

Two Trillion 251

Chapter 251: He... Vice President!_1

"Shi Yu, you've been at Zhongjing Media for a full three years, and during this time, you've always been active on the front lines of reporting and editing," said Bai Xiaosheng. "You could say that nearly all the major creative ideas from your team were your doing. In an environment least conducive to innovation, you have given your utmost effort to try. Three years of perseverance, and nothing has diminished your passion. I admire you for that."

Mr. Bai's voice was not loud, just enough for Shi Yu to hear clearly.

Shi Yu's eyes widened, looking at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

He had not expected this young man to know him so well.

"So, do you want to continue like this for another few years, and waste more time? Is your time so cheap! If this place is just a rice bowl to you, then leave! But if you still have ideals, beliefs, and want to change reality, then stay!"

Bai Xiaosheng's tone was calm but filled with an enchanting quality.

Shi Yu couldn't move; a fire seemed to kindle in his eyes.

Bai Xiaosheng did not shout hoarsely, yet his voice still thundered in Shi Yu's ears, like an enlightening revelation.

Shi Yu's gaze flickered.

Indeed, many people had approached him behind the scenes, willing to poach him for much more money than here!

The reason he had stayed was because he valued the vast platform of Zhongjing Media. It was like the sky that birds can soar high, the ocean that allows fish to leap freely.

But the lofty sky did not allow him to spread his wings, and the vast ocean did not permit him to swim freely.

Shi Yu often felt tied up in this, utterly frustrated and exhausted.

Today, Bai Xiaosheng's words had unlocked his heart.

Yeah, why should I waste my time? What's wrong with being myself for once!

What's wrong with being a manager for once!

Even if I leave this place in the end, I won't have any regrets! Do I not even have that bit of courage?!

Lin Weiwei saw Shi Yu's eyes gradually brighten.

Mr. Bai, Xiaosheng! Lin Weiwei chanted silently in her heart, feeling invigorated.

Perhaps, only those like her who had been suppressed and overlooked for years could understand the excitement of finding a patron.

Shi Yu was no longer walking away!

He silently moved to one side.

"Shi Yu, what are you trying to do!" Pan Cheng exclaimed with wide eyes, "Are you really thinking of replacing me? Go back to your place right now, immediately, do you hear me!"

Shi Yu remained silent, his gaze unwavering.

"Insolent, utterly insolent!" Pan Cheng trembled with rage.

"Pan Cheng, you are no longer a manager. Be polite to your superior. If you continue like this, I will reflect it in your personal evaluation," Bai Xiaosheng said coldly. "And if that leads to your termination, don't expect a penny of severance pay."

"You." Pan Cheng glared at Bai Xiaosheng fiercely, gasping for breath with anger.

"Leave if you want to leave, stay if you want to stay, but shut up," Mr. Bai said with a smile. "As the acting director, I still have the authority to call security."

"Of course, you do!" Weiwei scoffed coldly.

Pan Cheng gave Bai Xiaosheng a venomous look, got up, kicked his chair over, and stormed out.

This wasn't over; he would definitely report it to the higher-ups, even if it meant causing trouble with Song Changkong, Mr. Song!

"Mr. Bai, that was a bit too much," said one manager.

"Yeah, Pan Cheng is a long-time employee, a valuable one. Mr. Lin always showed him respect, and you're treating him like this right off the bat?"

"Don't be so extreme; leave some face for everyone, so we can all get along!"

"Right, we're all colleagues; we'll have to face each other sooner or later."

The managers chimed in one after another.

However, after Pan Cheng's incident, there was a notable drop in their tones.

At that moment, Pan Cheng had stomped out of the meeting room without so much as a glance at Shi Yu, and of course, Shi Yu hadn't looked at him either.

Stepping out of the meeting room, Pan Cheng was surprised to see a crowd standing in the hallway.

Once he recognized who they were, his eyes narrowed sharply.

They were all the most capable and the most "thorny" individuals from each manager's team!

It seemed that today's event was not targeted at him alone but at all the managers!

The rage in Pan Cheng vanished instantly, replaced by a chilling realization.

This Bai Xiaosheng, this acting director, had just shown up and was already making a move against the entire management layer.

What a big move!

Pan Cheng felt uneasy, he wanted to go back, but ultimately he couldn't lose face, so he stood in the hallway as well.

The employees who were waiting greeted him softly and curiously observed this Manager Pan.

In the meeting room.

Bai Xiaosheng looked around at everyone and smiled slightly.

"Weiwei, go call everyone outside to come in," Bai Xiaosheng said softly.

"Yes," Lin Weiwei responded respectfully, opened the door, and walked out.

Those outside, who's outside?

The managers sitting there were puzzled.

Then they saw a group of people filing in, nearly one from every department.

Lin Weiwei introduced Bai Xiaosheng to the people coming in.

The acting head of the New Media Internet Department?

So young!

The employees were quietly astonished as well.

Afterward, under Bai Xiaosheng's gesture, Lin Weiwei picked up a list and read aloud, sentence by sentence and with a solemn voice.

"Cheng Yishan, Editor Group Four of the Civil Affairs section, responsible manager. Effective immediately, demoted to staff, to be assessed uniformly in one month, and if found unqualified, encouraged to leave the company."

"Zhang Bei, Customer Service Group One, responsible manager. Effective immediately, demoted to staff, to be assessed uniformly in one month, and if found unqualified, encouraged to leave the company."

...

Without pausing, Lin Weiwei read seven or eight names in one breath.

The managers in the room were shocked; they had never imagined they would also be on the dismissal list.

This "treatment" was not exclusively for Pan Cheng!

The employees present were also shocked.

What was even more astonishing was still to come.

After Lin Weiwei finished reading the "dismissal list," she directly took out another paper and continued to read.

"Mo Bei, Editor Group Four, reporter. Effective immediately, promoted to manager."

"Xu Dacheng, Customer Service Group One, customer service representative. Effective immediately, promoted to manager."

...

Lin Weiwei read swiftly and clearly, with no stops between sentences.

The employees present couldn't help but widen their eyes; they had never imagined that a simple visit would result in them being promoted to managers?!

"What the hell are you doing, what right do you have to demote us!"

"We need a reason, if you're going to demote us, there must be a reason!"

"On what basis are these people promoted to managers, what are their capabilities!"

"Who do you think you are, causing chaos as soon as you arrive!"

The managers in the room, not waiting for Lin Weiwei to finish reading, were agitated and started yelling, and some even banged on the tables.

Now, these managers were brimming with rage, and the situation looked to be spiraling out of control.

The employees were alarmed, and even Shi Yu was nervously looking at Bai Xiaosheng.

"You don't accept this?" Bai Xiaosheng laughed, "Do you think I am not qualified as the acting director? Fine, then I don't need this title."

"Exactly who do you think you are!" someone shouted.

Lin Weiwei stepped forward.

"This gentleman is our Zhongjing Media's new Deputy Chief, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng! Not to mention you managers, even a director he can dismiss just the same!"

The moment the words were spoken, there was instant silence.

Everyone looked at the smiling Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

Newly appointed... Deputy Chief!

Chapter 252 Stirring up Trouble_1

The proxy position is usually temporarily filled by someone at the same level or lower, never have I heard of a higher position taking on a lower one!

At least, no one in the meeting room, be they managers or employees, had heard of such a thing.

The moment Lin Weiwei clearly identified Bai Xiaosheng's identity, everyone was stunned.

The new vice general manager, so young?

The new vice general manager, stepping in as a director?

The new vice general manager...

Countless questions of astonishment exhausted the minds of those present.

"Lin Beichen, it was also my decision to suspend him, I wonder, how do you managers compare to him?"
Bai Xiaosheng asked softly.

This seemingly innocuous remark, like a thunderbolt, forcefully exploded in the minds of those managers.

They couldn't help but grimace to themselves.

These mere managers had always acted obsequiously in front of Lin Beichen, let alone comparing themselves with Mr. Bai, who had the authority to suspend Lin Beichen!

No matter how young Bai Xiaosheng might appear, or how unimpressive he might seem, his position was there for all to see, leaving everyone else with no room for maneuver!

Instantly, most of the managers became dejected, but not all of them.

Among these managers, Bai Xiaosheng had only replaced eighty percent, leaving twenty percent in their positions. Although they had their faults and bad habits, they also had their merits, which Bai Xiaosheng felt did not necessitate a replacement.

These individuals silently felt fortunate that they had never been too arrogant; otherwise, they might've ended up like their unfortunate colleagues, demoted from manager to employee, facing the end-of-the-month evaluations.

Among the employees, beyond their shock, their eyes sparkled with excitement and fervor.

The selection by the new vice general manager was a massive opportunity for them.

Like Shi Yu, these individuals had dreams, ambitions, and enthusiasm; all they lacked was an opportunity, and all they were waiting for was just that.

Now, this opportunity lay before everyone, and how could they not be overjoyed and restless with excitement.

Shi Yu looked eagerly at Bai Xiaosheng.

He had gambled, and gambled correctly!

This new vice general manager seemed young, but through his performance just now, Shi Yu felt that this vice general manager was undoubtedly an impressive person!

With his youth, possessing such grace was extraordinary!

Shi Yu looked at Bai Xiaosheng, his gaze filled with more respect and awe.

Pan Cheng, at the doorway of the meeting room, peered through the crack, listening intently. When he heard Bai Xiaosheng's true identity, he was struck as if by lightning, frozen in place.

"Vice, vice general manager... Mr. Bai!"

This title represented supreme authority, securing that role could even allow him to stand toe-to-toe with Mr. Song!

Pan Cheng suddenly felt an immense regret for having yelled, threatened, and cursed at the vice general manager of Zhongjing Media.

If this wasn't courting death, what was!

Why am I so unlucky!

Pan Cheng's mouth tasted bitter.

"Now, please, all irrelevant personnel leave the room, I want to talk with my managers," Mr. Bai said in a deep voice.

The crowd was taken aback, then chaos ensued.

Those who should have taken their seats instinctively started to leave before they remembered they were now managers.

Those who should have left tried to sit down before realizing they had been dismissed from their positions.

Lin Weiwei busied herself with coordinating the room.

In the end, the dismissed managers left with their heads hung low, filing out one by one.

The ones who were not dismissed sat respectfully and straight, quiet and calm.

The newly promoted managers, with faces full of excitement, sat down.

Lin Weiwei closed the door of the meeting room.

Bai Xiaosheng leaned forward slightly, his fingers intertwined on the desk, looking at them and for the first time showing a calm smile.

"Ladies and gentlemen, both new and old managers, you may not be very familiar with me. But I am definitely not a stranger to you."

Bai Xiaosheng's gaze moved, looking at each of them one by one, and said, "Mo Bei, originally a journalist in the fourth editorial group, a top student in journalism, has been here for three years and has written dozens of highly popular articles. Xu Dacheng, customer service in the first service group, a major in public relations, has been with us for two years, an expert in crisis management plans..."

Bai Xiaosheng could recite information about each person, even including the old managers who had stayed on.

Amidst their surprise, they all felt some excitement and emotion.

They were people with ideals and aspirations, longing to be noticed and valued by their leaders.

Bai Xiaosheng's readiness to tout each person's strengths and knowledge clearly indicated his immense regard for them.

Being so highly valued by the Vice President was an enormous honor!

Even the old managers were somewhat moved.

Bai Xiaosheng gestured with his lips towards the printed documents on the desk, and Lin Weiwei immediately picked them up and distributed them to everyone.

"Gentlemen and ladies, you are the elites I have chosen, exceptionally capable. The future of the New Media Internet Department is in your hands! You are the rising dragons and soaring roc, and what I am going to do next is not to tell you experts how to work, but to remove the shackles from you, to let you soar in the sky and roam the vast seas."

As Lin Weiwei handed out the documents, those who received them read carefully, their eyes widening in astonishment.

Bai Xiaosheng looked directly at them and said with a smile.

"Effective immediately, the system of submitting reports for approval is abolished. I delegate authority to you all. Except for the major matters I've listed that need to be reported, you can decide on your own. Reports should be as brief and to the point as possible, with less needless talk..."

"Effective immediately, the daily morning and evening meetings are canceled. We'll switch to once every Monday and Friday. If a meeting is needed, organize it yourselves..."

"Effective immediately, non-essential and urgent matters must be arranged during working hours whenever possible to reduce overtime. Unless under special circumstances, overtime on Saturdays and Sundays is not permitted..."

...

Bai Xiaosheng kept speaking, enumerating one item after another.

All were measures to streamline the system, to encourage innovation, to encourage performance.

Everyone present was excited, their faces flush, eagerly rubbing their hands together.

This is fantastic!

The changes proposed by Mr. Bai, no matter how big or small, were exactly what everyone deeply resented, and many of them had even hindered the department's development!

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng made bold and decisive reforms, reducing bureaucracy and delegating power, giving everyone a feeling of total relief and exhilarating freedom.

"I just want to reiterate two points!"

Bai Xiaosheng's expression became somewhat serious, "First, we may be taking a big step here, and you all have the freedom to gauge the extent. I don't expect immediate results; I don't even want to see them too soon. My only hope is that you do your best to eradicate the persistent problems in the department and strive for improvement."

Bai Xiaosheng spoke sincerely.

This leader was pragmatic and practical!

Everyone nodded unanimously, and even the old managers agreed deeply.

"Secondly," Bai Xiaosheng smiled, "reform is bound to encounter resistance. If anyone disrupts your reforms and you can't stop them, come to me! As your Vice President, in charge of the New Media Internet Department starting from today, I'm your enforcer!"

These words boiled the hearts of everyone present, filling them with a fighting spirit!

Meanwhile, on Song Changkong's side, he received countless complaints and grievances.

Learning that Bai Xiaosheng was replacing staff and overhauling the system, Song Changkong, who had always followed procedures cautiously and orderly, couldn't help furrowing his brows.

"Ridiculous!"

Song Changkong fell silent for a moment, murmuring to himself.

"But... never mind. After all, he's just been appointed and let him have his way for a while. But it's only limited to one department. If he spreads his influence further, I can't just sit by and do nothing!"

Chapter 253 Savage and Furious Mr. Bai_1

Bai Xiaosheng held a meeting for his new team. As it came to an end, Red Lotus's voice echoed in his mind.

"For reorganizing the fully-owned subsidiaries, adjusting key department positions, optimizing the management structure, add two points. Boosting morale, enhancing team cohesion and centripetal force, add one point."

"Current total score is nine points for the deputy general manager level, ninety-one points away from the general manager level."

Only increased by three points...

Bai Xiaosheng felt slightly depressed, but considering that finalizing the contract with Kaisen only earned six points, and that his team had just been adjusted without yet seeing results, receiving points for that was already not bad...

With this thought, Bai Xiaosheng felt he could accept it.

After all, he had been approving documents these days and hadn't received a single point...

"It really becomes harder to level up the higher the position is, and this is only for the deputy general manager level," Bai Xiaosheng reflected.

The meeting ended.

But the contents of the meeting, like a storm, quickly spread throughout Zhongjing Media.

This matter was a bit too exaggerated.

Dismissing nine managers at once, appointing nine new managers—all at the same time—was like a brutal blood transfusion.

Other departments were initially shocked—

"Has the New Media Internet Department gone mad? What's the difference between this and starting over?"

"To replace so many people at once with newcomers? What are they trying to do!"

"Do the employees have the capability for that, leading a team when they were just working hard? Crazy!"

"Lin Beichen really hit a stroke of bad luck, his entire foundation has been overturned."

...

Various voices, various discussions.

Not just among the employees, the leadership layer was also abuzz with heated debate.

Many doubted this massive reshuffle, even thinking it was reckless meddling.

"Is personnel transfer just a simple matter of who's up and who's down? It involves power!"

"If they had brought down one or two people at a time and made the changes slowly, it would have been fine. But to shake up so many people at once, isn't this forcing those who got demoted to band together?"

"I don't think those newly appointed managers will be able to consolidate power easily; it's bound to lead to chaos in the end!"

...

Apart from discussing the situation, more and more people were turning their focus towards Bai Xiaosheng.

For this deputy general manager, who appeared out of nowhere and made brutal moves, everyone's attention was keen, never before so intense.

"Deputy Director Bai Xiaosheng is a deputy general manager! Where did he come from, was he dispatched by the group corporation?!"

"Even if he's a deputy general manager, to dare to disrupt a department upon arrival, is this man crazy?"

"What does Mr. Song think, to let him run amok like this?!"

...

The New Media Internet Department, now the focal point of the entire company, actually did seem to have the "qualities" of a news center.

And Bai Xiaosheng officially moved into Lin Beichen's office.

Bai Xiaosheng was sizing up his new office space.

Lin Beichen, the man, knew how to enjoy life. The desk and file cabinets were all matching sets of painted chicken-wing wood, the leather chair wasn't the common type found in conference rooms, and even the wall hangings and decorations were meticulously chosen.

Corrupt!

Bai Xiaosheng mused and then sat down to feel the comfort of the spacious chair.

The door to the office was tapped gently twice, and Lin Weiwei entered, holding a very thin stack of printed documents.

"Mr. Bai, as per your instructions, I've rejected all the affairs where they needed to decide for themselves and submit applications. The applications received today are only a fifth of yesterday's," Lin Weiwei said, placing the stack of documents gently in front of Bai Xiaosheng.

In the office, Lin Weiwei addressed Bai Xiaosheng as Mr. Bai, always proper in her etiquette.

Bai Xiaosheng flipped through the stack and smiled at her, "Thank you, Weiwei! The system has just changed, and these new managers are not used to it. They need your reminders more than ever."

"All right," Lin Weiwei responded.

She watched as Bai Xiaosheng quickly skimmed through an application, scribbling casually before setting it aside.

That was it, handled!

Every time Lin Weiwei saw Sheng at work, she felt it was a tremendous pleasure.

Like the flowing clouds and water, seamless, without delay, yet without any oversight. Whether it involved economics, law, or marketing, Mr. Bai never needed to look anything up, he knew so much, just like a walking computer.

While Lin Weiwei admired him, she also felt a bit guilty as his assistant because she hadn't been much help.

By the time she thought this, Bai Xiaosheng had casually processed several documents.

"Is there anything else?" Bai Xiaosheng asked, seeing Lin Weiwei staring at him.

Lin Weiwei shook her head, blinked her large eyes, and said, "I don't have much to do here..."

She hesitated for a moment.

"But as an assistant, perhaps I'm too idle. And since there aren't many documents for you to approve, does that mean we'll have nothing to do every day..."

Lin Weiwei muttered.

"Haha," Bai Xiaosheng laughed heartily as he continued to work on the documents, telling Lin Weiwei, "On the contrary, I fear we'll be quite busy in the days to come!"

"Busy, busy with what?" Lin Weiwei asked curiously.

"Busy putting out fires!"

...

The next day, the problem arrived!

In the editorial department, the former manager refused to follow the new manager's arrangement, inciting several people to openly create a disturbance.

In the end, it almost came to blows.

Bai Xiaosheng received the notice and quickly took Lin Weiwei with him. On the scene, he determined who was responsible and immediately dismissed two employees and heavily penalized two others.

Nobody expected that after Bai Xiaosheng had ignited a small fire, he wouldn't hesitate to pour more fuel on it.

The decisiveness of his actions was staggering.

Veteran employees were fired on the spot, complications such as compensation notwithstanding, which could all be troublesome.

But Bai Xiaosheng didn't care.

That same day, others started creating trouble, even inciting a group to follow suit.

Bai Xiaosheng had just fired some employees; did they think he wouldn't fire a few more? There was a limit to how many he could let go!

Operating on the principle of not being afraid to escalate the situation, this group caused a big commotion, drawing even external employees to spectate.

After Bai Xiaosheng arrived, he quickly clarified who was responsible and without a second word, fired five and heavily penalized ten on the spot.

In one day, he had driven away seven people and heavily penalized twelve, including two former managers among those who left!

Bai Xiaosheng's thunderous methods were eye-opening.

He made it clear to everyone—don't challenge me; you don't even have the right to be a thorn in my side, yet I can make you all get lost!

When handing down the punishment decisions on the spot, Bai Xiaosheng's demeanor was the most chilling and terrifying thing. He read out the sanctions with a calm face, his eyes seeming a bit dissatisfied, as if he felt not enough people were sent packing...

Instantly, those with malicious intentions felt a cold shiver down their spine.

"Mr. Song, that Bai Xiaosheng has gone mad, he's about to kick out the entire New Media Internet Department! You need to intervene!"

Lin Beichen hadn't gone to work yet, but he made a call to Song Changkong surrounded by several brothers in misfortune who had been driven out.

On the phone, Song Changkong was silent for a long time before he finally spoke in a muted tone, "It's a bit excessive!"

And with that single sentence.

Song Changkong hung up.

Lin Beichen stared at the disconnected phone, stunned on the spot.

"Even Mr. Song is compromising with him!"

Chapter 254 I'll Teach You How to Be Leaders_1

Bai Xiaosheng busied himself with firing people left and right, but Song Changkong didn't care in the slightest. After all, he would just report it to the group and let them handle it.

If Bai Xiaosheng were transferred elsewhere, he'd be delighted.

Under Song Changkong's tacit approval, for several days in a row, Bai Xiaosheng, like an enforcer, went around with Lin Weiwei inspecting everywhere, dealing heavy blows to those who caused trouble, those who slacked off, and those who defied the new regulations.

The entire New Media Internet Department was in a state of trepidation.

Because the employees couldn't fathom the temperament of the acting director and new deputy director, they were also extremely cautious, looking at Bai Xiaosheng with fear and vigilance in their eyes.

Lin Weiwei, with her sharp awareness, noticed this atmosphere and reported it to Bai Xiaosheng.

"This won't do, we can't let the vast majority of grass-roots comrades harbor hostile feelings towards me."

Bai Xiaosheng said jokingly, then his smile slightly receded, "Call all my managers to the office. I need to have a serious talk with them."

Lin Weiwei didn't understand his intentions.

Could talking to their leaders really turn around the employees' emotions?

Was he expecting the managers to tell their subordinates that they should respect and love the deputy director, and not to be on guard against him?

Confused as she was, Lin Weiwei quickly gathered the managers in the office.

Before Bai Xiaosheng arrived, these managers were also excitedly whispering to each other.

The formal appointment had already come through; their salaries and benefits had significantly increased, naturally making them extremely joyful.

Moreover, these days, they had finally experienced what it felt like to have someone powerful backing them.

Exhilarating!

At the same time, with the system changed, the cumbersome and redundant reporting, meeting, and overtime rules were reduced, and power was delegated to their hands, all of which made them feel relaxed and full of enthusiasm.

At this moment, everyone was spirited and geared up to achieve something great.

Even the old managers were deeply inspired and a fire was lit in their hearts. They were gradually accepted by the new managers; after all, birds of a feather flock together, and doers always appreciate other doers.

While the managers were having a merry time chatting, the door to the meeting room opened, and Bai Xiaosheng walked in with a smile.

"Yo, gentlemen, you're in good spirits, chatting away here."

Bai Xiaosheng walked straight to his seat with a smile and sat down.

He didn't mind this kind of exchange.

Through interactions over the past days, the managers had gotten to know Bai Xiaosheng's temperament, and they immediately smiled, showing no restraint.

"Today, I've brought you all together to discuss our team building," Bai Xiaosheng said, smiling as he looked around at everyone.

As usual, Lin Weiwei opened her laptop, ready to take quick notes of the meeting.

The managers also opened their notebooks and took out pens, prepared to jot down the essence of the meeting and the task requirements.

"Put your papers and pens away."

Bai Xiaosheng interlaced his fingers on the desk and said to everyone. He also gave Lin Weiwei a nod, "We're not taking minutes for today's meeting."

No recordkeeping?

Lin Weiwei blinked in surprise but obediently closed her laptop.

Although perplexed, the other managers followed Bai Xiaosheng's instructions, closing their notebooks and capping their pens.

"Gentlemen, most of you are newly appointed managers. How have you felt these days? Why don't you give me a thousand-word statement about it?" Bai Xiaosheng, as usual, joked before getting down to business.

The managers couldn't help but burst into laughter.

"Alright, no more nonsense."

Bai Xiaosheng's smile faded slightly as his gaze swept over the faces of the managers seated there, "I've called you here this time to give you training."

Training?

When Bai Xiaosheng said this, not only did Lin Weiwei blink, but also the managers present looked at one another in dismay.

Training what?

The jobs each manager was responsible for were all different and highly specialized, and they were all elites in their work sectors, absolutely not needing any training.

Could it be the rules and regulations?

Lin Weiwei secretly shook her head, dismissing her own thought. Hadn't they made that very clear a few days ago, and these days, she had been correcting and supervising each office area.

It seemed there was nothing to train on.

Seeing everyone's puzzled faces, Bai Xiaosheng smiled and said, "Today's training will not involve pen and paper, it's to be passed on by word of mouth. I'm going to teach you how to be a 'scheming' good leader."

'Scheming'?

A good leader?

The people sitting there were taken aback.

"You people are the cream of the crop in your respective areas of work, otherwise I wouldn't have chosen you. But I've found these days that you really don't qualify as leaders," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Some in the audience looked at Bai Xiaosheng with dissatisfaction.

Leadership, huh? How else are you supposed to do it? If there's work, you assign it; if they don't obey, you scold them; if they do well, you praise them. It can't be that hard.

Besides, just a manager, not any top leader—anyone can do it, what's all this about qualifying or not.

Bai Xiaosheng noticed their reluctance and smiled again.

"Firstly, you took over this position by forcing your predecessor out, making them your subordinates. Do you think just by wielding your authority, you can make them obey you? That they would become friends, not daring to mess with you? Naive! Slacking off, dragging their feet—if they avoid open conflict, they could drag you down," Bai Xiaosheng said with a sneer.

"Next, most of you ascended from being an employee in a single bound. Have you considered the feelings of those who were once alongside you, have you consoled them in a timely manner, have you opened up to them? Probably not! And what has this led to? When someone stands up against you, those people just watch from the sidelines! You've essentially forsaken the allies that should've been yours!"

"Moreover, there's a category of neutral parties. Every department has such people. What have you done for them?"

"In any job, if you want to succeed, you must have a group of supporters around you. You need to ensure that when dissenters arise, no one helps them, even more, that everyone isolates and expels them!"

At the end of his speech, Bai Xiaosheng's smile faded, and he looked at everyone with seriousness, "So, I say, you're not up to the mark as leaders!"

After Bai Xiaosheng's words, the managers were profoundly shaken.

When they thought about it, it really was the case!

Their looks now carried a bit more reverence.

No wonder he became a vice president at such a young age—being a leader really is a science!

The managers straightened up, their smiles vanished, sitting as neatly as students, watching Bai Xiaosheng.

Lin Weiwei's eyes were wide open, her gaze slightly excited as she looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

That moment just then, the aura Bai Xiaosheng displayed, so cool!

"Now, I will teach you how to be a qualified manager," Bai Xiaosheng said solemnly.

At that thought, Red Lotus immediately searched for and presented the best training lecturers and the most essential training content from the entire network.

So when Bai Xiaosheng began to speak, every sentence was quintessential, striking at the heart.

The managers listened with increasing seriousness, their fascination growing deeper.

An hour later, they even felt it wasn't enough.

"All right, that's it for today. Empty talk is useless; go back and try what I've said. Tomorrow we continue, until you shape your teams into a cohesive unit!" Bai Xiaosheng said in a deep voice.

His gaze glimmered.

Once these managers had fully united their employees, the New Media Internet Department would be reborn, becoming the strongest collective!

Chapter 255 Luo Pangzi Invites You for a Drink_1

Over the following week, Bai Xiaosheng kept training the managers of the New Media Internet Department.

He had a multitude of tutorials which he obtained from Red Lotus.

While training them, Bai Xiaosheng himself also continually pondered and comprehended.

After all, these materials were very useful for him when he would hold higher positions in the future!

During the training period, the managers' attitude towards Bai Xiaosheng changed noticeably.

They went from being surprised to admiring his profound knowledge, and their respect for him grew increasingly.

Bai Xiaosheng promoted them, recognized their talents, and they were grateful for it. And this selfless sharing of workplace experience was priceless!

They were deeply grateful!

Some people even began to regard Bai Xiaosheng as their mentor at heart.

As an administrative assistant, Lin Weiwei moved between various offices and was surprised to find that the atmosphere in the entire department had subtly changed.

Hearts united in purpose, efforts combined in action.

Work efficiency had greatly increased, and everyone was working happily and comfortably.

The overtime rate of the New Media Internet Department decreased to the lowest in the whole company in just under ten days, yet their efficiency and performance greatly improved.

This baffled the leaders of other departments, leaving them puzzled and without a solution.

When Bai Xiaosheng made his rounds again, the employees were no longer reserved or on guard around him but, under the influence of their managers, their fondness and closeness to Bai Xiaosheng greatly increased.

In this context, the reward and punishment system created by Bai Xiaosheng began to be implemented.

The new reward and punishment system caught the employees by surprise.

The new system abolished penalties, consisting solely of rewards. The extent of rewards varied, and punishment was about recording the number of offenses, which were cumulative.

What the ultimate punishment would be for accumulating offenses was not specified...

And it was this uncertainty that really made people nervous; one could imagine, once the list was drawn up, it would be fatal.

Luckily, within Bai Xiaosheng's reward system, there was an option to offset the recorded offenses with rewards, which was very popular among the employees.

There were still troublemakers in the department. These people could not be completely eliminated. They too had become smarter, inciting issues without showing themselves.

However, after a few deliberate attempts to cause trouble, they were isolated by the team. After some turmoil, they didn't dare to continue and started to behave.

Bai Xiaosheng saw the initial success in team building and was very satisfied.

The number of matters requiring his personal approval decreased day by day, and even Lin Weiwei found herself with spare time. Bai Xiaosheng simply let her help out at the branch she liked and learn what she wanted.

For this, Lin Weiwei was extremely grateful, and her respect for Bai Xiaosheng grew even more.

Friday.

Bai Xiaosheng was comfortably leaning back in his executive chair when he heard Red Lotus's voice in his mind.

"For completing the team optimization of a key department in a wholly-owned subsidiary of the group and improving overall office efficiency and cohesion, add three points. Your current total score is twelve points at the deputy general manager level, eighty-eight points away from the general manager level."

Bai Xiaosheng, who hadn't seen his score in a while, truly felt a bit "moved."

Three points for so many days of work; Red Lotus was indeed fair, generous, and magnanimous in scoring.

While Bai Xiaosheng was reflecting, his phone rang.

The incoming call was from a special number.

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback for a moment, then smiled.

"Ron, what made you think to call me?" Bai Xiaosheng answered the phone and said with a laugh.

The Kaison Team left for their country two days after the signing, but Luo Pangzi, the fatty Ron, stayed behind, enjoying life in Zhongjing without a care.

Over these days, Bai Xiaosheng was frequently harassed by this fatty.

The two people could be described as not knowing each other until they fought, and with common hobbies, the more they talked, the more they connected, even bringing Lola into the conversation, becoming friends in all but name.

For foreigners speaking to Chinese people, they often use just the surname. For example, when Ron referred to Song Changkong, he called him "Song," and initially called Bai Xiaosheng "Bai." But with time, Ron could accurately use Bai Xiaosheng's full name.

That was quite an achievement for a foreigner.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you've been pretty busy lately. How about this, I'll treat you to dinner tonight, spicy crayfish, and we'll have a few drinks!" Ron chuckled on the phone.

This foreigner, having spent these days in Zhongjing, hadn't learned much else but had become an expert on all the tasty food, especially loving spicy crayfish.

"Sure." Bai Xiaosheng also thought it would be good to relax.

Teaching for so many days had indeed been exhausting.

...

Ron gave Bai Xiaosheng the address for the dinner.

Liuyun Street, a food street in Zhongjing.

Bai Xiaosheng checked it out.

The one-kilometer street was home to over a hundred shops, with restaurants making up ninety percent of them; you probably couldn't find another street with such a high density of restaurants in the whole province.

Bai Xiaosheng took a taxi by himself instead of asking Feng to drive, as private gatherings should have some private space.

After giving the taxi driver the specific address, the driver also laughed.

"Young man, you seem like a connoisseur, you must frequent Liuyun Street quite a bit."

Bai Xiaosheng was perplexed and didn't understand what he meant.

Once he arrived and got out of the taxi, Bai Xiaosheng saw the restaurant and finally understood what the driver meant.

Both left and right were impressive storefronts, with clean windows and a strong business atmosphere, except for this place, which was unassuming and somewhat rundown.

But the place was bustling with people; many well-dressed bosses parked their luxury cars and walked in.

Bai Xiaosheng walked in to find it already packed with people.

Wooden tables and chairs, shabby but clean.

Ron was waving at him from a corner; he secured a nice spot.

Bai Xiaosheng walked over with a smile and sat down opposite Ron.

"Not bad, foreigner, you've got a knack for this, snagging such a great spot." Bai Xiaosheng admired.

"Snagged it? Hmm, I've been sitting here since three in the afternoon!" Ron said proudly.

Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily speechless.

When it came to the personal cultivation of a food lover...

Then a big bowl of spicy crayfish arrived, red and topped with fresh green coriander leaves, emitting an irresistible aroma.

Ron's eyes almost popped out, and Bai Xiaosheng also felt his mouth watering.

Chilled beer was poured; the two made no small talk or courtesy, peeling the shrimp and indulging in a feeding frenzy.

Ron, with a pile of shrimp shells in front of him, didn't forget to take time to instruct Bai Xiaosheng.

"Look here," Ron demonstrated, "press down the second segment of the shell, squeeze the body of the shrimp, then do this, poke your body into the shrimp head, and pull, right, right, grab the tail and pull, there you go! See, the entire shrimp meat came out!"

Ron boasted triumphantly as he chewed and washed it down with a full cup of beer, letting out a satisfied sigh.

Bai Xiaosheng, clumsy and slow on the uptake, finally got it with Ron laughing and gloating at the sight.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but chuckle bitterly at himself, a true native being ridiculed by a foreigner for not knowing how to eat properly.

After three rounds of drinks, Ron set down his glass.

"Sheng. This time, I asked you out not just to enjoy some delicious food but also to discuss some important matters with you!"

Chapter 256 Kaisen's Predicament_1

Bai Xiaosheng put down his glass and looked at Ron.

Before he came, he'd had a premonition that this meal would be more than just a meal.

Indeed, his feeling had come true.

"Is it business or personal?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

If it had been personal, Ron wouldn't have been so serious.

"It's business," Ron said, taking off his plastic gloves with some hesitation, "but I think you should listen to it as if it were personal."

Oh?

With that, Bai Xiaosheng became somewhat intrigued.

Still, he could tell that Ron was still a bit hesitant.

"Ron, do you trust my character?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"Of course, I've spoken with Lola, and she said you're absolutely a reliable friend. From my interactions with you these past days, I also think you're a trustworthy man, which is why I called you out," Ron shrugged.

"Well then, regarding the business matter you're about to mention, as long as it doesn't harm the interests of Zhongjing Media, I promise to keep it a secret for you and treat it as my own matter," Bai Xiaosheng said earnestly.

"For your words, I think we should toast," Ron said, somewhat moved, pouring a full glass of beer for both Bai Xiaosheng and himself.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, raised his glass, clinked glasses with Ron, and the two of them drained their drinks.

Putting down the glass, Ron was silent for a bit, organizing his thoughts.

"I don't know how much Song Changkong has let on, but you, that day when you were talking to me, I was actually quite alarmed because you knew some of Kaisen's current situation. But in fact, it might be a bit worse than what you know."

Ron sighed, "Our competitor, Kelson, is backed by a consortium. They are well-funded and are nibbling away at Kaisen's territory in market expansion. Moreover, the consortium behind them has... you know, political connections. Their advantages are just too great. We are losing ground in that market. Negotiating a partnership with Zhongjing Media is to seek financial support here, to bring your influence into play to distract Kelson's attention, and also, we want to expand into your domestic market."

"Killing three birds with one stone, huh," Bai Xiaosheng said with a laugh.

Wishes are beautiful, but reality is cruel. Looking at Ron, even if a partnership with Zhongjing Media were reached, the difficult situation they faced likely wouldn't have eased much.

"I've been in Zhongjing long enough and will have to go back to my country soon." Ron leaned forward, resting his elbows on the table as he looked at Bai Xiaosheng, "These days, I haven't been in touch with you much, most of my energy has been with Song. The ideas and plans you talked about that day, I have to admit, they were imaginative, completely breaking through the existing frame of thought, and supported by accurate data. At first, I thought it was your group's vision, maybe even involving more than one big data and commercial research company."

Bai Xiaosheng watched him with a smile.

"But I realized I was wrong. No matter how I probed, Song Changkong had no clue about it, no one in Zhongjing Media knew anything! If this was the future strategy planned for Zhongjing Media by your group, they couldn't possibly be unaware, and you wouldn't have disclosed it to me!"

"So?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

"So?" Ron replied with a wry smile and a spread of his hands, "In the end, I realized, this damn thing was completely your own doing! Those business concepts were all in your head!"

Ron stared at Bai Xiaosheng with an admiring gaze, a look of astonished fondness in his eyes.

For a cultivated person like Ron to start using profanity showed the strength of his inner shock.

Gradually, Bai Xiaosheng noticed that people at other tables were looking over, their eyes carrying a hint of surprise, as if they were looking at a gay couple, and they were muttering among themselves.

"Stick to the point; don't look at me with those eyes!" Bai Xiaosheng enjoyed the admiration, the shock, but was somewhat uncomfortable with Ron's gaze.

"Sheng, I have to admit, you are a genius, someone naturally adept at the art of business!"

Ron couldn't stop his praise, "In this world, knowledge can make a person powerful, applicable to everyone. But talent cannot be learned! Some people, even without a comprehensive system of business knowledge, can stand at the peak of the business world. In my eyes, you have both knowledge and talent. Genius doesn't even begin to describe it. I think 'monstrous talent' is a more fitting term for you!"

Ron's admiration was heartfelt.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and poured another glass of wine for both Ron and himself, lifting his cup.

"I do enjoy your compliments, but let's drink to that and move on to more serious matters, no more flattery!"

Ron raised his glass to gently clink with Bai Xiaosheng's, then drained it in one go.

Setting down the glass, Ron looked intently at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Sheng, I need those business ideas of yours, I have to go back and save my career," Ron said earnestly. "You don't know how much effort I've poured into Kaisen, I can't stand by and watch it fall! I'm not afraid to tell you..."

Even though he was speaking German, and even though he knew that not many people around could understand.

Ron still lowered his voice, "Some of my partners are no longer united; even some are making eyes at Kelson. I must improve the company's current situation, or else... Kaisen is going to die! And as a partner, Zhongjing Media will be affected too!"

Out of trust, Ron was laying everything on the table.

Bai Xiaosheng looked him straight in the eye, and after a long pause, he nodded slightly.

"You agree?" Ron asked, surprised.

"Are you ready to hear my business ideas?" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"All set, all set. I'm prepared!" Ron was flustered, hurriedly pulling items out of his bag.

Bai Xiaosheng watched, somewhat dumbfounded.

Two digital voice recorders and a large notebook in hand, Ron looked at Bai Xiaosheng with a focused expression, pen at the ready, waiting for him to speak.

"But, I'm not ready!" Bai Xiaosheng said to Ron with a wry smile.

Back then, in the meeting room, facing off against Ron with a rush of adrenaline, his brain was agile, creativity at its peak.

But now, how could Bai Xiaosheng explain this atmosphere?

Ron's face fell, thinking Bai Xiaosheng had changed his mind.

"Tell you what, within three days, I'll give you a proposal," Bai Xiaosheng said seriously. "Whether the strategies in it can be implemented will depend on your team, but I guarantee I'll do my best to help you sincerely!"

Bai Xiaosheng spoke very sincerely.

Ron looked at him steadily, his eyes even a bit shiny.

The bearded foreigner was genuinely moved by Bai Xiaosheng's words.

Bai Xiaosheng looked around, scratched his head, "Okay, that's enough. Stop looking at me with those eyes... if you keep looking at me like that, I'll smack you!"

...

That day, Ron and Bai Xiaosheng drank a crate of beer.

Of course, most of it was consumed by Ron, not because Bai Xiaosheng couldn't drink, but because he still needed to write a proposal for Ron that evening.

"Brother, if you need any data while you're working on the proposal, just ask. Here, add me on WeChat; I've come to realize this thing is incredibly handy," Ron said as he pulled out his phone, looking rather proud. "Not to toot my own horn, but the business investigation consulting team I have, they answer directly to me, and they're quite famous throughout all of Europe!"

Data?

"No need!" Bai Xiaosheng replied, full of dominance and supreme confidence.

Talking about data and information in front of me? Luo Pangzi, no matter how powerful your team is, are they more capable than Red Lotus!

Chapter 257 Bai Xiaosheng, You Are a True Friend!_1

Bai Xiaosheng and Ron continued to drink until nine in the evening before they each went their separate ways.

The place where Bai Xiaosheng lived wasn't too far away, located right in the city center: a luxury apartment with all the amenities and a large balcony to boot.

Upon entering his home, Bai Xiaosheng, slightly intoxicated, poured himself a glass of milk and took it out to the balcony to enjoy the evening breeze.

Standing on the balcony, looking out at the Zhongjing night, Bai Xiaosheng had a sense of vertigo as if he were still in Tiannan, as if on the neighboring balcony there was a girl with long waterfall-like hair and a smile as radiant as flowers.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but turn his head to look. Just then, a man clad in a big bathrobe with a scruffy beard came out, with a cigarette in his mouth, caught Bai Xiaosheng's eye, looked startled, then grinned and said, "Brother, enjoying the cool air too?"

Bai Xiaosheng didn't utter a word and turned back inside.

...

To relive such beautiful moments, one needed strength.

Bai Xiaosheng finished his milk in one gulp to clear his head a bit, sat in front of the computer, turned it on, and gazed at the startup screen, his mind wandering far away.

In three years' time, I will make all the issues between us no longer issues.

Bai Xiaosheng involuntarily clenched his fists.

...

Creating a new document, Bai Xiaosheng stared at the computer screen, lost in thought, recalling and organizing the creative ideas and strategies he described to Ron.

For a good fifteen minutes, he sat as still as a statue, then his profound eyes sparkled with intelligence.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes remained fixed on the screen, yet his ten fingers danced swiftly across the keyboard. The rhythmic tapping, reminiscent of pearls dropping onto a jade plate, was pleasant to the ear, and as his thoughts flowed, lines of text rapidly appeared on the screen.

As Ron said, some people are naturally gifted in business. They can overlook the whole picture as well as delve into the minutiae.

Bai Xiaosheng was such a person.

What was even more fearsome was that such people could always obtain the most accurate data, information, and materials at any time and place.

It's like adding wings to a tiger!

Bai Xiaosheng forgot the time, forgot everything else, totally immersed in the business plan, unable to extricate himself.

Over the course of the entire weekend, apart from eating, sleeping, and the necessary rest and relaxation, Bai Xiaosheng devoted himself to perfecting the business plan.

Luo Pangzi was a decent person, and very sincere to him.

Toward such people, Bai Xiaosheng was also sincerely earnest, wanting to help as much as possible.

In addition, Zhongjing Media had just signed a cooperation deal with Kaisen Company worth hundreds of millions, and those were just the initial stages of the partnership. Zhongjing Media also aimed to break into the European market, with further investments to follow—one strong partner was more advantageous than an ally on the verge of collapse.

When it came to his own company, his group, his interests, Bai Xiaosheng was equally careful.

With Bai Xiaosheng's full dedication, the entire business plan gradually became robust and detailed, not only with innovative ideas but complete with solid data support.

Even in its current unfinished state, it would shock a professional like Ron if he were to see it.

This wasn't something one person could produce in such a short time—anyone else would need a vast and detailed database and a support team to make it possible.

To achieve this level, many strategies in the plan could be used directly.

Yet, Bai Xiaosheng was still not satisfied; he felt it could be even better...

There was a minor incident over the weekend.

Bai Xiaosheng was dozing off in bed.

Yang Qian'er called; she had finally finished her work for a while and would be returning soon.

After more than half a month, Yang Qian'er was unaware of the changes within the company, but she still dwelled on Bai Xiaosheng's identity.

"Did you know Mr. Song before? How could he interview you personally and directly appoint you as the deputy general manager? Moreover, can he just appoint a deputy general manager like that? I'm really suspicious that you're hiding something from me!" Yang Qian'er chattered non-stop.

The thing that Bai Xiaosheng found the most headache-inducing was precisely this kind of situation.

It was difficult to explain, especially to Yang Qian'er.

If you treat her like a fool and try to dupe her, you'll find she's quite shrewd. If you approach her as if she's shrewd, she acts all silly and clueless.

Bai Xiaosheng initially thought of fobbing her off with a casual response but realized it wouldn't work; then he thought of making up some lies but found the more he spoke, the more inconsistencies there were.

Eventually, he ran out of patience.

"I won't tell you. If you want to know, come back and I'll tell you." Bai Xiaosheng, exhausted by business cases, felt his brain wasn't up to it and simply left her with that, "On your end, make sure you eat well, have fun, and sleep well. I've got work to do, hanging up now."

Afterwards, Bai Xiaosheng decisively hung up the phone and switched it off with a flick of his wrist.

The world became quiet.

However, when Bai Xiaosheng turned on his phone again that evening, he was almost overwhelmed by the barrage of texts almost crashing his phone, all sorts of messages cursing him, even threats to tattle on him to his grandmother.

"You sly girl, rebelling against me and daring to tattle." Bai Xiaosheng grumbled irritably.

Then, he directly called the new manager of the editing team.

"Where are you? At home, huh? You haven't been working overtime lately, have you? Well, now you're going to start immediately! Assign an extra interview task to Yang Qian'er and her team!"

Bai Xiaosheng hung up the phone and snickered coldly.

"That's for threatening me! Do you think Bai Xiaosheng is easy to bully? Sometimes, I'm a man who holds grudges!"

Of course, all this was a minor interlude, a little spice in life, not a bad feeling.

Monday.

After dealing with company affairs, Bai Xiaosheng called Lin Weiwei over, "Weiwei, notify Mr. Ron from Kaisen to come to my office. I have something to discuss with him."

Lin Weiwei went off immediately to take care of it.

Less than half an hour later, the door of Bai Xiaosheng's office opened and Ron hurried in, eyes sparkling with eagerness.

"Sheng, are you going to talk to me about that business concept document? How far have you got with it, what do you need me to do?" Ron was all primed up.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled without a word and directly tossed over a folder filled with a thick stack of printed documents.

Ron took it, puzzled, and sat down on the couch, legs crossed as he flipped through it.

After just two pages, his face was filled with shock; he put his legs down, sat up straight, and looked at Bai Xiaosheng with disbelief.

"It's... it's finished!"

Ron was beyond surprised.

"Look at how excited you are. Take a look, give me some professional, critical feedback." Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but stretch, exhausted himself.

Ron pored over the document, growing more focused and serious by the moment, his eyes filled with increasing shock.

Bai Xiaosheng had promised to deliver within three days, and he did just that. Ron thought it was going to be a very general concept document, but this was clearly the most detailed business plan.

Ron's hands trembled with a mix of joy and astonishment.

He thought his own business team was formidable, but now it seemed their efficiency was far below Bai Xiaosheng's.

"He must have mobilized a powerful team from the group, going all out! Bai Xiaosheng, the best business partner, the best friend, so reliable!"

Ron continued to read with trembling hands, tears glistening in his eyes, deeply moved by Bai Xiaosheng's

Chapter 258 I'm Going to Ask for Money!_1

Bai Xiaosheng yawned and, when he looked at Ron again, he was momentarily taken aback.

The fat man was crying again!

If it weren't for his two hundred-pound frame and a face full of beard, this would be a woman.

No, less than a woman!

Bai Xiaosheng scratched his face.

Ron closed the business plan and looked up at Bai Xiaosheng with teary, serious eyes.

"Sheng, I feel your sincerity. You are this!"

Ron gave a thumbs up, earnestly saying to Bai Xiaosheng, "This time you've used your group's power to help us complete such a professional and operationally valuable thing, I thank you, I thank your group for its contribution! Kaisen Company wishes to cooperate wholeheartedly with your group's Zhongjing Media, let's not let each other down!"

Ron spoke with such gravity that Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback, wondering if the guy had misunderstood something. What group's power? He did this on his own, it had nothing to do with the group.

"If you think there's still a problem, we can discuss it." Bai Xiaosheng opened his mouth and eventually asked.

"No need, it's already good enough as it is! I'm going back to the country now!" Ron couldn't contain his excitement, rushed over to give Bai Xiaosheng a big hug, then turned and left in a hurry.

Bai Xiaosheng stood there dumbfounded, watching Ron leave his office, momentarily at a loss for words.

"As long as you're satisfied, I hope it helps your Kaisen."

Bai Xiaosheng muttered to himself, sincerely wishing them well.

"However, the problem on that end isn't with yourselves, but with that Kelson Company. Their financial resources and political clout are your biggest competitors."

Bai Xiaosheng was genuinely concerned.

He always felt that Ron was too idealistic in his considerations, and that there were bound to be even worse situations in the future.

"Never mind, it's no use thinking about it anymore. Let's just take it one step at a time and hope Ron is a lucky charm," Bai Xiaosheng sighed and sat down to go through some documents.

Recently, the New Media Internet Department had been showing remarkable improvement, with renewed vigor and enthusiasm breathing life into the whole department.

When Bai Xiaosheng saw the application they sent over, he was surprised to find that they wanted to organize a major event.

This was good news!

Of course, Bai Xiaosheng approved.

Teamwork was always more effective than going it alone, with more gratifying results.

However, organizing a large-scale event both online and offline required money.

The main content of this application was a request for funding, accompanied by a monthly financial report from the department.

Upon reviewing it, Bai Xiaosheng furrowed his brows. At the beginning of the month, the department's funds had already been used up by Lin Beichen.

Purchasing equipment and travel expenses were all legitimate expenses.

Buying office furniture?

Seeing this item, Bai Xiaosheng paused, looked at the long string of numbers that followed, and couldn't help but smile bitterly as he patted the brand-new desk that belonged to Lin Beichen.

It all comes down to money!

Now that the department's finances were depleted, what to do?

Bai Xiaosheng sighed, picked up the application, and prepared to see Song Changkong.

As the acting director, he had to be the one to ask for funds.

...

At Zhongjing Media, in the general manager's office.

Song Changkong was drinking tea.

"Mr. Song, what do you think I should do about this? It's been over two weeks, and I'm still suspended. When is this going to end?"

Lin Beichen's face was filled with misery as he constantly complained, "Besides, I haven't made that big of a mistake! It's completely Bai Xiaosheng using this as a personal vendetta!"

Song Changkong looked up and gave Lin Beichen a cold glance.

"No, no, Mr. Bai," Lin Beichen quickly corrected himself.

"That Mr. Bai has turned the New Media Internet Department upside down, causing resentment among the staff. Many capable managers who have made significant contributions to the company were fired

by him. The reasons were just because they spoke too loudly or acted too hastily. You tell me, what kind of reasons are those! Mr. Bai acts as if, because he was sent by the group, he has nothing to fear and has taken Zhongjing Media as his own! Does he even regard you at all!"

Lin Beichen exaggerated.

"Enough!"

As Song Changkong's teacup halted abruptly, some tea spilled over, and he too felt somewhat irritated.

Lin Beichen, seeing the tea spilled over the table, swiftly pulled out some tissues to wipe and clean up for the boss.

Song Changkong looked at him, his expression softening slightly.

"Beichen, I have this matter under control and will bring it up with Mr. Bai soon. You don't need to worry. Just treat this time as a vacation, a chance to rest. Isn't that good?"

Not good!

Lin Beichen nodded, but internally, he vehemently disagreed.

At the company, being addressed as 'Mr. Lin' by everyone, receiving compliments, and having people carry out your wishes at a mere mention—this was the life!

Lin Beichen craved such days.

However, since Song Changkong had spoken, he knew better than to say any more.

"In any case, you should head back now," Song Changkong said.

Lin Beichen had been pouring out his woes here for so long, and he too was growing tired of it.

"Alright, then I'll take my leave. Call me anytime if you need me!"

Lin Beichen said, diplomatically making his exit.

Song Changkong watched the doorway, frowning slightly, his gaze uncertain.

He wondered whether Bai Xiaosheng had caused enough trouble on his end.

A deputy should do what a deputy has to do. To wear the temporary title of supervisor and stir up a whole department truly shows the narrow vision of someone who started as a manager. He really didn't understand how such a person had caught the attention of the inspection team.

As he was thinking, there was a knock at the door of Song Changkong's office.

"Come in," said Song Changkong with a frown.

He thought it was Lin Beichen, returning after leaving.

Instead, Bai Xiaosheng walked in. Song Changkong's expression eased, and he stood up with a faint smile.

"Mr. Bai has arrived. Come, have a seat," said Song Changkong in a big brotherly manner, inviting Bai Xiaosheng to the sofa.

"What brings you here?" Song Changkong asked with a smile.

"Mr. Song, please have a look at this." Bai Xiaosheng passed over the event proposal, accompanied by a funding request and a financial report.

Song Changkong perused them attentively, nodding his head.

"The proposal is good. It fully reflects the innovative thinking and the spirit of practicality of the New Media Internet Department!" Song Changkong affirmed.

Bai Xiaosheng began to speak, but Song Changkong interrupted him.

"However, this funding issue is a problem. A sum of one or two million is truly not much, but here's the thing—with the end of the month and the end of the quarter upon us, the company's main finance office is working overtime on the accounts. Allocating funds now is difficult. Let's do this: next month, make sure to include this item in the application, and I'll give it priority!"

Song Changkong didn't give Bai Xiaosheng a chance to speak.

Next month? Bai Xiaosheng smiled bitterly and gave Song Changkong a deep look.

Why did it feel like this General Manager was playing the bureaucratic "delaying tactics" game with him...

In the elevator lobby.

Lin Beichen seemed somewhat dejected as he prepared to leave. Just now, he had seen Bai Xiaosheng enter Song Changkong's office and had hastily avoided him.

The elevator doors opened and several people came out.

Lin Beichen was stopped.

"Hey, you! Where's the office of Song Changkong, the General Manager?" The person blocking his path asked rather rudely.

"Who are you!" retorted Lin Beichen with a glare.

Such impoliteness—did they think they were someone important?

The questioner smiled arrogantly, stepped aside to reveal the person behind him.

"Who I am doesn't matter. Do you see this person? This is your new Deputy General Manager at Zhongjing Media!"

Chapter 259: The New Vice President Arrives Again_1

Lin Beichen frowned with suspicion as he eyed the few people before him.

Two men and one woman.

The man speaking to him was delicate and pale, with an air of arrogance.

The woman beside him had immaculately done makeup, skin like snow, and a graceful figure, her demeanor akin to a proud swan.

Behind them stood a man, about thirty years old, with a handsome and commanding presence, who surveyed his surroundings with a superior gaze.

The man and woman in front looked like secretaries or assistants, while the man in the back seemed to be the person in charge.

"I'm talking to you, do you know or not?" the male assistant said impatiently.

Lin Beichen came to his senses, then remembered.

The man who was speaking to him earlier seemed to point at the man behind and called him what?

Deputy General Manager?! Lin Beichen was stunned.

Wasn't the deputy Mr. Bai Xiaosheng?

How come there's another one now?!

"You just said he's the Deputy General Manager? Of our Zhongjing Media... the Deputy General Manager?!" Lin Beichen pointed at the man behind, eyes widened, and asked again.

The man behind, pointed at by Lin Beichen, looked displeased.

A glance of dissatisfaction was enough to make Lin Beichen shrink back.

What a powerful aura!

"What are you pointing at!" the male assistant frowned and scolded, slapping Lin Beichen's hand away.

"Pay attention, this is Mr. Chen Changqing, appointed by the group," the female secretary said with a slight frown to Lin Beichen, "You don't seem like an ordinary employee, and you have a bit more presence than a regular manager. Are you a director?"

"Yes, but no." Lin Beichen couldn't help but swallow and think fast.

Zhongjing Media lacked a deputy, and by the rules, the group would appoint one, but there was never a mention of appointing two at once! It's unnecessary!

It seems there's something going on here. Could it be... one of them is a fake?

Lin Beichen's mind raced, and he stole a glance at Chen Changqing.

Observing Mr. Chen, it was evident he came from a distinguished background, with an aura that couldn't be faked. His very being radiated authority, every gesture and glance exuded dominance, on par with Song Changkong—a real deputy through and through!

Then, recalling Bai Xiaosheng, aside from when he was furious, he seldom had the commanding appearance expected of a leader.

Moreover, Bai Xiaosheng had applied for the job in the first place! What kind of deputy would do such a thing?

Could it be that Mr. Song had been deceived? That Bai Xiaosheng... was an impostor!

Although Lin Beichen didn't know how Bai Xiaosheng managed to fool Mr. Song, once this idea took root, it grew uncontrollably.

Lin Beichen began to get excited, and his blood started to boil.

Perhaps his moment to turn things around had come!

No matter the authenticity of Bai Xiaosheng, if he could get close to this person, he might be reinstated soon.

"You are interesting, yes is yes, no is no, what do you mean by yes but no?" the male and female assistants were amused by Lin Beichen's words.

"Mr. Chen, hello. I'm Lin Beichen from the New Media Internet Department of Zhongjing Media. I'm the former director, currently on temporary suspension. So, I am a director, yet I'm not," Lin Beichen said as he stood upright, respectfully addressing Chen Changqing.

Lin Beichen, as a mixed-blood director, was naturally quite handsome, and his earnest and respectful welcome was pleasing to the person addressed.

Chen Changqing nodded in satisfaction and walked over.

The male and female assistants quickly stepped aside to make way for the leader.

"Lin Beichen! I've heard of you; your abilities are quite impressive."

Chen Changqing walked leisurely, his face carrying a faint smile.

Before coming, he had done his homework, reviewing the profile pictures and information of Zhongjing Media's director-level staff, and had some impression of Lin Beichen. At this moment, the director's respectful attitude towards him inevitably increased his satisfaction.

"I heard Mr. Song values you greatly. How did you get suspended?" Chen Changqing asked curiously.

"This... it's a long story. Actually, Mr. Song had no other choice! Perhaps with your arrival, my situation might take a turn for the better!" Lin Beichen deliberately left some suspense, crafting his words cleverly.

Then, he made a "please" gesture and respectfully said, "Let me take you to Mr. Song's office!"

His attitude was unquestionably respectful.

Chen Changqing nodded slightly, satisfied, then called on his assistants, "Yu Qing, Murong Yan, let's go."

The male assistant Yu Qing and the female assistant Murong Yan immediately followed behind Chen Changqing.

"Bai Xiaosheng, this time I'm bringing you a surprise; regardless of who's real and who's fake, there'll be a spectacle to witness! And Mr. Song, I wonder what his expression will be when he sees another vice president!" Lin Beichen thought, feeling a faint sense of excited anticipation.

He had come out of Song Changkong's office and on his way to the elevator had caught a distance glimpse of Bai Xiaosheng looking for Song Changkong; he had hidden to avoid a meeting.

Now, he could legitimately bring people over!

At this moment.

In Song Changkong's office.

Bai Xiaosheng was still negotiating with Song Changkong for a budget of over one hundred million. In the eyes of a small company, that amount might be staggering, but for a behemoth like Zhongjing Media, it really was just a drop in the ocean, considering even the company car assigned to the vice president like Bai Xiaosheng started at two million.

"Mr. Song, our event is best held at the end of this month; it can't be delayed. Could the company provide some support? Even if we don't go through the main company account, getting other departments to chip in would help too! I've calculated, if this event is successful, we will achieve a considerable profit, it will definitely be worth the investment. Later on, we could even pay interest to the other departments." Bai Xiaosheng spoke earnestly.

Song Changkong leisurely picked up his teacup and took a sip, "Mr. Bai, it's not that I don't want to help you, but the company has its regulations. As for the other departments, you could discuss with them. But I'd advise you to save your energy; they're even bigger money suckers. At the end of every month, they always come to me claiming to be broke. Heh, I'm afraid you're just going to hear them cry poor."

In this regard, Song Changkong wasn't talking nonsense.

The departments often did this indeed.

Bai Xiaosheng frowned slightly, thinking, "Then if I can bring in investment to cover the costs..."

"That's possible, but you can't wave the Zhongjing Media flag," said Song Changkong.

If you can't leverage Zhongjing Media's reputation, what's the point of the investment? The financiers aren't fools.

Song Changkong was giving Bai Xiaosheng a big problem.

"Then, if the event turns a profit, and the financiers take their share, the company won't regret it?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"Won't regret it," Song Changkong said with a toothy smile.

First, you have to bring in sponsorship.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

"Alright, Mr. Song, your word is enough for me!"

A mere hundred and some million really isn't a big deal, at least not for Bai Xiaosheng with ten million in his account, and he could also withdraw another ten million allocated for company use from Red Lotus.

Don't you covet when I invest in this myself.

Bai Xiaosheng thought as he looked at Song Changkong.

The office door was knocked urgently, five times, without waiting for Song Changkong to respond.

The door opened, and Lin Beichen barged in, followed by several other people.

Song Changkong frowned. Lin Beichen returning in front of Bai Xiaosheng was just asking for embarrassment.

Without waiting for Song Changkong to speak.

Lin Beichen, with fervent eyes, called out, "Mr. Song, I've brought over the newly appointed vice general manager for you!"

Chapter 260: It's All True!_1

When Lin Beichen entered, Song Changkong's face looked awful.

A director suspended by Bai Xiaosheng, bursting so familiarly into his own office, shouting loudly with such enthusiasm; it was undeniably awkward in front of Bai Xiaosheng!

How could Lin Beichen be so impulsive!

Just as Song Changkong was about to scold him, he heard Lin Beichen's shout.

Song Changkong was startled.

What was he shouting?

The Vice President is here?!

But wasn't Vice President Bai Xiaosheng sitting right here?

Song Changkong saw two men and a woman following behind Lin Beichen, exuding confidence.

Who were these people?

Lin Beichen didn't explain much and stepped aside.

Chen Changqing stepped forward, smiled at Song Changkong, "Mr. Song, hello. I'm the Vice General Manager sent by the Group to Zhongjing Media, my name is Chen Changqing."

While saying this, Chen Changqing walked up to Song Changkong's desk, extended his hand, wanting to shake hands with Song Changkong.

Song Changkong was dumbfounded.

He stared blankly at Chen Changqing, even neglecting the handshake.

Chen Changqing, with a beaming face full of enthusiasm, was met with such a reaction. He was also taken aback.

Bai Xiaosheng was likewise startled, but then he started to laugh.

It seemed that the real person in charge had finally shown up, and his "faux" intrusion into the nest was about to be exposed!

Bai Xiaosheng felt someone looking at him, glanced over, Lin Beichen had a gaze that neither avoided nor retreated, as if he had a significant backing. Although there was no arrogance, he dared to look Bai Xiaosheng directly in the eye.

Bai Xiaosheng gave him a smile.

That calm and fearless expression made Lin Beichen feel somewhat unnatural, a bit guilty, and he shifted his gaze away.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the two assistants, then at the man called Chen Changqing. Chen Changqing and himself were about the same age. This was the real talented executive from the Group.

"You said you're the Vice General Manager appointed by the Group?" Song Changkong fixed his gaze on Chen Changqing's face and finally spoke, "Do you have evidence?"

Asking for proof right away, without even a handshake, do you think I'm an imposter?

Chen Changqing's smile faded slightly, somewhat displeased inwardly.

"I've long heard that Mr. Song acts with precision and meticulousness. Now, I have truly witnessed it," Chen Changqing said in a balanced tone, with a hint of sarcasm.

As he spoke, Chen Changqing motioned backward with his hand.

The male assistant Yu Qing quickly stepped forward and handed over a card.

Chen Changqing offered it to Song Changkong.

Song Changkong eagerly scrutinized it.

The purple card body, the pattern, the logo all matched, except at the very bottom of the card there was a line of laser-engraved text—

"Chen Changqing, to assume the role of Zhongjing Media Vice General Manager immediately, hereby certified."

This was indeed the real temporary identity card!

Song Changkong checked several secret markings and finally was sure beyond a doubt.

"Do you believe it now, Mr. Song?" Chen Changqing pulled the identity card back from Song Changkong's hand and handed it to the assistant to put away.

Song Changkong stood there woodenly, his face changing unpredictably.

This strange reaction also made Chen Changqing somewhat amazed.

"What's the matter? Do you still doubt my identity, Mr. Song?" Chen Changqing said with a mix of annoyance and amusement, "At your level, you could make an internal Group call to verify it!"

There was a faint hint of irritation in Chen Changqing's words.

Song Changkong turned a deaf ear, stared with wide eyes at him, and then, pointing at Bai Xiaosheng, demanded, "If you are the newly appointed Vice President, then who is he?!"

Two Vice Presidents? That's impossible!

If it were some other company, having several Vice Presidents might not be an issue, but this is Zhongjing Media. There has historically been only one Vice President!

The Group would not make such a rudimentary mistake in its deployment.

Chen Changqing was taken aback by Song Changkong's sudden outburst and turned in astonishment towards Bai Xiaosheng.

A young man who looked even younger than him was sitting steadily on the couch, smiling as he watched him.

Seeing Chen Changqing looking over, Bai Xiaosheng smiled and greeted him.

"Hello, Mr. Chen, what a coincidence, I'm also a Deputy General Manager."

With just one sentence, the entire office instantly fell silent; Chen Changqing's two assistants looked incredulously at Bai Xiaosheng.

Mr. Chen hadn't even taken office yet, and someone had already taken his place?

"I've been the Deputy for over half a month now," Bai Xiaosheng quipped.

"Who is he, Mr. Song, what's going on?!" Chen Changqing was somewhat disordered, asking loudly.

His usual steady and composed aura was somewhat disheveled.

"I don't understand it myself!"

Song Changkong's eyes narrowed slightly as he looked at Bai Xiaosheng, then back at Chen Changqing, and he sneered coldly, "I never expected my Zhongjing Media to be so highly regarded by the group, sending over two Deputy Managers at once! What an honor!"

Song Changkong's face was ashen.

What Chen Changqing held was indeed a temporary identity card from the group, but he hadn't taken a close look at Bai Xiaosheng's!

If both men were genuine, there wasn't really an issue. But if Bai Xiaosheng turned out to be a fraud, the storm he had already stirred within Zhongjing Media, and his own troubles, would be huge!

Large beads of sweat immediately appeared on Song Changkong's forehead.

Chen Changqing's eyes were piercing.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't possibly be a deputy general manager at Zhongjing Media as well!

Chen Changqing's first reaction was that this guy was an imposter.

"Show me your identity card!" Chen Changqing ordered, facing Bai Xiaosheng.

"You're a deputy, and so am I, what right do you have to examine mine," Bai Xiaosheng said languidly.

"Then I certainly have the qualifications, show it to me!" Mr. Song said, his face darkening as he spoke to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Song Changkong with a smile but said nothing, then took out his phone and made a call.

"The situation has been reported to the group's human resources dispatch department," the voice of Red Lotus sounded.

There was no need for Bai Xiaosheng to explain himself in such a matter.

Bai Xiaosheng stood up and handed the phone to Song Changkong.

Song Changkong, taken aback and uncertain, took the phone, glanced at the number, and his entire body shook.

This was indeed an internal inquiry number for the group.

Song Changkong put the phone to his ear, and before he could identify himself, the voice on the other end spoke.

"This is Zhenbei Group, Greater China Region Human Resources Dispatch Center, call number XXXXX, may I ask who is speaking now?"

A string of numbers confirmed to Song Changkong that this was truly personnel from the group's organization.

"I'm Song Changkong, General Manager of Zhongjing Media for the Greater China Region, East China District, Zhongjing City."

Song Changkong identified himself, waiting for the other party to verify, then looked at Bai Xiaosheng and Chen Changqing, and said into the phone, "Now, I need to confirm something with you..."

Song Changkong was making a call.

Chen Changqing and Bai Xiaosheng were exchanging glances.

Chen Changqing's gaze was unkind, regardless of the other's identity, the nerve to take his position!

Bai Xiaosheng's face was always smiling.

Chen Changqing's assistants, especially Lin Beichen were somewhat baffled; particularly Lin Beichen, who had thought Bai Xiaosheng was a fraud. He expected to tear down this person's disguise in one fell swoop but didn't anticipate that Bai Xiaosheng would remain utterly unflappable.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's demeanor, Lin Beichen's confidence waned.

Song Changkong ended the call, his expression shifting unpredictably.

"Mr. Chen Changqing, your identity has been verified without a doubt, you are genuine!"

Chen Changqing immediately smiled.

"Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, your identity has been verified without a doubt, you... are also genuine!"

At Mr. Song's words, everyone in the room was dumbstruck, including Chen Changqing, who was also taken aback. Both real?!

Song Changkong returned the phone to Bai Xiaosheng, looking somewhat complicated.

"We at Zhongjing Media are truly lucky this time to have two Deputy Managers join us!"