

Two Trillion 2221

Chapter 2221 - Bai Xiaosheng's Mindset

Bai Xiaosheng sometimes jokes about himself being a conspiracy theorist, almost paranoid, always overestimating others' intelligence and maliciousness, and thinking of things from multiple angles, making them more complicated.

Usually, the most sinister deductions Bai Xiaosheng comes up with are deeply buried in his heart and never spoken out, not even to Lin Weiwei or Lei Ying.

It's not that he doesn't trust Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, but there is no need to discuss it; without concrete evidence, the more complex and insidious ideas would only disrupt everyone's thoughts.

Bai Xiaosheng keeps those thoughts hidden in his heart and continuously uses what he sees and hears to correct his suspicions and conspiracy theories.

Most of the time, Bai Xiaosheng's worst suspicions die away as more information becomes available.

After all, most people are not as clever or evil as he imagines.

However, Bai Xiaosheng has developed the habit of thinking more, considering the worst, and keeping all possibilities in mind.

Even if 9,999 out of 10,000 times are futile, if he guesses correctly just once, it could save him from a major crisis, justifying the mental effort.

Thinking more about sinister schemes often helps Bai Xiaosheng come up with surprising solutions under extreme conditions, although some might be too unscrupulous, Bai Xiaosheng would only use them if absolutely necessary.

As they say, the real power of a great weapon lies not in its use, but simply in its existence.

Bai Xiaosheng carries the expectations of more and more people, naturally dwelling in the shadows while watching for the light.

Of course, such a mindset over time could lead the average person to unknowingly become more cynical or serve as the beginning of a disaster.

As wise men have said, "If you gaze long into an abyss, the abyss also gazes into you," and ordinary people might unconsciously let their hearts twist.

But for Bai Xiaosheng, there's no such problem.

The artificial intelligence in Bai Xiaosheng's mind—Red Lotus, constantly reminds him and provides timely psychological counseling.

With Bai Xiaosheng's authorization, Red Lotus can even erase those excessively dark thoughts.

Unlike important memories, undesirable dark thoughts can be selectively forgotten with the help of Red Lotus, if the host sincerely wishes to.

At present, besides analyzing with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying the possibility of Cooper, Ye Liena, and Ma Weiqian gathering together, Bai Xiaosheng naturally also considered various "conspiracy theories," some of which were extremely evil.

Bai Xiaosheng is merely waiting for further confirmation, refutation, or further proof. That's a matter for later.

At the moment, Bai Xiaosheng and the others settled the bill and left the Chinese restaurant.

Just as they walked out, they saw two familiar figures standing in the distance, with a car parked on the roadside.

Those two were Ye Liena and Ma Weiqian.

They were talking and who knows how long they had been doing so.

When Bai Xiaosheng and the others emerged, those two, intentionally or unintentionally, noticed them.

Their conversation seemed to "happen" to end just then.

Ye Liena smiled at Bai Xiaosheng and the others from afar, nodded to Ma Weiqian, and got into the car.

Soon after, the car sped away.

She left just like that, as if her role was merely to bridge the gap and that the ensuing conversation was of no concern to her.

Ma Weiqian also saw Bai Xiaosheng and the others, waving from afar, nodding with a slight bow, offering what seemed to be a perfunctory smile as he hurriedly returned to the café.

"These two are up to no good, acting all nonchalant when they saw us," Lin Weiwei grumbled under her breath, "There's some issue!"

Bai Xiaosheng squinted slightly.

Lei Ying remarked, "Sheng, if this is really as you suspect, I imagine they would draft the contract flawlessly. On paper, Ambray won't be involved in any businesses between BL Technology and the Cooper family. Their collaboration would be backed by underhanded agreements. As long as BL Technology's concessions to the Cooper family don't exceed a certain threshold, it's acceptable. Since the group headquarters has always allowed subsidiaries to offer different levels of preferential policies, decided by the enterprise leader's discretion, they can maneuver within this margin. Without solid evidence, even if we raised suspicions, it would likely be meaningless! Also, unless we touch the Caroline Family, merely dealing with Ye Liena seems pointless..."

"So, they aren't afraid of being caught by us at all from the start, right?" Bai Xiaosheng chuckled, "Any shady cooperation can actually be openly turned into a strategic move!"

This is where Caroline's true cunning lies; she indeed has the potential of a politician.

"Which is what makes it so frustrating," Lin Weiwei muttered.

It seems they're almost helpless against these people.

"Unless there's sufficient physical evidence, preferably with witnesses," Lei Ying pondered aloud.

"Witnesses, huh." Lin Weiwei couldn't help but laugh, "Are we supposed to get Ye Liena or Cooper to testify that the cooperation has significant issues?"

Lei Ying looked at Lin Weiwei with a half-smile.

Bai Xiaosheng also looked at her.

"Why are you both looking at me? Did I say something wrong?" Lin Weiwei asked in surprise.

"I think what you said was absolutely spot-on," Bai Xiaosheng smiled, "We can't touch Cooper or Ye Liena, but isn't there an ideal candidate right now?"

Lei Ying nodded slightly.

Lin Weiwei was initially baffled but quickly caught on, "You mean... Ma Weiqian?"

The one she most despised, whom she had subconsciously overlooked.

Now, thinking about it, Ma Weiqian really seems quite fitting!

"Be it with Cooper or Ye Liena, he is a crucial link in it, and most importantly, he's also the representative of the Caroline family enterprise, Ambray!" Bai Xiaosheng said while smiling, his eyes gleaming.

Through the matter with the Taylor Clan, Bai Xiaosheng believes that Caroline really uses corporate resources for her family's benefit.

However, it depends on the degree and quantity.

Now, it seems Caroline isn't new to such things.

Thus, Ambray might be the breakthrough point, and the lever for this big target could be a tiny hole, that is, Ma Weiqian, this small figure!

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged a glance and immediately understood Bai Xiaosheng's intention.

"Come on, let's go meet the remaining two people." Bai Xiaosheng smiled, inviting Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, as they headed toward the café.

Since they just met, there's no need to hide; it's better to meet openly, and have another chat!

Chapter 2222 - Two "Private Chats"

Bai Xiaosheng and the others entered a coffee shop, where aside from the usual seats, many seats were high and wide-backed sofas, arranged in pairs with excellent privacy. There was a table between them. At first glance, it was impossible to tell who was sitting where.

Lei Ying had been here before and naturally knew Cooper and Ma Weiqian's positions, so he immediately led Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei over.

Just a few steps away from Cooper and Ma Weiqian's seats, Bai Xiaosheng heard Ma Weiqian's deep and urgent voice.

"Mr. Cooper, what's there to hesitate about! I responsibly tell you that this is an absolutely unique opportunity! If we didn't want to establish a good cooperation foundation with your side, we wouldn't offer such conditions! In these cooperations, it's a win-win, you profit, we profit too! Such a good thing! You're so astute, how could you not see it? And you're still considering... considering what! If you find it suitable, let's finalize everything today!"

Ma Weiqian was as full of enthusiasm as ever.

Bai Xiaosheng paused.

Immediately, Cooper's voice followed, "Mr. Ma, don't be too excited. I am indeed very interested in this matter, but... the situation is complex, involving many parties! I need more detailed information and guarantees to ensure there won't be any errors..."

Ma Weiqian picked up the conversation, his voice notably lower, "Rest assured! I was told when I came, we've done things like this before, there won't be any issues! One cooperation, one contact person, no one else will know. It's my honor to be your sole contact! They say, even if unexpected events occur, we will ensure your side is safe! This isn't competition, it's cooperation! Our protection for partners is beyond your imagination! Otherwise, who would dare cooperate with us in the future..."

Ma Weiqian spoke in one breath, his mouth dry, paused and raised his coffee cup, took a light sip, and unintentionally looked up, meeting Bai Xiaosheng's gaze from not far away.

Suddenly, Ma Weiqian turned pale, his hand trembled, and coffee spilled from a small sip to a large gulp.

The coffee was hot, and he "poofed" it out.

Across him, Cooper was caught off guard and suffered the consequence.

"What are you doing!" Cooper, sprayed all over, was instantly embarrassed, and stood up angrily.

However, soon Cooper noticed Ma Weiqian's abnormal expression, turned around, and saw Bai Xiaosheng standing right behind him.

Cooper was also shocked.

"Mr. Cooper, we meet again. You're having coffee here too?" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Cooper's face quickly hid the surprise, smiling as he rose, "It's Mr. Bai!"

While speaking, Cooper politely nodded at Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying behind Bai Xiaosheng, as a greeting.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying responded politely.

"Mr. Cooper, are you discussing business with Mr. Ma Weiqian here?" Bai Xiaosheng smiled, "Rarely, Kele KE Group and Ambray, these two competitors, have a day to cooperate."

Cooper's eyes slightly changed, his expression became somewhat unnatural, and then he laughed, "Cooperate... We don't have such intentions currently, but I really want to cooperate with Mr. Bai's group. Right now, I'm just... casually chatting with Mr. Ma."

"Exactly, we're just casually chatting." Ma Weiqian also hurriedly laughed.

Both denied the mention of cooperation.

Yet their expressions carried a hint of panic.

What does their cooperation have to do with Bai Xiaosheng, to warrant such emotions? Although Bai Xiaosheng is a high-ranking figure in Zhenbei Group, they are not within its system, why panic, why fluster?

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged glances secretly.

Unless they feared Bai Xiaosheng overhearing their secret discussions!

More precisely, they deeply feared Bai Xiaosheng's group identity!

Looking at it this way, Bai Xiaosheng's previous inference was likely very accurate!

The two parties had an under-the-table deal, and the official cooperation would be between Cooper and Ye Liena.

Combining what Cooper said earlier, wanting to cooperate with Zhenbei Group, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying became more convinced of Bai Xiaosheng's judgment.

"Sorry!" Cooper held his hands out, showing the coffee splattered on his clothes, and said, "A slight mishap, I need to go to the bathroom."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, gestured "please," then sat down at the adjacent table, not leaving.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also went over and took a seat.

Cooper's gaze had a slight variance, yet he still smiled and calmly walked to the restroom.

Ma Weiqian appeared somewhat agonized, awkwardly sitting there.

Previously, he underestimated Bai Xiaosheng and the others, not knowing Bai Xiaosheng was on the same level as his boss Caroline...

Today's discussions, he feared Bai Xiaosheng overhearing, yet Bai Xiaosheng was sitting right next to him...

Ma Weiqian's discomfort was imaginable.

His eyes carried more than a few grievances and injustice.

What kind of person is Bai Xiaosheng, who tends to "target" him, becoming his nemesis.

Where could he reason this...

After Bai Xiaosheng and the others sat down, Lin Weiwei went to order coffee, then Bai Xiaosheng also casually said he needed to visit the restroom and left.

Ma Weiqian unnaturally stretched his neck and glanced toward the restroom, withdrawing his gaze just as it met Lei Ying's.

Lei Ying's gaze was calm, cool, and profound, and knowing he was a fierce person, not easy to provoke, someone who could take on eight at once.

Chapter 2223 - Two "Private Conversations" (2)

Ma Weiqian's eyes immediately held fear, and even the smile he forced out was somewhat distorted.

Lei Ying stared at him, making Ma Weiqian feel extremely uneasy.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng walked into the restroom, where only Cooper was washing his hands by the sink, and no one else was around.

As Bai Xiaosheng approached, Cooper naturally noticed him and gave him a relatively genuine smile.

Bai Xiaosheng also smiled and said softly, "Earlier, it was inconvenient, but here I'd like to say a few words to you, Mr. Cooper."

"Oh? Sure!" Cooper smiled and said, "What guidance does Mr. Bai have for me?"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and said, "It's not so much guidance, just some things that I can't help but say."

"Mr. Cooper, do you want to collaborate with our Zhenbei Group?" Bai Xiaosheng went straight to the point.

This question was very direct, and somewhat abrupt.

Cooper paused, looking at Bai Xiaosheng meaningfully, "Look at what you said, the Zhenbei Group is one of the top enterprises in North America, and even on a global scale, it's a rare business giant. Collaborating with Zhenbei Group is the wish of many aristocratic families, and naturally, our family wants to cooperate with the Zhenbei Group."

Cooper continued, "In fact, we have already started cooperation with more than one of your subsidiaries. This time, I was talking with Lady Ye Liena in the restaurant, which I believe Mr. Bai also saw. Maybe soon, news of cooperation between Kele KE Group and BL Technology will be released."

Cooper spoke naturally, without any unusual sign.

This guy's psychological quality is quite good, quickly adjusting his mindset.

However, in Bai Xiaosheng's eyes, he still seemed a bit pretentious and deliberate.

Despite the superb acting, it couldn't fool Bai Xiaosheng's eyes.

"Is that so? That's truly delightful and congratulatory." Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Cooper immediately smiled, but before he could speak, Bai Xiaosheng continued murmuring, "By coincidence, I recently wanted to propose to the group to conduct an examination on BL Technology. Because there are some problems in their cooperation with the Taylor Clan, which have harmed the interests of other companies for profit, affecting the group's reputation."

While Bai Xiaosheng was speaking, he was observing Cooper.

Cooper's eyes showed a clear change but soon returned to normal, as he smiled and said, "How could Mr. Bai tell such insider information to an outsider like me? This is really a bit... inappropriate."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

If he hadn't used a bit of strong medicine, he wouldn't have been able to test Cooper's real reaction.

"I only fear, Mr. Cooper, that in choosing partners, you might go astray." Bai Xiaosheng said softly, "Interests can sometimes blind people's eyes."

The Cooper Family and the Caroline Family have always had fissures, as Bai Yuefeng had told Bai Xiaosheng—so much so that it's reached a point of hatred. Yet, they can still embark on the path of cooperation, which undeniably demonstrates that interests have a truly bewitching power.

Bai Xiaosheng was subtly reminding Cooper not to be blinded by the word "interest," and do things that shouldn't be done.

Cooper gazed at Bai Xiaosheng, then suddenly smiled.

"I remember, Mr. Bai, you are the Executive President of the Zhenbei Group's Greater China Region, right?" Cooper chuckled lightly, "Greater China Region, it's...quite far from here."

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Cooper and smiled, "Across the sea, it is very far."

"To be able to care about the healthy development of North American subsidiaries across the ocean, and still worry about the group's reputation, I really admire Mr. Bai's character and professional ethics. I hope one day to visit the Greater China Region to exchange some ideas with Mr. Bai."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and nodded, "Welcome."

"Ah, there are friends outside waiting for me, so I won't say much more. Please forgive me for leaving." Cooper apologized with a smile, brushing past Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng did not stop him, nor did he say anything.

After Cooper left, he finally turned around, looking in that direction, and murmured to himself, "Is it that they think I'm meddling, or do they really believe Caroline is invincible here?"

In Huaxia, there's a saying "A strong dragon does not suppress a local snake," and it seems that here, there is a similar thought.

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head with a smile.

...

When Bai Xiaosheng returned, Cooper and Ma Weiqian were about to leave.

After all, with Bai Xiaosheng and the other three around, the two of them couldn't really talk about anything.

With this "unexpected event," they probably wouldn't discuss things again today, or even have contact in the short term.

Bai Xiaosheng bid farewell to the two, watched their backs as they walked away, and called over Lei Ying, whispering something to him.

Lei Ying nodded, got up directly, and left again.

Bai Xiaosheng did not sit down to touch the coffee on the table, but instead called Lin Weiwei to walk towards the back door of the café.

Just out of the restroom, Bai Xiaosheng noticed that the café had a back door. It's an alley, seemingly quiet as if no one is around.

Bai Xiaosheng led Lin Weiwei out the back door and walked in a direction.

The further they walked, the darker and more secluded the alley seemed.

After a while, Lin Weiwei couldn't help but speak to Bai Xiaosheng, "Xiaosheng, where are we going? Have you been here before? I feel like you're... very familiar with this place."

Bai Xiaosheng led the way with a sense of ease and familiarity.

"Yes, when I was at the hotel, sometimes I would come down for a walk. I've been here before," Bai Xiaosheng replied.

In fact, when Bai Xiaosheng noticed the existence of the alley, Red Lotus had already searched the entire layout of the place, imprinting it in Bai Xiaosheng's mind.

Bai Xiaosheng is certainly familiar with it.

This is indeed a good "place."

Lin Weiwei no longer spoke, following Bai Xiaosheng forward.

After a while, the two suddenly heard voices ahead.

A voice, very panic-stricken, "You, what are you doing?! Big guy, don't act recklessly! You're limiting my personal freedom, it's a crime!"

The voice stunned Lin Weiwei.

"Isn't that... Ma Weiqian's voice?" Lin Weiwei said in surprise to Bai Xiaosheng.

Judging by the voice, Ma Weiqian was suffering a kidnapping?

Bai Xiaosheng showed no surprise, continuing to walk forward.

Lin Weiwei couldn't help but want to ask, should they call the police.

At that moment, Lin Weiwei heard another voice, deep and fierce, "Shut up! Walk yourself, or I'll knock you out and drag you!"

Lin Weiwei suddenly opened her mouth wide, looking at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

The voice belonged to Lei Ying.

The so-called "kidnapper" is Lei Ying?

No need for Lin Weiwei to think much, nor Bai Xiaosheng to explain, as Lei Ying appeared in their sight pressing Ma Weiqian.

Lei Ying's big hand pinched the back of Ma Weiqian's neck, Ma Weiqian grimaced and sucked in air, pleading while walking, "Oh no, it's about to break, my neck is about to break. Brother, big master, ancestor... I'll walk by myself, I'll walk by myself, I beg you slow down, ouch, ouch, it hurts..."

Bai Xiaosheng led Lin Weiwei towards them.

Upon seeing them, Lei Ying released his grip, pushing Ma Weiqian forward.

Ma Weiqian stumbled, battered and embarrassed, he raised his eyes to see Bai Xiaosheng, first hesitating, then rubbing the back of his neck in anger, "Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, what do you mean by this! This is kidnapping, I'm telling you, this matter is very serious!"

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei, Ma Weiqian's courage bolstered.

Because Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei are reasonable people, unlike Lei Ying, who is a brute.

Therefore, Ma Weiqian stepped forward to threaten.

"What kidnapping? We don't know, and it's none of our business, we're just passing by. If you slander me, I can sue you for false accusations," Bai Xiaosheng said with a light smile, looking at Ma Weiqian, "We only saw you and Lei Ying having a personal vendetta, fighting here. With us as witnesses, you'll be implicated too."

Bai Xiaosheng's words changed the color of Ma Weiqian's face.

According to the mutual fighting claim, Ma Weiqian indeed couldn't escape responsibility.

But the key point, mutual fighting? Could he even dare to touch a single finger of that man's...

"Mr. Bai, the judgment of heaven and earth, how can you say this, if you say this, then I..." Ma Weiqian couldn't continue his "I."

Lei Ying walked over and slapped Ma Weiqian's shoulder heavily, shouting coldly, "Don't waste our time! If you keep talking nonsense, I won't be polite!"

Ma Weiqian shivered in fright.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, speaking gently, "Mr. Ma, no need to be nervous, I just want to chat with you for a bit. If you agree, we won't trouble you."

Ma Weiqian couldn't help but swallow, cautiously looking at Bai Xiaosheng, exploringly saying, "Then, what if I don't agree..."

Bai Xiaosheng still smiling warmly, pointed at Lei Ying, "Then I'll have him persuade you to agree."

Chapter 2224 - "Persuading" Ma Weiqian

Ma Weiqian saw Bai Xiaosheng questioning him, while Lei Ying stood by, ready to pounce like "a butcher sharpening his knife," seemingly ready to "strike" him at any moment, and he panicked.

If he doesn't say something valuable today, he might never get out of here.

Ma Weiqian's face looked incredibly conflicted and ugly.

"Mr. Bai, Mr. Lei, I beg you, I'm really just a small employee. I know very little, please don't make it hard for me. If I say something I shouldn't and offend those above me, losing my job, how will I live? I have an eighty-year-old mother and two children to support."

Ma Weiqian wore a sorrowful expression, pleading incessantly.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded as he listened.

"Initially, I just wanted to casually chat and see if I could learn something," Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Ma Weiqian, "But listening to you, it seems you know things significant enough to get yourself fired! Now I'm even more interested in knowing how important what you know really is!"

Ma Weiqian's expression changed immediately.

His pleas for mercy seemed to have only brought him closer to danger.

"As for the eighty-year-old mother and two children, whether it's true or not isn't the point. I remember when you wanted me to persuade Cui Chen, you offered me personal compensation in the hundreds of thousands of US Dollars, which the company couldn't reimburse, so it came from your personal account, right? This proves, Mr. Ma, you're quite wealthy," Bai Xiaosheng calmly smiled, "If you get fired for

saying something you shouldn't today, we'll visit your family. If the situation is true, I'll provide for them to ensure they have no worries in the future."

Bai Xiaosheng added, "Besides, I believe that whatever you say or do, you'll handle it confidentially, and at worst, deny it to the death, right?"

Ma Weiqian's face twitched, forcing out a smile more difficult than crying.

If Bai Xiaosheng knew, he'd realize that even if Ma Weiqian got unemployed, the money he saved could comfortably support his wife and son, as for his mother... she's left in Huaxia, and he sees her less than twice a year...

But no matter what, he can't tell the truth to this man here.

Otherwise, the position and future he has gained with difficulty will be destroyed in an instant! What meaning would his life have then!

"Mr. Bai, I really have no comment! No matter what questions you ask, as long as they involve company or business matters, even just a little, I won't say a word!" Ma Weiqian steeled his heart, stiffened his neck, and decided to risk everything.

After all, you can't really beat me to death, since I won't die, at most I'll take a beating, and I accept that.

Ma Weiqian had a rogue expression.

"You haven't even heard what I want to ask and you're so resolute?" Bai Xiaosheng looked at Ma Weiqian with a smile, then sighed lightly, "Then I understand. What I want to ask is indeed quite important. If I can't 'convince' you to change your mind, questioning you is pointless."

Saying this, Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Lei Ying.

Lei Ying immediately understood, walked over, grabbed Ma Weiqian's arm, and politely said, "Brother, let's have a chat... let's talk privately!"

Ma Weiqian was most terrified of Lei Ying, and immediately cried out in panic, "What is there to talk to you about, let me go... I won't go!"

Lei Ying, regardless of whether Ma Weiqian agreed or not, carried him off like a chick to a spot behind the wall.

Soon, he could be heard screaming like a pig being slaughtered.

Lin Weiwei couldn't help but voice her concern to Bai Xiaosheng quietly, "Isn't this bad, Xiaosheng, isn't it too violent? If that Ma reports to the police and causes trouble for Lei Ying, what then... from the sound of it, I hope Lei doesn't end up dismantling him."

Fortunately, this was a secluded alley without a soul in sight, but the screams were indeed quite loud.

Bai Xiaosheng chuckled and reassured Lin Weiwei, "Don't worry, Lei Ying knows his limits and won't treat that guy roughly. If it were a real fight, Ma Weiqian wouldn't stand a chance against even two punches from Lei Ying."

"Then what's this..." Lin Weiwei pointed in that direction.

Bai Xiaosheng said meaningfully, "Lei Ying has means beyond our imagination to 'persuade' Ma Weiqian."

Lin Weiwei had no choice but to nod.

Within five minutes, Lei Ying returned with Ma Weiqian.

The latter was sad and fearful, his face covered in snot and tears.

"Willing to talk?" Bai Xiaosheng asked Lei Ying.

Lei Ying nodded and stepped aside.

Lin Weiwei couldn't help but sidle up to Lei Ying and poke him, whispering, "How did you 'persuade' him just now?"

Lei Ying smiled silently, lowered his voice as he said to Lin Weiwei, "You know about acupoints in the human body, right?"

Being a Huaxia person, Lin Weiwei naturally had heard of acupoints.

"Some 'torture' doesn't require breaking the skin or using instruments, you just have to find the right acupoints and press down hard, ensuring they feel enough of the sourness, numbness, pain, and sting. Believe me, those who haven't experienced it can't bear it!" Lei Ying said confidently.

Lin Weiwei listened, dumbfounded, muttering, "Really impressive! Listening to that noise, I thought you had torn him apart..."

"Don't accuse me wrongly!" Lei Ying immediately protested, "We are now high-ranking professionals, civilized people. I have a wife and plan to have a child next year, I would never do anything too bloody or violent."

This statement made Lin Weiwei roll her eyes.

The so-called battlefield grim reaper now claims to refuse violence...

As the two whispered nearby, Bai Xiaosheng was speaking with Ma Weiqian.

"Mr. Ma, can we have a chat now?" Bai Xiaosheng smiled, "Or do you want to continue your 'righteous refusal'?"

Ma Weiqian's eyes filled with panic, and he immediately shook his head vigorously like a rattle, realizing his reaction was wrong when he saw Bai Xiaosheng's expression, and quickly nodded, "I, I'm willing to talk!"

To get someone like Ma Weiqian to divulge key information, the simplest and most direct method is "coercion and inducement."

Make him scared and let him taste the benefits.

Having done enough before, Bai Xiaosheng now planned to offer inducements.

The carrot and stick is always the best combination.

"Thus, if what you say satisfies me, I'll pay you enough money, whatever you want! If the information is reliable and significant, I might even buy out your future career!" Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Ma Weiqian looked at Bai Xiaosheng in shock, his gaze somewhat conflicted.

He had heard a little about Bai Xiaosheng's actions in Europe and South America.

This man, although young, seemed to always mean what he said from the moment he appeared.

His personal promise, it seems, can be trusted quite highly.

"If you feel that working for me leaves you unable to stay in North America and you want to go to Europe or South America, I can pave the way for you," Bai Xiaosheng said, "The company you go to won't be below Ambray's level, and your position and salary can only get higher!"

Hearing this, Ma Weiqian couldn't help but swallow.

Opportunities in life might be right in front of him!

While Ma Weiqian hesitated, Bai Xiaosheng used an undeniable tone to tell him, "Believe me, I can offer you much more than Ambray, and far more than Caroline can give you!"

Ma Weiqian's eyes were immensely conflicted, but he finally gritted his teeth.

"Fine! I'll tell you everything you want to know, even before you ask!"

"But for the first thing, if I say it, I demand five million!"

Ma Weiqian emphasized, "US Dollars!"

Chapter 2225 - Leave This Matter to Me!

This Ma Weiqian, he's asking for an exorbitant price, saying that instead of Bai Xiaosheng asking questions, he's going to proactively sell them two pieces of information.

For this one piece of information, he opened his mouth and demanded five million US Dollars!

Beside him, Lin Weiwei frowned, wanting to tell him, "Why don't you go and rob instead!"

Bai Xiaosheng remained expressionless and directly extended his hand to Lin Weiwei, "Weiwei, the checkbook."

Lin Weiwei was stunned upon hearing that.

Bai Xiaosheng was agreeing?

Even if paying, shouldn't they first hear the content and see if it's worth it?

What if it's not worth that much, wouldn't they be at a loss...

Although thinking this, Lin Weiwei still swiftly handed the checkbook to Bai Xiaosheng, planning to persuade him not to rush in a moment.

Ma Weiqian watched as Bai Xiaosheng took the checkbook, his eyes flickering slightly.

Having five million US Dollars of solid cash as a guarantee, and getting it just by moving his lips, even he was incredibly tempted.

With everyone watching, Bai Xiaosheng opened the checkbook, signed a check smoothly, and directly handed it to Ma Weiqian.

The sequence of actions was smooth and without delay.

So much so that everyone stared in a daze, unable to react.

Ma Weiqian held the check in a bit of a daze, then looked at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief, "You, you did this... I haven't even spoken yet..."

Ma Weiqian was caught off guard by Bai Xiaosheng.

Without knowing the value of the information, Bai Xiaosheng directly paid?

What if, his information was worthless...

"Paying in advance, this is my sincerity towards you." Bai Xiaosheng said with a faint smile at Ma Weiqian, "Besides, if a mere five million is enough to make Mr. Ma break his trust, I don't think it's worth it. For me, what matters is trust and... the value you have yet to show!"

Bai Xiaosheng's words were calm yet extremely imposing.

To make someone who loves money succumb psychologically, you need to really let him touch real gold and silver, let him feel the immense wealth in his eyes and heart, and tell him—

That's just the tip of the iceberg.

This has more impact than any promises or words.

Ma Weiqian held the check, staring at the number on it, his eyes nearly popping out, his throat moving up and down, swallowing.

Then, he looked up, eyes bright as snow.

"I understand." Ma Weiqian said to Bai Xiaosheng sincerely, "I will speak without reserve!"

Seeing Ma Weiqian's demeanor, Lin Weiwei snapped back to reality and couldn't help but feel admiration for Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng had always taught her and Lei Ying about psychological strategies in the past, but she always admired Bai Xiaosheng's ability to grasp and control human nature.

Lei Ying couldn't help but curl his lips into a slight smile. He believed that his coercive tactics were just small tricks, and genuinely making people willingly obey was a skill. Bai Xiaosheng had that skill.

Ma Weiqian accepted the check and voluntarily said to Bai Xiaosheng, "Mr. Bai, since you are so forthright, I won't hide it from you. This time, I came under orders to connect with Mr. Cooper from Kele KE Group. Our Ambray wants to conduct a major business partnership with him and his family behind him!"

This point matched Bai Xiaosheng's expectations.

Lin Weiwei couldn't help but glance at Bai Xiaosheng with admiration.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded and said, "Why is Ye Liena here?"

Ma Weiqian looked around, made a silencing gesture, and upon seeing no anomalies or extraneous figures, leaned forward slightly and said to Bai Xiaosheng in a low voice, "Even if you don't ask, I would say it."

"Ye Liena and her managed BL Technology are here to 'help out'!" Ma Weiqian said mysteriously, "The cooperation between Ambray and Cooper's Kele KE Group won't be made public. The genuine signing of cooperation is between Ye Liena's BL Technology and Cooper's side. BL Technology will offer huge benefits and discounts to Mr. Cooper's side in exchange for support for our Ambray from his side. Just imagine, if Ambray and Kele KE, two major pharmaceutical companies, teamed up, openly and covertly, the operable profit space would be extraordinary..."

Ma Weiqian spoke with great excitement.

This matched Bai Xiaosheng's speculation completely.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng and the others not at all surprised, with Lin Weiwei looking at Bai Xiaosheng in constant admiration, Ma Weiqian couldn't help but feel extremely surprised.

"Mr. Bai, why aren't you surprised? Do you think I'm not telling the truth?" Ma Weiqian couldn't help but ask.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and shook his head.

"It's not that what you say isn't surprising, it's just that our Mr. Bai had already anticipated those things!" Lin Weiwei couldn't help but say proudly.

This time, Ma Weiqian was taken aback, looking at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

Anticipated?

No, that can't be!

"The only one capable of coordinating the covert and overt cooperation between the three of you, I guess, can only be Miss Caroline." Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Ma Weiqian's pupils contracted sharply, feeling a shock in his heart.

This was supposed to be the shocking inside information he intended to sell as the second piece!

Bai Xiaosheng guessed it?!

Then what's the point of saying anything more!

Ma Weiqian looked at Bai Xiaosheng with complex emotions and murmured, "About this matter, I'm not sure if it's really Miss Caroline's arrangement... The person who assigned me the task didn't give any indication. However, I also suspect that there's Miss Caroline's shadow behind it. Without her consent, how could BL Technology cooperate with us Ambray in this way... Moreover, the person who assigned me the task inadvertently mentioned in passing, saying our company has done this type of 'cooperation' more than once..."

Ma Weiqian ended up spilling the beans.

He poured out the beans like a bamboo tube, but still felt dry and flavorless.

After all, Bai Xiaosheng had already guessed it, and what he thought was explosive was somewhat tasteless.

With Ma Weiqian's confirmation, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying immediately looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

Actually, they had guessed it much earlier, only without evidence, they thought Ma Weiqian could serve as a witness, but now hearing him, he obviously didn't carry enough weight.

"Mr. Ma, did you say that person who gave you the assignment mentioned that Ambray has done this kind of thing more than once?" Bai Xiaosheng suddenly asked.

Upon hearing this, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying's eyes immediately brightened.

Right, given that Ma Weiqian's position was low, it was understandable he didn't know much or wasn't certain. So they'd follow this clue up the vine and trace it back!

That superior of Ma Weiqian's must know more about the inside story, and if they managed to pull him down, they could cast a broader net over the issue, even directly pose a threat to Caroline, the mastermind behind it!

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying immediately looked at Ma Weiqian expectantly.

Ma Weiqian also understood Bai Xiaosheng's underlying intentions and couldn't help but open his eyes wide, "Mr. Bai, you're thinking of... talking with my superior?!"

Bai Xiaosheng's "talking," indeed formidable, made Ma Weiqian "turn traitor" in less than a quarter of an hour.

In fact, Ma Weiqian quite wanted Bai Xiaosheng and his team to drag his superior down too.

This is what's called, when the sky falls, let the tall ones handle it.

If Miss Caroline were to be infuriated, she would have to deal with that superior first. Then Ma Weiqian could seize the opportunity to seek a turning point.

Ma Weiqian suddenly became spirited.

"In this matter, Mr. Ma, can you help us with anything?" Bai Xiaosheng, seeing Ma Weiqian's demeanor, smiled immediately, "The price I can offer is undoubtedly more than the value of the first small piece of information."

Five million was just a small value.

Ma Weiqian felt like his heart had been whipped, an electrifying one, and his whole being became mentally invigorated, showing great enthusiasm once again.

"Mr. Bai, rest assured, leave this matter to me! I'll arrange a private meeting for you with my superior, how about that?!"

Chapter 2226 - The Road Ahead Is Fraught with Difficulties

Ma Weiqian is really an average person in terms of character, very mediocre. He is opportunistic, solely profit-driven, fawning over superiors while bullying subordinates. All the bad traits you can think of seem to be found in him. However, there's one thing that he indeed excels at, and that is his enthusiasm and energy in getting things done. Once you get him to work on something, you'll experience his full dedication.

Not a good person, but as a subordinate, he is certainly competent!

Ma Weiqian, having taken Bai Xiaosheng's money and listened to Bai Xiaosheng's promises, immediately became proactive, eagerly arranging an opportunity for Bai Xiaosheng to meet with the superior who assigned him tasks.

In this regard, Bai Xiaosheng was naturally pleased.

From what Ma Weiqian revealed, that person surely knows a lot!

Whether it's "persuading" that person to testify or digging deeper into the inside story through him to further investigate Caroline, these are rare opportunities and leads!

Bai Xiaosheng didn't originally want to turn into an enemy of someone like Caroline.

However, if the other party is a huge parasite, for public service, Bai Xiaosheng is the deputy director of Zhenbei Group's headquarters investigation department, it's his duty. Privately, Bai Xiaosheng is the future heir of the group, he cannot let it pass.

Whether for public or private reasons, he cannot stand aside!

"So, Mr. Ma, when can you arrange this? Please notify me half a day in advance so I can prepare." Bai Xiaosheng instructed Ma Weiqian.

"No problem!" Ma Weiqian promised, patting his chest, "Rest assured, it'll be done in two or three days, at most three to five days, and I will arrange everything properly!"

Bai Xiaosheng nodded in response.

"Regarding Cooper and Ye Liena's collaboration, might it be finalized within a day or two? That would make us rather passive." Lin Weiwei looked at Bai Xiaosheng, reminding him.

He understood Lin Weiwei's meaning.

Once Cooper and Ye Liena signed the collaboration, Ambray Company and Cooper's Kele KE Group's partnership conditions would be met.

The people handling these matters, including Ma Weiqian's superior, would swiftly wash their hands off the matter and stand aside.

Some people will be transferred, and some will resign. The entire operation chain may rapidly break apart and disintegrate.

There will be nothing to investigate.

Bai Xiaosheng and his team have encountered such situations before.

Since it involves major commercial events, people like Caroline will naturally be extremely cautious.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Ma Weiqian.

Ma Weiqian immediately laughed and said to Lin Weiwei, "Miss Weiwei, there's no need for you to worry. You can rest assured because I'm also a part of this matter!"

Ma Weiqian proudly remarked, "As long as I 'stir things up' a bit, this matter won't be finalized any time soon."

This is true. Right now, Ma Weiqian represents Ambray Company. In the entire cooperation chain, Ambray is the hidden middle link; without them connecting the two parties, the two parties won't be able to collaborate.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying nodded slightly.

"Moreover," Ma Weiqian said to Bai Xiaosheng, "since you, Mr. Bai, met with Ye Liena and Cooper today, they probably won't discuss the matter anytime soon and will likely delay the cooperation for a few days!"

Those two are cautious people, and the more cautious they are, the more inadvertently they assist Bai Xiaosheng and his team.

Thinking of Cooper, Bai Xiaosheng squinted slightly.

Bai Xiaosheng initially hoped to stop this inappropriate collaboration from its source through communication with Cooper.

If possible, Bai Xiaosheng was even willing to offer more collaborations as compensation to Cooper.

Whether it's the Greater China Region market or the European market, Bai Xiaosheng is willing to open resources to him, and Feisheng Biotechnology Pharmaceuticals will also cooperate with him.

But unfortunately, Cooper did not agree.

Yet Bai Xiaosheng still believes there's hope for cooperation with Cooper.

"Then it's hard work for you on this matter, Mr. Ma." Bai Xiaosheng thanked him politely for interrupting the cooperation between the two companies.

"Please don't say that, it makes us feel distant! I'm still hoping to serve you and earn a fortune." Ma Weiqian grinned.

It's good that the words are so direct.

A real villain is always easier to deal with than a fake gentleman.

"Then I will be waiting for your good news, Mr. Ma." Bai Xiaosheng smiled and extended his hand.

With some apprehension on his face, Ma Weiqian smiled and shook hands with Bai Xiaosheng.

With Caroline, he didn't have the privilege to enjoy such an honor.

Ma Weiqian nodded with a smile to Bai Xiaosheng and the other two before turning and leaving.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others watched his figure disappear from view.

"I didn't expect we would have to rely on someone like him to get things done." Lin Weiwei muttered.

Bai Xiaosheng chuckled, "We only need him to do the work, not be friends with him. Isn't it great that, because he is this kind of person, he quickly becomes useful to us?"

What Bai Xiaosheng said made sense, leaving Lin Weiwei speechless.

"Let's go." Bai Xiaosheng gestured for the two to leave the alley.

The three walked out together.

...

Meanwhile.

In a large home of over two hundred square meters, Ye Liena was sitting in the living room, staring blankly, even letting the coffee in her hands grow cold.

After separating from Cooper and Ma Weiqian, she didn't go to the office but returned to her nearby residence and stayed there.

At the door, there was a noise as someone opened it and came in. Ye Liena looked lifelessly over.

It was Melanie who entered.

Seeing Ye Liena, Melanie walked over excitedly, her high heels tapping a rhythmic "click-clack" on the floor.

Melanie was surprised upon seeing Ye Liena's expression.

"I mean, why do you look so sluggish, how did the things go?" Melanie couldn't help but ask, "Could it be that something went wrong?"

Chapter 2227 - The Road Ahead Is Treacherous (2)

Melanie shook her head immediately, "That shouldn't be the case. If it were true, would you still have the mind to drink coffee here? Even call me over?"

Melanie only knew Caroline had arranged for her best friend to carry out an extremely important task, and once successful, there would surely be a great reward.

As for what the task entailed, Melanie didn't know and dared not ask, because even if she did, Ye Liena wouldn't say.

However, from what Ye Liena implied, this task might give her the opportunity to redeem herself, perhaps even turn misfortune into blessing, possibly advancing further in her career.

Melanie was naturally pleased.

On one hand, she was happy for her friend, and on the other hand, since Ye Liena was a person of deep loyalty, if she ascended to higher positions she would undoubtedly think of ways to speak favorably of Melanie to Miss Caroline, which meant even if she, Melanie, was momentarily sidelined, there might still be chances for a comeback in the future.

Melanie practically treated Ye Liena's endeavor as the future for both of them.

"Regarding the progress, I'm only involved in a part of it, so I'm not sure how it's going now," Ye Liena said truthfully, murmuring.

"If Miss Caroline is planning personally, then there's definitely no problem! Just do what you should be doing!"

Melanie appeared incredibly certain.

"You see, the Taylor Family, with Miss Caroline personally orchestrating, weren't they played in the palm of her hand! This time, who is Miss Caroline targeting, is it that Bai? He won't be able to escape either!"

Melanie chuckled coldly.

She could guess some clues, at least deducing that dealing with Bai Xiaosheng was not hard.

Ye Liena's gaze instantly sharpened, making a "silence" gesture towards her.

"What are you worried about, there's no one else here, only you and me," Melanie said indignantly, "Do you not even trust me? I might get angry!"

Melanie sat heavily on the sofa, twisting her body and pulling a face, pretending to be angry.

"Oh no, it's not that I don't trust you," Ye Liena hastened to appease her, "It's just an unintended action."

Melanie wasn't actually angry, and being coaxed like that, she immediately laughed.

Ye Liena saw her friend deliberately tease her, rolled her eyes, then sighed heavily, her face showing some reluctance and unwillingness, murmuring, "Actually, I just feel, using those tactics against that person, is it really right..."

Bai Xiaosheng was one of the few people Ye Liena admired.

So young, so accomplished, so charismatic, Ye Liena couldn't help but be impressed.

Using such means to scheme against him made Ye Liena feel a pang of reluctance in her heart.

"You can't have such thoughts!" Melanie exclaimed at once upon seeing this, immediately correcting Ye Liena's misguided thinking, "Sympathy is sympathy, but that person is doomed! Until now, nobody has escaped Miss Caroline's calculations!"

Melanie spoke with absolute certainty.

She had been with Miss Caroline for many years and had witnessed many of her behind-the-scenes maneuvers.

To say without exaggeration, in Melanie's eyes, if Miss Caroline really wanted to deal with someone, wanted someone dead, no one could escape!

That Bai Xiaosheng, Melanie had seen him, appearing young and promising, with deep eyes and profound aura, even able to stand on par with Miss Caroline at a young age, was truly an extraordinary guy.

Yet if he were to say he could compete with Miss Caroline intellectually, in terms of experience, he'd still be lacking!

Some things not only require talent but also a wealth of experience, like handling people.

That young Huaxia person, lacking nearly ten years of experience, how could superior talent surpass Miss Caroline? How can this gap be bridged!

Seeing Ye Liena unexpectedly showing an unprecedented reluctance, Melanie hastened to persuade her to retract it. After all, having such thoughts would be pointless.

If it caused things to go wrong, it would truly become a disaster from which there was no return.

At Miss Caroline's place, they would never see the light of day again!

"Think about how long we've been with Miss Caroline, and you know how she's treated us, it's of utmost importance!"

"We've reached this position, and you know what we've sacrificed the most, no love, no family, we can't lose our career now!"

"Even if you see that young Huaxia person as appealing, even if you admire him or like him, you have to know what should be done and what shouldn't, you can't let momentary impulses lead you astray!"

...

Melanie spoke earnestly to Ye Liena.

Ye Liena surrendered immediately.

If she didn't express herself, she would have to let her friend's barrage fill her ears completely.

"What are you thinking, of course I'm going to follow Miss Caroline's instructions, of course I know where my future is. You're just worrying too much... Oh, look, your makeup's smudged, go fix it up, how can you meet anyone like that," Ye Liena finally threw out a trump card.

Seeing Ye Liena "mentally normal" again, speaking normally, Melanie was relieved, immediately pulling out a compact mirror to check her face.

Sure enough, there were mistakes!

Melanie instantly got up, carrying her little handbag, heading toward the restroom without turning back, "I'll fix my makeup first, let's continue talking when I come back!"

Ye Liena felt both amused and exasperated watching Melanie rush into the restroom, seeing the door slam shut, her smile became somewhat frozen, her eyes showing gloominess.

Being with Miss Caroline for so long, witnessing so many deceitful tactics, and being in this situation, knowing who was involved, Ye Liena could almost guess what kind of trap Bai Xiaosheng would fall into!

Ye Liena's eyes wandered in confusion and darkness.

With no outsiders around, Ye Liena couldn't help but softly mutter, using a voice that even if someone stood beside her, wouldn't hear clearly.

Chapter 2228: A Difficult Road Ahead (Part 3)

"I still think he shouldn't be treated like this!"

Ye Liena firmly believed that generals should die on the front lines, and business battles should be won by skill!

Using schemes and machinations is disgraceful!

“My actions are also disgraceful. I am playing an inglorious role here too! In the end, what have I been tirelessly pursuing all this time?” Ye Liena leaned back on the sofa, looking up at the ceiling in a daze.

This luxurious house, located in a prime area, is worth far more than an entire ordinary villa, and a single crystal chandelier costs over hundreds of thousands of US Dollars.

And she has several such residences, more than she can live in.

Is she looking to earn more money, more and more money?

Or is it... honor, status, self-worth recognition!

At this moment, Ye Liena suddenly felt lost, more lost than ever before.

...

At this point, Bai Xiaosheng and his group had already left that small alley and were slowly walking along the street, partly to digest their meal and partly discussing important matters.

Regarding the issue with Caroline, since Bai Xiaosheng decided to handle it, he made up his mind to spare no effort in managing and investigating it.

Relying solely on Ma Weiqian's progress is not appropriate; it feels like putting all the eggs in one basket.

Besides, it's hard to say whether Ma Weiqian will sincerely handle the matter; he's too easily swayed by interests. If the opposition discovers he has issues and lures him with benefits, there's no telling if he would switch sides again.

There must be efforts from other aspects to investigate Caroline's side.

However, even if it's established that Caroline has many issues, it may still be hard to take her down in a short time.

Caroline is not like Landvo, the head of the South American region. She is the regional head at the headquarters, as well as the head of the North American region, and is also associated with Vice Chairman Morgan's group. With various factors supporting her, her foundation is deep and unfathomable!

Back then, even someone like Landvo reached such a dire state, yet under Vice Chairman Morgan's protection, he was not expelled from the Zhenbei Group. One can imagine how difficult dealing with Caroline would be.

Moreover, Bai Xiaosheng and his group have no foundation or advantage here, making it unprecedentedly disadvantageous.

"Touching one part affects the whole; even more so with figures like Caroline. The depths of the group headquarters are profound, and it's hard to imagine overturning everything alone," Bai Xiaosheng said. "Therefore, I need to communicate with Wen Yan and see if I can get in touch with Vice Chairmen Lu Cheng'an and Li Yunyuan to gauge their stance."

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged a glance.

"Mr. Wen Yan, I don't doubt his reliability, but can he really make such a big decision to deal with Caroline?" Lin Weiwei couldn't help but say, "I don't believe he hasn't gathered any evidence over the years. And those two vice chairmen, is it appropriate to probe their stance?"

Lin Weiwei also feared that news leakage would be detrimental to Bai Xiaosheng.

"I don't think it's a big deal. It's better than us acting blindly and breaking some balance, pushing forces that could have been on our side to the opposition," Lei Ying said.

Bai Xiaosheng carefully listened to their words, nodded, and gave his opinion, "I must inform them about this matter."

"However, no matter what their attitude is, I must investigate!" Bai Xiaosheng's eyes shone brightly. "With solid evidence, even if I can't take down the corruption immediately, I will wait for the opportunity, and success will eventually be achieved!"

Bai Xiaosheng's perseverance and determination are precisely what Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying admire about him.

No matter what obstacles and dangers lie ahead, they will stick with Bai Xiaosheng to the end, never giving up!

The three of them were chatting when suddenly a ring sounded.

Bai Xiaosheng received a phone call.

He took out his phone in surprise, and when he saw the number displayed, he was instantly amazed, "It's her?"

Chapter 2229 - Dinner or Trade Fair?

The call Bai Xiaosheng received was from Bai Yuefeng. These days, Bai Xiaosheng and his group were busy, and after finding out, Bai Yuefeng had given them a couple of days' peace without disturbing them.

Now, after all, the call came through.

Bai Xiaosheng answered the call, and Bai Yuefeng's excited voice came from the other end, "Hey, Bai Xiaosheng, are you still busy now? Is it convenient to talk?"

"How should I put it." Bai Xiaosheng laughed, "Today, I'm probably not busy; even if I am, I have time to talk to you. Why? Do you need something?"

Bai Xiaosheng's words made people feel at ease.

In fact, whether it was waiting for news from Ma Weiqian's side, asking Wen Yan for information, or probing Lu Cheng'an and Li Yunyuan's intentions, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't in a rush at the moment, and indeed had time.

"You have time today, that's great." Bai Yuefeng was pleased and said happily over the phone, "My dad wants to invite you to dinner, is this evening okay?"

Bai Yuefeng's words stirred Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Yuefeng's father is Bai Tianyu, the current head of the Bai Family in Chinatown. He is not only the leader of the local Chinatown but also a core member of the entire Chinese Association in America. A truly influential figure!

Even Caroline would eagerly try to maintain a good relationship with Bai Tianyu. Her family also spend a considerable amount, requesting the Bai Family's support during elections.

Even so, without Zhenbei Group behind Caroline, and the influence of Vice Chairman Morgan, the Bai Family, Bai Tianyu, might not even agree to support her.

Now, the renowned Bai Family Patriarch inviting him to dinner surprised even Bai Xiaosheng.

"Hey, why aren't you saying anything, is it inconvenient?" Bai Yuefeng noticed Bai Xiaosheng hesitating on the phone and quickly added, "It's just a dinner, nothing else. My dad wants to thank you for the purple clay teaware you gave him; he really likes it."

"Really? I'm glad Mr. Bai likes it." Bai Xiaosheng snapped back to reality and laughed over the phone, "This evening? No problem. What time and where? I'll be there on time."

Bai Yuefeng was overjoyed to hear Bai Xiaosheng agree and laughed, "Eight o'clock tonight, at Chinatown, at our family's restaurant called — Drinking Moon Tower. You just go in and let the receptionist know. There won't be any outsiders, just me and my father. Remember to bring Weiwei and Lei Ying. It'll be lively!"

Faced with Bai Yuefeng's enthusiastic invitation, Bai Xiaosheng cheerfully agreed.

Afterward, the two chatted briefly and hung up the phone.

Bai Xiaosheng conveyed the invitation truthfully to Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

The two of them, upon hearing it was a dinner with Bai Tianyu from the Bai Family, couldn't help but have their eyes light up.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others being friends with Bai Yuefeng and having good relations with the Bai Family is undoubtedly a good thing.

Moreover, if Bai Xiaosheng could discuss some collaboration with the Bai Family during this trip, it would be a delightful surprise.

With the Bai Family's connections, Bai Xiaosheng's future dealings in North America would also be more convenient.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying even considered that if the Bai Family could help Bai Xiaosheng deal with Caroline, their odds of success would significantly increase.

Of course, that last potential scenario is unlikely.

The Bai Family could befriend Bai Xiaosheng and also Caroline, without needing to embroil themselves in any conflict or troubles.

Businessmen seek profit and are reluctant to cause trouble.

Nevertheless, no matter what, the dinner with the Bai Family is extremely important.

The three of them immediately returned to their hotel.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying even went out specially to buy an appropriate gift to bring in the evening.

This afternoon, everything was calm with no incident.

As evening approached, when it was nearly time, Bai Xiaosheng took Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, along with the gift, and headed to Chinatown together.

Drinking Moon Tower is quite famous.

When they mentioned it to the taxi driver, even the foreigner could repeat it in broken Chinese.

In the evening, Chinatown under the brilliant lights had its unique charm. The three of them, guided by the bearded foreign driver, saw from the taxi window a majestic Chinese-style pavilion in the distance.

That would be the Drinking Moon Tower.

The closer they got, the clearer it became.

Under the brilliant lights, the building wasn't obscured by the night, clearly visible. The building was completely modeled after Yellow Crane Tower and Tengwang Pavilion, bringing Eastern charm and grandeur to the Western world.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but marvel as he looked along the way.

The taxi went as far as it could near Drinking Moon Tower, and then had to stop.

This area was bustling with traffic, very lively...

In the end, Bai Xiaosheng and the others had to get out and walk the rest of the way.

Lei Ying carried the gift. Fortunately, what they bought was tasteful but not heavy.

When they reached the square in front of Drinking Moon Tower, there was a crowd. From a glance, it was all foreigners using Drinking Moon Tower as a background for their frenzied selfies.

Bai Xiaosheng and the trio directly headed toward Drinking Moon Tower. The closer they got to the Chinese-style pavilion, the more they felt a cultural impact, grand and magnificent, with a rich foundation. The building indeed required great thought and investment to create such an atmosphere. The investor was also very ambitious.

So much so that Bai Xiaosheng couldn't resist taking a few photos, considering sending them to Master Song Kai later.

The old man enjoyed studying architecture and would certainly be delighted.

Bai Xiaosheng and his companions stepped into Drinking Moon Tower, where the greeters dressed as ancient shop assistants smiled warmly and enthusiastically.

Once inside, Bai Xiaosheng and the others could see that in the hall, all the tables and chairs were made of mahogany, and the diners used exquisite white porcelain and celadon.

Clearly, the place was of a very high standard.

Chapter 2230: Dinner or Trade Show? (Part 2)

At present, most of the diners inside are foreigners, but there are also Huaxia faces. Everyone remains quiet, speaking in very low voices.

This is in line with the requirement of “Silence” written in both Chinese and English on every table. To dine here, one must adhere to these rules.

Bai Xiaosheng and the two others told the welcoming attendant that someone had reserved a table, but they weren’t sure where. The attendant courteously invited them to the front desk to inquire.

The front desk at the Drinking Moon Tower features elegantly dressed women in traditional attire, with bright eyes and white teeth, exuding a celestial aura.

Bai Xiaosheng directly told the smiling receptionist who greeted them, “Mr. Bai Tianyu invited us here. My surname is Bai.”

With just this one sentence, the receptionist’s smile momentarily froze, her large, beautiful eyes widening in surprise as she looked at him.

The three women beside her also turned their gaze in unison, their eyes sparkling brightly.

These three are indeed Mr. Bai Tianyu’s guests!

The women were momentarily stunned but quickly quelled their surprise, smiling once more.

Those vibrant and ethereal women all radiated enthusiastic smiles; it was truly a bit overwhelming.

“Mr. Bai, please come in. I’ll show you the way!”

“I’ll show you the way as well!”

“And me too!”

In an instant, the entire front desk seemed to empty out.

This is Bai Family's business, and in their hearts, the Bai Family Patriarch is a god-like figure. As a guest of the Patriarch, Bai Xiaosheng was nothing short of a distinguished guest.

Bai Xiaosheng found it momentarily challenging to respond to their enthusiasm.

Lin Weiwei was slightly displeased upon seeing them like this but couldn't say anything.

Lei Ying seemed at ease. Having been married, he considered only his wife beautiful; other beauties didn't catch his eye.

...

Eventually, Bai Xiaosheng and his group were led to an elevator.

Despite the ancient charm of the building, due to its many floors, modern conveniences were installed for convenience.

The elevator, however, was cleverly designed and skillfully concealed, using wooden elements, so it didn't seem out of place at all.

Bai Xiaosheng and his companions took the elevator, going straight to the top floor.

When the elevator stopped and the door opened, Bai Xiaosheng and the others were surprised to find a lush greenery before them.

The top floor was surrounded by indoor plants, with streams trickling and small bridges spanning across. Looking forward, the layers of areas progressed, each offering a distinct scene. At the far end appeared to be a hall with just one table set, surrounded by floor-to-ceiling glass walls, offering a view of the night scene.

With the guidance of the front desk staff, Bai Xiaosheng and his group walked through, feeling more like they were in a garden than an upstairs building.

Do wealthy people really get to play this way?

Bai Xiaosheng, looking at the indoor sky garden, couldn't help silently exclaiming in his heart.

No wonder they mentioned along the way that the Drinking Moon Tower offers a different level on each floor, one more spectacular than the next. At the top, one can gaze at the stars, admire the moon, and enjoy drinks at the highest-level private club.

Seeing it today was indeed astonishing.

Before Bai Xiaosheng and his group reached the end hall, Bai Yuefeng came forward with a smile, walking briskly to greet them.

Seeing the Bai Family's Miss personally welcoming guests, the guiding front desk beauties immediately bowed over, glancing respectfully and curiously at Bai Xiaosheng and his group, especially Bai Xiaosheng.

This young man with the same surname, Bai, who on earth is he? Not only did Mr. Bai host a banquet, but even the Miss had such an attitude. It's truly unbelievable.

"You arrived just in time, very punctual. Come, I'll take you over," Bai Yuefeng said with a cheerful smile, then glanced at the beauties and casually said, "You may go now."

The front desk women responded immediately, bowed, and retreated, but even as they left, their beautiful eyes lingered on Bai Xiaosheng.

Judging by Miss's affectionate behavior, not even her siblings might have enjoyed such a privilege...

Putting aside the thoughts of others, Bai Yuefeng led Bai Xiaosheng and his companions inward.

The path was serene and undisturbed, with no idle individuals, even at the end hall, where only two individuals dressed as stewards stood quietly at the edges, akin to wood and clay statues.

A middle-aged Asian man with kind eyebrows and slightly portly physique, wearing a white kung fu shirt, was sitting there stably and leisurely sipping tea. Upon hearing the footsteps of Bai Xiaosheng and his companions, he smiled and looked up.

That was none other than Bai Yuefeng's father, the current family head of Bai Family in Ganande's Chinatown—Bai Tianyu!

Bai Xiaosheng quickly walked over.

Bai Tianyu stood up with a smile.

"Hello, Uncle Bai." Bai Xiaosheng greeted him warmly, showing the respect of a younger generation.

"Haha, you flatter me." Bai Tianyu laughed heartily, "Mr. Sheng, you are a peer to Caroline, how could I accept being called uncle."

Bai Xiaosheng instantly laughed, "I'm friends with Yuefeng, so naturally I regard you as an elder. Besides, you have a close relationship with Mr. Wei Changzun, and Xuelian and I have confirmed our relationship, so from her standpoint, calling you uncle is only appropriate."

Bai Xiaosheng was very eloquent.

Bai Tianyu found this very pleasing and his smile widened, "Good, let's take it a step further, no need for formalities. Just call me uncle, and I'll call you Sheng. Come, Sheng, have a seat."

Initially, Bai Tianyu got up to greet him because of Bai Xiaosheng's status, otherwise it wouldn't have been so.

After that conversation, the two subtly closed the distance between them.

“Dad, these two are Sheng’s friends, and mine as well.” Bai Yuefeng warmly held Lin Weiwei’s hand, introducing them to Bai Tianyu.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying hurriedly extended their greetings, addressing him as Mr. Bai, and presented their gifts.

Bai Tianyu smiled warmly and invited them, “Come, everyone sit, there are no outsiders today, make yourselves comfortable.”

As they spoke, a butler came forward to accept the gifts brought by Lei Ying.

“You even brought me something, how thoughtful.” Bai Tianyu said with a smile, personally pouring a cup of tea for Bai Xiaosheng, “Try this. By the way, this set of purple clay teapots was gifted by you, I really adore them, practically can’t put them down!”

Bai Xiaosheng accepted the cup with a smile, observing the color, scent, and taste of the tea, couldn’t help but praise, “Such a Supreme Tieguanyin, truly the best among the best, perfect for using the purple clay teapots, it seems Uncle Bai is a tea connoisseur.”

Such praise made Bai Tianyu smile broadly, “Sheng, you’re an expert too! Good, very good!”

The two immediately found talking points.

Sipping tea and discussing matters is a gentleman’s affair, after a round of conversation, Bai Tianyu felt a bit closer to Bai Xiaosheng.

“What a pity, such great purple clay teapots can’t be appreciated by those foreigners.” Bai Tianyu said, somewhat regretful and emotionally.

“Such exceptional purple clay teapots are naturally rare, but slightly inferior ones, I can facilitate purchasing channels for you at your dining establishment.” Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Bai Tianyu naturally understood Bai Xiaosheng's intention and immediately smiled, "You're talking about purchasing from Li Ni Workshop, actually I've already placed an order with them, but it's scheduled for next year, their products are too popular. Sheng, the fact that you can get such exceptional purple clay teapots from them suggests you have a close relationship with their director. That's great, I have a big collab underway, handling business for some old partners at the Chinese Association, providing high-quality purple clay teapots to Chinese restaurants in half of America's Chinatown. Can you help with this?"

In just a light-hearted conversation, they unexpectedly discussed a substantial deal.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying couldn't help but react with surprise.

"Promoting Huaxia tea culture, it's a good thing, I don't see any problem." Bai Xiaosheng smiles.

Li Ni Workshop recently reported to him, opened three new factories, prepared twenty production lines, ready for large-scale production in the second half of this year. In addition, Li Ni Workshop recruited nearly two thousand professional talents from specialized institutions, who have already arrived and are being trained, soon to officially start.

With such foundation, taking on this deal mentioned by Bai Tianyu is no problem.

So, Bai Xiaosheng calmly accepted this major order without haste.

Bai Tianyu gazed at Bai Xiaosheng meaningfully.

Even if Li Ni Workshop is not Bai Xiaosheng's, he's bound to have a significant stake in it.

"See, in the course of this, we've struck a major deal, what is this if not destiny." Bai Tianyu laughed heartily.

Bai Xiaosheng also laughed, and leisurely said, "Uncle Bai, I heard this year North America's lobster harvest is excellent, but in sparsely populated places, this delicacy is called... overrun by the media. Also,

southern wine and northern soybean are facing troubles due to abundant production. I know our Chinese people here operate many estates and farms, and we need high-quality goods too, can you assist me with this, Uncle Bai?"

Bai Xiaosheng spoke very skillfully.

Bai Tianyu looked at Bai Xiaosheng in surprise, then his smile became broader and said, "Good, good!"

"Serve the dishes, you care about the lobster, wine, you'll get to enjoy them. We'll dine and chat, there's plenty to discuss." Bai Tianyu laughed hugely.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying couldn't help but exchange glances secretly.

Today's meal is not just dining, it's practically an exhibition fair.