

Two Trillion 2451

Chapter 2451 - The Unfathomable Human Heart (Part 2)

Tike wasn't an ordinary person; as soon as something happened below, he immediately sensed the problem.

"I'm just trying to help you." Caroline didn't deny it, instead, she laughed and said, "Only if Bai Xiaosheng continues to investigate can he clash with Brown. Whoever wins or loses, I'm happy. If Brown and his son are completely destroyed, then you will naturally become the head of the Africa region of the group! By then, shouldn't you thank me?"

Thank you? You old fox! Without your actions, I wouldn't have known you placed so many people on my side! Even if I really become the head of the Africa region, sooner or later, you might maneuver me out of power!

Tike let out a slow, heavy breath through his nose, and said in a deep voice, "Thank you! But I have already made arrangements regarding this matter, very thoroughly and smoothly. So, your people are no longer needed to interfere."

"Suit yourself." Caroline said lightly on the phone, "We're all aiming for the same goal."

"Then have your people withdraw." Tike said.

Caroline replied indifferently, "No need, people are just people, I have plenty. Find an excuse and fire them. I would just use the excuse of their incompetence to cut these useless guys. Mm, saves a lot of money too."

This woman can actually say something like that; she's practically a cold-blooded animal!

What's strangest is that people are still falling over themselves to work for her...

"Then I'll take care of them." Tike said coldly.

Since Caroline didn't care, he naturally wouldn't mind those people either.

"Anything else? If not, I'm going for a maintenance session." Caroline said on the phone, "A woman's biggest enemy is aging."

Tike hesitated for a moment, then said in a deep voice, "About that Bai Xiaosheng, are you sure he will continue to investigate? Will he hold onto the Brown father and son even when the group headquarters has made a decision?"

Tike's biggest worry was Bai Xiaosheng's lack of strength on his side. If they had planned so well, and that Bai Xiaosheng backed down, it would be infuriating.

Though Fiewood said everything was progressing in an orderly fashion and results would soon be seen, Tike guessed it was not that smooth.

He also had doubts about whether Bai Xiaosheng would dare to persist.

"Don't worry, although the man is young, he's not ordinary. Once he has a target, he never gives up. Moreover, he doesn't even give the deputy director face; a mere Mr. Brown can't make him bow down." Caroline's words were quite appreciative of Bai Xiaosheng, "Unfortunately, such a person is destined not to submit under me! And he chose a path opposing us! But this time, he has invisibly become our most powerful 'hired thug'! I can tell you for sure, this man will be a tough problem for anyone he encounters! The quieter he is now, the more he is preparing for a major attack. Once he acts, it will be disastrous!"

Tike quietly listened and then suddenly laughed out loud.

"You don't believe?" Caroline heard the noise on the other side of the phone and asked.

"I just find it amusing that you hold the Bai guy in such high regard." Tike laughed, "And yes, he's probably the only man who has ever flustered you, Caroline."

Even Tike, who always kept Caroline subtly suppressed, chose this moment to expose her weakness.

Caroline's breath visibly caught, as if an unpleasant emotion was brewing.

"Alright, I'm done. Let's chat again sometime." Tike declared his victory, ended with a closing remark, and directly hung up the phone, a comfortable smile on his face.

On the other end, Caroline coldly looked at her phone, casually tossed it on the table beside her, and muttered, "That bastard dares to tease me! Hmph, it seems he underestimates Bai Xiaosheng..."

Caroline took a silent deep breath, coldly laughed, "So, sooner or later, you might fall into Bai Xiaosheng's hands, Tike, and then we'll see if you still feel like laughing!"

...

That day, at ten in the evening.

Lin Weiwei called Lei Ying and went to find Bai Xiaosheng again. It wasn't about anything else, but Matilda had sent another email late at night.

Besides the attached document, Matilda also praised Lin Weiwei for her foresight in the email.

She actually found a document related to the previous files.

"They're already impatiently delivering materials to us. I think it's your approach, Xiaosheng, of waiting and not acting, that has made some people quite anxious." Lin Weiwei found the situation quite amusing, "I just don't know who the person behind this is, whether it's Caroline remotely controlling from across continents or someone trying to frame Cilio. Do you think it might be Tike, the executive director of the Africa region? I don't think so. There's no benefit for him in undermining his own subordinate. Besides, I heard Mr. Brown is recommending him to succeed as the business director of the Africa region. If Mr. Brown gets into trouble at this critical juncture, it will be a loss for him."

Lin Weiwei had no idea that even if Tike really rose with the support of Mr. Brown, the people around him would still be Brown's men. Tike might not be able to act independently, to put it bluntly, he might just become a puppet to shield the future executive director of the Africa region, Cilio.

A person might endure and pretend to be timid for many years, but his true goal will never be to continue being timid in a high position.

"I think with the way things have developed, Matilda should realized that we're openly demanding materials, yet she continues to send them to us without avoiding suspicion, probably because her 'superiors' have been inactive for too long and are getting anxious." Lei Ying sneered.

Chapter 2452 - The Human Heart Is Unfathomable (Part 3)

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, indicating he heard what the two were discussing, but his gaze remained fixed on the new documents Lin Weiwei brought.

As he flipped through the pages, all the contents seemed to imprint themselves in Bai Xiaosheng's mind, merging with the previous new documents and clues, breaking apart and reorganizing, to be further analyzed by the artificial intelligence in Bai Xiaosheng's brain—Red Lotus.

Not only that, Red Lotus could extract valuable parts from various news reports existing on the internet, corporate annual reports, and other information, cross-referencing them and further using calculations to analyze.

It could be said that the material and clues Bai Xiaosheng saw could even reveal the concealed parts of the other side.

The material Fiewood and Matilda provided involved seven companies, but in Bai Xiaosheng's mind, it had turned into more than fifteen, more than doubling.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng deep in thought, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying patiently waited, not wanting to disturb him.

This wait lasted more than half an hour.

Seeing no reaction from Bai Xiaosheng, the two couldn't help but exchange a glance.

"How about it, Xiaosheng, you take a break first, it's so late; we can slowly review and discuss this tomorrow," Lin Weiwei softly suggested from the side.

Lei Ying also nodded.

Recently, Bai Xiaosheng had to consider the business blueprint planning for Bichi City and take care of these investigation tasks, which was truly exhausting.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying both hoped Bai Xiaosheng could rest earlier and better, not to overexert himself.

After Lin Weiwei finished speaking, Bai Xiaosheng came back to reality, checked the time, and gave the two an apologetic smile, "I've been looking at this for so long, sorry to keep you waiting."

"We don't mind; we're just worried you're too tired," Lei Ying said.

"Yes, indeed," Lin Weiwei also said, her eyes showing concern.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled slightly, "I just have some thoughts... Don't worry; I'm not the one handling these materials. I'll pass this to Mr. Wen Yan's analysis team to handle, and I'll send it over shortly. Also, I believe they have plenty of documents stored which can be called upon for use."

Upon hearing this, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying nodded immediately.

"You two should also go rest early. Tomorrow, we'll be even busier," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile to the two.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying obediently nodded, said their goodbyes to Bai Xiaosheng, and left one after the other.

After they left and Bai Xiaosheng was alone, he flexed his fingers, twisted his neck, and sat back in front of the computer.

"Let's get to work!" Bai Xiaosheng opened a new document, his eyes bright as a full moon, hands poised over the keyboard, typing away without even needing to look.

The ten fingers danced on the keyboard, producing a continuous sound like pearls dropping onto a jade plate, as a flood of text appeared in the document...

An hour later, a report replete with pictures, charts, and extremely detailed content appeared on Bai Xiaosheng's computer.

Bai Xiaosheng checked it over, stretched his back.

But this wasn't the end; there was still a need for actual evidence gathering, to investigate those companies.

Of course, that wasn't something Bai Xiaosheng would personally do.

Bai Xiaosheng sent one copy of the document to Wen Yan, and another to a different email address, including some explanations.

After completing all this, without waiting for a response, Bai Xiaosheng closed his laptop and went to freshen up and rest.

After all, even someone like him would feel tired after such high-intensity work, wanting to go to sleep early.

In the bathroom, while brushing his teeth in front of the mirror, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but mutter to himself.

"Will tomorrow be a good day, or will it be a stormy one?"

Chapter 2453 - Awakening of Insects

Brown's son, the former Deputy Executive President of Zhenbei Group's Africa Division—Cilio, has been idling at home these days.

He didn't voluntarily stay at home; it was Brown who forced him into it, somewhat as if he was being confined.

Back when Cilio was first suspended, he was filled with hostility, not only wanting to cause trouble for Bai Xiaosheng but also secretly resisting the group's decisions.

How did he resist?

It must be said, his father Brown is still the absolute leader holding power in the group's Africa Division, and his loyal followers naturally continued to obey him.

In other words, Cilio had only lost his overt title, but still retained control over many enterprises, making him a sort of uncrowned king.

However, in this aspect, Cilio, this "capable man," intended to stir up some commotion among the enterprises that listened to him, to protest the "unfair decision from above," to assert his importance in managing the situation.

Cilio always believed that the issues he committed were not that significant, and the severe mistakes found in the investigation were entirely due to someone setting him up, which was unfair.

Of course, Cilio's plan was immediately reported by a few confidants to Brown.

Cilio was radical, but no one dared to accompany him in playing such games.

Rebelling against superiors, showing defiance to those above?

This is a big taboo in the workplace; anyone who touches it will meet demise, without any benefit!

After Brown learned about this, he was straightforward, confining Cilio at home, strictly forbidding him from going out, and even stricter on preventing enterprises from obeying his orders. Violators would be fired immediately.

Cilio's authority all came from Brown, and once the latter made a statement, Cilio's words truly became ineffective.

Cilio, in anger, indeed stayed home for several days, receiving no visitors.

However, as time went on, Cilio gradually became somewhat peaceful in his mind.

On this day, after breakfast, Cilio returned to his room, turned on his computer, preparing to work on a business concept book he had been developing these days.

Although Cilio had many faults, one thing even Brown praised was his endless energy and positive mindset. Even when suspended, he felt it was only temporary, believing he would eventually regain control, at which time he needed a grand plan for action.

Thus, Cilio was "preparing in advance."

But just as he was about to start working, a message popped up, indicating that an important email had arrived with an attachment.

Initially, Cilio didn't want to bother, but upon catching a glimpse of the file's name, he was suddenly electrified, swiftly clicking to open it.

The file's name was "Second-Phase Investigation Report on Current Issues in Africa Division Enterprises!"

Cilio opened his email, saw the message, and the full name of the attachment, causing his eyes to narrow abruptly.

With the final resolution issued by the group headquarters, wasn't the current investigation into problematic enterprises in Africa Division under his father's management already concluded?

Why is there a second-phase investigation?!

Cilio was utterly shocked.

Crucially, who compiled this report?

And who sent it to him?!

Cilio swiftly downloaded the attachment of the file and immediately opened it for a look.

Who crafted the report was obvious, as there was a signature in the document, it was Bai Xiaosheng, the one presiding over the investigation here.

"Is Bai Xiaosheng a hyena; once latched on, he won't let go!" Cilio was both shocked and angry, even slamming his fist onto the table.

He despised Bai Xiaosheng to the point of gnashing his teeth, blaming him for losing his position and damaging his father's reputation!

Currently, the group headquarters had issued notices not to pursue further; yet Bai Xiaosheng was relentless!

Cilio's gaze instantly filled with coldness.

Besides, Cilio was full of doubts.

This second-phase investigation report was made by Bai Xiaosheng; it ought to have been uploaded directly to headquarters, so why did it end up here?

Did Bai Xiaosheng mistakenly send it here?

This probability is perhaps lower than Mars crashing into Earth.

Who sent it then?

Cilio checked the sender and found it was a new email address.

Obviously, someone did this without wanting Cilio to know.

Who could it be? Cilio frowned deeply.

Those who could access this thing must be close to Bai Xiaosheng, or unusual personalities within the group headquarters.

Regardless of which, they should be warning him out of respect for his father.

Yet there's another issue; if it was a warning, why wasn't it sent to his father but to him instead?

Cilio couldn't figure it out at all, so he stopped thinking about it and started flipping through the second-phase investigation report...

Cilio looked with shock and anger.

This report wasn't complete, involving twelve enterprises, among which ten were connected to him, including seven previously involved enterprises and three additional ones. Although the latter two weren't directly under his leadership, they held significant ties to the enterprises he managed.

The enterprise with the fewest problems was a very famous one, none other than Yorko Company.

Looking at the various issues listed in the report, especially within the ten enterprises previously directly under him, Cilio couldn't believe it was real.

"Absurd! How could the enterprises I managed have so many problems? Who'd dare act so brazenly behind my back?!" Cilio's breath became heavy, unwilling to believe it from his heart.

The timid waste Tike had mentioned before that Bai Xiaosheng seemed to have had a few conflicts with his father at the group headquarters...

Chapter 2454 - Awakening of Insects (Part 2)

This must be a false accusation, a vile and dirty workplace tactic!

Bai Xiaosheng keeps holding on and clearly has ulterior motives!

The thought of "Bai Xiaosheng" made Cilio grit his teeth.

Such emotional thinking naturally greatly affects his judgment.

The end of this report contained some concluding remarks. Bai Xiaosheng stated that there was a second part to the investigation and that more important evidence was in his possession, involving all enterprises, and would be presented soon.

The conclusion pointedly named Deputy Executive President Cilio and African Area Executive President Tike as being implicated...

These words shocked and enraged Cilio.

Indeed, Bai Xiaosheng is targeting me, wanting me to be completely ruined!

"Fine, I didn't come after you, but now you're coming after me!" Cilio said fiercely to himself, "Don't blame me for being unkind, or you'll truly think I'm easy to bully!"

"Also, I want to see what so-called evidence you have in your hands!"

Cilio seemed to have made a decision, "Snap," he closed his notebook and strode outside.

The old family butler was coming in with tea and almost dropped his tray when he bumped into Cilio, hastily stabilizing the tray, he exclaimed, "Sir, where are you going?"

"I'm going out!" Cilio replied without turning his head.

"But the Master instructed not to let you leave the house!" The butler said urgently.

Cilio's icy voice responded, "Just don't tell him! I'm warning you, don't talk about this, or else you'll see how I deal with you!"

The butler was instantly uneasy, hesitating to speak, ultimately watching Cilio disappear from sight in a daze.

Immediately, the butler turned and hurriedly left.

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Almost simultaneously, Tike received the same email.

However, he was dining at the time and didn't check it immediately, thinking it was just a routine work email, so he temporarily ignored it.

After breakfast, Tike leisurely drank coffee as he opened his mailbox, only then discovering the nature of the email.

At the time, Tike almost spewed hot coffee.

"It's actually this kind of email, who sent this to me!" Tike had the same surprise as Cilio.

Unable to find out the sender, Tike first looked at the contents of the document.

The companies cited in the document's issues, the top ten were all directly under Cilio, apart from the seven initially investigated, three more were added, which filled Tike with delight.

This is exactly the result I've been dreaming of!

Just based on this, Cilio will be reprimanded again, potentially even fired, and Mr. Brown may not be able to protect his problematic son.

"Fiewood and his team have finally done well this time!" Tike couldn't help but praise his most trusted confidant.

However, when he saw the last two enterprises, his smile froze, his eyes filled with disbelief, and he exclaimed, "How did Yorko Company end up included!"

Yorko Company, although just one enterprise, its significance is equivalent to the sum of the ten enterprises in the report, if not more!

The key is Yorko Company is directly under Tike, and even its general manager, Mr. Fiewood, is Tike's absolute confidant!

Now seeing Yorko Company appear in the investigative report was quite unsettling for Tike.

Not only because of Yorko Company and Mr. Fiewood's importance, but because this company has countless links with other enterprises and people under his control!

If Yorko Company is targeted, the trouble will be immense!

Tike's forehead was slightly sweaty.

The reason why Yorko Company was so important, and why he chose to provide information to Bai Xiaosheng there, was due to specific reasons.

Firstly, because that time was the only definite opportunity he knew Bai Xiaosheng was visiting, a rare chance he didn't want to miss.

Secondly, because Fiewood's absolute loyalty and reliability and competence reassured him.

Thirdly, because the things Fiewood provided to Bai Xiaosheng practically cleared Yorko Company.

Yet, despite this, Yorko Company still had issues discovered!

Although the issues mentioned in the report weren't serious and hadn't involved others yet, it was still alarming!

Tike particularly noted the report's end, pointing out Bai Xiaosheng still had solid evidence.

What does this mean?

Are you saying that the evidence for those twelve problematic companies is in Bai Xiaosheng's hands?

Including... Yorko Company!

Seeing this, Tike felt even more anxious.

The unknown is the most terrifying!

The crux is not knowing what kind of evidence Yorko Company fell into Bai Xiaosheng's hands, this is the fatal and most frightening part!

Tike immediately picked up his phone and hastily called Fiewood. He wanted to properly inquire what issue on their end was leaked to Bai Xiaosheng.

The plan was fine, how did he get implicated!

The call quickly connected, and Fiewood started with an apology, "Mr. Tike, I was just looking for an opportunity to report to you about the matters concerning Bai Xiaosheng..."

When Fiewood picked up Tike's call, he also felt uneasy, thinking Mr. Tike must be calling for this reason.

So, Fiewood thought it might be better to be proactive.

His proactiveness made Tike's heart skip a beat, thinking the situation might be worse than he imagined.

"Speak!" Tike thought Fiewood was going to deliver bad news, his voice turning tense.

In fact, when Fiewood heard his tone, he gave his phone a quizzical look, thinking he misheard.

This usually calm Mr. Tike, why was his tone suddenly like this?

"Mr. Tike, the task you entrusted us with is actively being carried out, and many materials have been handed over to Bai Xiaosheng by various means." Fiewood said nervously.

Fearing Mr. Tike would ask for the outcome.

These words made Tike unable to listen anymore, and he suddenly shouted, "Does that include your Yorko Company, including your problematic materials, Fiewood!"

"Huh?" Fiewood, on the other end of the call, was stunned when he heard this.

"What materials did you all hand over to Bai Xiaosheng, why are you even on the investigation list!" Tike continued, his voice tight.

"Ah!" Fiewood was startled immediately.

Then, Fiewood stammered in shock, "What do you mean by... being investigated...?"

What does "you're also on the investigation list" mean, does this "you" mean us?

Being investigated?

Investigated by whom?

Investigated by Bai Xiaosheng?!

Although Fiewood didn't understand the intention, he instantly felt a wave of panic and unease.

"Don't tell me you still don't know!" Tike exclaimed in shock, "You're already on Bai Xiaosheng's investigation list!"

"How is that possible!" Fiewood exclaimed in shock.

Mr. Tike's words were truly terrifying.

"What exactly did you give Bai Xiaosheng, why does he even suspect you, and has actual evidence against you! Don't tell me you have no idea! Fiewood, you're truly useless!"

Tike, upon hearing Fiewood's reaction, flew into a rage and burst into a tirade over the phone.

Fiewood was instantly flustered, not daring to retort.

His mind was also in disarray. He had complete faith in Mr. Tike's words, but the problem was, he genuinely didn't know where the issue lay.

Bai Xiaosheng investigating them and having concrete evidence was simply unbelievable...

After being scolded for a full five minutes, Fiewood finally calmed himself and said to Tike, "Mr. Tike, please don't worry, don't be angry, I will investigate this immediately!"

At this point, what else could Tike say, he harshly commanded, "Investigate it thoroughly, and make sure to find out what evidence Bai Xiaosheng has against you! If necessary... get it back at all costs and destroy it!"

Tike's last words were chilling, "Or else, we all die!"

The destruction of Yorko Company was not as insignificant as an anthill.

Tike hung up the phone with fierce words.

Fiewood stood there, phone in hand, stunned, until Matilda knocked on the door and entered.

"What's wrong, Mr. Fiewood?" Matilda asked curiously.

Fiewood snapped back and looked at her, his eyes dark and ominous, his voice eerie, "There's something I need to ask you!"

Then, Fiewood continued, "I heard, you know some pretty tough people on the streets!"

Chapter 2455 - Strictly Business

Upon receiving a call from Mr. Tike, learning that Bai Xiaosheng had actually found clues from the documents they provided, discovered the details, and started questioning their company, Mr. Fiewood felt truly shocked and frightened, and even interrogated his trusted aide Matilda for more than two hours.

Feeling "aggrieved" at being suspected by her own people, Matilda closed the door and tearfully expressed her loyalty to Mr. Fiewood.

Actually, all the documents passed to Bai Xiaosheng through Matilda had been personally reviewed and audited by Mr. Fiewood to prevent any mistakes. Many things Matilda had not been involved in, making it nearly impossible for her to leak information.

Moreover, for Matilda, such actions would only cut off her source of income and career prospects, providing no benefits at all.

Towards the end of the interrogation, Mr. Fiewood and Matilda simply started analyzing together where exactly the problem had occurred.

Of course, until almost the entire morning passed, they couldn't figure anything out.

Just then, the door to Mr. Fiewood's office was knocked.

The two of them stopped talking and looked towards the door at the same time.

Mr. Fiewood frowned deeply.

Before interrogating Matilda, he specifically told his secretary to reschedule everything for the morning and not to disturb him.

So what was going on now?!

"Come in!" Mr. Fiewood's expression darkened, loudly demanding, with a clearly unfriendly tone.

The door opened, and the secretary poked her head in, immediately noticing Mr. Fiewood's sour expression, startling her. She quickly said, "Mr. Fiewood, you have a visitor..."

"Didn't I say I'm not seeing anyone this morning? Do you not understand what I'm saying?" Mr. Fiewood harshly reprimanded.

The secretary quickly responded, "It's Mr. Bai Xiaosheng!"

"No matter who it is I..." Mr. Fiewood suddenly froze, his anger deflating like a balloon being vented.

"Bai Xiaosheng?!" Mr. Fiewood repeated incredulously.

Beside him, Matilda's expression changed as well.

They had just been discussing Bai Xiaosheng, how could he be visiting now!

"Do you want to see him, or should I send him away?" the secretary cautiously asked.

Mr. Fiewood naturally did not want to see the "plague god" from Huaxia, especially under such uncertain circumstances.

Of course, not meeting him was probably not an option.

Additionally, Bai Xiaosheng's sudden visit without prior notice made Mr. Fiewood extremely curious.

After a brief consideration, Mr. Fiewood decided it was necessary to meet him and immediately told the secretary, "Go, invite Mr. Bai Xiaosheng to the VIP room and treat him well. I'll be there shortly!"

"Alright, Mr. Fiewood!" The secretary quickly nodded, retreated, and closed the door.

Once the door was closed, Matilda couldn't help but ask Mr. Fiewood in shock, "What is Bai Xiaosheng coming for?"

Mr. Fiewood shook his head, unsure why Bai Xiaosheng was there.

"We'll find out when we go over; some things can't be avoided." Mr. Fiewood narrowed his eyes slightly, "Coincidentally, that gentleman also assigned me a task, so now I can probe Bai Xiaosheng's intentions!"

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Led by Bai Xiaosheng, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying followed as the three entered Yorko Company's highest standard VIP room accompanied by Mr. Fiewood's secretary.

Returning to Yorko Company, the three were not there for an inspection but rather for other matters.

Today, Bai Xiaosheng dressed formally, carrying a black leather briefcase, his demeanor slightly stern and serious.

The busy secretary served coffee and fruit to the three before exiting.

Not long after, the sound of footsteps came from outside the door.

Then the door opened, and Mr. Fiewood, brimming with smiles, entered with Matilda.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's face, Mr. Fiewood enthusiastically smiled, "Mr. Bai, I didn't expect you'd have the time to visit again. I apologize for not welcoming you earlier!"

Compared to his enthusiasm, Bai Xiaosheng appeared much more indifferent, merely smiling faintly, shaking hands perfunctorily with Mr. Fiewood.

Matilda also greeted Bai Xiaosheng and the others.

Bai Xiaosheng only nodded slightly, as did Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, appearing indifferent.

Matilda sensed the situation was somewhat delicate and dared not speak much.

"Matilda made some mistakes during the meeting the other day. I initially wanted to fire her, but fortunately, her performance has always been good, so I decided to keep her in the company." Mr. Fiewood specially explained to Bai Xiaosheng and the others.

Otherwise, if Matilda hadn't left the company these days and appeared here today, regardless of whether Bai Xiaosheng and his team had suspicions, the situation couldn't be explained on the surface.

However, Bai Xiaosheng and his team seemed uninterested in this, only nodding slightly.

The indifferent demeanor of the three today made Mr. Fiewood feel somewhat uncomfortable.

Mr. Fiewood invited Bai Xiaosheng and the others to sit, smiling as he said, "I wonder what brings Mr. Bai here today?"

Mr. Fiewood wanted to sound him out.

But evidently, Bai Xiaosheng didn't have the patience to beat around the bush. His expression was calm as he directly said, "Mr. Fiewood, please retrieve Yorko Company's revenue reports and financial statements from early two years ago and mid-to-late last year, along with all contracts valued over ten million US Dollars, for us to review."

These words from Bai Xiaosheng left Mr. Fiewood stunned, and even Matilda doubted she had heard correctly.

Right off the bat wanting to see Yorko Company's internal documents, including confidential ones?!

This was unreasonable.

"Mr. Bai, you must be joking." Mr. Fiewood was dazed for two seconds, then immediately laughed, but upon seeing Bai Xiaosheng staring at him expressionlessly, his smile quickly faded, and he replied seriously, "Those are company secrets. Even though we're part of the same group, we belong to different regions. Even if you are higher-ranked than me, you don't have the authority to directly request such access..."

Chapter 2456 - Strictly Business (Part 2)

The higher-ups only mentioned that Bai Xiaosheng is working for the headquarters' surveillance department, overseeing this investigation, but didn't provide further details.

Mr. Fiewood felt uneasy when Bai Xiaosheng came straight for those documents without an order from the headquarters; deep down, he was reluctant to cooperate.

As a result, before Mr. Fiewood finished speaking, he froze, his eyes narrowing instantly, his face filled with terror and disbelief, as if he had seen a ghost.

Bai Xiaosheng directly took out a gold card and held it up to Mr. Fiewood's face.

It was the highest-level identification exclusive to the headquarters' surveillance department.

This, Mr. Fiewood knew!

After all, in any major position, one undergoes internal training, at the very least understanding the significance represented by various high-level certifications.

It was precisely because of this that he was horrified by the weight of that item in Bai Xiaosheng's hand!

The gold card, gold badge, the emblem of the Group, and the surveillance department emblem, all integrated in one, its authority is such that even Mr. Brown himself wouldn't have the power to obstruct!

"Now, do I have the authority?" Bai Xiaosheng asked casually as he set down the card.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying watched Mr. Fiewood with smirks, seemingly waiting to see if he had anything to say.

"That identification of yours..." Mr. Fiewood's gaze followed the card, his voice trembling, swallowing nervously.

"Are you doubting its authenticity, want to verify it?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"No, no!" Mr. Fiewood responded repeatedly.

Since Bai Xiaosheng dared to present it, it meant he wasn't afraid of it being checked.

What is his identity exactly? Isn't he just the Executive President for the Greater China Region?

Mr. Fiewood's heart was shaken.

Only the vice chairman and business president knew that Bai Xiaosheng was the second-in-command of the headquarters' surveillance department, while the Executive President would learn of it through informal channels, let alone someone like Mr. Fiewood.

He had only heard from Mr. Tike that Bai Xiaosheng had an unusual identity closely tied to the fearsome surveillance department at headquarters, working for them this time. He never knew Bai Xiaosheng was the second-in-command of that very department!

If he knew, Mr. Fiewood would definitely have heightened his vigilance a hundredfold, scrutinizing every detail of his interaction with Bai Xiaosheng a thousandfold.

Unfortunately, in this world, many things don't have an "if".

Mr. Fiewood was left speechless in shock, whereas Matilda curiously peeked, unsure of what Bai Xiaosheng had presented, yet felt its immense deterrent power.

Facing Bai Xiaosheng's calm gaze, Mr. Fiewood, regaining composure from his shock, immediately stood solemnly, respectfully addressing Bai Xiaosheng, "Please wait here, I'll return shortly with the documents!"

Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

Mr. Fiewood left briskly.

As soon as he left, Matilda smiled at Bai Xiaosheng and the others, intending to say something.

However, Bai Xiaosheng and the others were engrossed in a conversation, showing no intention of speaking with her.

Matilda was perceptive enough, opened her mouth several times, ultimately remaining silent.

The scene where Mr. Fiewood was frightened had also shocked her, making her wary of speaking unwisely.

After Mr. Fiewood left, he immediately called Mr. Tike, informing him of the situation.

Bai Xiaosheng personally appeared and presented credentials, demonstrating an official stance, which startled Mr. Tike. He didn't dare instruct Mr. Fiewood to resist, or even delay.

Such is the supreme authority of that department at headquarters, any hesitation here would prompt them to conduct a thorough investigation inside and out of Yorko Company.

Fortunately, the documents of Yorko Company were all edited, precisely to counter investigation.

Whatever Bai Xiaosheng wanted, they would provide readily.

Mr. Fiewood returned after around ten minutes.

"The documents are arriving shortly, Mr. Bai, please wait." Mr. Fiewood smiled obsequiously at Bai Xiaosheng, noticing Matilda seemingly tormented inside, knowing his absence served no purpose.

Lingering further, this woman wouldn't contribute anything significant, worse might reveal some traces.

Mr. Fiewood promptly instructed Matilda to leave, telling her to notify the General Office to prepare a banquet for Bai Xiaosheng and his group at noon.

"No need, Mr. Fiewood, we won't impose at noon." Bai Xiaosheng gently tapped the briefcase he brought, "In here, there are documents to be sent back to headquarters. Moreover, we won't delay long here, needing to visit another company, Petyang Company, to retrieve some things."

Petyang Company, also a wholly-owned subsidiary of Zhenbei Group, originally under Cilio's jurisdiction, wasn't among the first batch on the investigation list.

Related information flashed rapidly through Mr. Fiewood's mind, although fleeting, he had no time for detailed analysis.

"Surely there's time for a meal." Mr. Fiewood managed a smile.

"No need." Bai Xiaosheng decisively declined, "We'll dine at Petyang Company at noon, as the airport is in the vicinity."

Mr. Fiewood heard this, silently noted it.

Just then, there was a knock on the door.

Responding, Mr. Fiewood answered, as someone entered holding documents—his secretary.

What Bai Xiaosheng requested had arrived.

Mr. Fiewood personally handed the documents to Bai Xiaosheng, then dismissing his subordinates.

Unreservedly, Bai Xiaosheng beckoned Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, the trio began reviewing the documents one by one.

Beside them, Mr. Fiewood adjusted his mindset, cautiously observing Bai Xiaosheng's reactions.

Chapter 2457 - Strictly Business_3

However, Bai Xiaosheng maintained a blank expression, revealing nothing.

The entire document review took only fifteen minutes, and the files on the table were divided into two piles.

Bai Xiaosheng opened his briefcase and took out a stack of similar documents.

This made Mr. Fiewood's eyes narrow slightly.

Mr. Tike had instructed him to see what evidence Bai Xiaosheng might have, and weren't these just that? But he wasn't sure which ones concerned Yorko Company!

In front of Mr. Fiewood, Bai Xiaosheng placed one of the documents he just sorted on top of his briefcase's files, and along with it, shoved it back in his briefcase.

"Hey, Mr. Bai!" Mr. Fiewood reacted just as Bai Xiaosheng was closing the briefcase lid, giving him no time to stop him.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced up at him.

Mr. Fiewood forced a smile and pointed cautiously at Bai Xiaosheng's briefcase, "This, isn't very appropriate, is it?"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled slightly, picked up his briefcase, and stood up, "Mr. Fiewood, if you think this isn't according to procedure, you can appeal to headquarters. I welcome supervision anytime!"

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying stood up as well.

"Dare not, dare not!" Mr. Fiewood said quickly.

"We won't disturb you any longer." Bai Xiaosheng waved to Lin Weiwei and the others, stepping towards the exit.

Mr. Fiewood had no choice but to see them out.

All the way, he escorted Bai Xiaosheng and his team outside, watched them get into their car, and as the car drove away, Mr. Fiewood's face turned extremely unpleasant.

He hurried back to his office, and as soon as he entered, he saw Matilda waiting there.

"What's going on, Mr. Fiewood?!" Matilda asked anxiously.

Mr. Fiewood had no idea where to start explaining, frowning, he finally said in a deep voice, "Quick, find someone!"

"Ah, find who?" Matilda was a bit confused.

"The people I asked you to find before, those reliable street organizations!" Mr. Fiewood's eyes gleamed sharply, "Bai Xiaosheng won't return to headquarters himself, it'll surely be his subordinates. Why don't we create... an accident, and if done well, we can blame someone else!"

The Petyang Company is in another city.

However, compared to Huaxia's vast land, the two cities are just a day's drive apart, making the city distance here incomparable, taking just over two hours.

Just past noon, Bai Xiaosheng and his team arrived.

Like Mr. Fiewood, the general manager of Petyang Company was extremely anxious the moment he learned of Bai Xiaosheng's identity, quickly cooperating.

Bai Xiaosheng and his team effortlessly obtained what they wanted and placed it in the briefcase right in front of them.

Faced with the Petyang Company's general manager's lunch invitation, Bai Xiaosheng agreed; however, it wasn't to an outside restaurant but to the company's cafeteria.

The general manager couldn't persuade him otherwise and had to accompany them.

However, midway through, the general manager excused himself briefly, naturally to notify his direct superior—Cilio.

Upon learning that Bai Xiaosheng was at Petyang Company and had taken a considerable amount of internal documents, claiming they were to be sent to headquarters, and that he was still there eating, planning to head to the airport after lunch, Cilio was absolutely furious.

Cilio was convinced that Bai Xiaosheng was up to no good against him and his father, Mr. Brown, once again.

After hanging up, Cilio headed straight over; he wasn't home anymore; he was originally going to Mulango, but that's no longer necessary.

"Bai, I need to see what damning evidence you have prepared!" Cilio gritted his teeth.

This time he brought a vehicle full of people, each looking as fierce as a devil!

Chapter 2458 - An Attack That Begins and Ends

Bai Xiaosheng, accompanied by Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, had a work meal at a company directly under Cilio, the Petyang Company, and rested for an hour.

Bai Xiaosheng then casually joked with the general manager who came to accompany them, "Please prepare a car for us, we need to go to the airport now."

Given Bai Xiaosheng's status, the general manager dared not neglect the request and quickly said with a smile, "I'll prepare it immediately, please hold on a moment!"

"It's just a matter of dispatching a car, is there really any preparation needed?" Bai Xiaosheng said with a half-smile.

"Since it's for you, we must choose the best driver for the task." The general manager quickly said with a smile, then turned away hastily.

After he left, Bai Xiaosheng and the other two exchanged smiles, checked the time, and each took out their phones to send messages.

A full fifteen minutes passed before the general manager returned.

Upon returning, he apologized repeatedly to Bai Xiaosheng, "Mr. Bai, sorry for the wait, I specially arranged an experienced driver to take you. Everything is ready. Would you like to rest a bit more?"

This person was extraordinarily enthusiastic, showing no anxiety despite Bai Xiaosheng having taken internal company materials to investigate them, appearing completely calm and composed.

"No need, since you have everything arranged, and we are ready, it's time we departed!"

Bai Xiaosheng said with a profound smile to the general manager.

The general manager's smile was slightly unnatural but quickly vanished as he cheerfully said, "Then I won't hold you anymore, Mr. Bai!"

"No need to see us off," Bai Xiaosheng replied.

Despite saying so, the general manager still escorted Bai Xiaosheng and his group downstairs, watching as they got into the car and drove away.

Once the car was out of sight, the smile on the general manager's face faded, leaving only a faint gleam in his eyes.

Reflecting a hint of seriousness, and a touch of coldness.

Sitting inside the car, Bai Xiaosheng and his companions remained silent.

The driver was rather talkative, trying several times to start a conversation with the three of them, but Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei showed no interest, and Lei Ying, sitting in the passenger seat, was as cold as ice, making it impossible for anyone to engage in conversation.

Eventually, the driver gave up.

The car traversed through the city, but after an hour, it got stuck in a traffic jam.

The overall development level of Lekram could only be considered average, as the current city's traffic situation was still not great.

"This road leads directly to the airport but frequently gets jammed, sometimes for one to two hours," explained the driver.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the pedestrians passing by the car window and said with a faint smile, "Is there no other route?"

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng actively asking, the driver thought for a moment before saying, "There is, but it goes through a slum area, which is not very safe. Do you really want to take that route?"

"If we're too late, we'll miss our flight. If you think it's alright, let's take that route," Bai Xiaosheng replied.

The driver turned his head to look at Bai Xiaosheng, "It's your decision to take that route, if anything goes wrong..."

"I'll take the responsibility," Bai Xiaosheng said to him calmly.

"Alright!" The driver then turned the steering wheel and exited from the street through a narrow alley that could only accommodate one car.

Regardless of everything, the driver's driving skills were indeed quite good.

In less than half an hour, Bai Xiaosheng and his companions' car entered the slum area mentioned by the driver.

All around were tin houses of various heights, some skinny children running around the car, their skin both black and white, curiously looking inside the car.

On both sides of the road, at the doors of those tin houses, some men with indifferent expressions watched them.

The driver couldn't help but feel a bit nervous, saying to Bai Xiaosheng and the others, "Guests, please don't open the windows or make loud noises, we should pass through quietly... Honestly, we shouldn't have chosen this route... It's all because you insisted, sir!"

The driver, at this moment, was actually shifting the blame onto Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng said nothing. Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying remained silent as well.

Their car moved slowly through the oppressive atmosphere for ten minutes, finally entering a relatively spacious alley.

Just as the driver breathed a sigh of relief, suddenly, a car pulled into the exit ahead — a seven-seat MPV — blocking the way.

"What's going on?" The driver of Bai Xiaosheng's car frowned and honked the horn several times.

It was fine not to honk, but once honked, it seemed like a signal was given.

People started getting out of the MPV opposite, all dark-skinned men dressed in flashy clothes, their faces covered with cloth, the first ones holding machetes, and the last two even carrying rusty AK rifles wrapped in dirty rags.

"Oh my god, we're dealing with robbers," the driver turned pale and stopped the car abruptly, hunched over the steering wheel, while shouting to Bai Xiaosheng and the others, "Folks, whatever they want, give it to them! These people can be deadly!"

What surprised the driver was that Bai Xiaosheng and the others remained remarkably calm in response to his warning.

Especially Bai Xiaosheng, who appeared unfazed.

"I didn't expect them to have firearms," Lei Ying frowned, watching the scene ahead.

Those two with rifles were at the back of the group, clearly unable to be subdued immediately. Their weapons were powerful with high penetration, becoming a variable; if stray bullets accidentally injured Bai Xiaosheng or Lin Weiwei, it would be disastrous.

Thus, even Lei Ying did not have complete confidence.

Chapter 2459 - An Assault That Begins and Ends (2)

Lin Weiwei was somewhat nervous as well and looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Drive, let's back out," Bai Xiaosheng instructed the driver.

But the driver turned off the engine instead and said worriedly, "Sir, please don't. They just want money. If we move, they might attack us, and that would be dangerous!"

The driver was adamant about not moving.

"Perhaps I should go take a look first?" Lei Ying suggested.

He was most concerned about the two rusty, metal rod-like firearms.

"Let's wait a bit..." Bai Xiaosheng had just spoken when suddenly there was noise from behind.

He turned his head to look out the rear window, squinted his eyes slightly, and then shook his head, "We can't back out now!"

Two cars drove in from the back entrance of the alley, blocking the way!

Six large men got out of the second car, towering and muscular, both black and white, all holding baseball bats and looking menacing.

However, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't looking at them; he was focused on the car with no one getting out.

In the back seat of that car, a person was vaguely visible.

For an ordinary person, it would be hard to see clearly from such a distance, but with Red Lotus assisting, Bai Xiaosheng's eyesight was exceptional.

No matter how hidden that person was, Bai Xiaosheng could see them.

"It's him," Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but say, "I haven't seen him in person, only in photos."

"Who is it?" Lin Weiwei asked curiously.

Lei Ying also looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't hide anything and told them, "It's Cilio, the person we've never really met but left in a sorry state."

The driver, who was leaning against the steering wheel, was also startled, and couldn't help but sit up and look back.

With Bai Xiaosheng's car at the center, those who blocked the front started to approach, and the big men who got out at the back also moved forward.

Both groups were targeting Bai Xiaosheng's car, and since the car was in a narrow alley that blocked the view, both sides only just discovered each other now.

Both groups were startled and stopped in their tracks.

In the car behind, the person sitting was naturally Cilio. He had reached Petyang Company early and followed Bai Xiaosheng's car here, thinking they had found an opportunity when their car stopped, only to unexpectedly find another group in front.

There were many of them, and they had firearms!

This information scared even Cilio.

Cilio's car was now stuck in the alley and couldn't retreat for the time being.

Besides, since they were already here, and Bai Xiaosheng might have seen them, Cilio felt he couldn't just leave without confronting him, or he'd feel stifled.

"That Bai Xiaosheng must have done too many evil deeds, and someone's seeking revenge. We have no conflict with them. Let's talk with them about whether we could get a chance to beat up Bai Xiaosheng and see what incriminating materials he's carrying. We don't need to interfere with each other!"

Cilio was also afraid of a conflict with those people, since they had firearms and were at a disadvantage, it made him nervous.

The other side seemed to notice they weren't the enemies and sent someone over.

Just like that, each side sent a person, and the two of them ran together to the front of Bai Xiaosheng's car, sat on the hood, and began to whisper.

Bai Xiaosheng and the other two found this scene quite amusing.

The driver, however, kept swallowing nervously as he watched the backs of those two people outside.

"Were these people all arranged by Mr. Cilio?!" the driver suddenly asked nervously, "I've heard of his name! Wasn't he suspended... He must be holding a grudge and that's why he's here! Sir, we mustn't offend them, we have to give them whatever they want."

This driver seemed to know quite a bit and was even advising Bai Xiaosheng on what to do.

"They're not together, but they're all here for this," Bai Xiaosheng smiled, raising the briefcase in his hand.

"Why not give it to them, just throw it over from the front?" the driver cautiously suggested.

Bai Xiaosheng found it funny, "Unfortunately, I don't want to give it to anyone, because it's very special."

"Please, don't joke around, safety is the most important thing!" the driver said, almost in tears, "It's just some documents, isn't it?!"

"You're wrong about that." Bai Xiaosheng smiled at the driver, "It's not just documents; it's bait."

Bait?

The driver was taken aback by his words.

"The great route you recommended has brought them all together," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

The driver suddenly looked slightly uncomfortable.

The two people negotiating in front of the car seemed to have reached a conclusion and turned back, glaring menacingly at Bai Xiaosheng's car and its occupants.

Then, the two returned to their respective sides and signaled their groups to approach step by step.

These people had come to a temporary agreement!

Cilio, sitting in the car behind, was thrilled to hear the news, leaning forward onto the front seat and looking through the windshield.

He wanted to see how unlucky Bai Xiaosheng would be.

Before the two groups could get close, the passenger doors of Bai Xiaosheng's car, except for the driver's seat, opened one by one.

At this moment, the driver was slouched on his seat, seemingly confused and dazed.

Bai Xiaosheng got out of the car, leaned an arm on the car door, smiled as he looked at the people in front and behind him, and took the briefcase from the car, placing it on the roof.

"Everyone!" Bai Xiaosheng looked around and called out.

The approaching groups suddenly stopped in their tracks, glancing suspiciously at Bai Xiaosheng.

Chapter 2460 - An Attack That Begins and Ends Instantly (3)

Facing such a scene, this person remains calm and composed?

Does he not know what fear is?

People on both sides started to admire Bai Xiaosheng a bit.

"Are you all here for me?" Bai Xiaosheng laughed loudly, "Or for what's in my hand?"

Of course, no one answered Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng continued, "But do you really know who I am, the value of the core business secrets of more than a dozen companies I hold? Do you know the consequences of your actions?!"

Bai Xiaosheng repeatedly questioned, but no one replied.

"Ridiculous, who does he think he's scaring?" Cilio sneered in the car, "I'll take action today, and then shift all the blame onto those people on the other side, won't it be fine!"

Cilio intended for the other side to take the fall, while evidently, the other side wanted him to take the fall...

It was an unspoken agreement that coincidentally aligned.

The two groups once again drew closer.

A few words from Bai Xiaosheng weren't enough to stop them.

Lei Ying stood expressionless beside him; as long as Bai Xiaosheng wasn't in danger, he would remain still.

Lin Weiwei looked at Bai Xiaosheng with some anxiety.

Even though things were said to be fine before, seeing so many people wielding weapons made her instinctively scared.

"It seems you don't realize how severe your actions are!" Bai Xiaosheng sighed softly.

Then he raised both arms, pointing in one direction down the alley, "Look behind you!"

This sentence had an effect; both groups couldn't help but turn to look behind themselves.

Even Cilio in the car couldn't help but comply.

However, after watching for a while, not a single silhouette appeared at the ends of the alley.

"Bastard, still trying to bluff at this time!" Cilio in the car angrily pounded his fist, "Make sure when you hit him later, aim more for the face!"

Cilio was upset because he was startled for a moment.

The people on the other side seemed a bit annoyed too, angrily raising their weapons.

But just then, a loud noise came, the air seemed to stir, and wind swept through the alley.

Before long, two helicopters appeared, one after another, at the ends of the alley.

The helicopters actually had fully armed soldiers, even mounted with machine guns.

"Everyone, drop your weapons! Only saying this once, everyone, drop your weapons!" The rotor sound was loud, but the loudspeaker was even louder.

Directly! Coldly!

The people from both groups looked at the helicopters overhead, dumbfounded, and without a word dropped what they held and raised their hands.

After all, they were just hired guns, making some money; it wasn't worth dying for.

In the car, Cilio stared blankly and mumbled, "Oh my god, where did these come from!"

The wind was too strong for Bai Xiaosheng to speak loudly; he muttered to himself, "See, I am a guest of the Huaxia Business Group, so of course, security is given special attention by Lekram. I just didn't expect... I reported it early, and these big guys showed up, quite impressive."

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also looked in astonishment at the two big machines hovering overhead; with them "watching," who would dare be arrogant!

"Everything is arranged perfectly; it's all going exactly as we expected, without any surprises, I even feel a bit bored, no chance to show off." Lei Ying leaned on the car door, chin resting on his hand, muttering.

Actually, he was relieved because the opponents were armed, which was a significant threat.

Soon, sirens wailed.

A large number of policemen appeared at the ends of the alley.

Today's planned attack coincidentally met with a planned preparation and concluded without any conflict.

However, for certain people and certain matters, this is just the beginning!