned from the position of Clan Leader, working tirelessly.

With his family's connections, the paperwork was naturally not a problem. The factory location was in a newly built industrial park by the Taylor Family, transferred over before it even started, with parts of the buildings renovated later by a Huaxia real estate company under Dong Tianlu's Beifeng Holdings, ensuring efficiency and quality need not be worried about.

This new company secured the use rights of the Taylor Clan's groundbreaking new technology through cooperation and had Taylor personally serve as the Chief Executive Officer, drawing widespread media attention with Taylor having resigned as Clan Leader in advance.

The company's reputation immediately spread.

In fact, this event also caught Caroline's attention.

Initially, she thought Bai Xiaosheng was the person behind this company. After all, Bai Xiaosheng helped the Taylor Family out of trouble and brought cooperation funds.

If that "Qidian Power" really belonged to Bai Xiaosheng, Caroline would never let it go!

However, after thorough investigation, Caroline discovered that the major funder behind the establishment of this company was an old European enterprise called Kelson, existing even before Bai Xiaosheng assumed the role of Executive President of the Greater China Region, having nothing to do with Bai Xiaosheng whatsoever.

At most, Bai Xiaosheng may have played a role in making connections.

Only then did Caroline give up.

Naturally, Bai Xiaosheng was unaware of Caroline's secret investigation, though he had long been prepared.

The reason for choosing the Kevin Siblings' Kelson to invest was precisely to divert attention.

No one would think that what now seems like an old European enterprise is also indirectly held by Bai Xiaosheng.

The establishment of the new company was a great success, and although Bai Xiaosheng regretted not being able to participate, he still felt very happy watching through television screens and the site videos sent by Xiya.

Reflecting on this trip to North America, Bai Xiaosheng felt a myriad of emotions. Despite having a strained relationship with Caroline and not securing any cooperation, the harvest was plentiful. Not only did he meet and establish cooperation with the siblings Dr. Cui Chen and Cui Xuexue, but he also built ties with the Taylor Family and established an eighth new company with unlimited prospects.

Bai Xiaosheng felt very content.

Allowing cooperation between the Taylor Family, his new company, and the enterprises in the Greater China Region can also be considered a small achievement. Additionally, the increasing partnerships in South America would bring a constant stream of orders to the enterprises in the Greater China Region.

Just as Bai Xiaosheng finished watching all the on-site videos, Xiya suddenly called, and Bai Xiaosheng answered, thinking she was going to discuss something on the site.

Unexpectedly, Xiya spoke about a different matter.

A matter that Bai Xiaosheng did not expect, yet found quite interesting.

"Xiaosheng." Xiya adopted the affectionate form of address used by Lin Weiwei, "Just now, a few classmates from the Horn Class contacted me. Originally their families are in North America and wanted to have a North American class reunion. But they also saw the news, knew about my business, and were very surprised. They all expressed a desire to be involved in our new company's cooperation. Their families have quite substantial business operations here in North America."

"Also, knowing you are here, they're all clamoring to meet you and invite you to join our class reunion."

After stating the situation, Xiya asked, "What do you say, should we meet them, discuss cooperation with their families?"

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes lit up, "That's great! I will attend!"

Chapter 2218 - An Unexpected Scene

Xiya brought an unexpected piece of good news to Bai Xiaosheng. The classmates from the Academy Horn Class in North America invited the two of them to a gathering, claiming they wanted to discuss cooperation.

A single Taylor Clan made Bai Xiaosheng feel that they had gained a lot from this trip.

If they could establish cooperation with a few more families similar to the Taylor Clan, Bai Xiaosheng's trip to North America would truly be profitable!

After putting down the phone, Bai Xiaosheng immediately shared the news with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

The two of them were equally delighted.

"With this, even if Caroline doesn't want to cooperate with us, we won't lose out on this trip. We can still expand into the North American market!" Lin Weiwei said excitedly.

"Yes, after all, in the global business world, there isn't only Zhenbei Group; there are many others we can cooperate with," Lei Ying laughed, "If we can't cooperate within the group, we can expand external resources."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded with a smile.

Feeling happy, Bai Xiaosheng suddenly realized it was already late afternoon, two o'clock, time for lunch.

"Let's go and eat," Bai Xiaosheng stood up and said with a smile.

"It's that late already?" Lin Weiwei looked at the time with some surprise, "I thought it wasn't even one yet. It seems that one good thing after another can keep a person so busy that they forget the time."

Lei Ying chuckled, "Don't worry, even if you all forget, I remember. Though you may not feel hungry, my stomach has been grumbling for a while."

Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei burst into laughter.

Then, the three of them tidied up a bit and immediately set out for lunch.

In fact, these days, they have maintained a regular routine, always going for lunch around one-thirty to two o'clock.

The food at their hotel, while good, was still too American for their taste; it was fine occasionally, but they couldn't eat it all the time.

Fortunately, there was a Chinese restaurant at the end of the street.

Initially, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't too keen on Chinese food that had crossed the ocean, localized for America.

To cater to American taste buds and capture the market, local Chinese food had become overly sweet and had odd flavors and textures.

But when they stumbled upon the restaurant at the end of the street, Bai Xiaosheng and his companions were surprised to find that some dishes were quite authentic and especially delicious, comparable to a top chef back home.

They asked and found out that the restaurant's chef, who was also the owner, was indeed a top-notch chef back home, well-versed in both Northern and Southern cuisines, excelling in cooking.

So Bai Xiaosheng and his two companions considered it a treasure and made sure to visit at the same time every day.

Because of that Chinese restaurant, they actually looked forward to dining.

On the way, Lin Weiwei said, "Today we're happy, let's order more dishes, roast duck, spicy pepper chicken, sweet and sour fish, I want them all."

"Weiwei's appetite covers both North and South; as long as it's good food, she's game," Lei Ying joked, "Luckily you're a little rich lady now; otherwise, who could afford to feed you."

"Someone else will take care of meals, not you," Lin Weiwei pouted with a smile.

As the two of them bantered, Bai Xiaosheng also laughed and said, "We're happy today, let's order everything we want, I have many things I want to eat too."

The three of them bantered like family, truly like siblings.

They walked out of the hotel, and in less than fifteen minutes, arrived at their destination — a restaurant called "Xiaji".

Nowadays, authentic Chinese cuisine is increasingly loved by local Chinese and foreigners alike. At peak times, there are a lot of diners, but since Bai Xiaosheng and his friends came late, there were vacant tables.

Bai Xiaosheng and his friends walked inside looking for a place to sit.

"There's a table!" Lin Weiwei exclaimed with joy upon spotting an empty table but still kept her voice down to not disturb others.

Bai Xiaosheng also noticed it and smiled.

Just as the two were about to head over, Bai Xiaosheng was suddenly grabbed by Lei Ying.

"What's wrong?" Bai Xiaosheng looked at Lei Ying, puzzled.

Lin Weiwei also noticed and stopped in her tracks, curiously looking at Lei Ying.

Lei Ying's eyes narrowed, directing his gaze in a specific direction with a slight nod.

Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei followed his cue and were momentarily stunned.

At the other side, a table by the window sat two people, a man and a woman.

They were both familiar faces to Bai Xiaosheng.

The woman was one of Caroline's "big guns", the CEO of BL Technology, Ye Liena!

And the man was Cooper!

Seeing these two sitting together was indeed surprising.

Even Bai Xiaosheng and the others exchanged puzzled looks.

"I remember that day Cooper openly clashed with Caroline, not giving an inch. How come he's dining with Ye Liena now? Something's amiss here!" Lin Weiwei couldn't help gossiping, "Moreover, Ye Liena's BL Technology is a tech firm and Cooper's family is in the pharmaceutical business. Are they talking business or romance?"

"Seems like it's none of our business; we are just here to eat," Bai Xiaosheng laughed.

A woman's curiosity isn't something to be easily quelled. Lin Weiwei immediately retorted, "That's not the point, Xiaosheng. Think about it, if Cooper is dating Ye Liena and simultaneously pursuing Bai Yuefeng, does that make him a jerk? It's fine if Miss Bai disagrees, but what if one day his pursuit breaks through? She'll be at a loss. The sweetest thing isn't honey, it's a jerk's mouth; the most poisonous isn't a serpent, it's a jerk's heart."

What Lin Weiwei said left Bai Xiaosheng and Lei Ying speechless.

Lin Weiwei whispered again, "If it's about cooperation, that's even fishier! You think, a tech and pharmaceutical company discussing collaboration, what kind of proper cooperation could it be? Plus with Caroline involved ... in short, something's off! Xiaosheng, aren't you the second in command of the group's monitoring department? How could you ignore and stay out of this?"

Listening to her, Bai Xiaosheng felt a bit embarrassed.

"So, should I go ask them what they're discussing?" Bai Xiaosheng murmured.

"No, no, Xiaosheng, given your status, going over to gather intel would lower your stature. Let me go." Lin Weiwei immediately volunteered.

Bai Xiaosheng could see her eagerness to gossip and naturally nodded.

Lin Weiwei rushed over with great excitement.

Bai Xiaosheng and Lei Ying watched from behind.

"I think if Weiwei hadn't joined you in the workplace back then, she might have turned out to be a great intelligence officer..." Lei Ying murmured.

Bai Xiaosheng gave him a blank look, half amused, half annoyed.

"Come on, let's grab that table. If we delay, someone else will snag it."

Chapter 2219 - Unusual Circumstances

At this moment, Ye Liena was sitting across from Cooper, and the dishes in front of them were barely touched. It's not that the food didn't suit their taste, but people of their status, to maintain elegance, wouldn't eat much in person, focusing more on discussions.

The two were drinking tea and seemed to have just talked about some matters.

Cooper even smiled and said to Ye Liena, "I was quite surprised to receive a call from Miss Caroline, but we should be discussing matters at a café rather than in a place like this. After all, it's not quite suitable here."

Ye Liena smiled at Cooper, holding her teacup, "The venue, is it really that important? What Cooper cares more about is the content of the conversation, right? Regarding what I just mentioned, Cooper can think about it slowly. It's a great thing for your family!"

Cooper chuckled and said, "Indeed. However, this seems not in line with your position and Miss Caroline's, after all, you are still with Zhenbei Group..."

At that point, Cooper's words abruptly stopped because he saw a familiar face approaching with a smile.

It was Lin Weiwei.

Bai Xiaosheng had a unique status, always accompanied by a man and a woman; the man was exceptionally tall and strong, the woman very pretty with a distinctive Oriental grace.

Cooper remembered them well, thus recognizing them immediately.

Since the opposite party was coming close, Cooper noticed that Lin Weiwei might have overheard some parts of his earlier conversation.

"Hi, you two." Lin Weiwei approached them with a confident smile, greeting them, "I didn't expect you two would be dining here together."

Lin Weiwei emphasized the word "together" slightly.

"Miss Lin?" Ye Liena also recognized Lin Weiwei, her eyes narrowed while looking around.

Ye Liena was very familiar with Lin Weiwei, after all, she was Bai Xiaosheng's assistant!

Ye Liena was now searching to see if "that person" was also here.

"Is Mr. Bai with you?" Cooper naturally smiled gracefully at Lin Weiwei and asked directly.

Ye Liena also glanced at Lin Weiwei.

"Mr. Bai is over there!" Lin Weiwei pointed for the two to see.

Cooper and Ye Liena immediately looked in the direction she pointed.

Bai Xiaosheng and Lei Ying were sitting there, also looking over.

As their eyes met, Bai Xiaosheng smiled, raised his hand slightly as a greeting.

Cooper also smiled and raised his hand.

Ye Liena sat up straighter, smiling and slightly bowing, presenting a lower demeanor.

They had only met this one time; it wasn't an official occasion, so this greeting was quite appropriate.

"Are you two old acquaintances, dining together? Although the food here is nice, it is not suitable for dates." Lin Weiwei said jokingly.

Upon hearing this, Cooper's expression slightly changed; he seriously and earnestly smiled at Lin Weiwei, "Miss Lin, don't misunderstand, Ye Liena and I are just discussing business. Nothing else."

Cooper had seen Lin Weiwei chatting amicably with Bai Yuefeng and knew this woman could speak to him.

If Lin Weiwei misunderstood the situation here and relayed it to Bai Yuefeng, how could he pursue Miss Bai in the future?

Therefore, Cooper explained himself at once.

Ye Liena was also momentarily taken aback but then explained with a helpless smile, "Miss Lin, you're joking, I am not in a romantic relationship with Mr. Cooper."

Actually, without their explanation, Lin Weiwei noticed the truth during the exchange.

At such a close range, observing Cooper and Ye Liena's gaze at each other held no affection, they were definitely not in a romantic relationship.

Although Lin Weiwei hadn't experienced romance, the sharpness she honed in the workplace alongside Bai Xiaosheng was keen.

Lin Weiwei immediately smiled, "So you two are discussing business, am I interrupting?"

Lin Weiwei seemed curious and mumbled, "Mr. Cooper, I remember you are managing a pharmaceutical company now. Why, is the pharmaceutical company going to become fully intelligent and technological?"

While speaking, Lin Weiwei seemed to intentionally or unintentionally glance at Ye Liena.

"How should I tell you about this?" Cooper smiled, "It's not something that can be explained in a few words."

Cooper wouldn't explain this matter to Lin Weiwei; his response hinted to Lin Weiwei that it was none of her business, telling her not to inquire further.

"Cooper's family isn't just involved in the pharmaceutical business." Ye Liena said casually.

Cooper glanced at her.

Ye Liena hurriedly explained, "We're discussing other matters."

Saying this, Ye Liena shot a look at Lin Weiwei that kept her at arm's length, "It's confidential!"

"I was just asking casually, you two continue dining, I won't disturb you." Lin Weiwei courteously sweetened her smile, turned, and left.

Cooper and Ye Liena watched as Lin Weiwei walked away, then exchanged a glance.

Cooper had a hint of displeasure, while Ye Liena smiled apologetically.

Lin Weiwei returned to Bai Xiaosheng and Lei Ying's table, sitting down with her back to Cooper and Ye Liena.

The distance was neither too far nor too close, but normal conversation could still be faintly overheard.

Thus, Lin Weiwei whispered three mosquito-sounding sentences.

The first sentence was, "They are not in a romantic relationship, not dating."

The second sentence was, "The two are indeed discussing cooperation, but very discreet, unwilling to disclose."

The third sentence was, "Xiaosheng, did you observe their reactions clearly?"

Bai Xiaosheng was seated there, able to somewhat observe their expressions and interactions during the conversation with Lin Weiwei from afar, analyzing them.

So at the outset, Lin Weiwei's probing was guiding Bai Xiaosheng's vision.

"Let's eat first." Bai Xiaosheng softly said these three words, then raised his hand to signal, "Waiter, order!"

...

At this time, the restaurant had considerably fewer patrons, also much quieter, Bai Xiaosheng and his party received their dish quite quickly.

The three of them were not like Cooper and Ye Liena who cared much about maintaining image; they ate heartily.

Meanwhile, Cooper and Ye Liena occasionally glanced over, softly exchanging words.

No matter what they were discussing, the fact that they left right after Bai Xiaosheng and his group arrived was odd, so even if the two hadn't eaten much, they patiently waited a bit.

Their behavior raised more suspicion in Bai Xiaosheng's party.

Bai Xiaosheng even quietly murmured to himself while eating, "Is there really an issue?"

About half an hour later, Cooper and Ye Liena stood up to leave, passing by Bai Xiaosheng's table; Cooper and Ye Liena proactively smiled and greeted Bai Xiaosheng, who naturally responded amiably.

Once Cooper and Ye Liena left the restaurant, Lei Ying glanced up, wiped his mouth with his napkin, then looked at Bai Xiaosheng, his gaze indicating a request.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded slightly in agreement, so Lei Ying got up and walked out.

Lei Ying intended to follow them to see what's going on.

Earlier, Ye Liena had received a phone call, talked to Cooper saying that someone wanted to meet him and she needed to take him over.

Though softly spoken, the trio faintly overheard this due to the phone call, Ye Liena didn't realize her voice volume.

Cooper was somewhat displeased by Ye Liena's volume of voice.

Yet, what was said was said, Bai Xiaosheng's group acted as if they hadn't heard anything, prompting Cooper to let it pass.

At the moment, Bai Xiaosheng's group showed no significant, obvious reaction.

The only noticeable change was Lei Ying quickened his pace while eating.

Just as Lin Weiwei mentioned, if the two were discussing work, it inevitably related to the group. Their discreet manner of occasionally glancing over suggested something unusual.

Given BL Technology's tactics against the Taylor Clan before, were their activities now meant to harm or deceive? Cooper's role in this ponders interest and curiosity.

Considering the group's reputation and interests, Bai Xiaosheng could not idly sit by.

Bai Xiaosheng watched Lei Ying disappear through the restaurant door, narrowing his eyes, murmuring to himself —

"I hope we are overthinking this!"

Chapter 2220 - More and More Interesting

Out of suspicion about the conversation between Cooper and Ye Liena, Bai Xiaosheng agreed to let Lei Ying follow them and see what's going on.

If there's nothing amiss, that's all the better, but should there be any issue, ignoring it now will lead to regrets later.

Besides, Lei Ying is a top-notch tracking expert, able to stealthily gather intel without being detected, thus avoiding any unnecessary misunderstandings.

His trust in Lei Ying's ability is one reason Bai Xiaosheng permitted him to do this.

After Lei Ying left, Bai Xiaosheng continued dining with Lin Weiwei.

This matter couldn't be rushed; Lei Ying would need some time.

However, it was just a quarter of an hour before Lei Ying returned.

Bai Xiaosheng looked up inadvertently and saw Lei Ying approaching, surprised.

They said Lei Ying was fast at his work, but this was too quick...

Could it be that the two drove away and Lei Ying couldn't catch up?

If so, Lei Ying would surely pursue them.

Returning with empty hands would be a great humiliation for Lei Ying's ability...

Lin Weiwei noticed Bai Xiaosheng's gaze and looked over, seeing Lei Ying approaching.

"Why did you come back so soon?" Lin Weiwei asked in surprise. "Did you lose track of them?"

Among the three, they were straightforward with each other, rarely avoiding any topic. Lin Weiwei was the only girl among them, and she had considerable 'authority,' always speaking directly.

Lei Ying shook his head, denying, "No, I didn't lose track."

Lei Ying sat down as he spoke.

"Then why did you return so quickly?" Bai Xiaosheng asked curiously this time.

Lin Weiwei also looked at Lei Ying.

"That's because they're just next door," Lei Ying corrected himself, saying, "Well, not exactly next door. There are two stores in between. You remember that cafe, right?"

Bai Xiaosheng, Lin Weiwei, thought briefly and knew the place Lei Ying referred to.

"They knew we were here and chose to discuss matters so close to us?" Lin Weiwei found it unbelievable and looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng pondered silently.

Lei Ying spoke, "Maybe they had a prearranged meeting time and place, which couldn't be changed in time, not expecting to find us here."

Lei Ying continued, "In my opinion, even if they were discussing matters they didn't want us to know, meeting us incidentally, moving to the next door to chat is a smart move!"

Lin Weiwei thought it over and agreed with Lei Ying.

Being 'in the dark' and 'unexpected' could actually make their conversation more 'secure.'

"And guess who I just saw!" Lei Ying suddenly had an air of mystery and said to the two.

This piqued Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei's curiosity, and they couldn't help but look at him.

"Did you see Caroline?" Lin Weiwei couldn't help but comment.

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head, directly rejecting Lin Weiwei's guess, "That's unlikely. Given Caroline's status, if she were to have a secret discussion, she'd choose a safer venue, such as at home, rather than a place like this. Right now, during her election period, she's especially cautious about her actions and won't involve herself easily. Moreover, Cooper's identity may not be sufficient to engage directly with her."

Their last encounter at the banquet was merely because Caroline had a reason to attend, and Cooper's direct confrontation was more akin to a calf unafraid of the tiger.

Lin Weiwei felt Bai Xiaosheng's reasoning was sound and looked at Lei Ying, "So, who could it be? I get the sense it's someone we know?"

Lei Ying stopped beating around the bush and directly told them, "It's Ma Weiqian!"

Ma Weiqian?

Lin Weiwei froze momentarily, then sneered with some disdain, "I thought it was someone else, but it turns out, it's just him..."

This Ma Weiqian is some kind of senior manager at Ambery Company, and he previously constantly annoyed Cui Chen and Cui Xuexue. At the medical association banquet, his attitude toward Caroline was like a begging dog, wagging his tail.

Well, she is his owner after all.

Lin Weiwei despises such people and was dismissive of even mentioning them.

"But, is Ye Liena really taking Mr. Cooper to meet him?" Lin Weiwei was still incredulous.

Ma Weiqian qualified to discuss matters with Cooper?

Could there be someone else?

But if anyone else was meeting Cooper and Ye Liena, wouldn't they send a subordinate ahead first?

Both Cooper and Ye Liena showed up personally.

If someone had such pomp and circumstance that even Cooper would flip.

To think themselves bigger than Caroline.

Faced with Lin Weiwei's doubts, Lei Ying shook his head, "I don't know."

"It could also be true," Bai Xiaosheng said, "Ma Weiqian's status is indeed lower than Ye Liena and Cooper, but not too low. Moreover, his backing with Ambery Group isn't insignificant! If Old Ma got the authorization, naturally he could converse with Cooper!"

Bai Xiaosheng then stroked his chin, a smile playing at his lips, muttering to himself, "It's truly intriguing."

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying couldn't help but look at him.

"Huh? Intriguing?" Lin Weiwei glanced at Lei Ying, puzzled and murmured, "What's intriguing about this?"

Lei Ying also looked at Bai Xiaosheng, his gaze questioning.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at them, laughing, "I'm talking about the identities of these three being intriguing!"

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were instantly enlightened.

Cooper represents his own family business, which is an enterprise outside Zhenbei Group.

Ye Liena represents BL Technology Company, a Zhenbei Group enterprise.

As for Ma Weiqian, he's a representative of Ambery Company, Caroline Family business!

Meaning, Caroline's family business, the group business she's responsible for, and her family business's competitor have representatives sitting together discussing matters!

What are they discussing?

This is the intriguing part!

Cooper seems an opponent, a competitor to Caroline, but in business, there's no eternal enemy, no eternal opponent, only eternal interests!

By following this reasoning, Cooper might cooperate with Ambery, backed by Ma Weiqian.

But why involve a Zhenbei Group enterprise—BL Technology Company?

Bai Xiaosheng pondered.

In business cooperation, both parties exchange something to earn greater profits.

But what if Ambery wants to secure cooperation with Cooper without paying its price?

"Find someone else to pay!"

If BL Technology could pay the costs Ambery should pay, to secure Cooper's cooperation, it's entirely possible!

BL Technology Company's new technology could indeed be adopted by Cooper's enterprises, or Cooper Family's other businesses might need it!

Here it involves using the group's funds to foot the bill for one's own business...

Considering what Caroline has done regarding the Taylor Family's matters, it's not impossible!

Bai Xiaosheng pointed out this possibility, and Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying nodded immediately.

"If that's the case, we can't ignore this! Xiaosheng, you just assumed position as the second-in-command at headquarters' Surveillance Department, and there's not been an act of authority, let this be the first blaze of the new regime!" Lin Weiwei said excitedly, "Besides, we're not afraid to offend Caroline, and we already have our differences! She won't cooperate with us anyway!"

Lin Weiwei was very open about the clash with Caroline.

In her view, no matter how domineering Caroline was, she wasn't a match for Xiaosheng.

"We indeed can't ignore it," Lei Ying added.

Even if they persuaded Bai Xiaosheng, he'd ultimately disagree; when it concerns the group's interests, Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't let it slide.

"Then let's go over and take a look," Bai Xiaosheng decided.

But he seemed to have thought of something.

"This matter, thinking this way, seems reasonable, but when laid out, it feels overly smooth..." Bai Xiaosheng murmured.

Looked at from another angle, this could involve other possibilities!

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes sparkled, and rather than expressing it, he smiled.

"This is getting more intriguing!"