

Two Trillion 2281

Chapter 2281 - What Kind of Company Is That?!

Ye Liena was taken aback by Bai Xiaosheng's words. She widened her eyes in disbelief, looking at Bai Xiaosheng.

"What did you say, managing a company for me, and it's... twenty times the size of BL Technology!"

Ye Liena repeated, her voice slightly shaky.

BL Technology is a renowned technology company under Zhenbei Group in America, even in North America, she couldn't imagine what twenty times its size would look like.

Ye Liena stared at Bai Xiaosheng, trying to see if he was joking.

"Oh. Perhaps... what I said was a bit of an exaggeration." Bai Xiaosheng thought for a moment and mumbled.

Ye Liena was stunned, almost rolling her eyes at him.

Bai Xiaosheng actually admitted to exaggerating right away, truly ruining the effect in a second.

Being on the same level as Caroline, Caroline never speaks carelessly. Yet Bai Xiaosheng speaks indiscriminately, is that really okay, where's the authority?

Speaking of following such a person, were you serious initially... Ye Liena couldn't help but look at Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

The two of them seemed completely at ease.

Apparently, they were already used to it...

"The company is not the same type as BL Technology, so we can only compare scale, size, and fixed assets." Bai Xiaosheng frowned and said, "It's just recently established, at a starting phase, so it's unlikely to reach twenty times BL Technology's power. But I estimate that in five years, it can exceed that multiply!"

Bai Xiaosheng spoke with conviction, then smiled at Ye Liena, "I think it will achieve that goal under your management, consider it as my advance request."

Ye Liena looked speechlessly at Bai Xiaosheng.

What kind of newly established company can achieve twenty times the market value of BL Technology in five years!

Isn't that a bigger boast than the previous statement!

And he's hoping for her to help realize it?

Why don't you aim for the stars?

Ye Liena wanted to retort to Bai Xiaosheng.

"It's a company operating in agricultural and fishery products, basically selling North American agricultural and fishery products to Asia," Bai Xiaosheng said.

He was referring to his newest company, the ninth company—Xiabei Agriculture and Fisheries!

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were taken aback hearing this.

They hadn't expected Bai Xiaosheng would actually let Ye Liena manage that company!

Xiabei Agriculture and Fisheries is the business link and bridge to many Chinese families, including the Bai Family, within the North America China Association.

Agricultural and fishery products are just the beginning, with plans for broader cooperation across other industries in the future.

Agricultural and fishery products are fundamental, if there's a slip-up here, other families and merchants might hesitate to engage in other collaborations.

Thus, someone outstanding and exceptionally capable must helm Xiabei Agriculture and Fisheries.

Over in Huaxia, Elder Xia is holding the fort, and it's quite stable for now.

But Bai Xiaosheng handing over the company to Ye Liena to manage?

Isn't this decision somewhat hasty?

"Mr. Bai, shouldn't we reconsider this?" Lin Weiwei couldn't help but suggest before Ye Liena could respond.

Lei Ying had the same thought.

Ye Liena wasn't too keen on that agricultural company anyway, and seeing their attitude, she immediately gave Bai Xiaosheng a sarcastic smile, "Mr. Bai, you should reconsider. Your so-called big company is just an agricultural company, and about its future value exceeding twenty times that of BL Technology... I think you aren't aware of BL Technology's true strength! I can tell you some of the mid-year report data to let you know BL Technology isn't as simple as you think!"

There was an undeniable hint of sarcasm in Ye Liena's voice.

This made Lin Weiwei displeased.

"Miss Ye Liena, do you think our company is just an ordinary agricultural company? It actually is..." Lin Weiwei started to say but was stopped by Bai Xiaosheng's gesture.

What is it?

Ye Liena listened halfway, suspiciously looking at Lin Weiwei, then at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng remained calm, showing no signs of strangeness at all.

"If Miss Ye Liena isn't interested in this industry, that's okay. Later on, with something suitable, I can let you choose freely. But for the moment, the company needs someone to connect with suppliers here in North America, and no one knows the laws or local customs better than you, so why not just give it a try. I'll offer you twice your previous salary, plus shares and dividends. How does that sound?" Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Ye Liena.

These words were indeed somewhat enticing for Ye Liena.

Ye Liena loved her career, but living needed to be sustained. Life demands quality.

Her house, her car, and various huge insurance and taxes wouldn't excuse her unemployment.

Caroline not only stripped her of her position but also vowed to make it hard for her to gain a foothold in the business world of Ganande, even North America. With the influence of the Caroline Family, this wasn't a difficult feat. A word from them would see external companies, businesses, and families yield, ensuring they wouldn't offend the Caroline Family over a minor manager.

Then Ye Liena might not even have a meal to eat.

Now, Bai Xiaosheng offering such high conditions was extremely tempting.

For the sake of money, Ye Liena maintained her composure for a moment and looked towards Bai Xiaosheng to ask, "Is that company you're talking about also a Zhenbei Group company?"

This needed to be clarified, otherwise Caroline, using her means within a larger group system, could easily strip her off everything she'd gain now. What use would her efforts be then?

Bai Xiaosheng declared candidly, "It's not a Zhenbei Group company; it's a company I established with some business friends, free from Caroline's interference. Also, I have offended Caroline myself and won't compromise with her. Does this set your mind at ease?"

Bai Xiaosheng was giving Ye Liena a reassuring pill.

With Bai Xiaosheng's explanation, Ye Liena reluctantly, albeit with some reluctance, nodded her agreement.

"So, what suppliers in North America does this agricultural company of yours have?"

In her position, aiming at results, Ye Liena poured herself a glass of water, and asked while drinking.

She added, "Pick the big names and tell me first, those with no fame are unnecessary."

"They're all farms or estates run by Chinese people." Bai Xiaosheng nodded and said.

Ye Liena murmured, "Will they have issues in obtaining local tax benefits..."

"They shouldn't, I heard they carry a lot of weight in the business and political circles," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Ye Liena immediately sneered, "Don't believe those unreliable claims, those people are probably boasting. It's easy to do business here, but finding resources in politics isn't as easy as they say. Tell me, who told you this..."

Bai Xiaosheng didn't hide anything and spoke directly, "It was Bai Tianyu, the clan leader of the Bai Family in Ganande."

Ye Liena was sipping her tea lazily, but upon hearing this name, she suddenly choked, coughing violently.

Lin Weiwei hurriedly handed over tissues, patting Ye Liena's back.

"Who did you say?" Ye Liena stared wide-eyed at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Bai Family's clan leader Bai Tianyu," Bai Xiaosheng repeated.

"What about the other suppliers, who else?!" Ye Liena asked in shock.

Bai Xiaosheng scratched his head, "That I'm not sure about, but Mr. Bai said they are his friends within the North America China Association."

This sentence left Ye Liena in a daze.

Her pretty eyes were wide open, fixated on Bai Xiaosheng, earnestly asking, "What kind of company is this, are you guys attempting a market monopoly!"

Chapter 2282 - All Right, Boss

Ye Liena couldn't believe it. Bai Xiaosheng casually mentioned a company for her to work at, an agricultural and fishery company, and it turned out to be so hardcore.

A Ganande Bai Family, far stronger than the Caroline Family.

The other suppliers are friends of Bai Family's Bai Tianyu, members of the North America China Association?

That's too crazy!

With such a setup, they could probably "monopolize" some industries.

Ye Liena didn't choose disbelief; she dared not believe.

The most exaggerated part was Bai Xiaosheng casually suggesting she manage such a significant company.

Is this real...

Ye Liena knew she had just been driven out from Bai Xiaosheng's "enemy" and had come to "seek refuge" with Bai Xiaosheng. Even if Bai Xiaosheng was magnanimous and didn't hold grudges, she would still need to go through some trials to reach a key position.

Ye Liena was mentally prepared for that.

That's why Ye Liena felt slightly frustrated when Bai Xiaosheng suggested she start with an agricultural company, but didn't reject it from her heart.

She knew this was a necessary stage when changing to a new boss.

Being able to work with Bai Xiaosheng was quite good in her view; she already admired Bai Xiaosheng early on, or she wouldn't have given a warning at the beginning.

Driven by money, even if it's an agricultural and fishery company, Ye Liena agreed to "just do it" for Bai Xiaosheng.

Little did she expect Bai Xiaosheng to play so unconventionally, handing her a "monster" of a company.

"Monopoly, that's illegal." Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Ye Liena. "Besides, if it were that easy to monopolize an industry, it wouldn't be so straightforward."

Seeing Ye Liena's realization, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying didn't say much more.

Since this is Bai Xiaosheng's arrangement, it must be the best arrangement!

Ye Liena stared intently at Bai Xiaosheng, her beautiful eyes flickering as if trying to discern Bai Xiaosheng's thoughts.

Unfortunately, she wasn't Bai Xiaosheng, nor did she possess such extraordinary insight.

Bai Xiaosheng faced her gaze openly, maintaining a constant smile.

They stared at each other for several minutes, making nearby diners exhibit strange expressions, even startling the serving staff.

As the curious onlookers turned away, Ye Liena's red lips parted slightly, and she finally asked Bai Xiaosheng, "Why?"

"What 'why'?" Bai Xiaosheng asked in surprise.

"Why would you have me take over such a significant company without fear of me being..." Ye Liena couldn't help swallowing.

Being a spy sent by Caroline.

That part, Ye Liena didn't say.

Based solely on those collaborators, she could roughly deduce Bai Xiaosheng's new company's investment scale, easily surpassing BL Technology!

Precisely because of this, Ye Liena was even more perplexed.

Why did Bai Xiaosheng trust her so much?

Although they had met each other a few times, they never had a heart-to-heart conversation and were usually in opposing positions.

Even though she sent out a warning message, it actually didn't count for much.

Why did Bai Xiaosheng trust someone coming out of the enemy's camp so easily?

Were it Ye Liena herself, she might not believe it, no, she definitely wouldn't easily believe it.

"You have eyes that don't deceive; from the beginning, I've seen through your heart. I trust you're someone worthy of my trust." Bai Xiaosheng said sincerely.

With Bai Xiaosheng's insight and control over micro-expressions, Ye Liena's inner reactions during different stages of meeting him were entirely evident to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng trusted his judgment, believed in his perception, and was confident he wouldn't misjudge a person.

Unfortunately, he misspoke...

Ye Liena was stunned upon hearing the words.

Initially, Bai Xiaosheng's words sounded a bit like a confession.

Could he, could he like me...

Ye Liena couldn't think of a more reasonable explanation. Considering this possibility, her face suddenly flushed red, and her heart began pounding fiercely.

She hadn't married but had been in a relationship. Long ago, the buried feeling of excitement was reignited at this moment.

"I understand." Ye Liena felt her cheeks burning hotly. She quickly lowered her head to keep her embarrassment from showing directly.

Bai Xiaosheng was somewhat dazed.

He realized that perhaps his previous expression had an improper implication...

Lei Ying, watching from the side, was speechless.

Lin Weiwei hurriedly explained on Bai Xiaosheng's behalf, "Our Mr. Bai places great trust in his ability to assess and employ people. He believes you, Ye Liena, are a sincere and trustworthy person, not saying..."

"I got it!" Ye Liena quickly raised her head, interrupting Lin Weiwei.

Her expression was back to normal, without showing any clues.

"You truly know?" Lin Weiwei couldn't help asking.

Lin Weiwei worried she hadn't made herself clear, deepening the misunderstanding.

Seeing Ye Liena still appeared a bit too shy to make direct eye contact but without that emotional feeling, Bai Xiaosheng became curious.

"Miss Ye Liena..." Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help saying.

Ye Liena made a gesture to stop, took a deep breath, and smiled at Bai Xiaosheng, "Well, maybe you admire me somewhat, rather than what I thought... I currently don't want to think about anything besides my career, especially emotions... I only want to make a mark while I'm young, not let myself down. Whether it's me overthinking or you speaking ambiguously... Actually, I still quite like it even if it's a misunderstanding. Let's not mention it anymore, boss."

Ye Liena surprisingly resolved it so quickly and ultimately called Bai Xiaosheng "boss."

This truly opened the eyes of Bai Xiaosheng's trio. It seems there are indeed all kinds of people in this world.

"Alright." Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Lin Weiwei secretly breathed a sigh of relief.

Just then, Ye Liena's phone rang, and she offered Bai Xiaosheng an apologetic smile before answering it.

After a few words, Ye Liena's face showed surprise, "Melanie, you were driven out too?"

"Don't do anything irrational, where are you?!" Ye Liena's voice suddenly rose, her expression changing as well.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others couldn't help exchanging glances.

From those two sentences, they could already infer some situations.

Ye Liena's dear friend, Melanie, seemed to have suffered the same fate of being expelled.

However, Miss Melanie's current mood seemed unstable.

Ye Liena suddenly stopped, "You said you're in front of the store at 76 Lexington Avenue, I'm right across from you, you see, across the street there's a hotel, I'm in the restaurant on the twelfth floor!"

"Don't do anything irrational; it's merely a job. Look, I've already found a better job than before, you can too..." Ye Liena said urgently.

Bai Xiaosheng gestured, pointing at himself.

Ye Liena immediately lit up with joy, directly saying into the phone, "Come over right now, someone here can help you!"

Bai Xiaosheng was stunned hearing this.

In the end, he made a waving gesture, which Ye Liena didn't see.

Bai Xiaosheng meant not to mention the position he offered Ye Liena to avoid unnecessary trouble.

Unexpectedly, Ye Liena misunderstood.

Bai Xiaosheng quietly sighed, admitting it.

"It's just arranging one more person, it's not a big deal..."

Chapter 2283 - Sparring with a Minor Move

In less than ten minutes, Melanie rushed over, her eyes red and swollen, her expression full of sadness. It was evident that being stripped of everything by Caroline had been a heavy blow to her.

The moment Melanie arrived, her eyes fell on Ye Liena, and she rushed over, almost crying out,

"Ye Liena! I have nothing left now! All my years of hard work are gone!"

This woman, nearing forty, at this moment, tears streaming down her face, looked as aggrieved as a little girl.

Ye Liena quickly hugged Melanie, gently patting her back to comfort her, "It's okay, everything will be fine, don't be so sad! Melanie!"

Obviously, a few words of comfort could not alleviate Melanie's sorrow.

"Look who this is?"

Seeing curious eyes cast around them, Ye Liena had no choice but to bring out Bai Xiaosheng to help Melanie calm down.

Melanie sobbed as she left Ye Liena, wiped her eyes, looked at Bai Xiaosheng, and instantly widened her eyes in shock, "He..."

Melanie looked at Ye Liena in surprise again, "Ye Liena, are you really on his side?!"

This sounded as if Ye Liena was truly betraying Caroline.

Ye Liena looked into Melanie's eyes and explained, "No! It's because he framed me that I came to demand an explanation from him."

"He... framed... you?!" Melanie looked bewildered and shocked.

Ye Liena felt a headache coming on; explaining this would be exceedingly complex.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also exchanged glances, feeling that this was hard to explain.

Ye Liena's act of sending warning messages to Bai Xiaosheng, if viewed from Caroline's standpoint, did indeed seem like a betrayal.

Of course, it was Caroline's camp that used treacherous strategies and vile means first.

Ye Liena's warning was merely a goodwill choice made from her heart.

Nearby, Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Melanie and said, "None of that matters anymore; anyway, since your best friend Ye Liena got dismissed because of me, I naturally have a responsibility to find her a new position. Now, I have recommended her to a friend, to become the CEO of his company."

Bai Xiaosheng's remarks made Ye Liena glance at him.

Clearly, Bai Xiaosheng didn't want others to know that the company she was going to be responsible for had anything to do with him.

Ye Liena, being exceedingly smart, quickly understood.

With outstanding professional qualities, if Bai Xiaosheng had this request, then even if family asked in the future, she would never reveal a word.

"Really, Ye Liena?" Melanie looked at Ye Liena with both surprise and envy.

"Yes, Mr. Bai said he recommended me over there, but whether it works out depends on his friend's attitude. If they don't appreciate me, I can't help it." Ye Liena replied with a smile, naturally echoing Bai Xiaosheng's words.

A hint of appreciation flickered in Bai Xiaosheng's eyes.

Communicating with smart people is refreshing.

"What about the company compared to BL Technology? How is it?" Melanie asked, bright-eyed, murmuring softly.

"I heard it's much stronger." Ye Liena responded casually, then added, "Let's talk about your situation!"

With that, Ye Liena looked at Bai Xiaosheng and requested, "Mr. Bai, could you help Nini? I assure you, she's the best executive assistant, the very best!"

Melanie also looked pitifully at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng studied Melanie for a moment, pondering as if deep in thought.

"Ye Liena, don't trouble Mr. Bai; I'm not as competent as you in handling company matters. I should leave Ganande and try my luck in Europe." Melanie looked like she was about to cry.

"Mr. Bai!" Ye Liena became anxious.

Matters that involve secrets, she would keep them from even her best friends.

That was being responsible to her new boss, not abandoning her friends.

If unable to help Melanie, she would also be deeply pained, unable to set her mind on her new position.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Ye Liena, then smiled at Melanie, "Here's the thing, I can also introduce you to a friend. I assure you your benefits and treatment will not be inferior to before, okay?"

Faced with Bai Xiaosheng's assurance, Ye Liena's face lit up with joy.

Melanie also smiled, though she seemed a little hesitant.

"What's the matter, Miss Melanie, feel free to tell me." Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Ye Liena noticed her friend wanting to say something, and was surprised, not knowing what she would say when Bai Xiaosheng offered such a good promise.

"Mr. Bai, could I be your assistant?" Melanie asked, charmingly looking at Bai Xiaosheng, "I've been Miss Caroline's assistant, doing the job with ease, never making any mistakes!"

Ye Liena was astounded upon hearing this.

Her friend actually wanted to be Bai Xiaosheng's assistant!

Really bold, daring to seize the opportunity for herself.

However, wasn't this a bit excessive...

Not to mention others, even Lin Weiwei's gaze was subtly different.

"Nini." Ye Liena couldn't help but secretly nudge her best friend.

Melanie stubbornly looked at Bai Xiaosheng, seemingly confident that she could handle that position.

Bai Xiaosheng gazed into Melanie's eyes and then smiled, "I don't need assistants; the ones I have are enough."

With that, Bai Xiaosheng pointed to Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying beside him.

The two immediately smiled at Melanie.

"Only two people, how's that enough? Miss Caroline has ten assistants, with ten backups, twenty in total!" Melanie said incredulously.

Matching Caroline makes Bai Xiaosheng's status analogous, yet he has only two assistants; how can they suffice!

Bai Xiaosheng laughed immediately, "Thank you for your kind intention, Miss Melanie, but here, they are quite sufficient for me!"

Chapter 2284 - A Small Move in the Match (2)

Bai Xiaosheng spoke with a tone full of trust.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying smiled with full confidence.

Ye Liena, standing beside them, couldn't help but show a hint of envy deep in her eyes.

The three of them seemed like a cohesive unit, not like typical superiors and subordinates, appearing both as a team and as friends, as if they could handle any trouble, any problem.

Melanie stared dumbfounded at Bai Xiaosheng and the others, finally accepting this reality with frustration.

"Well, can I not go to an external company, Mr. Bai? I still want to work within Zhenbei Group. You're the Executive President of the Greater China Region, so arranging that shouldn't be hard, right?" Melanie requested.

This girl really knows how to choose.

Ye Liena suddenly became anxious, glancing at Bai Xiaosheng for fear that he might be displeased.

Although Melanie is nearing forty, she maintains herself exceptionally well, looking like a girl in her twenties, and moreover, she's very good-looking. Such a request would be hard for many men to refuse.

However, Bai Xiaosheng and Lei Ying are people of exceptional self-control, not showing even the faintest reaction.

Lin Weiwei didn't react either, but she just couldn't bring herself to like Melanie, while she felt naturally close to Ye Liena.

Perhaps because Melanie wants to be Bai Xiaosheng's assistant, it annoyed her a bit?

When did she become so petty...

Lin Weiwei couldn't even explain her own feelings.

"Nini, your demands are getting a bit much." Ye Liena couldn't help but whisper to her friend.

If Bai Xiaosheng got annoyed, it could complicate things.

Melanie stubbornly looked at Bai Xiaosheng, her eyes filled with an irresistible charm.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at her and laughed.

"Alright, Miss Melanie, I'll arrange a position for you in my area." Bai Xiaosheng said, "Miss Ye Liena is now a CEO, so I'll also entrust you with managing a company. It's quite important for my Greater China Region, newly established. How does that sound?"

Upon hearing this, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were a bit surprised.

Ye Liena looked at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

After being stunned, Melanie showed pure joy on her face.

"Nini has never managed a company on her own before," Ye Liena couldn't help but remind Bai Xiaosheng.

She truly feared that Bai Xiaosheng, out of courtesy, might assign Melanie an important position, which could bring trouble if her friend didn't handle it well.

Ye Liena knows Melanie too well, she knows that Melanie is not cut out for managing a company.

"I can do it!" Melanie secretly nudged Ye Liena and said in a crisp voice, as if afraid Ye Liena might ruin her opportunity, adding, "I've been close to Miss Caroline, dealing with numerous enterprise managers and handling many tasks, gaining a wealth of experience and just waiting for an opportunity."

Melanie spoke with full confidence.

Ye Liena looked at Melanie, conflicted, then at Bai Xiaosheng.

To be honest, Ye Liena didn't want to ruin her friend's prospects, but she also didn't want Bai Xiaosheng to make a misjudgment due to her, which might lead to undesirable outcomes.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded approvingly and smiled, saying to Ye Liena, "Look, Miss Melanie is quite confident. Don't worry; I believe she can do it well."

"But Melanie, if you're going to a foreign country, are you sure you're okay with that?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"I can do it!" Melanie quickly replied, "For the sake of my career, I can cross countries, continents, oceans, no problem!"

Ye Liena wanted to speak but was quietly nudged by Melanie.

In the end, Ye Liena could only say, "Then it might be a good idea for Mr. Bai to arrange an able assistant for her."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and nodded.

At this point, everyone was generally pleased.

While they were talking, the table was already laid with dishes.

Bai Xiaosheng immediately invited everyone to start eating, advising not to discuss work at the dinner table.

Currently, he was the boss, his authority the highest, and both Ye Liena and Melanie followed his arrangement obediently.

If Ye Liena was a steady professional woman, Melanie was a lively, atmosphere-lifting, caring, likable person, and she spoke well.

The meal went well, and everyone enjoyed it.

Before leaving, Bai Xiaosheng asked them to give their contact information to Lin Weiwei, saying he would have people contact them soon and make arrangements, telling them to wait for news and prepare.

Ye Liena and Melanie left happily.

Once they departed, Lin Weiwei couldn't help but ask Bai Xiaosheng, "That Melanie, Xiaosheng, what were you thinking..."

Really let her manage an important company? She's quite different from Ye Liena...

Lei Ying also looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Yes, I intend to let her manage a very important company." Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, revealing the company's name.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were instantly shocked, even more than hearing Ye Liena managing Xiabei Agriculture and Fisheries.

"Rarely does one have such aspirations." Bai Xiaosheng looked in the direction where Ye Liena and Melanie left, with a smile that seemed to be both a smile and not, saying, "I feel my arrangement is the best choice."

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Meanwhile, Ye Liena and Melanie took the elevator downstairs, left the lobby, and headed to the parking lot.

Along the way, Ye Liena kept advising Melanie.

"Now that Mr. Bai has kindly arranged for you to be a company head, you must do your best. If anything arises, consult with your assistant, take advice. If things get tough, you can also talk to me, as long as it doesn't involve confidential matters. Running a company is different from dealing with various tasks; it requires decision-making, talent management, which is quite complex. You need to think more, learn more, Nini..."

Chapter 2285 - A Small Move in the Game (Part 3)

Melanie initially responded a couple of times, but after hearing it too much, she fell silent.

Ye Liena, on the other hand, kept speaking relentlessly, eager to share her experience with her close friend.

By the time they arrived at the parking spot, Melanie was somewhat impatient and said to Ye Liena, "I know, I know, I'm not as hopeless as you think!"

Seeing she was not interested, Ye Liena could only sigh and stop talking.

"By the way, Ye Liena, what company are you going to, who is the boss behind it, and how did he agree to Bai Xiaosheng's suggestion to make you CEO?" Melanie asked, her curiosity piqued.

"Well, I'm not sure either," Ye Liena shook her head, "Unlike you, I was just recommended. Whether I'll make it or not depends on whether they see value in me."

Ye Liena kept a tight lip.

In fact, she owed her discreet nature to Caroline's training.

"Hey, about that Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, do you have any insider info or interesting stories to share with me? Also, how did you end up with them?" Melanie asked with interest.

"I don't want to speculate about your boss," Ye Liena said, opening the car door for her and nudging her inside, "Go back and prepare well, you'll be taking office soon."

Unable to get any juicy details, Melanie pouted, mildly displeased, and muttered, "Then I'm off."

Ye Liena smiled and stepped back a bit.

Melanie started the car and drove away.

Ye Liena watched her leave and murmured, "I hope she does well."

Melanie drove onto the road, put on her headset, and quickly dialed a number.

In a moment, the call connected.

Melanie's face instantly showed a respectful expression, "Miss Caroline, Ye Liena indeed sought out Bai Xiaosheng for help, but she was recommended by Bai Xiaosheng to a business partner's company. Yes, an outside company. Uh-huh, I've smoothly entered the Greater China Region and become the manager of a company there. Rest assured, I will strive to climb to the top!"

Melanie's face beamed with immense pride.

"Keep up the good work," Caroline offered a thin approval and hung up the phone.

Melanie felt a little disappointed for not receiving greater praise.

Meanwhile, Caroline was sitting in her study, with a cold expression, holding the phone and muttering, "That fool Melanie, truly unfit for greater tasks! The reason I used someone seemingly not clever is to let you slip by; if Bai Xiaosheng gives you a simple position, there's still a chance. Letting you manage a company? Hmph!"

Caroline tossed the phone aside, "This Bai Xiaosheng, not easy to infiltrate indeed!"

Bai Xiaosheng had deliberately sown discord with Caroline, mentioning Ye Liena, clearly showing interest in her.

Caroline publicly humiliated Ye Liena and fired her, knowing she would seek out Bai Xiaosheng.

Caroline then found Melanie, making her a spy to keep an eye on Ye Liena, looking for the opportunity to go over together.

Melanie might not impress Bai Xiaosheng but could complain to Ye Liena privately, staying by her side was feasible.

That was Caroline's intention as well.

As a result, Bai Xiaosheng did not immediately place Ye Liena by his side, seemingly still testing her trustworthiness. Thus, Melanie's chance to infiltrate alongside Ye Liena vanished.

Yet Melanie foolishly thought she could deceive Bai Xiaosheng!

Not knowing her own limits!

That stupid woman even thought she succeeded...

Utterly foolish!

Caroline had lost all hope for Melanie.

A day later, Ye Liena and Melanie received the arrangements conveyed by Bai Xiaosheng's staff. Ye Liena stayed with Ganande, while Melanie wasn't sent to Asia but Europe instead.

Reportedly, that company was an important piece of the Greater China Region's business in Europe.

Initially, Melanie was reluctant but perked up once she heard it was a crucial endeavor, setting off happily.

Two days later, Ye Liena received a tearful call from Melanie, "What kind of important company is this? They said it was an energy enterprise, but it's just a coal mining business! And it's in Siberia, it's freezing here, not developed at all! There are barely any people! And they actually want me to mine coal!"

Ye Liena felt especially sympathetic and consoled Melanie, "At least it's a job with prospects, just work hard. Look, I'm managing an agricultural products company myself."

Saying this, Ye Liena thought perhaps her friend might feel a bit better...

Chapter 2286 - Encounter on the Journey Home

A commercial airliner slowly landed at the airport of Huajing, and it was this flight that Bai Xiaosheng and the other two took to return to Huaxia.

As he stepped out of the cabin, Bai Xiaosheng felt the fresh breeze and the warm sun, and couldn't help but smile, "It's great to be back!"

"Yes, and today's weather is nice too!" Lin Weiwei laughed, "Even the air is good!"

As Huaxia's top administrative, economic, and cultural center, Huajing was in a period of rapid development ten years ago, with serious pollution and poor air quality.

The city managers of Huajing, after much reflection, underwent ten years of reform. Nowadays, blue skies and white clouds are common, and the air has become much fresher.

Initially, Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei's comments on the weather were merely a spontaneous expression. After all, they had been traveling through South and North America, constantly facing dangers and always needed to be on guard. Returning home brought a sense of relief that most people couldn't understand, but it was natural for them.

Unexpectedly, their unintentional words prompted a mocking voice behind them, "Ha, the air here is good? That's funny, it doesn't even compare to half the air quality of Ganande ten years ago..."

The voice was filled with sarcasm, with no intention to continue speaking.

Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei didn't need to turn around to know who was speaking.

When they boarded the plane in Ganande, there was a guy wearing a mask, accompanied by five or six bodyguards, making quite a scene, seemingly some kind of celebrity.

During the security check, Bai Xiaosheng caught a glimpse beneath the mask. The person wasn't particularly handsome but was spirited and appeared younger than them.

Even if they were a celebrity, they must be a competent one...

However, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't curious enough to find out who this "big shot" was.

Given his current status and perspective, he wouldn't pay them much attention either.

That person, who flew first class with bodyguards, somehow had an interest in Lin Weiwei.

Initially, a bodyguard came over to tell Lin Weiwei that their master wanted to meet her.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others, purely out of curiosity, turned to look back. The young man still wore a mask, but his eyes were full of smiles when he looked at Lin Weiwei.

Before Lin Weiwei could speak, the bodyguard placed something on the small table in front of her with a smile, "My master said it's a little gift, just a token of respect."

Lin Weiwei glanced at it; it was an open jewelry box with a bracelet inside, from a well-known luxury brand.

A very familiar brand...

Lin Weiwei didn't say anything but raised her wrist.

On her wrist were two exquisitely crafted bracelets, which Bai Xiaosheng had bought for them during a visit to a jewelry store, made by a Great Master. They were far superior to the store-bought one the bodyguard had.

The bodyguard clearly recognized quality and his expression changed. He left with his things, looking rather sheepish.

But he soon returned, cheerfully presenting a check, saying his master invited Lin Weiwei for tea.

Lei Ying frowned at this, ready to intervene and deal with the nuisance troubling Lin Weiwei.

But Bai Xiaosheng stopped him.

"I want to see how this girl handles it," Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Lei Ying had no choice but to desist.

Lin Weiwei, ever so bold, took the check from the bodyguard, and without giving him a second to feel triumph, stuffed it back, "I'll invite you for tea. Go tell your master not to bother me again."

Seeing Lin Weiwei respond like this, the bodyguard was left embarrassed.

Finally, the man played his trump card.

"This is my master's business card!" The bodyguard presented a card with both hands, confident that once his master's name was revealed, the lady would easily be won over.

Clearly, this wasn't an uncommon "case" in the past.

"Not interested!" Lin Weiwei's firm words dismissed the bodyguard.

The bodyguard's face froze, seemingly incredulous, and he emphasized, "Just take a look at this card, it'll definitely change your mind."

As he spoke, he persistently pushed the card forward, almost touching Lin Weiwei's chest. Her temper flared, and she tossed the card away. The bodyguard looked alarmed and hurried away to find it.

From a distance, the young man with the mask's smile froze, turning into surprise and then anger, as his expression gradually darkened.

Lin Weiwei's lack of courtesy seemed to have angered him greatly.

To this outcome, Bai Xiaosheng and the others didn't care at all.

This world is full of self-important people, leading to many unnecessary incidents. There's no need to engage with them.

Lin Weiwei's indifferently ignoring attitude brought a mocking smile from Bai Xiaosheng and Lei Ying, which further fueled the young man's anger.

This was how they made their "enemy" during the journey, though the young man restrained himself, seemingly aware of the consequences of causing trouble on an international flight. Bai Xiaosheng and the others were satisfied with this sensibility.

However, a few times, Lei Ying caught him still eyeing Lin Weiwei, to which he shot back a fierce glare, clenching his fists until they cracked as a warning.

Unexpectedly, when disembarking, the young man made strange remarks about their casual comment.

Truly juvenile.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others ignored him, walking straight out.

After retrieving their luggage, the three headed out of the airport through the terminal, when they heard a commotion behind them.

Along the sides of the terminal, a group of people was waiting, comprising reporters, star-chasers, and wealthy young people with time to spare.

Anytime a celebrity or notable person arrived at the airport, they'd swarm to show their eagerness.

Bai Xiaosheng, now considered a business tycoon, didn't like being watched, so he dressed casually, altered his hairstyle, and wore black-rimmed glasses, drastically differing from his public image. Since he wasn't a celebrity or scandalous figure and distanced himself from Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, nobody recognized him.

Hearing the disturbance behind them, Bai Xiaosheng and the others turned back, wondering if some prominent figure had arrived, only to see the crowd surrounding the young man from the plane.

Bai Xiaosheng overheard someone express amazement nearby.

"Oh! It's that young master from the Cheng Family!"

"I heard he's been getting close to the famous Prince Jia these past couple of years, really rising in influence!"

"Indeed, with the Cheng Family climbing up the ranks, becoming a first-class family!"

...

A thought struck Bai Xiaosheng as he heard an interesting term amidst the chatter—Prince Jia!

"The Jia Family?" Bai Xiaosheng muttered thoughtfully.

...

Chapter 2287 - Reunion with Dong Tianxiu

One of the Four Great Classical Novels of Huaxia, "Dream of the Red Chamber," mentions four great families — Jia, Shi, Wang, and Xue. Leading amongst them is the Jia Family, described in the book as "Jia is not fake, with white jade as halls and gold as horses," epitomizing wealth amassed like mountains and prosperity dazzling to the eyes.

In the Huaxia business world known by Bai Xiaosheng, there is also such a Jia Family. In the heyday of Huaxia real estate, they hardly made any missteps, becoming a colossal figure in the business realm; as of today, their business spans across various industries.

The prestige and power of the Jia Group, two years ago, were not even inferior to the Tengyun Group.

However, over the past two years, Tengyun Group's involvement in the Global Business Alliance orchestrated by Bai Xiaosheng has surpassed Jia Group substantially.

Yet, Jia Group remains a presence in the Huaxia business world, resounding across the board.

Bai Xiaosheng hasn't heard less of their name lately because he has little business in North America these days; hence, he heard Xiahou Qi explaining some of the situations from home to him. Bai Xiaosheng's Zhenbei Group Greater China Region doesn't have major issues, but the three major groups, Tengyun, Beifeng, and Haoyu, do have some troubles.

This Jia Group has allied with Ziyu Group, Wanhua Group, and other small and large groups, forming a business alliance. From Bai Xiaosheng's time headed to South America, these alliances led to several competitions and frictions with the business coalition led by Tengyun and the other two groups.

But to speak of it, they have not engaged in any improper competition, all the while adhering to rules, with outstanding business layouts, vast capital maneuvering, and coordinated overall operations, using overt strategies cleverly, causing Tengyun several major setbacks.

According to Xiahou Qi, this greatly frustrated Lu Yun from Tengyun. He had to manage his business empire alongside Dong Tianlu while cooperating with Bai Xiaosheng's side to develop business with other nations and continents, unable always to monitor and guard against the happenings at Jia Group.

Still, if ignored, they persistently target and hassle, "relentless pursuit."

There is only "being a thief for a thousand days," not "guarding a thief for a thousand days."

Bai Xiaosheng came to Huajing, partly for Zhenbei Group Greater China Region's significant layouts, establishing two new foreign-facing companies here, which he wanted to check upon; partly because there was news stating that the people from Jia Group planned to sabotage a major project Tengyun Group teamed up on, precisely, it was about Tengyun acquiring a large tract of land in Huajing. Tengyun and the other two groups were fronting this undertaking, but Zhenbei Group Greater China Region held a major stake, prompting Bai Xiaosheng's decision to visit.

Bai Xiaosheng thought, if he could meet with the Clan Leader of the Jia Family on this occasion and have a good "chat," it would be ideal.

Unexpectedly, he ran into this young master Cheng here. Their Cheng Family is also a vociferous minor member within that Jia Group business alliance.

This young master of the Cheng Family — Cheng Xuanbei, has deep connections due to his prowess in gaming with the most distinguished member of the current generation from the Jia Family.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged a glance, clearly pondering the same.

"Let's go," Bai Xiaosheng said in a calm tone, leading the two of them straight out.

Cheng Xuanbei, surrounded by feasters, glimpsed Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei's departing silhouettes, his gaze somewhat darkened.

The woman and her friends really gave him no face.

Once Bai Xiaosheng and the group exited the airport, a figure rushed toward them with enthusiasm, waving and calling, "Here, here!"

Seeing him, Bai Xiaosheng instantly smiled, saying to Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying coming alongside him, "Really long time, no see this guy."

The newcomer was none other than Dong Tianxiu, Dong Tianlu's brother.

He was friends with the three, initially resistant to joining the family business, later overcoming his mental barrier with their help. Since then, under Dong Tianlu's arrangement, he studied alongside several outstanding managers of the Dong Family, unexpectedly manifesting high commercial talent. Even Bai Xiaosheng, hearing of the business cases he got involved in, praised the mode merging cultural, artistic elements with business — a rare approach yielding surprising effects each time.

Honestly, Bai Xiaosheng wished to poach him from the Dong Family, making this fellow work for him.

At present, Dong Tianxiu was accompanied by a suite of handsome men and beautiful women, likely secretaries and assistants, showing the splendor he had acquired.

Dong Tianxiu orchestrated these individuals to take the luggage from Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

Bai Xiaosheng chuckled at him, saying, "You came early?"

Dong Tianxiu cheerily laughed before Bai Xiaosheng, devoid of the usual managerial solemnity.

"Didn't I hear you were coming? How could I not come early to greet you? Haha, actually not that long, only twenty minutes early!"

Those behind Dong Tianxiu regarded Bai Xiaosheng with reverence. Though unfamiliar with Bai Xiaosheng, not realizing due to his casual attire, he's the distinguished figure from North American commercial news.

Truthfully, outside industry trends and hard data, these career elites seldom pay attention to "gossip."

Now, seeing their esteemed Mr. Dong Tianxiu joking casually before another, surprised them. Bai Xiaosheng, dressed casually and youthful, earned their respectful curiosity, drawing second glances.

Bai Xiaosheng patted Dong Tianxiu's shoulder, laughing as they walked, saying:

"Ever since embracing family business, your management has been impressive! When will I hire you over to my side!"

The array of aides behind Dong Tianxiu were astounded; this person's casualness was excessive, addressing Mr. Dong Tianxiu as a friend, yet uttering such words!

Is the future heir of the Dong Family, Dong Tianlu's brother, really someone he could employ?

Amidst their indignant inner monologue, Dong Tianxiu replied, "Sure, you'll have to pay me higher, at least above what my sister offers!"

Bai Xiaosheng laughed, patting Dong Tianxiu's shoulder, "Naturally."

His aides were thoroughly bewildered, as Dong Tianxiu personally led Bai Xiaosheng and his group into a car, leaving the airport behind.

Inside the vehicle, Dong Tianxiu continued conversing with Bai Xiaosheng:

"I've been in Huajing for two months now, quite familiar with this surrounding. I'll take you to an intriguing place this evening, a high-end member-only club, inaccessible to ordinary people! The food, drinks, and fun inside are exquisite; many things amazement even me back then."

Bai Xiaosheng chuckled, saying, "Tonight, I'll definitely have to see it!"

After Bai Xiaosheng and company departed, Cheng Xuanbei emerged from the airport, glimpsing from afar, his eyes narrowed while murmuring to himself, "Was that Dong Tianxiu? They're acquainted with him, no wonder they're so brazen! Hmph!"

Chapter 2288 - Another Business Alliance

As Bai Xiaosheng and his team arrived at Huajing Airport, there was an exclusive members-only high-end club above the Second Ring Road in Huajing. In one of the rooms, a meeting was beginning, and everyone present was a notable figure in the business world.

The leader was a tall and burly middle-aged man with tiger-like eyes and sword-like eyebrows, exuding an extraordinary aura. He was Jia Chengshan, the chairman of the Jia Group of the Jia Family.

Seated to Jia Chengshan's left was a middle-aged man with a thin appearance and rugged cheekbones. At first glance, he seemed unremarkable, but his eyes emitted a shrewd gleam. He was Lu Tiandao, the chairman of Wanhua Group.

On Jia Chengshan's right was a refined middle-aged man, more handsome than the other two, with a neat beard, resembling a literary scholar more than a businessman. He was Zhang Qinglin, the chairman of Ziyu Group.

Besides these three, there were four others, each representing a significant force in the business world.

Two years ago, the families of Jia Chengshan and the other two were nearly as powerful as Tengyun Group's Lu Yun, and to this day, only the Jia Family of Jia Chengshan had a smaller gap with Tengyun Group.

At this moment, the business alliance formed by these seven families was discussing an important matter, which was the reason they came to Huajing.

"This time, following your request, Brother Jia, we leaked the news to them. That piece of land, which the three Tengyun families are determined to acquire, knowing we plan to intervene, will surely bring their key figures," said Zhang Qinglin, the chairman of Ziyu Group, to Jia Chengshan of the Jia Group.

Lu Tiandao, the chairman of Wanhu Group, couldn't help but interject, "The potential value of that land is incredibly high. Why don't we just take it this time? It would be a good deal."

Jia Chengshan chuckled and looked at Lu Tiandao, saying, "Brother Lu, you have quite the appetite, wanting to snatch food from the mouths of those three groups. The seven of us here might have to bleed a lot, plus the development costs. Is it really worth it? If that's the case, aren't we bound to become enemies with Lu Yun and his people from Tengyun Group? Is that our original intention?"

Zhang Qinglin, the chairman of Ziyu Group, also said, "Brother Jia is right. No matter how profitable the project is, it's not worth making a few formidable enemies."

Seeing this, Lu Tiandao dryly laughed and said, "I was just saying."

The other four, including Cheng Xuanbei's father, looked at the three speakers and said, "Mr. Jia is right. This is our final step in tightly pursuing Tengyun, Beifeng, and Haoyu. Let's not turn a good thing bad."

"Yes, our original intention is not to become enemies."

"This time, it's best if we can meet Xiahou Qi of Zhenbei Group, or Lu Yun of Tengyun, or Dong Tianlu of Beifeng, and have a good talk with them..."

The leader, Jia Chengshan, surveyed everyone present and slowly said, "Actually, we're all sitting here with the same goal. We unite to compete with several groups, including Tengyun. What are we aiming for? Cooperation!"

"Ladies and gentlemen, for the past two years, we all know that others have partnered with the invisible business alliance founded by Bai Xiaosheng of Zhenbei Group, allowing them to advance rapidly. By the time we noticed, they had already surpassed us by a great distance. Now, wanting to join them, if we follow ordinary negotiation strategies, we would certainly be subordinate to those groups at Tengyun, whether in terms of resources or recognition, which would not satisfy any of us here. And frankly, quite a few among us have had conflicts with them in past business competitions. So, what should we do?"

"Thanks to everyone's trust, by forming an alliance with my Jia Family, we showcase our strength through legitimate competition. If our business alliance merges with theirs, wouldn't Bai Xiaosheng have no choice but to take us seriously? The resources provided to us might not be higher than any at Tengyun, but they certainly wouldn't be less."

After Jia Chengshan's speech, everyone nodded, acknowledging the brilliance of competing to show strength and then negotiating cooperation. The Jia Family's willingness to include them this time was rare and welcome since the Jia Family's strength far surpassed that of anyone present.

Everyone nodded in agreement, and Zhang Qinglin stated, "I hope we can hook a big fish tomorrow after all the painstaking efforts we've put into this."

"Indeed!" Lu Tiandao replied with a smile.

After discussing the main matters, Jia Chengshan smiled at everyone, saying, "The club we're staying at is the closest, most convenient, and comfortable place near the land auction site. There's news that their people will also be staying here."

In fact, Jia Chengshan knew that Dong Tianxiu of Beifeng Group was staying in a nearby suite.

"Tonight, there will be a lively event to witness here—it's the club's tenth-anniversary celebration, where celebrities will gather, stars will shine, and various interesting performances will take place. Everyone should relax, and perhaps, there might be an unexpected surprise, meeting a significant figure worth networking with."

Everyone nodded.

Lu Tiandao jokingly added, "If anyone happens to meet Xiahou Qi or Lu Yun, be sure to communicate so that our Brother Jia can have an early conversation with them. Meeting at the land auction site might be a bit late."

If they could acquire that land, they wouldn't want to miss it, and they could use it to negotiate cooperation with Xiahou Qi and Tengyun.

In short, Jia Chengshan devised several plans, able to adapt as necessary.

After discussing everything that needed to be said, Jia Chengshan turned to everyone and said, "Let's adjourn for now. Feel free to move around, and we'll meet again tonight."

Everyone departed, except one who approached. He had a smiling face full of wrinkles, most likely from smiling too much. He was Cheng Baida, Cheng Xuanbei's father.

Seeing him approach, Jia Chengshan laughed.

"Cheng, what is it?"

Cheng Baida's business was the smallest among all those present; to figures like Lu Tiandao and Zhang Qinglin, it was almost unremarkable. However, Jia Chengshan still included him.

Cheng Baida smiled and said:

"I heard that our Prince Jia also arrived in Huajing today. Xuanbei is at the airport now, eager to meet him and seek advice on business."

These words clearly hinted at getting closer, but Jia Chengshan laughed heartily, "That's great. It's always good for the young ones to have an ambitious spirit."

Cheng Baida's face was full of smiles as he nodded and agreed, then chatted a bit more with Jia Chengshan before leaving.

Once everyone had left, Jia Chengshan appeared thoughtful, a smile emerging on his face.

This time, partners big and small would benefit, but ultimately, they were merely pawns. Once they collaborated with Bai Xiaosheng of Zhenbei Group, achieving their independent stronghold, the influence and authority they held would be unparalleled by Lu Yun. Over time, their stronghold in this business alliance would only grow larger.

Even if it meant sidelining Bai Xiaosheng, it might not be impossible!

Chapter 2289 - Cheng Family Father and Son

Located on the second ring of Huajing, the club known as "Thousand Nations" boasts a vast area and a serene and pleasant environment, with over a thousand independent residences in the living area alone, encompassing both traditional Chinese courtyards and American-style villas. Each courtyard and building stands independently, ensuring privacy, and is equipped with all kinds of recreational facilities. Many high-end individuals seeking a discreet stay while handling affairs in Huajing often choose to settle here.

Cheng Xuanbei traveled from the airport to this club, where he instructed his subordinates to wait outside, and only brought two family attendants with him, walking into the residential area. Everyone he met along the way, even elderly people dressed in inconspicuous attire, returned his greetings with polite smiles, as any one of them might be an important figure unknown to him.

In one of the courtyards, Cheng Xuanbei met his father, Cheng Baida.

"Dad, I'm back." Cheng Xuanbei stepped forward to pay his respects.

"Good, you've finally made it back." Cheng Baida looked at his son, smiling with satisfaction.

Cheng Xuanbei couldn't help but say, "I didn't dare delay even a moment after receiving your message."

Saying so, Cheng Xuanbei leaned closer, lowering his voice excitedly, "Jia Chengshan, Lu Tiandao, Zhang Qinglin, these influential figures... They're all here now?!"

Although his family had long established alliances with them, the opportunity to have a gathering of these business magnates was rare indeed!

Cheng Baida smiled and said, "Indeed, with these people gathered together, I summoned you to meet them. From here on, you must seize every opportunity to become familiar in front of them! For you, these are invaluable business resources, far more important than any other activity!"

Cheng Xuanbei immediately nodded in excitement, "Yes, you are absolutely right."

The Cheng Family, not on par with the Jia Group, Wanhu Group, or Ziyu Group, and even inferior to the other families, naturally had to try every way to rise up. Ensuring his child becomes familiar with those renowned in the business world is, in Cheng Baida's eyes, immensely worthwhile.

Cheng Xuanbei agreed with his father's view; establishing ties with the Jia's prince was no mere coincidence, but required considerable effort, time, and money to foster "good relations."

At this moment, Cheng Xuanbei eagerly asked his father, "I hear Jia Haoran is also coming this time?"

It's been a while since he last saw Prince Jia!

Cheng Baida nodded with a smile, "I went through quite some effort to discover he has a flight arriving this morning."

Cheng Baida glanced down at his watch and said, "He should be arriving in Huajing in about an hour. When he does, head to the airport to welcome him, which will help solidify your friendship."

Cheng Xuanbei hurriedly nodded in agreement, immediately raising his thumb in admiration, "I believe when it comes to family business, we might not rival those few families, but in mastering information and controlling the situation, not even Jia Chengshan matches you."

These praises from his son were wholeheartedly received by Cheng Baida, who couldn't help but laugh heartily, "That's only natural, your cleverness comes from me. While our Cheng Family may currently lag behind others, as long as we father and son work together, it won't be years before we catch up."

Cheng Xuanbei nodded with confidence, smiling.

The two of them are indeed father and son, inheriting a tendency not to spare even their kin from flattering words.

"Xuanbei, are you tired now? If you're still up for it, I'll first take you to pay respects to Jia Chengshan and those people. It's only proper courtesy, leaving them with a good impression," Cheng Baida suggested.

"Dad, I rested well during the journey, let's go now!" Cheng Xuanbei encouraged himself, feeling invigorated.

Cheng Baida looked at his son in satisfaction, leading him to rise immediately.

Meanwhile, Dong Tianxiu was leading Bai Xiaosheng and three others as they walked through this high-end club.

It didn't matter that Bai Xiaosheng wasn't a member; Dong Tianxiu had already taken care of the paperwork using another identity.

This vast club was like a courtyard of nations, with a view at every step, and an experience every ten steps away, full of diverse flowers and plants, featuring even the smallest bridges over flowing waters,

abundance of blooming flowers, and winding paths leading to secluded spots. Every step of the way was visually stimulating without tiring.

Even Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but praise, "This truly is a wonderful place!"

Dong Tianxiu responded with a smile, "Chinese-style wellness, spa therapy, Thai massage... there are plenty of projects for relaxation, thoroughly detailed enough to talk about food, drink, entertainment one by one. This includes not only Huaxia banquets but also French cuisine, Japanese dishes... delicacies from all around the world. The drinks cover wines from various countries, encapsulating everything. Furthermore, as for entertainment, there's a golf course behind, equestrian facilities, along with a large gym..."

With a glance at Lin Weiwei, Dong Tianxiu giggled, "As for other unmentionable amusements, I haven't delved deeply into them."

Lin Weiwei immediately sneered and scoffed.

Bai Xiaosheng laughed, gesturing with his hand, "Alright, alright, you don't need to continue introducing, we don't have the energy to indulge in all that's offered here."

Bai Xiaosheng pondered briefly before he slowly said, "I suppose, Jia Group and the others would also choose this place as their resting ground."

Dong Tianxiu immediately chuckled, whispering to Bai Xiaosheng and the three others.

"Wow, it seems everyone is truly here!" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help laughing.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged glances, both showing a bit of astonishment.

Dong Tianxiu smiled proudly, "Although I appear carefree, my heart is fully focused on them, knowing they are also watching me."

Bai Xiaosheng laughed, patting Dong Tianxiu, "Your sister really made you sly and cunning in such a short time!"

Hearing this, Dong Tianxiu exclaimed, "Hey! I feel like you're insulting me!"

"No, when referring to an enemy, these words are insulting; for you, they can only be derogatory," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"Isn't that the same thing!" Dong Tianxiu rolled her eyes at Bai Xiaosheng, then continued, "My sister said Xiahou Qi, Mr. Lu Yun, when are they coming? Tomorrow there will be a confrontation between the two 'camps'!"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled faintly and said leisurely, "None of them will come; I've already informed them that I will be taking full responsibility for everything here."

Dong Tianxiu paused in surprise, then understood.

Now, if anyone could represent the major parties in making significant decisions, it had to be Bai Xiaosheng.

The group chatted and laughed as they walked inside.

In the distance, several dozen meters away, Cheng Baida and his son were smiling and chatting as they approached the residence of another notable figure.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others didn't notice them, but Cheng Baida accidentally glimpsed them and quickly pulled his son into a corner to hide.

Confused, Cheng Xuanbei asked, "Dad, what's the matter?"

Cheng Baida promptly pointed out to him, "Dong Tianxiu!"

Cheng Xuanbei looked over, immediately spotting the beautiful woman who had ignored him on the plane, and the two men beside her who had once watched him with scorn. His voice sank as he said, "It's them!"

Immediately, Cheng Xuanbei was puzzled, "Why are we hiding from them? What's the big deal about Dong Tianxiu, is she really worth your concern?"

Cheng Baida remained hidden in the corner, unable to see Bai Xiaosheng and the others, he only told his son, "This is a long story; I'll tell you later, but I have my reasons for avoiding Dong Tianxiu now."

Cheng Xuanbei felt somewhat dejected, secretly thinking, "Seems revenge can't rely on dad! I'll have to wait for Jia Haoran to come and help settle this score!"

Chapter 2290 - Jia Haoran

Because Cheng Baida and Cheng Xuanbei quickly hid themselves, Bai Xiaosheng, Dong Tianxiu, and the others didn't notice them. They were heading in a different direction, so there was no encounter.

After Bai Xiaosheng and the rest left, the father and son duo, Cheng Baida and Cheng Xuanbei, emerged to continue their visit.

"Dad, why couldn't you show up in front of Dong Tianxiu? Do you and Jia Chengshan have... some plan?" Cheng Xuanbei tentatively asked.

Cheng Xuanbei actually had some understanding of the struggles between the two business "alliances," but he was unaware of Jia Chengshan's true intentions. He just thought that his alliance could confront the Tengyun-led alliance proudly and aggressively, which seemed particularly impressive to him, even with a hint of pride.

Little did he know that this so-called aggression by Jia Chengshan was merely a bid to seek cooperation...

Dong Tianxiu, the younger brother of Dong Tianlu, is currently the second-in-command of Beifeng Group, and the very plot of land that his own alliance plans to seize tomorrow is what the Tengyun Alliance, including Beifeng Group, aims to acquire.

Therefore, Cheng Xuanbei thought that his father didn't want Dong Tianxiu to discover that he had personally come, which might lead to realizing that Jia Chengshan was also around.

Cheng Xuanbei considered this a form of business vigilance.

"I'll explain this to you later. Come on, let's go meet Zhang Qinglin now." Cheng Baida motioned with his hand.

Cheng Xuanbei didn't press any further, nodding. With less than an hour left until Prince Jia, Jia Haoran, arrived, he had to quickly follow his father to pay respects before rushing to the airport to welcome him.

Before leaving with his father, Cheng Xuanbei glanced in the direction where Bai Xiaosheng and his group had left, a sneer forming at the corner of his mouth as he thought to himself, "You uppity bastard! Ignoring me like that! And those other two simpletons, daring to look at me with disdain, just because you're friends with Dong Tianxiu, how audacious! Once Jia Haoran arrives, I'll use him to give you all a good lesson!"

With that thought, Cheng Xuanbei hurriedly followed Cheng Baida away.

Half an hour later, Cheng Xuanbei and his father, Cheng Baida, paid brief visits to several elites, spending no more than a few minutes at each place before excusing themselves, citing that Cheng Xuanbei needed to pick up Prince Jia.

This subtly conveyed to others the close relationship between the Cheng Family and the Jia Family.

The astute older generation could undoubtedly see through this small ruse, yet chose not to expose it.

After the whirlwind visit, Cheng Xuanbei immediately rushed to the airport.

When they had checked in with Jia Chengshan earlier, they learned that people had already arrived at the airport to greet Jia Haoran.

Upon arrival, Cheng Xuanbei located the group and informed them that he was instructed by Jia Chengshan to accompany them in welcoming Prince Jia.

Those from the Jia Family became exceedingly polite to Cheng Xuanbei.

Cheng Xuanbei noticed a silver-white custom sports car parked beside the Jia Family's convoy, gleaming in the sunlight like a silver-armored chariot, strikingly familiar, with license plates clearly from the Jia Family's location, featuring a series of "8"s.

Cheng Xuanbei couldn't help but think, "That Jia Haoran sure knows how to make an entrance—both he and his car are flown in!"

He silently cursed Jia Haoran but also felt envious—he too desired such a lavish lifestyle.

Eventually, Cheng Xuanbei and the servants of the Jia Family were at the airport awaiting Jia Haoran.

From a distance, they saw a large group approaching, with over a dozen bodyguards flanking and shielding him from an onslaught of reporters and fans.

Jia Haoran walked boldly at the center of the crowd, slightly older than Cheng Xuanbei, with a spirited demeanor. Coupled with the family's illustrious backdrop, he was indeed a strikingly charismatic figure.

Upon seeing Jia Haoran, Cheng Xuanbei led his group to rush over and assist the bodyguards in holding back the frenzied crowd.

"Jia Bro, you finally made it!" Cheng Xuanbei greeted enthusiastically with a bright smile.

He didn't address Jia Haoran as "Prince Jia" but as a brother, to foster closeness.

"Cheng, you're here too." Jia Haoran nodded slightly at Cheng Xuanbei, offering a casual smile.

Years ago, when Jia Haoran was absorbed in a particular online game, he had met and found Cheng Xuanbei quite interesting, a character perfectly in tune with him, and considered him a friend. As for family background, Jia Haoran hadn't paid it much mind.

If friendship had to be based on equal social standing, he'd hardly have any.

"Yeah, Uncle Jia asked me to pick you up," Cheng Xuanbei replied with an enthusiastic smile.

Within a short span, he had lied twice—first to the Jia Family's servants and then to Prince Jia, Jia Haoran. Jia Chengshan would never bother requesting an outsider to pick up his son.

At that moment, Cheng Xuanbei also noticed two women behind Prince Jia, wearing hats and masks. He couldn't help but take a few more glances.

In the past two years, Jia Haoran's focus shifted to managing business, reducing his gaming indulgence. But the women around him, young starlets, and models, were ever-present—changing often. Presumably, these two women were the latest.

However, this wasn't the occasion to discuss such matters. Cheng Xuanbei ensured the smooth escort of Prince Jia's entourage.

Pushing through enthusiastic onlookers, they finally reached the convoy.

"Come on, Cheng, ride in my car," Jia Haoran gestured to his two-seater sports car, then said to the two women, "You can take another car, choose any."

With that, Jia Haoran got into the car.

Cheng Xuanbei was elated and joined him.

It wasn't that Jia Haoran valued Cheng Xuanbei over women, but his car simply couldn't fit two women and he couldn't be bothered with their potential jealousy.

The two women were clearly reluctant, but they dared not express it in front of Jia Haoran's friends. Seeing each other in the same predicament, they kept quiet and, like good sisters, chose a luxury car to sit in.

Once Cheng Xuanbei was seated, Jia Haoran revved the engine and sped off, not waiting for the convoy.

Jia Haoran enjoyed driving and wasn't afraid to floor the accelerator.

Cheng Xuanbei sat there with his heart racing.

It wasn't until passing an area with police cars and surveillance that Prince Jia, Jia Haoran, eased off, allowing the car to slow down, and Cheng Xuanbei could finally exhale a sigh of relief.

"Jia Bro, your driving has improved, and your taste in women is admirable," Cheng Xuanbei remarked.

Jia Haoran, steering single-handedly, chuckled, "You're talking about those two gals with me? They've got decent figures and pretty faces, gentle and obedient. But honestly, once you've been through enough, women are all pretty much the same."

"You're right, Jia Bro," Cheng Xuanbei said with a laugh. "Sometimes, a bit of aloofness in women has its own charm."

Jia Haoran scoffed, "Aloofness? That's all an act. They can even fake the aura if they want."

Listening to this, Cheng Xuanbei's eyes twinkled, and he boldly declared, "Not necessarily. Today at the club, I saw a woman of unparalleled beauty, as cold as an immortal. Her aura, her presence...none of the women I've met can compare!"

Cheng Xuanbei eyed Jia Haoran with a smile, "Not even those around you, Jia Bro!"

"Oh?" Jia Haoran couldn't help but glance at Cheng Xuanbei, his eyes narrowing slightly.

