

Two Trillion 2541

Chapter 2541 - An Unexpected Game (Part 3)

As soon as Bai Xiaosheng got out of the car, he showed great interest in the visit, not for anything else, but to stay away from Milo.

At this location, there were four companies, three of which were factories.

Bai Xiaosheng noticed that the reception by these companies was tightly scheduled, and the introductions were very concise.

Someone must have informed them in advance.

That person was likely Milo, who was beside him.

It seemed that even though Milo was unreliable at times, he was flawless when it came to serious matters.

In Bai Xiaosheng's mind, his view of Milo slightly changed.

After the visit, everyone boarded the vehicle and set off without delay.

On the road, Milo once again entangled Bai Xiaosheng, talking about things that were unnecessary...

Bai Xiaosheng silently erased the changes in his perception of him from his mind.

...

Just like that, after visiting the second city and the second location, they enjoyed a sumptuous lunch.

After a short rest, they set off again.

By this time, they had seen seven or eight companies.

On the way to the third city, Milo was still chatting with Bai Xiaosheng about attractive women, making Bai Xiaosheng a bit sleepy.

But at this moment, Milo steered the conversation to the main topic—

"Mr. Bai, we've seen quite a few companies. I noticed many in your business group showed great interest. It seems the scale of cooperation between our two sides will inevitably be significant."

Unexpectedly, Milo suddenly became "serious." Bai Xiaosheng smiled and said, "This is a good thing for both you and me."

Milo nodded, "There are quite a few satisfied parties, but only a few signed on the spot. I know it's because the companies on both sides have been unable to make decisions on some matters for a long time."

Bai Xiaosheng had also noticed this issue and immediately nodded.

"I heard that Mr. Bai is quite reputable in the business group. It seems you are not only the team leader but also the elected spokesperson for your side, like the president of the chamber of commerce, the Alliance Hierarchy."

This remark made Bai Xiaosheng look at him in surprise.

Bai Xiaosheng was the default Alliance Hierarchy, but there was no explicit evidence of this, only subtle hints from everyone's actions during the visit.

That Milo actually noticed!

It seemed he was not just a frivolous character.

Of course, someone whom the Karan business community recommended could not be simple!

Bai Xiaosheng had somewhat overlooked him due to his behavior along the way.

Milo chuckled and said, "Actually, Mr. Bai, I won't hide it from you. Before you came, all my friends in the Karan business community recommended me, which also means they appointed me as the full representative. How should I put it, I won't hide it from you, in terms of cooperation, all our companies are advancing and retreating together, which means our two sides are acting as one. Do you understand what I'm saying?"

Bai Xiaosheng gazed slowly at this guy who had been joking around with him all the way, without any seriousness, and said, "I understand! Mr. Milo is saying that before we came, your companies were already united, and you were representing them. Our visit is a visit, but if we want to cooperate, want a large-scale cooperation, it's not about negotiating with one company at a time, but rather, we must negotiate with you as a whole. Is that what you mean?"

"Yes, yes, you can understand it that way," Milo replied with a grin.

In short, Milo had united the Karan business community into one, negotiating with Bai Xiaosheng's side as a whole.

Thus, unless the Huaxia Business Group didn't want to conclude any cooperation, they would have to make compromises and concessions in certain aspects and industries!

If not a single deal was made, then Bai Xiaosheng's half of the business group might bear the responsibility of damaging the friendship between the two nations!

Bai Xiaosheng could not help but see Milo in a new light.

Bai Xiaosheng said meaningfully, "Mr. Milo, it turns out you are quite the hidden talent!"

This was indeed an unexpected situation, even for Bai Xiaosheng.

Chapter 2542 - Bargaining

On the way, Milo finally laid his cards on the table with Bai Xiaosheng. As it turns out, the business sector in Karan has long been united, and Milo was elected as the chief representative to negotiate with Bai Xiaosheng's side.

No wonder there was a business liaison here in the Karan Chieftaincy...

No wonder the morning's inspection went well, yet nothing was signed...

Bai Xiaosheng had felt something was strange for a while, and now he finally got his answer.

However, what Bai Xiaosheng admired the most was probably Milo.

He really could keep his cool, only speaking up now, and up until this point had acted as if he was infatuated, to the extent that Bai Xiaosheng was deceived until now, and finally started addressing the main issue. How this person thinks is truly a mystery.

When Bai Xiaosheng described him as "deeply concealed," Milo was still quite "humble," shaking his head and sighing, "Truth be told, Mr. Bai, I really didn't want to take on this job, but I had no choice. Who said I also had to make a living in the Karan business world? If I ignore their wishes, how will I face them in the future? My family is not in Karan, without any support behind me. I also didn't want to lay everything bare upfront, that would be too tactless. I felt a connection with you from the start, and truly want to be friends with you."

What Milo said made Bai Xiaosheng almost laugh.

His family isn't in the Karan Chieftaincy, without any backing?

Yet the Karan business world shows him such favor, electing him as the chief representative?

Presumably, this position should be held by a highly respected figure from the local business industry, right?

From this point, it seems Milo's family background must be quite remarkable.

And about the talk of instant friendship and being afraid of impoliteness... Bai Xiaosheng did not feel they had such a deep bond at all.

If it wasn't for his interest in Lin Weiwei, with ulterior motives, would he really want to be this close!

Bai Xiaosheng suddenly recalled a humorous statement he once heard in Huaxia, "From the moment I met your sister, I've decided you're my brother"...

Probably the same with Milo...

"Mr. Milo, we're all working for our organizations, it's better to put certain things on the table early. It's beneficial for everyone." Bai Xiaosheng said, "I wonder what attitude the Karan business world has towards cooperation with us, and what kind of cooperation they are looking for."

This matter is uncertain whether the Karan royal family is aware, but even if they are, they would pretend not to know. For the royal family to initiate would be inappropriate, but if it's done "spontaneously" from below, they could refrain from taking any responsibility and reap the benefits.

Milo said with a grin, "Karan is quite small, roughly equivalent to a province in Huaxia, or a state in America. The business sector here doesn't have excessive demands, merely hoping for some preferential treatment in certain industries, buying not only products but also production lines and technology, and selling not only raw materials but also hoping for local processing..."

Milo tirelessly listed many requirements from their side.

Bai Xiaosheng listened silently and smiled faintly after hearing everything, "The Karan business world is not about doing business, it's practically asking us to provide aid. If that's the case, it's better for the Karan royal family to take the lead. Considering the friendly relations between our parties, Huaxia would surely consider it."

It's unheard of to provide aid to a moderately wealthy country like Karan.

Upon hearing this, Milo immediately grinned, "Mr. Bai, you really jest. What do you mean by aid, we can offer your side preferential treatment in the following industries too..."

Milo talked about another long list.

Bai Xiaosheng listened and chuckled, "I ask for A businessman to invest and provide technology and make concessions, then let B businessman reap benefits from your side. Is this suitable?"

Milo meant exactly this.

Milo shrugged and said, "It's internal profit balance, that's how we do it. Let B businessman, who makes money, secretly cooperate with A businessman, and then they redistribute the profits."

Bai Xiaosheng raised an eyebrow.

Milo continued with a smile, "If it were a loose business group, it would be impossible. But if it's a business group led by you, Mr. Bai, I believe it can be done. We've already achieved this on my side, and everyone is quite satisfied."

Although Milo spoke lightly, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but focus on this man.

It sounds simple, but in practice, it's definitely not easy. Balancing the interests of all parties is always the hardest thing for any group.

To accomplish what Milo proposed, he must possess outstanding abilities, as well as have something convincing, such as family, background...

"Since Mr. Milo has operated this way before, you must know that it's not something I can decide on the spot right now. I have to go back and discuss it with everyone." Bai Xiaosheng said with a faint smile.

"Of course, of course, as it's not our own business, you have to discuss it when you return." Milo seemed to understand and nodded repeatedly.

"However, before that, the conditions you proposed, I personally cannot accept." Bai Xiaosheng bluntly said, "The price is too high!"

Milo kept a smiling demeanor, "Mr. Bai, I think it's acceptable."

"I think it's too high!" Bai Xiaosheng insisted.

Milo shrugged, "There's a saying in Huaxia, although I'm not proficient in Huaxia language, I have kept it close to my heart because in the business world, it's a universal truth."

"Oh, which saying?"

The saying Milo holds in such high regard piqued Bai Xiaosheng's interest too.

"Ask for the sky, bargain to the ground!"

Just this one "universal truth" made Bai Xiaosheng want to tell Milo that there are enough "universal truths" in Huaxia for him to learn forever...

"Then I won't be polite." Bai Xiaosheng smiled and confidently said, "Firstly, starting from the mining industry, I think we need to adjust like this..."

Bai Xiaosheng eloquently overturned Milo's proposals one by one; his ability to recall and reinterpret made Milo's expression change irresistibly, especially with the prices that Bai Xiaosheng pushed down to intolerable levels for Milo.

"No way, no way, you pushed it too low, you have to bargain step by step." Milo hurriedly shook his head.

Thus, the two of them went back and forth in the car, engaging in heated negotiations.

The two beautiful women, one black and one white, in the same car were left stunned.

Eventually, the vehicle reached its destination and stopped. Milo made a pause gesture to Bai Xiaosheng, "We'll continue our discussion on the way back."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded as well.

Just the thing, he was worried about being bored on the return trip.

This third stop has only two enterprises to inspect. The first one is quite large, and reportedly its major shareholder is an American, while the second one, according to Milo, is his own company, a big equipment manufacturing company.

While listening to Milo talk about it, Bai Xiaosheng simultaneously searched the background of Milo's company in his mind, trying to trace its roots and see what Milo's background really is.

Of course, before researching, Bai Xiaosheng felt it wouldn't be easy.

And indeed, the information Bai Xiaosheng managed to find stopped at the company itself, with the visible leaders having no connection to Milo.

It seems this Milo is very well-hidden.

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Chapter 2543 - A Group of Bad Guys

The first company at this third stop that Bai Xiaosheng and his group arrived at sent out a bunch of middle-aged and older executives to receive them, all of them carrying themselves with impressive poise. The one in the lead was even a well-known business figure that Dong Tianlu and the others recognized.

However, Bai Xiaosheng's attention was drawn to one woman among them.

The woman didn't show off or make a splash, yet she paid more attention to him than the others did; that was what made Bai Xiaosheng most curious.

Only after Milo's introduction did Bai Xiaosheng learn that she was this company's foreign-capital representative.

Facing Bai Xiaosheng, the woman's smile surfaced. She took the initiative to shake his hand and said, "Nice to meet you, Mr. Bai. I'm LLK's representative here, my name is Lisa."

Bai Xiaosheng's thoughts moved, and Red Lotus immediately pulled up information on "LLK Company."

It was a comprehensive company from America, and also the major investor behind the company they were inspecting now.

"Pleasure to meet you. Have we met before, Miss Lisa?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

The reason he asked was because he'd noticed Lisa seemed especially focused on him.

"I think this is the first time," Lisa replied with a smile.

Next to them, Milo looked at Bai Xiaosheng with a meaningful grin and said, "Mr. Bai, are you trying to cozy up to our Miss Lisa?"

In Milo's eyes, "Have we met before?" was about as clichéd a pickup line as it got.

Bai Xiaosheng shot Milo a helpless glance. This guy knew himself too well; no wonder he thought everyone else was just like him.

"Mr. Bai, Mr. Milo, everyone, let's go inside and talk," someone nearby said with a laugh.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded at once, offered Lisa a polite farewell, then walked in together with Milo.

The members of the business delegation flocked along behind them.

Lin Weiwei came up and followed behind Bai Xiaosheng. As his assistant, she was in charge of on-site notes and related tasks.

"Yo, Miss Lin, we meet again," Milo's eyes lit up when he saw Lin Weiwei, and he couldn't help trying to chat her up.

Lin Weiwei forced a small smile.

"Mr. Milo, business comes first," Bai Xiaosheng reached out and grabbed him, so he wouldn't keep bothering Lin Weiwei.

Milo was really a walking contradiction—on one hand, someone you couldn't underestimate; on the other, someone who made you want to smack him.

Pulled along by Bai Xiaosheng, Milo had no choice but to give up his current chance to get close to Lin Weiwei.

Good food is never afraid of being served late... Milo comforted himself inwardly.

Up ahead, Lisa saw this scene and couldn't help the faint, ambiguous smile that crossed her face as she glanced at Lin Weiwei. Seeing her looks and temperament, Lisa couldn't help giving a silent nod. No wonder Milo was like this—this Huaxia beauty really was stunningly exceptional.

During the inspection of this first company, there was nothing particularly special. It was just that seeing everyone in the delegation seriously discussing cooperation with the other side, Bai Xiaosheng felt slightly regretful. They still didn't know that Karan's business community had already banded together; talking cooperation one-on-one was destined to go nowhere.

Unfortunately, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't tell them that yet, so he could only "stand by with his arms folded."

Milo really wasn't afraid of what others might say; he kept trying to get close to Lin Weiwei and joke with her.

"Miss Lin, did you rest well last night? Getting used to the food here?"

"I know a decent Huaxia restaurant. We can go try it later."

Lin Weiwei was getting thoroughly annoyed.

Bai Xiaosheng had no choice but to drag Milo over and keep a close eye on this guy.

They finished inspecting the first company without reaching any cooperation. As if they could have!

Bai Xiaosheng and the others were about to set off for the second company.

Miss Lisa and the group of executives watched their motorcade drive away.

Standing there, Lisa gazed after the receding line of cars, smiled faintly, then turned and left.

When they arrived at the second company on the itinerary, Milo got out of the car looking completely relaxed and at home—after all, this was his own company.

After a round of welcoming ceremonies, just as everyone was about to go inside to inspect, Milo stopped Bai Xiaosheng and pulled him aside.

"Mr. Bai, let's go out for a walk and talk about what we didn't finish last time. The scenery around here is pretty good," Milo suggested.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at this guy with his strange train of thought. "But it seems like you and I are supposed to go in and inspect with everyone..."

"It's all my own place. What's it matter if I look at it or not? Honestly, if you and I can reach an agreement, I'll give you guys a big discount on my side. How about it?" Milo said with a grin.

Bai Xiaosheng really had no way to refute that, so he went to say a few words to the others.

No one had any objections, of course.

Only then did Bai Xiaosheng nod to Milo.

Milo brought two people with him, and behind Bai Xiaosheng followed Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

When Milo saw Lei Ying's large frame, he couldn't help sneaking a few extra glances and muttering to Bai Xiaosheng in surprise, "Is that your secretary or your bodyguard? A bruiser like that—probably a few guys together couldn't take him, right!"

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help laughing. "He's just big; it's not like he was born to fight and brawl."

Milo shook his head at once. "He gives me a sense of pressure just looking at him. How about you bring one less attendant? I've got two with me; safety won't be a problem."

"One less person, huh." Bai Xiaosheng didn't reject the idea and directly turned to Lin Weiwei. "Weiwei, then you don't need to come with us. Go along with the delegation and see if they need any help..."

Lin Weiwei nodded immediately, about to agree.

"Wait, I didn't mean she shouldn't come," Milo hurriedly said. Seeing Bai Xiaosheng looking at him with that half-smile, he sighed and spread his hands helplessly. "Fine, fine, we'll all go together."

So the six of them didn't follow the others into the company compound, but instead walked down a small path.

As they walked, Milo seemed a bit absent-minded, and his conversation jumped all over the place, completely off topic.

Every time he drifted, it took Bai Xiaosheng to drag him back on track.

The farther they went, the more secluded the path became, with hardly anyone around.

"How's the public security around here?" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help asking.

"Security?" Milo glanced around. "It's fine, very safe."

Right at that moment, a group of people came around from behind, each of them holding some kind of weapon.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help pointing at them.

Milo tried to reassure him. "Let's just step aside. They're probably on their way to fight someone."

Before he finished speaking, that group was already shouting noisily.

"That's Milo, and that company is his!"

"Hey, we caught a big fish this time. Let's get money out of him!"

"Beat the guy up, and the women, well, hehe..." The ringleader's eyes roamed over Lin Weiwei.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help giving Milo a strange look.

Milo's expression changed as well. "Shit, they really are a bunch of thugs!"

The gang charged toward them, murderous energy rolling off them.

"Don't worry. Since they're here for me, I'll never let you get dragged into this!" Milo said, all righteousness.

Before he finished, he saw Lei Ying strolling toward the group.

"What's he doing?" Milo looked at Bai Xiaosheng in shock.

"Just a small thing." Bai Xiaosheng smiled, relaxed. "He's enough. Shall we keep walking?"

Chapter 2544 - Damn Plan

It was Milo who suggested taking a walk outside and chatting about the cooperation plan; he led the way, and they ended up encountering a group of "bad guys."

Milo thought he had an obligation to protect these Huaxia friends from harm.

Unexpectedly, the big guy behind Bai Xiaosheng stepped up and took matters into his own hands, walking towards the group to block all those men.

The key was that Bai Xiaosheng actually agreed, not considering it a big deal, without any tension or panic, thinking it was only natural for the big guy to block those men.

Milo, incredulous, pointed at Lei Ying's back, hurriedly telling Bai Xiaosheng, "He, he's just one person, and that's a whole group over there, with weapons in their hands!"

This power imbalance was obvious at a glance.

"No problem, don't worry." Bai Xiaosheng remained unconcerned.

Even Lin Weiwei beside him was the same.

This made Milo feel utterly confused.

However, this made him seem overly nervous, too unsettled...

"Ahem, Mr. Bai, I feel it's our duty to protect you as guests. I've also learned boxing, I'm quite good, and I can help deal with those people too!"

Milo hurriedly told Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei.

With a smile, Bai Xiaosheng stepped forward; the path was a dead end, and he turned left at the end, entering the alley next to it.

As Bai Xiaosheng walked, Lin Weiwei naturally followed behind.

While talking to them, Milo also followed in.

Milo's two bodyguards naturally followed behind as well.

Catching his breath, Milo couldn't help but look back, saying, "Mr. Bai, why did you just leave! At least we should help cheer them on, even just standing there."

As he finished speaking, when Milo turned back, he found that Bai Xiaosheng had already walked quite a distance, so he quickly jogged to catch up.

This alley went a few more steps and turned again; earlier they turned left, now right, but Bai Xiaosheng and his group kept walking.

"Wait for me, didn't you hear what I said, Mr. Bai!" Milo couldn't help but shout.

When he caught up with Bai Xiaosheng, Milo found that Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei were relaxed and cheerful, not worried about their companion in the slightest.

"I mean, Mr. Bai, that was a whole group, with weapons, are you really not worried about your guy being in danger?!"

Milo looked at Bai Xiaosheng in astonishment, emphasizing.

Was this Bai Xiaosheng confident in his own people, or did he not care about his subordinates' lives, thinking a bodyguard's job was to protect him while his escape was the most important thing?

If so, then this could be a chance to show another side of himself! Milo thought internally.

"Look, I'm dressed like this, how can I fight?"

Bai Xiaosheng gave an amused smile to Milo, showing off his formal attire, indicating he wasn't fit for fighting.

"As a boss, you seem a bit too heartless! I think a real man should have loyalty and integrity, not disregarding the safety of his own, even if they're just bodyguards, you shouldn't use them as human shields and then discard them!"

Milo spoke loudly, his words forceful and resonant.

His two bodyguards behind him couldn't help but want to applaud and cheer their boss.

He spoke so well, so eloquently!

Milo still proudly gestured to the two not to do so.

"What you said is absolutely right!" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but give Milo a thumbs-up, then smiled, "But if I went, I wouldn't be of any help, why don't you take a look with your guys, we'll wait for you in front, how about that?"

Milo glanced at Lin Weiwei, instantly straightened his chest, and raised his voice, "Alright, you guys wait a bit, we'll go and help!"

Speaking of which, Milo waved a large hand and strode back the way they came.

His bodyguards, of course, followed closely.

Watching them leave, Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei exchanged a glance, then Bai quickly spoke to the two behind him, "Did any of you hire those people?"

"It was me!" one bodyguard raised his hand.

"Are they professional?" Milo asked quickly.

"Very professional!" The bodyguard answered with utmost confidence, "They're all street fighting experts!"

Milo couldn't help but slap his forehead, then cursed, "When I said make it realistic, you really got us fighters, huh. Do they know how to hold back?!?"

This was a performance, a performance!

The main idea was to show his bravery and fearlessness in front of Lin Weiwei, not actually hit people!

Though the big guy left behind to stall them wasn't anyone important, he was still part of the Huaxia Business Group. If things went south and this got out, it would become a problem.

The bodyguard, panicked, tagged along with Milo, urgently saying, "I told them, if they're Huaxia folks in formal suits who look weak, make sure not to hurt them badly. If they're Huaxia bodyguards, try to go easy, and if they don't hit back, try not to touch them."

"And what if the Huaxia bodyguard hits back!" Milo asked.

The bodyguard instantly fell silent.

"Let's hope we're not too late!" Milo sighed, picking up the pace towards the scene.

Before they rounded the bend, they heard a series of screams coming from ahead.

They were utterly terrifying to hear.

Milo's expression changed; however, he soon furrowed his brow, perplexed.

The screams seemed to not come from just one person...

Why would beating someone make them scream in excitement?

...

As Milo pondered, he stepped out of the alley and finally saw what was happening.

He was completely stunned, his eyes bulging wide with shock.

Chapter 2545 - Damn Plan_2

In the distance, a group of people were fleeing with their hands over their heads, crying for their dads and moms.

There were several more lying all over the ground.

My God, am I seeing this wrong? Milo swallowed hard.

The two bodyguards behind him naturally also saw what was happening over there, and their eyes went blank.

"My God." Milo looked at Lei Ying's fierce figure chasing and beating a crowd of people and muttered, "He really can fight a whole group by himself! Is he Superman?!"

In the middle of his amazement, Milo suddenly felt dejected.

He really hadn't expected that Bai Xiaosheng had someone this ferocious at his side. Looking at this, what "hero saves beauty" crap was he going to pull...

No wonder Bai Xiaosheng wasn't worried at all. Even that Lin Weiwei probably knew how terrifying this big guy was.

Which meant Bai Xiaosheng and the others were probably laughing at him right now for being too nervous, making a big deal out of nothing...

Just as Milo was feeling depressed, the other bodyguard behind him hurriedly said, "Mr. Milo, although this side failed, we still have a backup plan!"

"What backup plan?"

Milo snapped out of it and stared in surprise at his subordinate.

The man immediately lowered his voice and said, "There's another group, coming in from the other side."

That one sentence made Milo's eyes light up and his spirits rise again.

"Good, you guys did well on this. I'll go save that beautiful lady, and you two help out over here!"

Milo hurriedly gave the two of them orders and turned to run back the way he came.

"What are we even supposed to help with... help that Huaxia guy? But he doesn't need help..." one bodyguard spread his hands and muttered.

Mr. Milo's instructions really didn't make sense.

The other one immediately cursed, "Of course we can't actually help. We've gotta go mess things up, hold up that big guy so he doesn't keep interfering with Mr. Milo's hero-saves-beauty moment. Otherwise, if the plan fails, we're screwed."

The bodyguard who had spoken just now suddenly got it and nodded rapidly.

"What are you still standing there for, move!" The other one waved and charged toward Lei Ying first.

...

Milo jogged back toward Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei. After running back and forth like this, he was panting and drenched in sweat.

Finally, as he rounded the second corner, Milo saw Bai Xiaosheng in the distance, along with Lin Weiwei. They were surrounded by four or five people.

Milo couldn't help but feel delighted at the sight.

"Has the show already started? Next, it's my time to shine. Hero saves the beauty, here I come! Huaxia beauty, hurry up and fall under the spell of my brave and fearless charm!"

Feeling hyped, Milo actually slowed down a bit, thinking he'd better catch his breath first so he wouldn't be panting when he got there and ruin his image.

But just as he was heading over, Milo suddenly realized they seemed to have started fighting over there.

"Are they crazy? They're already throwing punches?" Milo jumped in fright.

With Bai Xiaosheng's "frail and weak" Asian frame, it was questionable whether he could even take two punches. What if they actually hurt him?

How was he supposed to explain that to the Huaxia Business Group!

Hadn't they told those hired guys: if they could avoid hitting Huaxia people, don't hit them, and even if they had to, they should go easy.

So why did it look like they were all piling on at once...

In his anxiety, Milo suddenly realized another serious problem.

Which was—those hired thugs had been contacted by his subordinates. Those street punks and gangsters didn't know who he was at all!

They'd only been instructed not to go hard on Huaxia people. But what about him, the local, same-skin-color guy...

"FUCK." Milo's face changed.

He was supposed to be the hero saving the beauty—cool, graceful, like a real superhero—not some guy getting beaten into a pig-headed mess, totally disgraced.

At that thought, Milo suddenly felt his legs go heavy. He hurried to pull out his phone to call one of his bodyguards back. With them there, those thugs would know who the real employer was.

As he was dialing the number, Milo casually glanced toward Bai Xiaosheng's side, and with just one look, his jaw almost dropped.

In the distance, a figure moved with incredible agility.

One punch dropped a guy, one kick sent another flying. Alone, he was forcing four or five men to retreat again and again.

Behind him stood a beautiful woman holding a suit jacket.

Milo couldn't help rubbing his eyes and blinking hard several times, until he finally saw clearly and confirmed it beyond a doubt.

The one fighting was Bai Xiaosheng!

What Bai Xiaosheng was doing right now was straight out of a movie!

One against five, his moves were ridiculously slick!

"You big liar! And you said you don't know kung fu!"

Milo couldn't help cursing in grief and rage.

Bai Xiaosheng had said his outfit wasn't suitable for fighting. Turns out once he took off his jacket, nothing was holding him back...

Bai Xiaosheng had also said not to go help him. So that was because he didn't need any help...

"I knew this hero-saves-beauty idea was total garbage, dogshit! Shit!" Milo swore involuntarily.

Suddenly catching Lin Weiwei glancing in this direction, Milo felt that just standing there watching made him look as stupid as possible.

He immediately took off at a run, shouting, "Mr. Bai, I'll help you!"

Over on Bai Xiaosheng's side, the fight was almost over.

Those street punks and thugs had never imagined that someone as scholarly and weak-looking as Bai Xiaosheng would be this fierce. The two or three in front weren't prepared at all—by the time his punches and kicks landed, they were already hit. By the time they reacted, the pain had put them on the ground, their fighting ability heavily crippled.

In a fight like this, sometimes it all comes down to momentum.

Bai Xiaosheng charged like a tiger, one against five, and in an instant shattered their psychological defenses. In the end, they all scattered and ran, wishing their parents had given them two extra legs.

As luck would have it, one of them panicked and ran the wrong way—straight at Milo.

Milo spotted what looked like a perfect chance to show off barreling towards him and instantly perked up.

To be honest, Milo loved boxing. His coach said he was already great and could even enter competitions.

Footwork like slides, side steps, rush steps; straight punches, hooks, uppercuts—he had them all down.

Seeing someone charging at him, Milo immediately raised his guard, ready to stand his ground and counter.

The guy who was running away saw someone blocking his path, his eyes went red. He didn't care who it was—whoever was in front was getting a smack.

Seeing a dark object whistling through the air toward his face, Milo froze.

"That's against the rules..."

Milo let out a scream as one swing of the stick took him down.

The guy didn't have time to pay Milo any mind and ran past like the wind.

When Bai Xiaosheng came over and saw Milo sitting on the ground, he hurriedly asked, "Mr. Milo, are you all right?"

Milo bared his teeth in pain.

Fortunately, at the last second he'd instinctively covered his head from that swing. He'd just tripped over his own feet and gone down. He wasn't actually hurt.

But the embarrassment was off the charts.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei coming over, Milo felt like crying but had no tears. After a long moment, he finally squeezed out, "I'm fine."

Not long after, Lei Ying and the two bodyguards also rushed back.

They'd just run into two consecutive groups of people with "bad intentions," so they obviously couldn't stay outside any longer. Everyone immediately headed back the way they came to Milo's company.

On the way, Milo held his arm, looking completely deflated.

"How's your arm?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with concern.

Whatever else, that swing had landed solidly on Milo. It hadn't been for show...

Milo's answer was obviously a bit beside the point. "So it's true—every one of you Huaxia people really does know kung fu!"

There was even a hint of grievance in his tone.

"No way, we don't all know kung fu. How could that be possible." Bai Xiaosheng denied.

The look Milo gave Bai Xiaosheng clearly said—"You're lying to me."

Milo suddenly remembered a video he'd seen online of a black dude saying: Don't ever fight a Huaxia guy. They know kung fu. By the time you realize it, you might already be on the ground. You won't remember how you went down, and you won't know how long you've been out...

Thinking about this damn hero-saves-beauty plan, Milo wanted to smack himself from the bottom of his heart. "I'm such a big idiot!"

Chapter 2546 - Troublesome Situation

Bai Xiaosheng and the other two wandered around outside with Milo for almost forty minutes, and even got into a fight with a bunch of street thugs. As for business, they hadn't discussed a single serious thing.

On the way back, Milo seemed a bit low, you could even say a little depressed. Of course, his mood had absolutely nothing to do with not having negotiated anything; there was some other reason.

They all returned to that company and went to the office building. The trade delegation's inspection wasn't over yet, and the executives of the company were still over there accompanying them. There were hardly any leaders in charge around, only an administrative deputy manager.

The moment that administrative deputy manager saw Mr. Milo, he jumped in fright, hurriedly ran up with a face full of smiles. "Mr. Milo..."

"Take us straight to the VIP lounge. Don't say one extra word to me, I'm in a foul mood. Watch it or I'll have you fired, you hear me!"

Milo opened his mouth already reeking of gunpowder.

The administrative deputy manager jumped in fright and hurriedly nodded again and again.

"I asked if you heard me!" Milo didn't hear a reply for a long time and instantly snapped.

"You just told me not to speak." The administrative deputy manager said aggrievedly.

Bai Xiaosheng quickly smoothed things over with a smile and said to the administrative deputy manager, "Sorry to trouble you, please lead the way."

The administrative deputy manager looked toward Milo. Seeing that Mr. Milo meant the same thing, he didn't dare say more and led the way in front.

After he'd ushered Bai Xiaosheng, Milo and the others into the VIP room and had someone bring in coffee and fruit—only to have Milo wave it away casually—the administrative deputy manager came out and couldn't help letting out a long breath. When he wiped his forehead, it was covered in sweat.

This behind-the-scenes big boss's aura was like that—truly terrifying.

The administrative deputy manager, who had almost had his career cut off for no reason at all, arranged for someone to wait at the door, then took off at a run to find the manager—his direct superior.

He had it all planned out—

Mr. Milo clearly wasn't in a great mood today, not the time to perform in front of him. But he could get his own leader to come over; if the administrative manager failed to serve properly and got kicked out, he himself could smoothly move up. That wouldn't be half bad...

...

With the door closed, Milo and Bai Xiaosheng sat opposite each other resting, sipping coffee.

There was no one else in the room. Bai Xiaosheng had already told Milo that Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were not only his capable assistants but also his absolute confidants, with nothing that needed to be kept from them.

Since Bai Xiaosheng said so, Milo naturally didn't hold back either.

The topic, of course, picked up where it left off. The theme could be summed up in four characters—"bargaining back and forth."

Milo pushed the price very high; Bai Xiaosheng pressed it very low.

The two sides inched toward the middle, probing for each other's bottom line.

An hour or two of back-and-forth, nothing but a war of words, but the price gap between the two sides had indeed narrowed quite a bit.

Of course, expecting a result today was impossible.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying listened quietly from the side and did not interject.

Most of the time Milo behaved like a playboy, a cynical rake, but once he stepped into the business negotiation phase, once he got into the zone, it was like he became a different person.

Quick-thinking, silver-tongued, constantly digging pits and laying traps for his opponent in the negotiations, then turning over his cards at some unpredictable moment.

This version of Milo left Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying deeply shocked.

This smoke-free business battlefield, with its hidden killing intent, was in no way inferior to bloody hand-to-hand combat.

It wasn't that Lin Weiwei and the others had never participated in similar business negotiations; they'd been in plenty, seen plenty. Precisely because of that, they could all the more sense how terrifying Milo was in this area.

His previous absurd antics now served as the perfect cover for who he was at this moment, leaving the two of them unable to wrap their heads around it for a long time.

It was only because this was Bai Xiaosheng. If it were someone else, they probably would've been left for dead by Milo here.

Facing Milo, Bai Xiaosheng remained unhurried, relaxed in expression. His extraordinary memory was on full display, not only perfectly avoiding all the traps Milo set, but also digging pits for the other side in passing.

The two of them kept digging pits for each other while exploring the possibility of cooperation.

By the end of the talk, they were both tired.

Negotiating like this is exhausting on the brain, after all.

"Mr. Milo, I think we should call it a day. The results from this first round of talks are already pleasing enough; I need to go back and discuss them with everyone." Bai Xiaosheng took a sip of coffee to moisten his throat and suggested.

"Stop at this point? That's equivalent to acknowledging this current point, but I'm the one at a loss here."

Milo was a bit unwilling.

Bai Xiaosheng gave a slow smile, set down his coffee cup, and said, "Look, we came to your place for an inspection today and actually ran into two groups of bandits outside. How should I put it? If we go to the Karan royal family and say the investment environment is poor, that will definitely draw great attention. I imagine the Karan royal family will conduct a thorough and detailed investigation into this incident and will be sure to give our trade delegation a proper explanation. And the incident took place right next to your company. Mr. Milo, do you think that might bring just a teeny tiny bit of negative impact to your company?"

What Bai Xiaosheng said was very euphemistic.

But for people of their level of IQ and EQ, this was self-evident; spelling it out too clearly would actually be bad.

"Well..."

Milo immediately fell silent for a moment, then said to Bai Xiaosheng with a very sincere face, "I think the current point is just right. I fully agree. Next time we'll pick up from here and keep talking."

Milo chickened out in an instant.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying couldn't help exchanging a look. They kept feeling like this guy in front of them and the one from just now were not the same person at all.

Chapter 2547 - Troubled Situation (Part 2)

At this moment, there came a clamor from outside the door.

By the sound of it, the people who went on the investigation have returned.

Following this, a knocking sound was heard. After receiving Milo's response, someone pushed the door and peeked in, it was the administrative supervisor of the company.

Upon seeing Milo, the administrative supervisor's face broke into a smile, "Mr. Milo, the investigation has concluded, all the guests have returned."

"Understood." Milo nodded and then glanced at the administrative supervisor, casually curious, "Why are you here to notify?"

The administrative supervisor quickly replied with a smile, "I just found out you've returned, so I rushed over and stood outside, not daring to disturb. When I saw all the guests arrive, I reported to you."

Milo nodded and casually said, "Alright, you've done well. Take everyone to the large meeting room, we'll be there shortly."

"Yes." The administrative supervisor respectfully nodded and withdrew.

Beside him stood the deputy administrative supervisor.

Previously, the deputy supervisor had informed him that Mr. Milo had returned, so he hurried over. However, halfway there, a trusted aide told him that Mr. Milo wasn't very pleased.

This administrative supervisor was exceedingly clever, not daring to face the annoyance, thus waiting outside until all the guests returned to report.

This way, Mr. Milo wouldn't be angry with him, and would appreciate his diligence for staying outside.

Sure enough.

"Go, take the guests to the large meeting room. You arrange the refreshments." The administrative supervisor glanced at his assistant and instructed.

The deputy supervisor nodded quickly and departed.

Watching the back of his assistant, the administrative supervisor's gaze darkened, "Hmph, this troublemaker! Later, I'll settle accounts with you!"

...

Half an hour later, Bai Xiaosheng and Milo arrived at the large meeting room.

Inside, there was a lively exchange happening, discussing collaboration.

Knowing no agreements were going to be signed today, Bai Xiaosheng felt relaxed.

Milo pushed the door open, inviting Bai Xiaosheng to enter with him.

Upon seeing the two arrive, the company's people immediately stood up, while the business group's individuals cheerfully greeted them.

Once Bai Xiaosheng and Milo entered and took their seats, they both maintained a calm demeanor, observing the discussion and exchange among the group.

When the timing seemed right, Bai Xiaosheng took advantage of a gap and bid farewell to Milo on behalf of everyone.

Milo continuously invited them to stay.

After a round of superficial niceties, Bai Xiaosheng led the Huaxia Business Group away.

Milo escorted them all the way to the entrance, watched their convoy disappear, and then yawned, stretching and returning to the company.

On the way back, Bai Xiaosheng gathered everyone and briefly explained the situation.

Ultimately, this matter concerned everyone, and they had to be informed to gather their opinions.

Listening to Bai Xiaosheng, who mentioned that Milo was elected as the representative by the Karan business community, wanting only collective collaborations and not accepting individual contracts, everyone was astounded.

"There's actually such a thing!"

"No wonder not a single deal was signed today. I was puzzled!"

"Karan business community really has some approaches to play!"

"How could we agree to this?"

"Indeed, this violates free trade principles!"

The crowd expressed their dissatisfaction furiously.

Once everyone quieted down, Bai Xiaosheng spoke, "I understand everyone's feelings. Who would want to be forced into a business collaboration in ways we don't desire?"

"But don't forget, since we've come out, we represent not only ourselves, but we also bear a mission and responsibility."

"If the Karan trip doesn't result in any collaboration, it will primarily affect relations between nations. As patriotic businessmen here, would you wish to see this?"

"Secondly, if the Karan trip ends with nothing, Milo and his team can easily spin it as our group being arrogant, unwilling to collaborate with smaller countries, which will severely harm our image."

"Additionally..."

Bai Xiaosheng raised several points about the "harm" of not collaborating.

Everyone heard and tasted these words, realizing there was some truth.

Initially, several businessmen proposed reporting to higher-ups, asking Hou Yuncheng to help apply pressure.

But doing so would actually solidify the "fact" that they bully the weak.

The trouble with this matter is that the group came under the Huaxia Business Group name, requiring comprehensive consideration in all aspects.

"Otherwise, if we abandon collaboration with those enterprises entirely, and instead partner with other enterprises within Karan, wouldn't that work?" Dong Tianlu suddenly suggested.

Everyone couldn't help but look at her.

As a businesswoman beauty, Dong Tianlu's approach was certainly "ruthless."

If they threaten us, we abandon them entirely and find other partnerships, isn't it the same?

This proposal led to muted conversations among the crowd.

"I've thought about this." Bai Xiaosheng spoke, "But it's essentially impossible."

"Why is that?" Dong Tianlu immediately asked.

"Because the enterprises we've investigated are the ones joining forces for a collective collaboration, occupying almost all major corporations in Karan's business community. To break this situation, we'd have to collaborate with small enterprises outside them. Would you be willing? That would harm our enterprises' reputations."

What Bai Xiaosheng said, everyone understood.

For example, if a Fortune 500 company cooperates with a village enterprise, it would certainly be newsworthy and even be a topic of industrial jokes or ridicule.

"Moreover, even if we don't mind, those small enterprises have to dare to do it." Bai Xiaosheng added.

Faced with local major corporations and group alliances, which small company would dare to steal business? Earning or losing on a deal doesn't matter, but survival in the future does.

Suddenly, Dong Tianlu fell silent.

"Or else, we collaborate with them, as long as their conditions aren't too outrageous, it's negotiable." Lu Tiandao spoke up.

In business, it's not about vengefulness but about seeking possibilities.

Even if it's collective collaboration, as long as the ultimate profit distribution is favorable, it should be negotiable.

Upon hearing this, everyone felt this could be acceptable.

"I exchanged with Milo for several hours, mutually probing the bottom lines. I estimate they want to increase the price overall by ten to twelve percent, which means..."

Bai Xiaosheng shared his speculation with everyone.

In reality, this was calculated by Red Lotus based on Milo's counter-offer, highly likely accurate.

"How could this be acceptable? Even if reduced by half, I'd still find it high!"

This time, Lu Tiandao was the first to voice his disagreement.

Lu Tiandao's words echoed Bai Xiaosheng's planned bottom line, but unfortunately, Milo's side was unwilling.

The matter had seemingly reached an impasse, unable to negotiate but unable to adhere to their conditions, while their terms were unsatisfactory, indeed a frustrating situation.

Everyone again proposed their solutions, whether soft, hard, or both, but felt none were satisfactory, as they all had some negative consequences, more or less.

At this time, Bai Xiaosheng's phone rang. Glancing at the caller's name, his expression was intrigued as he greeted everyone and walked towards a secluded spot at the rear of the car for an easier conversation.

"Hello, Miss Yang?"

In a relatively quiet spot, Bai Xiaosheng restrained his voice and said.

The caller was none other than Yang Yishan of the Yang Corporation.

Calling at such a time indeed made Bai Xiaosheng somewhat curious.

Faintly, Bai Xiaosheng sensed a premonition.

On the other end, Yang Yishan greeted Bai Xiaosheng and then directly said, "Mr. Bai, are you facing difficulties? The Karan business community is united, presenting you with a challenge, isn't it?"

Upon hearing this, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't resist raising an eyebrow, intrigued, "Miss Yang, you are well-informed, don't know when you found out."

"Mr. Bai, you flatter me. I only found out recently, a friend revealed some information. Upon learning you faced challenges, our Yang Family is deeply concerned."

"Thank you, then." Bai Xiaosheng said.

Yang Yishan sincerely said, "We do have a way to help, would Mr. Bai be willing to hear?"

Chapter 2548 - No Free Lunch

The call Yang Yishan made to Bai Xiaosheng definitely doesn't just represent her alone; it must be with the intent of the Yang Family behind it.

After all, when it comes to business matters, it immediately involves real silver or gold. Even if it's just utilizing connections, the cost is real and tangible benefits.

The predicament Bai Xiaosheng and the others currently face is not simple, and resolving it will require immense effort.

Clearly, to solve such a big issue and spend so much, Yang Yishan alone cannot be making the decision on behalf of the Yang Family.

So, who directed her to make this call? Was it Yang Xiaoyun or Yang Junluo?

If they directed it, why didn't they personally call to win favor? Wouldn't it be better received as a goodwill from the Yang Family if they did it themselves?

Bai Xiaosheng is skilled in psychological analysis; he listened carefully and judged the meaning behind Yang Yishan's words but didn't detect anything unusual.

Perhaps, the Yang Family genuinely wants to help this time, maybe to strengthen their relationship and eliminate the influence of past misunderstandings and conflicts.

Or perhaps, Yang Yishan is unaware of other elements involved.

Bai Xiaosheng is not a conspiracy theorist; he doesn't want to always think of others as malicious.

And since Bai Xiaosheng mainly excels at analyzing micro-expressions, it's crucial to observe face-to-face. Just judging by tone over the phone can lead to inaccuracies.

"Then I will first thank Miss Yang and the Yang Family. I would like to hear your solution," Bai Xiaosheng said over the phone.

Right now, the most pressing issue is resolving the predicaments faced by the business group. Other things need not be overthought; dealing with issues when they arise isn't too late.

"Should I discuss it right over the phone?" Yang Yishan paused and said, "Or should I come and find you, and we can chat slowly face-to-face."

Bai Xiaosheng thought about it and indeed, such a big matter cannot be clearly explained with just a few words over the phone.

"If Miss Yang is free tonight, I would invite you for tea." Bai Xiaosheng checked the time and roughly calculated the arrival to their accommodation and replied.

Their return time will be a bit late, so dinner together might not be feasible, but they could definitely enjoy some tea.

"Okay." Yang Yishan agreed readily.

Bai Xiaosheng confirmed the appointment with her and then hung up the phone.

Within the bus, the debate continued. Everyone had compiled several response plans, but none were perfectly satisfactory, not every individual felt satisfied.

In fact, if Milo's side doesn't relent, there won't be any perfectly satisfactory solution. Everyone is striving to find a solution that brings the least harm to their side.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't tell everyone present about the matter with the Yang Family. After all, Yang Yishan just mentioned it, and Bai Xiaosheng doesn't yet know the actual situation; prematurely disclosing it would not be appropriate.

"Everyone should return to their seats and rest for now. This journey is long, and everyone is tired from the day, so take a rest. If you have the energy, you can think it over; this matter is not urgent for now," Bai Xiaosheng suggested.

Everyone nodded in agreement with Bai Xiaosheng's suggestion and returned to their seats.

Bai Xiaosheng also returned to his seat, closed his eyes, and reflected.

The rest of the journey was calm and uneventful.

The convoy arrived back at their accommodations late at night.

After getting off the bus, everyone headed to the restaurant for a simple meal and then went back to rest.

After returning, Bai Xiaosheng instructed Lin Weiwei to prepare tea and dried fruits, and then patiently waited for Yang Yishan to visit.

The scheduled time was near now, so it shouldn't be long.

Upon discovering how quickly the Yang Family learned of the news and acted, both Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying found the situation intriguing.

"I wonder if the Yang Family and Karan's business world is up to something again. Are they sincerely trying to help, or do they have ulterior motives?" Lin Weiwei said defensively. "The Yang Family isn't exactly innocent when it comes to smooth-talking while stabbing in the back, Xiaosheng, we must stay vigilant!"

Ever since last time, Lin Weiwei never liked how Yang Yishan looked at Bai Xiaosheng, and she hated the Yang Family's past deeds. That's why she spoke this way.

"I actually think the Yang Family won't act against us. Even if they hold grudges for being forced to bow to us, they won't retaliate or seek revenge so soon, especially after signing the contract with our side. While the troubles we face are pressing, they aren't crises—they'd be foolish to kick us when we're down," Lei Ying shook his head, disagreeing.

"Hmph, how can you be so sure? Having no sense of vigilance at all! Am I wrong to suggest caution?" Lin Weiwei retorted coldly to Lei Ying.

Lei Ying shrugged, mumbling, "Just being objective, I'm just being objective."

"Then you might be suspected of colluding with the enemy!" Lin Weiwei glared at him, a heavy charge thrown his way.

Lei Ying immediately shut his mouth.

As a married man, he knew that sometimes reasoning with women is futile...

Especially when they strongly believe they are right...

"Alright, alright, stop arguing. I'll be mindful of these matters," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, mediating, "You both are tired today, go rest early. I'll talk with Yang Yishan alone later."

This statement made Lin Weiwei furrow her brow, "Are you two talking alone, behind closed doors?"

In Lin Weiwei's view, a single man and a woman alone together behind closed doors in the deep night seemed rather sketchy!

Chapter 2549 - No Such Thing as a Free Lunch (Part 2)

After saying this, Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback, "Are we really going to discuss such secret matters with the door open?"

Lin Weiwei let out a "hmph," didn't say anything, and got up to leave.

"Hey, where are you going?" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but ask.

"Going back to sleep!" Lin Weiwei replied coldly without turning her head.

Bai Xiaosheng watched her slam the door, feeling a bit bewildered, and glanced at Lei Ying.

Lei Ying shrugged and got up, muttering, "Then I'll go back to sleep too. You wait for Miss Yang by yourself."

Bai Xiaosheng watched Lei Ying leave, poured himself a cup of tea, held it alone, and murmured to himself, "Late at night, do you think I want to meet guests and not sleep early? Yang Yishan is indeed good-looking, but I'm not Milo, am I someone who gets tempted by beauty easily..."

...

Bai Xiaosheng waited for about fifteen minutes before hearing someone knock on the door. He got up to answer it, finding Yang Yishan standing outside alone.

Today, Yang Yishan was dressed in a pink outfit that accentuated her fair skin and slender figure.

Looking at her face, Yang Yishan had applied light makeup. Her skin was fair and delicate, and her lips were rosy and charming.

"Good evening, Mr. Bai." Yang Yishan smiled sweetly at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Good evening, Miss Yang, please come in." Bai Xiaosheng stepped aside and made an inviting gesture.

Yang Yishan entered the suite, glanced around, and nodded, "This place is nice."

"Come, have a seat. I've just brewed some tea I brought with me, it's quite good." Bai Xiaosheng said.

These words were humble; Bai Xiaosheng's tea was all gifted by prestigious families, and even the cheapest cost tens of thousands per ounce.

"It smells lovely, Taiping Houkui?" Yang Yishan speculated.

Bai Xiaosheng was instantly surprised, "Miss Yang knows about tea?"

"I like drinking tea." Yang Yishan smiled.

"Please, have a taste." Bai Xiaosheng made another inviting gesture.

In a few words, they found a common topic, and the atmosphere became extremely friendly.

The two sat on the sofa, enjoying tea and chatting about it.

A few minutes later, Bai Xiaosheng naturally shifted to the main topic, "Miss Yang, your Yang family's information is quite timely this time, knowing we've encountered trouble."

Yang Yishan put down her teacup and laughed, "Actually, it's not the Yang family's information that's timely, but mine. I have a friend in the business world who told me the news. I discussed it with my family as soon as I heard, got their support, and that's why I wanted to meet and communicate with Mr. Bai."

Upon hearing this, Bai Xiaosheng's eyes sparkled with curiosity, "May I know who this friend is, Miss Yang, is it convenient for you to tell?"

Yang Yishan hesitated for a moment, showing a hint of difficulty on her face, "Mr. Bai, you know that such information involves a huge risk for her telling me. It's not that I don't trust you, but I promised her I would keep it confidential, I hope you understand."

Bai Xiaosheng immediately nodded, smiling, "If it's inconvenient, then naturally it shouldn't be disclosed. But for your friend to know such important matters, her status must be high, being able to be friends with Miss Yang, she must not be an ordinary person. I think she might be quite interested in Miss Yang."

Yang Yishan quickly responded, "We're good sisters, not romantic relationships."

This statement made Bai Xiaosheng's gaze meaningful.

He had mentioned that those who knew about the matter must be extraordinary, which narrowed down the scope. Adding that it was a friend of Yang Yishan, an age guideline emerged, and knowing the gender further simplified guessing her identity.

Having visited so many companies today, Bai Xiaosheng thought of one unusual young woman—Miss Lisa.

Yang Yishan was no fool. Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's expression, she realized she might have been led into a trap and felt somewhat "upset."

However, given the environment in her family, she found Bai Xiaosheng's cunning behavior rather admirable.

As a result, Bai Xiaosheng's image in Yang Yishan's eyes became increasingly "better."

It was indeed "one thing overcomes another, brine curdles tofu."

"Sorry, Miss Yang, I seem to have asked too many questions." Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Yang Yishan merely glanced at him with a hint of feigned annoyance.

The atmosphere shifted slightly with that glance.

Bai Xiaosheng noticed and quickly returned to the main topic to avoid awkwardness, "I wonder what kind of authorization the Yang Family has given Miss Yang? How do you plan to help us face this situation?"

This was the key point, and it was what Bai Xiaosheng was most concerned about.

In fact, on the bus ride back, although Bai Xiaosheng appeared to be resting with his eyes closed, he was actually thinking about this matter over and over again.

Considering the addition of the Yang Family as a variable, and thinking through the connections and resources of the Yang Family, Bai Xiaosheng could roughly guess what measures they might propose.

However, in this matter, if they were to help resolve it, the Yang Family would risk offending the Karan business community, making enemies, and facing significant losses, especially since they were planning to establish a new factory there.

Even if the Yang Family lost all their business in Karan, it wouldn't be a fatal blow, but they would want to gain something from Bai Xiaosheng's side for such a large sacrifice.

Bai Xiaosheng wanted to hear how the Yang Family planned to act, and what they wanted to gain.

Yang Yishan took a deep breath, exhaled slowly, composed himself, and said, "In fact, both my father and grandfather are aware of this matter, and they are very concerned. They wanted to contact you, but I stopped them. Since I am coming to discuss this, there is no need for them to call, which would seem repetitive and verbose."

In truth, it would seem overly enthusiastic, making the Yang Family lose face with Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded immediately.

"My father instructed me that the family will fully support our new allies, and my grandfather, as your old friend, naturally cannot sit by and do nothing," Yang Yishan said with a smile.

Bai Xiaosheng listened, taking the words at face value, unsure of their truth.

"In this matter, the Karan business community wants to advance and retreat together, using the impact of not signing contracts to force you to accept their conditions. The risks and damages of zero-signing are many, and I think Mr. Bai, you are well aware of them."

"However, signing the contract would mean accepting a large number of collaborations at a very unfavorable price. The losses are secondary, but it would also bring a lot of negative impact, which is hard to accept."

It appeared that Yang Yishan and the Yang Family had analyzed the situation thoroughly.

Bai Xiaosheng listened without changing his expression.

"Therefore, we thought, since we are going to start construction here, why not build several factories and expand the scale? Then you can collaborate with our Yang Family here, completely abandoning them. This way, you are also making an investment and engaging in exchanges in Karan."

Yang Yishan finally revealed the Yang Family's plan.

It happened to coincide with one of the scenarios Bai Xiaosheng had speculated.

It's the simplest, most direct, most straightforward, yet most effective plan.

"This is indeed a good plan," Bai Xiaosheng said meaningfully.

Bai Xiaosheng also had a hidden message.

In this world, there's no such thing as a free lunch, and in the business world, no help comes without strings attached.

The Yang Family wanted to use this conflict between Bai Xiaosheng's group and the Karan business world as an opportunity for them to spend money and expand their business.

Of course, the Yang Family would know that they couldn't expect Bai Xiaosheng's group to cover all the costs of expanding and building factories; they couldn't go too far.

After all, if collaborating with the Yang Family turned out to be no better than working with the Karan business community, why would Bai Xiaosheng's group agree?

In that case, this 'help' would be pointless.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's expression, Yang Yishan realized there was a misunderstanding and promptly said, "Mr. Bai, you've misunderstood our intentions. First of all, regarding the investment for the factories, our Yang Family will bear the expansion costs ourselves. As for the normal commercial cooperation between your side and ours, there won't be any biases, not a single extra penny. "

This statement made Bai Xiaosheng look at Yang Yishan with surprise.

"Moreover, you can use the cooperation with our Yang Family as leverage to bargain with the Karan business community. If it's suitable, you can still cooperate with them. I think the Karan business community cannot afford a zero-signing situation either," Yang Yishan said in one breath, finishing his piece.

The Yang Family was willing to be used as a bargaining chip by the Huaxia Business Group this time?

This completely surprised Bai Xiaosheng.

"Miss Yang, if the Yang Family needs us to do anything, just let us know," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, "We are all business people, and we know there's no such thing as a free lunch in this world."

Hearing this, Yang Yishan smiled slightly, "Our reward has already been obtained."

"Another batch of Huaxia orders?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"No," Yang Yishan replied with a charming smile, "We have gained your goodwill, Bai Xiaosheng."

Chapter 2550 - The Solution

Yang Yishan came this time to present the Yang Family's position on the matter. This time, the Yang Family actually wants to proactively provide assistance to help Bai Xiaosheng and his team resolve the current predicament, asking for nothing in return, only to enhance the "friendship" with Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng was also quite surprised when he first heard this.

In his understanding, the nature of Yang Xiaoyun and Yang Junluo, father and son, are not the sort who would "offer favors without expecting anything in return."

This time, they're so generous?

Bai Xiaosheng playfully teased himself a bit in his mind before he spoke to Yang Yishan to "correct" a few things.

"Miss Yang, don't joke around, of what virtue and ability am I, Bai Xiaosheng, to deserve such treatment from the Yang Family!" Bai Xiaosheng smiled and said, "However, in this matter, the Yang Family's willingness to lend a helping hand is indeed something we are exceedingly grateful for. And we certainly won't let the Yang Family incur any major expenses or losses while helping us. Moreover, we will ensure that the Yang Family's goodwill receives its due return."

Bai Xiaosheng was emphasizing two things to Yang Yishan.

One is that the Yang Family is not helping him personally, but the entire business group.

Secondly, the Yang Family's assistance will not go unreciprocated.

It's better to clarify things first so both parties can establish a good foundation for collaboration, enabling more cooperation in the future.

The current predicament, admittedly, is not that big, not dire, and is faced by everyone in the business group.

Bai Xiaosheng does not need to bear the problem alone and owe personal favors to the Yang Family.

After all, intangible favors are always harder to repay than priced contributions.

"Mr. Bai! Why are you being so distant? If not for your presence, our Yang Family would not have stepped into these troubled waters!" Yang Yishan continued to stress Bai Xiaosheng's influence on their Yang Family's decision.

Arguing verbally with a girl like Yang Yishan over whether one should accept a favor is a foolish act.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and did not argue with her, saying, "Alright, I will persuade the other members of the business group, during their next stage of cooperation with the Yang Family, to offer some concessions to appreciate your proactive assistance this time. Consider these concession funds as our

little support for your investment in establishing a factory in Karan, hoping for expanded cooperation and mutual benefit in the future."

Bai Xiaosheng believed that this proposal of concessions would be accepted by everyone.

At least based on some information he gathered yesterday, this judgment was supported.

Yang Yishan initially wanted to say more, but Bai Xiaosheng smiled and gestured, "Miss Yang, don't refuse any longer; this is what the Yang Family deserves."

With the conversation coming to this point, Yang Yishan could only nod.

"Then I'll report back truthfully to my father and grandfather." Yang Yishan said.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded with a smile, "Good."

By this point, the conversation had sounded out pale enough, so Yang Yishan intended to leave.

The Yang Family might be waiting for news from this side.

"Miss Yang, I'll escort you." Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile when he saw this.

Yang Yishan beamed a smile, gathered her belongings, and stood up.

Bai Xiaosheng got up to see her off.

The two left the living room and reached the door, exchanging a few casual words. When the door opened, Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback to find Lin Weiwei standing outside, holding something in her hands—a fruit platter?

"Mr. Bai, I've come to see if you need anything else?" Lin Weiwei blinked her large eyes earnestly.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng eye the fruit platter in her hands, she quickly said, "Do you need a fruit platter?"

Bringing food now seemed a little late.

Bai Xiaosheng could only smile and say, "No need, I just finished talking with Miss Yang."

Upon hearing this, Lin Weiwei's gaze immediately passed over Bai Xiaosheng to look at Yang Yishan, smiling warmly, "Miss Yang, I was just thinking of bringing you something to eat, why are you leaving already."

Yang Yishan gave a slight smile, "Indeed, we've discussed what needs to be discussed, and it's not early, I should be heading back."

"Then I'll escort you," Lin Weiwei said instantly, handing the fruit platter to Bai Xiaosheng, eagerly heading towards Yang Yishan.

Bai Xiaosheng gave Lin Weiwei a slightly intrigued look.

This girl, she hadn't been very welcoming to them before, yet now she appeared so enthusiastic...

Women truly are adept at concealing, naturally skilled at controlling their emotions...

Bai Xiaosheng mused inwardly.

And so, Lin Weiwei "escorted" Yang Yishan to the elevator, while Bai Xiaosheng stopped at the door, simply waving goodbye.

After the two women walked away, Bai Xiaosheng glanced down at the fruit platter in his hand, his gaze uncertain.

He held the platter in one hand and picked up a thinly sliced apple slice with the other, mumbling, "Why is it sliced so thin?"

Bai Xiaosheng casually popped the apple slice into his mouth, nodding quietly, then turned back to the room.

Not long after, Lin Weiwei returned "to report," claiming she successfully saw off Yang Yishan.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't fathom why the word "successfully" was used here.

"Where's my fruit platter?" Lin Weiwei casually asked.

"Here," Bai Xiaosheng handed her the platter.

Lin Weiwei looked at the empty platter and was momentarily bewildered, taking it and checking inside, "Where's the stuff that was in here?"

"I ate it." Bai Xiaosheng found the question odd.

A fruit platter, isn't it meant to be eaten?

And Bai Xiaosheng smoothly asked, "Why did you slice the apples so thinly, shouldn't they be cut into chunks?"

"You ate it all?" Lin Weiwei furrowed her brows, annoyed, "That was for my face mask! You really cleaned it up!"

Face mask...

Bai Xiaosheng was speechless, mumbling, "Didn't you deliver it as a fruit platter?"