

Two Trillion 2561

Chapter 2561 - One After Another

Near noon, Bai Xiaosheng's plane landed at the international airport in Oklandt City of Oshan Chieftaincy.

After disembarking, another enthusiastic welcome ceremony awaited Bai Xiaosheng and his group.

The person in charge of the reception on the Oshan side was the head of the business department, reportedly the son of the country's chief chieftain. He was a dignified middle-aged man, whose every word and deed were precise and methodical.

With the experience of independently leading a group in Karan last time, Bai Xiaosheng appeared even more "skilled" this time.

Following the welcome ceremony, the Huaxia Business Group was taken to the international hotel where they were staying and received a grand welcome luncheon.

After all the welcoming events were over, it was already three o'clock in the afternoon, and Bai Xiaosheng was finally able to return to his room.

Once he closed the door and was left alone, Bai Xiaosheng immediately found the bed, collapsing on it without wanting to move at all.

However, there was still a cocktail party waiting for him in the evening, with some big figures from Oshan's business circles attending to meet him.

"From now on, I must never take on this kind of responsibility; I'd better just stick to being a businessman," Bai Xiaosheng looked at the ceiling, smiling wryly.

Fortunately, during the hours in the afternoon when there was nothing else scheduled, their business group could take a break.

"After this trip to Oshan, the African journey is pretty much coming to an end. I can finally pack up and head back to Huaxia. I need to take a good two-month rest at home!" Bai Xiaosheng silently vowed.

Upon returning, he intended to do absolutely nothing, just stay put.

Although that wasn't realistic, it was always good to have dreams—what if they come true...?

With wonderful "dreams" in his heart, Bai Xiaosheng soon boldly fell asleep.

After all, he was too tired, and the bed was very comfortable.

Bai Xiaosheng had just entered a sweet dream when a knock on the door "woke" him up.

Bai Xiaosheng sat up abruptly, blinking groggily and staring dumbfoundedly at the doorway, finally confirming that this wasn't a nightmare but a real knock at his door.

Earlier, Bai Xiaosheng had instructed Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying not to disturb him unless the sky was falling.

"Could something big have happened..."

Bai Xiaosheng thought, given that they had just arrived, there couldn't possibly be any outsiders. If it was Lin Weiwei or Lei Ying, then it must be something important. He dared not delay, hurriedly got up, straightened his clothes, and rushed to open the door.

Upon opening the door, Bai Xiaosheng was stunned.

Standing at the door was not Lin Weiwei, nor Lei Ying, but an elderly man with a big smile.

An Asian face, slightly balding, dressed in a formal suit, accompanied by two others, each holding a tall pile of items.

"You are..." Bai Xiaosheng found the man familiar, images flashing through his mind, like a quick "filter."

He remembered!

Just as Bai Xiaosheng realized who it was, the old man introduced himself with a smile, "Mr. Bai, you may not remember me; I am a steward from Mr. Yang Junluo's household."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled at once, nodding, "I remember now, your surname is Zhang, right?"

Those words made the man's smile even broader, with a hint of seemingly real or feigned "flattery."

"Oh my, you still remember such a small person like me; it's truly my honor." Steward Zhang beamed with a smile.

"Sir, come in and talk." Bai Xiaosheng amiably stepped aside, inviting them in.

"No, no, please don't be so polite. I am merely here on behalf of our family head to deliver some items, certainly not to disturb your rest." Steward Zhang hastily waved with a smile.

Heh, your knock already interrupted my rest...

Bai Xiaosheng silently remarked to himself, but kept smiling, "It's no bother, come in and talk."

Steward Zhang was tactful and didn't refuse too much, taking a step inside but stopping at the doorway.

Bai Xiaosheng initially intended to lead him to the sofa but halted seeing him stop.

"It's like this, Mr. Bai, Old Mr. Yang has been following our business group's news and was extremely pleased to know of your arrival. He will also attend the Oshan business department's banquet this evening. Out of regard for you, Old Mr. Yang has prepared a humble gift, hoping you will accept it."

Steward Zhang spoke with a smile, gesturing for someone to show the items to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng understood then that it was Yang Junluo sending someone to deliver his "concern."

The elder's enthusiasm made Bai Xiaosheng feel a bit embarrassed.

"Old Mr. Yang is truly considerate," Bai Xiaosheng politely remarked.

The others who came with Steward Zhang displayed the brought items one by one for Bai Xiaosheng.

A fine set of tea utensils, a can of premium tea leaves, a set of rare material Go stones...

The items sent by the Yang family appeared ordinary at first glance but were actually priceless to the knowledgeable, and the gifts didn't seem too vulgar.

"I should visit Old Mr. Yang; how can I accept gifts from him? I really don't dare to accept them, this isn't proper." Bai Xiaosheng interrupted the steward from continuing to list the gifts.

"Our Old Master Yang has said it's a gesture from the Yang family. If you don't accept it, it's as if you're looking down on us." Steward Zhang chuckled politely.

Hearing that, Bai Xiaosheng really had nothing to say.

After the items were brought in, Steward Zhang took his leave, firmly refusing to let Bai Xiaosheng see him out.

"You rest; you will naturally see our Mr. Yang Junluo in the evening." Steward Zhang cordially remarked before closing the door behind Bai Xiaosheng.

Though Bai Xiaosheng wished to see them off, he had to abandon the idea, looking at those items, unable to help but smile wryly.

"Well, since I've received them, I've received them." Bai Xiaosheng let out a massive yawn, walking towards the bed, and collapsed again, "I'll nap a bit more."

Bai Xiaosheng hadn't closed his eyes for more than half an hour when there was another knock at his door.

Bai Xiaosheng sat up once more, suspiciously looking towards the outside.

"Are they back again? Could there be something left unsaid?" Bai Xiaosheng grumbled reluctantly, got up, tidied his clothes, and went to open the door.

This time, upon opening the door, Bai Xiaosheng was indeed bewildered.

Standing outside was a graceful middle-aged woman, a Caucasian, accompanied by two bodyguards, each holding items.

"Who are you?" Bai Xiaosheng had absolutely no impression of them.

Since it was his first time meeting these people.

"Are you Mr. Bai Xiaosheng?" the middle-aged woman smiled and asked.

"Yes, I am." Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

"Then no mistake. Bring the items in." The middle-aged woman immediately turned and instructed her entourage.

Bai Xiaosheng quickly stopped her, earnestly saying, "Madam, I don't seem to know you."

The woman smiled slightly, "You are Mr. Bai Xiaosheng of the Huaxia Business Group, then no mistake. We were sent by Mr. Milo."

Milo?

Bai Xiaosheng was stunned.

He actually sent people over, what kind of act is this?

"Mr. Milo asked us to bring you a gift." The middle-aged woman said with a smile, turning to take a small box from one of her subordinates and handing it to Bai Xiaosheng.

When Bai Xiaosheng took the item, the woman pushed her way inside.

To avoid physical contact, Bai Xiaosheng had no choice but to step back.

And so, those people entered and placed the gift aside.

"Aren't you going to see what Mr. Milo has sent you?" The middle-aged woman noticed the displeasure on Bai Xiaosheng's face and cheerfully reminded him.

Bai Xiaosheng had no choice but to open the box in his hand, and inside was a small jade carving of a dog meant for children to play with, about the size of a walnut, intricately carved and quite captivating.

"Worth a thousand US dollars," the middle-aged woman smiled and said, "handpicked for you by Mr. Milo himself."

"Oh, please thank him for me." Bai Xiaosheng forced a smile, then seriously pointed at the pile of items, "One piece is sufficient; the rest isn't necessary. Please take them back, as we have rules against accepting gifts."

The middle-aged woman immediately grinned, "Understood, understood."

Though she said understood, she didn't instruct her subordinates to take the items back.

Bai Xiaosheng was puzzled, and just then, the middle-aged woman spoke, "Those aren't yours; they're for you to deliver to Miss Lin Weiwei. Likewise, those are carefully chosen by Mr. Milo!"

With that, the middle-aged woman winked at Bai Xiaosheng, emphasizing, "Filled with sincere intention!"

Chapter 2562 - Such Good Intentions

After listening to the speech of the middle-aged white woman who came with the gifts, Bai Xiaosheng felt a sense of suffocation, purely speechless from Milo.

Turns out, Milo's ulterior motive wasn't in the gift itself, giving me a gift was just a "by the way" thing, and ninety-nine percent of this pile was meant for Lin Weiwei. Maybe he was afraid Lin Weiwei wouldn't accept it, which is why he brought it to me.

This guy is still relentless, he hasn't learned any lessons from that previous "hero saving the beauty" farce!

Bai Xiaosheng somewhat regretted not clarifying things with him and explaining everything earlier.

"Since Mr. Milo wants to give a gift, why not give it directly to the person involved? What does leaving it with me mean? You should take these away."

Bai Xiaosheng certainly refused to be a "transit station," wanting the other party to take back the items.

If Milo sends them to Lin Weiwei, it's likely Lin Weiwei will kick out both the items and the person.

The white woman immediately smiled, saying to Bai Xiaosheng, "Mr. Milo said he's friends with you. So we thought, helping a friend with such a small favor shouldn't be a big deal, right? You are the leader of the Huaxia Business Group, surely you wouldn't deny such a trivial help, would you? Or is it... you think you can't handle it? If you really can't, just leave the items here, and later I'll ask Mr. Milo to speak with Miss Weiwei on the phone, and let her come to pick them up herself."

This woman is truly eloquent, clearly trying to corner Bai Xiaosheng with her words.

Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't be rendered speechless with a few words, and immediately looked at the other party, smiling, "You want to leave the items here? That's fine. I will indeed hand them over to Miss Weiwei."

Is this a yes? The white woman immediately showed a pleased expression.

"However, I will tell Miss Weiwei these are 'my' gifts to her, to thank her for her recent hard work and dedication," Bai Xiaosheng said seriously, "I won't mention your Mr. Milo."

The white woman paused, looking at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief, frowning and asked, "Wha...what? How can you do that!"

"Why not?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a calm smile.

"You are Mr. Milo's friend!" the woman frowningly exclaimed.

"Even friends can be bad influences, the kind who can pull off any ridiculous trick," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"You are the business group's leader!"

The other party emphasized Bai Xiaosheng's identity, trying to keep him from doing something unbecoming.

"You know I'm the leader? Then by rules, I can't keep these items, so please take them away!" Bai Xiaosheng made a "please" gesture and continued, "If you don't want to, then I have the right to deal with them as I see fit, and I absolutely won't acknowledge what I said just now. If you 'slander' me, the business group leader, I will reserve the right to pursue this legally."

Bai Xiaosheng seriously started playing the rogue.

The white woman immediately said, "Mr. Milo will call Miss Weiwei, letting her know who sent these items!"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, "Then please guess whether Miss Weiwei will believe his words or mine."

"You can't do this!" the white woman angrily said.

Bai Xiaosheng stood his ground, "You, also can't do this."

...

Just like this, Bai Xiaosheng, word by word, left the other party speechless.

Finally, the white woman angrily instructed her two attendants to take the items away, not forgetting to snatch back the small jade carving from Bai Xiaosheng's hand before leaving.

Bai Xiaosheng chuckled, walked to the door, and politely called to their backs, "Take care, sorry I won't see you out."

The white woman walked away briskly without turning back.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't mind, seeing off the "guests," and then closing the door.

Afterward, Bai Xiaosheng yawned and headed to the bedroom, wanting to dive back into bed to continue sleeping. However, halfway through, he changed his mind, walked to the living room, sat down, and stared at the door, muttering, "They won't come back again, right!"

He had finally hoped to take a break, but unexpectedly the Yang Family and Milo sent two waves of visitors, Bai Xiaosheng truly felt "intimidated" by them.

Staring at the doorway for a while, Bai Xiaosheng decided to slouch on the sofa for a rest.

"This time, surely no one else will come, right."

Just after Bai Xiaosheng muttered this, a knock at the door sounded again, causing him to spring up in shock and anger.

"Is it non-stop? Fine, I won't sleep anymore, happy now!"

Bai Xiaosheng said angrily, and directly connected with Red Lotus in his mind, "Red Lotus, adjust my internal hormone levels, make me alert!"

"Okay." Red Lotus responded.

A moment later, Bai Xiaosheng's mind cleared significantly, he strode toward the door.

He was about to see, this time, who was it!

After the door opened, Bai Xiaosheng saw the third wave of visitors.

Outside stood a man and a woman, both white.

The man stood in the front, aged around fifty, although his hair was slightly white, he was upright and in a well-fitted suit.

He had a high nose bridge, deep and wise blue eyes, a distinguished aura.

The woman seemed to be a secretary, holding items and standing behind, with a charming smile.

"Who are you?" Bai Xiaosheng looked at the pair, puzzled.

This seemed like another group of unfamiliar people.

However, the man's presence was particularly noteworthy.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng ask, the man smiled and said, "Are you Mr. Bai Xiaosheng?"

"Yes, I am." Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

"We are from Keruoge Company," the man smiled, placing his hand on his chest, and slightly bowed, "My name is Brady."

"Hello, Mr. Brady," Bai Xiaosheng instinctively nodded in response.

Chapter 2563 - Such Goodwill (Part 2)

Hearing that name, in Bai Xiaosheng's mind, Red Lotus immediately started running, did a quick search, and projected the retrieved information into his mind.

Bai Xiaosheng's gaze turned strange, all because some of what Red Lotus found took him by surprise.

"Keruoge Company, a subsidiary of Zhenbei Group? You're from the Group?" Bai Xiaosheng said in astonishment. "Did Mr. Brown send you here?"

Mr. Brown was the Zhenbei Group's President for the Africa Region, overseeing all the Group's subsidiaries in Africa. Since they were a Group subsidiary and had come looking for him, Bai Xiaosheng naturally assumed they were sent by Mr. Brown.

At the same time, Bai Xiaosheng also felt a bit puzzled.

If Mr. Brown wanted to see him, why not give him a call in advance instead of directly sending people over?

Facing Bai Xiaosheng's doubt, the man named Brady immediately gave a slight smile and said, "So Mr. Bai already knows our company is under the Group."

Isn't that something I'm supposed to know? Bai Xiaosheng was curious.

"However, we're not under Mr. Brown's jurisdiction." Brady went on.

Those words left Bai Xiaosheng startled.

"You're a Group subsidiary in Africa, yet you're not under Mr. Brown?" Bai Xiaosheng found it a little unbelievable.

"Among the Group's industries across all continents, there are a few special enterprises. Companies like ours only take orders from the Group's top person in charge—the Chairman—and report directly to him." Brady said with a smile.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's odd expression, Brady added, "Of course, the Greater China Region is not included in that."

Bai Xiaosheng's first reaction was to judge how credible this statement was.

He had never heard of any Group enterprise in the Greater China Region that wasn't under his control.

Brady immediately cleared that up for him: the Greater China Region was a special case.

If it was really as he said, Bai Xiaosheng guessed it might be related to his second uncle, Bai Zhenbei, the Group's founder.

After all, Bai Zhenbei was a Huaxia person.

"Then who sent you to find me, and for what?" Bai Xiaosheng gathered his thoughts and asked.

Brady smiled and said, "The one who sent us is our Group's current proxy Chairman—Mr. Bai Xuanyu."

So, it was Bai Xuanyu!

In Bai Xiaosheng's mind, that slightly stern yet handsome face immediately appeared.

"It's him!"

"Mr. Bai Xuanyu instructed us to provide your Business Group with whatever cooperation is necessary."

Bai Xiaosheng gave a slight nod.

Brady smiled and said, "Our Keruoge Company is currently ranked in the top three among business firms in the Western African Chieftain Union. We have eighteen subsidiaries and thirty-eight factories. Last year our total revenue was..."

Brady reported his company's situation to Bai Xiaosheng.

This company could practically rival the commercial strength of an entire country; it was truly rich enough to rival a nation!

Even Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help being shocked when he heard their total revenue.

Bai Xuanyu had brought them an ultra-massive partner.

However, Bai Xuanyu's attitude toward him back then had been far from friendly; and now he was being this generous?

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help feeling a trace of suspicion.

Sure enough, Brady smiled and said, "Mr. Bai Xuanyu said this is Mr. Sheng's first time leading the Huaxia Business Group abroad. He'd like to add flowers to the brocade for you, make this trip more impressive, win you more praise, and help you become a rising star in Huaxia's business world. He also said Mr. Sheng is better suited to develop in Huaxia. If you're willing, he'll keep sending more big deals your way. By then, Mr. Sheng, you may need to devote more energy and focus entirely on managing those major cooperations. If that happens, it would be best for Mr. Sheng to voluntarily give up that illusory title and position in the Headquarters Supervision Department. That would be good for both you and the Group."

Brady's blunt words made Bai Xiaosheng frown on the spot.

The fat piece of meat Bai Xuanyu had delivered this time was not so easy to swallow; there was bone hidden inside!

He wanted Bai Xiaosheng to see what he could offer him, then get Bai Xiaosheng to give up his advance on Group headquarters.

But was that even possible!

Bai Xiaosheng's goal was the Chairman's seat—the entire Group!

It seemed that from the moment Bai Xuanyu learned his identity, he had become wary, afraid he would snatch his position away.

Brady's arrival was clearly to bring a deal!

Bai Xiaosheng suddenly laughed.

"Well then, Mr. Sheng," Brady smiled, "I've brought a lot of cooperations here, even more than all your gains in Karan. In the future, there'll be even more. As long as you're willing, there are many enterprises like ours waiting to cooperate with you. They'll definitely help you reach the peak of Huaxia's business world."

The beauty behind Brady stepped forward, presenting the briefcase in her arms.

Though it was filled with sheets of paper, those sheets represented money, fame, and status—and they wouldn't require too much effort or worry; they were almost there for the taking.

Brady looked at Bai Xiaosheng with anticipation, waiting for him to make a certain choice.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the briefcase in the beauty's arms, smiling as if he'd been tempted.

But then he turned to Brady and smiled. "I'm very sorry, Mr. Brady, for making you and this young lady stand at the door talking, without inviting you in to sit."

Bai Xiaosheng was expressing his apology.

Though it was unexpected, Brady still smiled and replied courteously, "It's no problem, Mr. Sheng."

"Since you put it that way, then I won't be inviting you in to sit." Bai Xiaosheng smiled. "Well then, you two, please head back."

Chapter 2564 - Such Kindness (Part 3)

This statement from Bai Xiaosheng made Brady's smile freeze.

Is this considered a refusal?

"Mr. Sheng, are you... refusing?" Brady probed.

"Isn't it obvious?" Bai Xiaosheng retorted.

Brady took a moment to compose himself, seemingly unwilling to give up.

"Mr. Sheng, the cooperation offered by our company is merely a gesture of sincerity from Mr. Bai Xuanyu, with no strings attached. If you agree to return to develop in Huaxia, only then will Mr. Bai Xuanyu provide further support. These are two separate matters and do not conflict," Brady emphasized.

"Moreover, if you stubbornly insist on advancing to the headquarters, it won't bring any substantial benefits to you and might cause you to lose everything in the Greater China Region. Have you thought this through? You might want to reconsider!"

When Brady said this, his tone was slightly heavy, seeming both like persuasion and a warning.

Bai Xiaosheng understood clearly enough.

If he doesn't agree, he might face hostility from Bai Xuanyu.

Imagine if an acting chairman wants to limit someone's career path, even if that person is the second-in-command of the independent monitoring department, they might not be able to escape restraint.

Bai Xiaosheng knew exactly what he wanted.

Looking calmly at Brady, Bai Xiaosheng asked, "Is this advice from Mr. Brady or a warning from our acting chairman?"

Brady's deep eyes stared into Bai Xiaosheng's eyes for a full two seconds and suddenly smiled.

"It's just a small reminder, Mr. Sheng, don't overthink it."

Bai Xiaosheng also smiled.

"In that case, I appreciate your kindness, but I don't wish to take your advice," he said.

"As for your company's cooperation, I also prefer not to accept it. Our business delegation has its own plans, so there's no need for your attention."

Bai Xiaosheng refused, and his refusal was straightforward, utterly complete.

Even the numerous collaborations Keruoge Company offered without any requirements were declined.

Brady looked at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief, then laughed, "Mr. Sheng, even if you refuse Mr. Bai Xuanyu's subsequent proposal, it doesn't hinder our company's door-to-door cooperation..."

"No need." Bai Xiaosheng's voice cooled, "Mr. Brady, here I intend to inform you, the enterprise you manage is an asset of Zhenbei Group, and it cannot be used for random transactions based on someone's preferences. This is a solemn warning from me, the deputy head of Zhenbei Group Headquarters Monitoring Department!"

Bai Xiaosheng lifted a finger, saying, "Next time you say anything like this, I'll initiate an investigation, no matter who you report to!"

After Bai Xiaosheng said this, Brady stared at him for two seconds, spread his hands, and smiled, "In that case, I will heed the advice. Mr. Bai, sorry to disturb your rest, goodbye!"

"Goodbye!"

Bai Xiaosheng nodded to Brady, stepped back, and directly closed the door.

Outside the door, Brady glanced at the door for the last time and turned away.

The beautiful secretary behind him also looked deeply at the door, turned around, and followed.

Inside, Bai Xiaosheng quietly returned to his room, went to the desk, took out paper and pen, and silently wrote "Do Not Disturb" in English, repeatedly bolding it with the pen, then drew a string of exclamation marks behind it, found a pad of sticky notes, tore off a sheet, left the adhesive part, and stuck it to the paper.

Afterward, Bai Xiaosheng got up and walked briskly to the door, pasted that piece of paper on his room door firmly, then returned to the room, walked into the bedroom, and collapsed onto the bed.

Letting out a long breath, Bai Xiaosheng closed his eyes and murmured, "This time, no one had better try to disturb my sleep!"

He paused for a moment and cursed with his eyes closed, "Self-righteous bastard!"

Chapter 2565 - A Person Not Simple

The "Do Not Disturb" sign hung on the door, and Bai Xiaosheng finally enjoyed the long-lost tranquility. He fell onto the bed and slept soundly, feeling satisfied as he indulged in his belated "afternoon nap".

At this moment, on a main road in Oklandt City, a black business car was driving away.

In the car, Brady was holding his phone, talking to someone.

To be precise, someone had called him.

"Brady, have you gone to see Bai Xiaosheng?!" A slightly angry voice came from the other end of the line, "Why did you meet with him? What did you two talk about?"

This voice was unmistakably Bai Xuanyu's.

Faced with Bai Xuanyu's anger, Brady remained calm and said into the phone, "It must be Binge who told you. That guy, as a deputy, lacks some ability, but he's truly adept at tattling."

Binge was Brady's deputy, the two jointly managed Keruoge Company, both were highly valued and trusted by Bai Xuanyu, and were also Bai Xuanyu's friends.

For subsidiary companies as wealthy as Keruoge, Zhenbei Group had no more than a handful, each manager was someone trusted by the chairman.

Bai Xuanyu was currently only the acting chairman, without the authority to replace people as he wished. Only Keruoge had Brady and Binge appointed, and even so, it took a painstaking effort and Fang Cheng.

This also showed Brady's important place in Bai Xuanyu's heart, being friends for many years.

Moreover, Brady's individuality was quite extraordinary; from the time of Old Chairman Bai Zhenbei, he had been highly valued, once a candidate for the executive regional president alongside Caroline.

Eventually, Brady became the head of a company directly under the chairman.

At this moment, Bai Xuanyu's voice was particularly irritated, "Don't change the subject, why did you meet with Bai Xiaosheng!"

Bai Xuanyu's aggressiveness finally sparked some fury in Brady.

"I went to negotiate terms with him for you!" Brady simply relayed his dialogue with Bai Xiaosheng to Bai Xuanyu and said, "However, he refused our goodwill!"

"Our goodwill? More like your unsolicited goodwill!" Bai Xuanyu shouted lowly.

"But you clearly met him first, even told him the truth! Did you intend to do something beyond just telling him? Then tell me, what was the point of doing that?"

Brady's speech quickened, his voice growing louder, his gaze more resolute and fierce, "I'm telling you, Bai Xuanyu, you are the future chairman we recognize, only you! Whether Bai Xiaosheng's presence is a threat or not, we have to take it seriously!"

"If he's willing to stay in Huaxia, we'll ensure he becomes a dominant figure, free and unfettered."

"If he insists on entering the Group and coveting higher positions... then as for you, I'll help make him see reason!"

Brady's words were indeed "ferocious".

Bai Xiaosheng's choice undoubtedly made him establish an "enemy".

"Brady, let me handle this, don't interfere!" Bai Xuanyu said firmly.

"I find it more convenient here than on your side!" Brady also refused to compromise, "Anyway, he's here!"

Brady's unkind tone made Bai Xuanyu instantly alert.

"Brady, I know you're doing this for my sake. The Group is also my lifelong pursuit and effort." Bai Xuanyu paused, his voice softened, suppressing his hard tone, turning to persuasion, "Regarding Bai Xiaosheng, let me handle it, okay?"

Brady remained silent.

Bai Xuanyu continued, "My grandfather, Mr. Bai Zhenbei, held you in great esteem, bestowed upon you immense kindness, you cannot act against his blood kin. I don't want to see you carry guilt deep in your heart."

Brady was still silent.

Bai Xuanyu then said gravely, "You must understand, to reach your current position, what have we both sacrificed. Moreover, you relinquished the promising starting point of being an executive president, and endless future prospects. If due to rash actions against Bai Xiaosheng, your position falls into jeopardy, would it justify your sacrifice, justify my effort?"

These words finally made Brady let out a deep breath.

"Alright, I won't act against Bai Xiaosheng for now. I hope you have a solid plan, don't let down our continued expectation and support for you!"

Brady emphasized the word "we" heavily; among higher-level management in the Group, Bai Xuanyu had more supporters than just him.

Hearing Brady's words, Bai Xuanyu seemed relieved, replying earnestly, "When have I ever disappointed you all."

With that, this conversation seemed to have come to a close.

After Bai Xuanyu hung up, Brady made another call to his confidant, opening with, "Pause all arrangements concerning Bai Xiaosheng. Cancel the plan..."

On the other end was Brady's loyal subordinate, who agreed without hesitation, then added, "Will you still attend the welcome reception that the Oshan royal family is hosting tonight for the Huaxia Business Group?"

The reception involved some of the plan's arrangements as well.

"Not in the mood, cancel it." Brady said casually.

"Understood." The person on the other end immediately responded.

Only someone as influential as Brady could say such things with such boldness, canceling such an important reception under the reason of "not being in the mood".

However, when explaining to Oshan's side, there would clearly be a more perfect excuse.

Chapter 2566 - Not an Ordinary Person (Part 2)

Those things, naturally didn't need him to worry or bother about them.

Hanging up the phone, Brady glanced out the car window, recalled Bai Xiaosheng's expression and reaction back then, and couldn't help letting out a cold laugh. "You got lucky this time, kid!"

...

Bai Xiaosheng, who had "gotten lucky" without even knowing it, was sleeping like a log.

He slept for a full two hours before he was "woken up" by Red Lotus; that was something he'd told Red Lotus to do in advance.

There was still a banquet in the evening, so of course he had to get ready beforehand.

After getting up, Bai Xiaosheng washed up again, changed into a suit, and went to the door to take down the "Do Not Disturb" sign he'd hung outside.

Not long after he took the sign down, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying came looking for him.

"Xiaosheng, so you're done resting."

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng looking refreshed, in a black suit that made him look sharp and energetic, Lin Weiwei couldn't help saying.

"We came by just now and saw the sign at your door, so we didn't bother you. Actually, everyone's resting now; nobody with no eyes is going to disturb you anyway, so what's the point of hanging that thing." Lei Ying said.

Clearly, they had no idea what Bai Xiaosheng had "run into."

Bai Xiaosheng pointed toward the pile of things stacked in a corner of the living room. "Heh, nobody came to bother me, huh? Then tell me, where did all that come from?"

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying immediately exchanged a curious look and went over to check.

The items all looked ordinary on the surface, but each was more valuable than the last.

Bai Xiaosheng told them about the Yang Family sending gifts, then added, "Milo also had people bring stuff over, but it wasn't for me, it was for Weiwei. I sent them away."

He also told them about Milo sending someone to deliver gifts.

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

And Lin Weiwei, looking thoughtful, rubbed her chin and said, "I was sleeping really soundly this afternoon, and vaguely heard someone knocking on the door over and over. I thought I was dreaming and ignored it, and after a while the noise stopped. So it was them, huh."

Lei Ying immediately teased with a laugh, "So, do you regret missing out on the gifts now?"

Lin Weiwei rolled her eyes at Lei Ying and snorted. "If I'd opened the door then, however they tried to deliver it in, I'd have tossed it right back out."

That answer was downright hardcore tomboy.

Lei Ying gave a big thumbs up and chimed in, "If you can't throw it, I'll come help. If they stick around shamelessly, I'll toss them out too."

Lin Weiwei smacked Lei Ying with a laugh. "Now that's what I call loyal."

Watching the two of them, Bai Xiaosheng really felt a bit torn between laughing and crying.

As for Brady, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't in any rush to tell them about it; there wasn't really any need.

Just like Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were his trusted confidants he could talk to about anything, Brady was probably also someone Bai Xuanyu trusted. Chances were they'd have more dealings in the future.

Bai Xiaosheng had also memorized that middle-aged man's face.

"Oh right, Xiaosheng, we already know where the banquet tonight will be held. It's in a hall on the tenth floor, and we were just about to go take a look." Lin Weiwei said to Bai Xiaosheng.

At the moment there were still more than two hours before the banquet, so probably no one would have arrived yet.

Bai Xiaosheng had just woken up and felt like stretching his legs a bit. Hearing Lin Weiwei say that, he immediately said, "I'll go have a look too."

"Is that appropriate? You're the VIP guest of tonight's banquet; going to the venue ahead of time?" Lei Ying couldn't help saying.

"What's wrong with that? It's like the leader doing an inspection." Lin Weiwei joked.

"Well said." Bai Xiaosheng also laughed.

So the three of them reached a consensus, left the room, and headed straight for the banquet venue.

Along the way no one checked their IDs at all. That wasn't a lapse in security; it was because this hotel exclusively served foreign guests and special VIPs. Without a certain status, you couldn't even get in. At the entrance of the lobby on the first floor there was also a concealed special X-ray machine—anyone carrying a weapon on them would be exposed the moment they walked in.

With such tight security on the outside and relaxed inside, guests wouldn't be inadvertently offended.

Any unfamiliar face walking around here could be some big shot. The staff were extremely courteous, greeting anyone they didn't recognize politely, and when they saw a group of three, they would immediately stand to the side and give a slight bow.

At first Bai Xiaosheng and the others weren't used to it, but after seeing it a few times they understood these people didn't necessarily know who they were; it was just a polite gesture.

So the three of them relaxed even more.

The entire tenth floor only had two banquet halls, and both were being prepared. When the three of them approached, they were stopped at the entrance of the hall.

The preparations inside were ongoing, so it wasn't convenient for them to look around. The staff at the door politely asked the three to understand.

Of course, the three didn't insist and turned to leave. They were only wandering around anyway, treating it as a walk.

On their way back, when they reached the central lobby, they heard a commotion. The closer they got, the clearer it became, and they could see a crowd of people.

"Sir, we're truly sorry. Our banquet has all kinds of drinks prepared, and for safety considerations, we don't allow guests to bring their own." Someone was explaining politely.

"The drinks you prepared aren't fit for our young master's lips. What we've brought for our young master is fine wine money can't buy!" someone said forcefully. "And as for safety considerations, you think just anyone gets to drink this wine? Only our Young Master Alger himself can enjoy it—oh, and of course, anyone he deems worthy."

"Please don't make things difficult for us. We've never heard such a request before, and besides, today we're welcoming the Huaxia Business Group, they're foreign guests, so we have to be extra cautious."

"We're drinking our own wine; how does that make things difficult for you? And that so-called Huaxia Business Group, our Young Master Alger might not even bother offering them a drink!"

The tough guy stayed tough.

Hearing this, Bai Xiaosheng and the other two were all quite surprised and exchanged a glance.

"Who are these people, what a huge attitude." Lei Ying clicked his tongue in amazement.

"Have you ever seen anyone going to a banquet with their own booze, and then getting pissed when the host says no?" Lin Weiwei craned her neck curiously toward that side.

"They don't seem like ordinary people." Bai Xiaosheng echoed.

To dare be so high-profile at this kind of banquet, how could they be some ordinary nobodies!

As for that "Alger" young master, who knew what kind of big shot he was.

Bai Xiaosheng focused his gaze and saw in the crowd a bald, arrogant old white man shouting at a hotel manager. The manager seemed to know who they were, nodding and bowing nonstop, only trying to persuade him.

The old man refused to budge and insisted on bringing his own fine wine.

"This really is something new to see." Lin Weiwei was watching with great interest too.

Bai Xiaosheng and Lei Ying also had the look of people enjoying a good show.

"Quit yapping with me here and hurry up and call your person-in-charge. Find someone who can actually make decisions to deal with this." In the crowd, the old white man shouted.

The hotel manager was wiping sweat as he continued to persuade him. "Even our hotel's top manager probably wouldn't be able to agree to this request of yours. After all, there will be foreign guests present..."

As he was speaking, someone ran over and whispered in that manager's ear.

Whatever was said, the manager's expression changed slightly and he nodded repeatedly.

Then the manager smiled obsequiously at the old white man and said, "Respected butler, Young Master Alger's request has been approved. I'll immediately send people to escort you over."

Hearing that, the old white man grinned triumphantly. "I told you there'd be no problem. Look how much time you've wasted. If this affects the storage and thus the taste of these wines, can you afford the consequences?"

The manager nodded again and again.

The group immediately set off, heading in the direction of Bai Xiaosheng and the others.

Only then did Bai Xiaosheng and his companions see clearly that there were also custom-made wooden carts being pushed among the crowd, each carrying bottles of wine.

The three of them "very tactfully" made way for them. The group strode past without even glancing at them.

After they'd gone by, Lin Weiwei couldn't help clicking her tongue. "What kind of people are these? Is this Alger a prince or something?"

Bai Xiaosheng gave the retreating backs a long look, then turned away down his own path. "Who cares. So what if he is a prince?"

Chapter 2567 - Change of Plans

Bai Xiaosheng, along with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, returned to their residence from the banquet hall. Just as they rounded a corner, they saw four or five people standing at their door. Upon closer look, it was Dong Tianlu, Lu Tiandao, and their group.

It seemed they had just arrived, as Dong Tianlu was raising his hand to knock on the door.

The sound of Bai Xiaosheng and his group's footsteps caught their attention.

Upon seeing him, Dong Tianlu froze with his hand in mid-air, not knocking.

"Mr. Bai is here."

"So he wasn't in the room."

"Just got back, what a coincidence."

The group began to chatter all at once.

Bai Xiaosheng walked over with a smile and said to them, "Is there something you need from me?"

The group exchanged glances and all nodded.

"Come, let's talk inside." Bai Xiaosheng said.

With so many big businessmen present, discussing matters in the hallway was not appropriate; it wasn't confidential and seemed to lack dignity if seen.

Bai Xiaosheng went over, opened his room door, and invited everyone in.

Currently, every member of their business delegation had a luxury suite, with a master bedroom and study. The living room inside was not small, with large and comfortable sofas that could easily accommodate everyone.

Everyone took their seats, and Lin Weiwei prepared to make tea for them.

But since there were no tea sets, Lin Weiwei immediately went out to find a server to get some, and Lei Ying went to help.

Seated, Bai Xiaosheng smiled at everyone and asked, "What brings you to me? Is it related to tonight's banquet? I just came from the banquet hall."

"It's not related to the banquet," Lu Tiandao was the first to chuckle, "Mr. Bai, can we make some adjustments to our inspection plan here in Oshan?"

"Inspection plan? Adjustments?" Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily puzzled, asking, "You all know the general plan, adjust? How? Why?"

With Bai Xiaosheng's question, everyone began to speak, creating a slightly chaotic scene.

"Let me explain." Dong Tianlu spoke up loudly.

The others exchanged glances, nodded successively, and fell silent.

Indeed, it's clearer for one person to speak.

Bai Xiaosheng also looked toward Dong Tianlu.

"Here's the situation, Mr. Bai. Not long ago, I went to find Mr. Lu and Mrs. Wang, thinking of coordinating some commercial resources to complete some orders I have with the Yang Corporation. During our discussion, a problem was brought up."

Dong Tianlu looked at Bai Xiaosheng with a wry smile and said, "Our commercial resources are nearly fully mobilized."

"Later, Mr. Lu and Mrs. Wang told me that other directors have also approached them privately about this issue. Their business resources are also excessively mobilized."

"Thanks to your help, we've secured major collaborations from the Yang Family in West Africa, a large number of contracts in Karan, and even initiated partnerships with numerous major financial groups in America and Europe. By the time we reached Oshan, upon reassessing, there aren't many contracts left to sign or collaborations to pursue."

"We asked everyone from our half of the business delegation, and it's the same situation. Some people have even decided not to sign any more contracts."

"Since we have so many quality projects and contracts, we just want to return quickly and get to work. We don't want to delay any longer."

"So we were wondering if you could report to the higher-ups to streamline the inspection itinerary here, quickly finalize the necessary contracts and wrap things up."

Everyone nearby nodded along with Dong Tianlu's words, and Bai Xiaosheng realized the situation.

It turned out they overachieved on their collaboration goals and were eager to go back.

Upon reflection, it seemed natural.

Businesses are like people, contracts are like meals; they usually want more but can't always have enough. This time, the volume was sufficient, and everyone found that they couldn't really handle any more. If they forced themselves past their limit, it wouldn't be a good thing.

As the leader of the business delegation, it was indeed Bai Xiaosheng's responsibility to report this situation, and only he could do it.

"Alright, I'll report it to Director Hou as soon as possible," Bai Xiaosheng said. "However, since we are out here on official duty, I believe Director Hou and his team will try to accommodate everyone's requests, but if due to some international relations considerations, we have to stay a few more days, we shouldn't complain."

"Of course!"

Dong Tianlu, Lu Tiandao, and the others all nodded repeatedly.

"In that case," Bai Xiaosheng continued, "since you've already sought everyone's opinion, I would like to ask you to also investigate those who still plan to sign contracts. What industries and enterprises are they interested in? Let's consolidate this information to prepare for the change in the itinerary."

With Bai Xiaosheng's instructions, everyone nodded in agreement.

Bai Xiaosheng was a practical person; once he decided to act, they barely had time to warm their seats before he sent them off.

No one present felt this was inappropriate; instead, they were eager to leave as well.

After all, each represented a group of individuals and wanted to relay the news back quickly.

"Then we won't stay any longer, we'll take care of it now," Dong Tianlu was the first to speak up.

The group reached an immediate consensus, getting up to leave at once.

Bai Xiaosheng stood up to see them off.

After sending off everyone, Bai Xiaosheng sat back down on the sofa, pondering the situation.

At this moment, the door was pushed open, and Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying each came in carrying a tray.

"Tea is here," Lin Weiwei said with a smile, then noticed that the living room was now only Bai Xiaosheng, sitting alone.

Lin Weiwei was taken aback.

How could this be, in less than five minutes, where did they go?!

Lei Ying was also bewildered.

"Xiaosheng, where are... Miss Dong and the others... where did they go?" Lin Weiwei asked, bewildered, coming over and placing the tray on the coffee table, unable to stop herself from asking Bai Xiaosheng.

Startled, Bai Xiaosheng looked up at them and smiled immediately.

"You came back too late, they've all left." Bai Xiaosheng briefly explained the discussion that had just occurred.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were equally astonished.

"It turns out Xiaosheng, you brought them too many collaborations, saturating their capacity," Lin Weiwei said with a laugh, "That's impressive!"

"Indeed, everyone is probably eager to return and get started quickly, not wanting to drag out the inspections," Lei Ying added.

Bai Xiaosheng shrugged, placed both hands on his knees, stood up, took out his phone, and walked towards his bedroom, "I'll go call Director Hou and inform him about this first."

...

In the bedroom, Bai Xiaosheng dialed Hou Yuncheng's number and truthfully informed him of the situation.

On the other side of the call, Hou Yuncheng was also full of praise, "Your signing progress is incredibly fast, with numerous unexpected collaborations. I'll report it to the higher-ups and see how we can resolve the itinerary issue."

Bai Xiaosheng immediately expressed gratitude to Hou Yuncheng on behalf of everyone.

After hanging up, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but chuckle softly and muttered to himself, "Well, we haven't even started the welcoming banquet here in Oshan, yet the guests are all ready to leave, with potential collaborations significantly cut down... Am I the culprit?"

Chapter 2568 - Observations at the Banquet

Bai Xiaosheng reported the thoughts of the business group to Hou Yuncheng and also received a personal reply from Hou Yuncheng. However, it would take some time for the higher-level decision to come out.

Therefore, Bai Xiaosheng did not rush to inform everyone about this matter.

After the call with Hou Yuncheng, Bai Xiaosheng was soon approached by a senior official from the Oshan business department, inviting him to a banquet.

The leader was a middle-aged Black man accompanied by three to five staff members.

"Mr. Bai, I am here to invite you to the cocktail party." Upon meeting, the other party got straight to the point with a smile, extending the invitation.

"Alright, I will make some preparations and go with you."

Bai Xiaosheng had long been aware of this matter and was well prepared. He nodded immediately, made brief preparations, and then set out with Lin Weiwei, Lei Ying, and the accompanying person.

The other members of the Huaxia Business Group living on this floor were naturally informed as well.

By the time Bai Xiaosheng and the others emerged, everyone was already waiting in the hallway.

As Bai Xiaosheng made his appearance, the crowd converged, greeted him, and followed behind, heading straight towards the banquet hall.

Along the way, Bai Xiaosheng engaged in brief exchanges with the senior official from the Oshan business department who came to pick him up.

When asked which business people would attend the cocktail party, the other party appeared very excited, reporting several notable names to Bai Xiaosheng one by one.

All were prominent figures from the Chieftain Union in West Africa.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded while letting Red Lotus search for information on those individuals in his mind, so he would be well-prepared for enjoyable conversations later.

However, compared to the information found online, Bai Xiaosheng discovered that while tonight's cocktail party was indeed crowded with prominent figures, many giants would not appear.

This did not surprise Bai Xiaosheng.

Perhaps their schedules conflicted, or perhaps they were simply not interested in the cocktail party or the business group.

Anything was possible.

However, Brady from Keruoge not attending was somewhat intriguing.

After all, they were both in the Zhenbei Group, and Bai Xiaosheng's status officially surpassed his; he seemed to have no reason not to attend.

But now the situation was that he truly did not attend.

Bai Xiaosheng specifically asked the official and received a definitive answer.

It appeared that Mr. Brady was showing a stance regarding the prior unresolved discussions between the parties.

"He really is someone who loves and hates clearly," Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but mock in his heart.

As they walked along, Bai Xiaosheng and the others also encountered some guests attending the cocktail party, all businessmen with significant backgrounds.

Under the introduction of the senior official from the Oshan business department beside him, Bai Xiaosheng greeted them with warmth.

As they approached the entrance of the banquet hall, suddenly three people, a man and two women, stepped out to block the way.

The senior official from the Oshan business department, thinking Bai Xiaosheng might not know their identities, eagerly introduced them to him, "This is Mr. Yang Xiaoyun, Vice Chairman of the Yang Corporation. This is his daughter, Miss Yang Yishan. Yang Corporation ranks eighth in the Chieftain Union in terms of comprehensive business strength and is quite remarkable."

Speaking, the official pointed to another woman to introduce, "This is Miss Lisa, a senior envoy from America's LLK company, responsible for overseeing and inspecting all of LLK's investments in this country."

Upon seeing the three, Bai Xiaosheng immediately smiled and said to the senior official beside him, "No need to introduce these three; I know them. We are old acquaintances, old friends."

"Indeed, Mr. Bai is practically an old friend of our Yang Family!"

Hearing Bai Xiaosheng say this, Yang Xiaoyun laughed heartily and went over to shake hands with Bai Xiaosheng very warmly.

Yang Yishan stood by, smiling.

Miss Lisa, with a smile on her face, looked at Bai Xiaosheng with gleaming eyes.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Lisa and naturally smiled, nodding to her.

In his heart, Bai Xiaosheng silently pondered, "It turns out, the friend in Karan's business scene that Yang Yishan mentioned is Lisa!"

As for how the two became friends, Bai Xiaosheng had no leisure interest in delving into it.

The senior official saw both parties meet warmly and naturally smiled, "It turns out you know each other, that's wonderful."

After greeting Bai Xiaosheng, Yang Xiaoyun led his daughter aside, letting Bai Xiaosheng and others go first.

After all, in this cocktail party, Huaxia's businessmen were the main attraction.

Lisa also stood aside with Yang Yishan.

Bai Xiaosheng politely nodded and smiled at Yang Xiaoyun and the trio, not being modest, and entered the banquet hall with the senior official, followed by the business group members who also entered successively.

As the business group passed Yang Xiaoyun, they greeted him with either smiles or nods.

After all, although the group had some conflict with the Yang Family, they were currently in close business cooperation, a fact that was certain. Naturally, diplomacy on the surface was smooth.

Yang Xiaoyun also smiled and greeted the business group members. Seeing them all enter the banquet hall, he entered with his daughter and Miss Lisa.

After Bai Xiaosheng goes through the procedures and formalities at the cocktail party, he intends to engage in more exchanges with Bai Xiaosheng.

In the banquet hall, quite a few business tycoons and dignitaries had already gathered.

Presiding over the cocktail party was still the political dignitary who welcomed Bai Xiaosheng and his team during the day, the son of the Great Chieftain—Asgar.

Chapter 2569 - Observations at the Banquet (Part 2)

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng and his group arrive, Asgar also brought people over to greet them.

This man always carried himself with composed manners, seldom smiling, yet in receiving and dealing with people, even with attendants and servants, he was unfailingly courteous, revealing extremely good upbringing.

After exchanging a round of polite formalities with Bai Xiaosheng, Asgar said apologetically, "Respected Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, I have some urgent matters on my side that need to be handled, an unforeseen situation. I may have to leave shortly, so I ask for your understanding."

"Mr. Asgar, you're too courteous. If the situation requires it, you may leave at any time." Bai Xiaosheng replied politely.

Hearing this, a faint smile appeared on Asgar's face, taken as his thanks to Bai Xiaosheng.

In that short while, many more guests arrived, and an attendant came to Asgar's side and whispered a few words in his ear.

Asgar nodded repeatedly, then turned to Bai Xiaosheng with another faint smile. "Most of the guests have arrived. I'll announce the start of the reception then."

"Alright." Bai Xiaosheng immediately nodded with a smile.

Asgar turned and left, walking toward the rostrum.

The people following behind him also went over.

Once the crowd here thinned, Yang Xiaoyun brought Yang Yishan and Lisa over to Bai Xiaosheng's side.

"Mr. Sheng, you're really impressive. That Mr. Asgar is known for hardly ever smiling, yet just now he actually smiled at you twice." Yang Xiaoyun clicked his tongue in admiration.

"There's nothing impressive about that..." Bai Xiaosheng was a bit amused and exasperated by Yang Xiaoyun's praise, and explained, "He's probably just giving special face to our Huaxia Business Group, so he was especially courteous to me."

"You're too modest, Mr. Sheng." Yang Xiaoyun still said cheerfully.

Over there, Asgar was already standing on the rostrum, holding a microphone and raising his voice, "Honored guests, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to you all..."

As soon as Asgar opened his mouth, the reception formally began.

The guests present immediately gathered over.

Asgar's speech was very concise: on behalf of the Oshan government, he thanked the Huaxia Business Group for coming, hoped that both sides would achieve more and greater results in cooperation, and also hoped that the businesspeople present would actively engage with the Huaxia Business Group to promote deeper trade exchanges and cooperation between both sides...

After his remarks, Asgar invited Bai Xiaosheng to come on stage and say a few words.

Bai Xiaosheng naturally did not decline, walked forward, and delivered a very official round of thanks and well-wishes.

When Bai Xiaosheng finished speaking, Asgar then introduced to him the heavyweight guests present on this occasion...

In short, after this basic sequence of protocol, the son of the Grand Chieftain once again took his leave of Bai Xiaosheng and hurriedly left with his people.

Once Asgar left, Bai Xiaosheng was surrounded by all the heavyweight guests in the venue, exchanging business cards, making introductions, and talking. It was quite a busy scene.

As for the other members of the delegation, they received similar treatment.

Setting aside Bai Xiaosheng's identity as the head of the group, the name recognition of people like Dong Tianlu, Lu Tiandao, and Zhang Qinglin was actually even higher than Bai Xiaosheng's. Some major entrepreneurs and family heads naturally wouldn't miss such a valuable networking opportunity.

After the bustle around Bai Xiaosheng quieted down a bit, it was actually not as lively as around the others.

Yang Xiaoyun took Yang Yishan, with Lisa following behind, and took the opportunity to stay by Bai Xiaosheng's side.

Yang Xiaoyun enthusiastically introduced to Bai Xiaosheng some of the backgrounds of the guests present.

Yang Yishan's attention remained on Bai Xiaosheng the whole time. Ever since being impressed by Bai Xiaosheng's methods, her attitude toward him had changed. Seeing him just now become the focus of the entire hall and still handle everything with ease, she felt even more admiration for him.

In contrast to her was Lin Weiwei; the look she gave Yang Yishan carried a sense of aloofness and vigilance.

As for Miss Lisa, she seemed somewhat similar to Lei Ying, quietly standing to the side and just listening with a smile to everything.

Among all the guests, Bai Xiaosheng's side was the most eye-catching. Aside from his status, it was because he had the most beauties around him.

Lin Weiwei, Yang Yishan, and Lisa all vied in splendor; the three could be said to be the most beautiful young women in the entire hall gathered together in one spot, so of course that drew attention.

Thus, the gazes of all the young male guests in the venue were wandering around Bai Xiaosheng's side.

As Bai Xiaosheng was chatting with Yang Xiaoyun, he inadvertently looked up and saw a group of people pouring in from outside at the entrance of the hall.

At the head of that group was a young blond man, handsome and sunny, whose looks were no less than those of a movie star.

Walking closely at his side was an elderly white man, slightly bald.

When Bai Xiaosheng saw that old man, he felt he looked familiar. After thinking for a moment, he remembered.

Wasn't that the old man they had run into earlier when they were wandering around the banquet hall, the one who had been forcefully insisting on "bringing his own wine" with one of the hotel managers?

Next to him, Yang Xiaoyun also followed Bai Xiaosheng's gaze and looked over, noticed that group of people coming in, and saw the young man at their head.

Yang Xiaoyun couldn't help speaking. "Oh, isn't that Alger."

Bai Xiaosheng naturally also recalled having heard that name before.

Back then, Lin Weiwei had even suspected he was a prince.

"Who is Alger?" Now that Yang Xiaoyun mentioned him, Bai Xiaosheng casually asked.

"I know this man as well." Before Yang Xiaoyun could speak, Lisa suddenly spoke up.

Everyone couldn't help looking at her.

Lisa, half smiling, looked at Alger over there and said, "Previously, our LLK company conducted some business research and paid special attention to the top ten commercial enterprises in the West African Chieftain Union. Not a single one of them is a state-owned economic entity, yet each one is rich enough to rival a nation."

Lisa smiled and looked at Yang Xiaoyun. "Mr. Yang's Yang Corporation is ranked eighth. That's very remarkable!"

"You flatter me." Hearing Lisa's praise, a smile appeared on Yang Xiaoyun's face as he modestly replied.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded slightly.

He himself had found similar information online.

When meeting Brady, he had also heard Brady say that the Keruoge company under his control was ranked third.

"And that Mr. Alger over there, he is the sole legal heir to the conglomerate ranked fourth, and he gets even more attention and importance from all sides than people of the same generation from the royal families!"

Lisa's gaze followed Alger. "He can even be called a rising star of the business world, always the darling pursued by the media. In the past two years, he's carried out a series of successful investments in Oshan, not a single failure, which has led to him being hailed as a business prodigy."

Hearing that, Bai Xiaosheng suddenly understood.

No wonder he was able to exercise special privileges at such a reception; so it turned out to be a matter of his background and strength.

However, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't particularly impressed by someone like that.

So what if the other party prided himself on his big background? Didn't the person in charge of Keruoge, ranked third, Brady himself, also get bluntly turned down by him?

Not to mention, the cooperation opportunities for their Huaxia Business Group were already approaching saturation at the moment. They truly had no such strong desire to take on any more astonishing deals.

They wouldn't be able to digest them.

Just as Bai Xiaosheng was dismissing it in his heart, Lisa instead smiled at him and said, "Judging from age, he's about the same as you, Mr. Bai. It's just that his background is deep, and his success depends on shelter. You, Mr. Bai, rely entirely on your own ability, which is all the more admirable."

Hearing Lisa make this comparison, both Yang Yishan and Lin Weiwei seemed to find it pleasant to the ear and said in unison:

"Well said, relying on family background can't compare to relying on oneself."

"'Business prodigy' sounds a bit exaggerated..."

After the two women spoke, they couldn't help looking at each other, and immediately both restrained themselves.

Lisa, however, smiled and said to Bai Xiaosheng, "Mr. Bai, don't you want to find a chance to chat with that Alger? I've heard that his current investments are huge in scale, with each project more aggressive in capital input than the last. It might let your delegation secure a huge deal with him."

Hearing this, Yang Xiaoyun couldn't help looking at Bai Xiaosheng as well.

Bai Xiaosheng only smiled faintly and shook his head slightly. "At the moment, we don't really need any big deals."

To say you don't really need even gold-mountain-and-silver-mountain deals sounds downright arrogant to those who don't know the inside story.

Lisa still wanted to say something, but her gaze passed over Bai Xiaosheng and shifted to behind him.

Then Lisa withdrew her gaze and gave Bai Xiaosheng a meaningful smile. "Mr. Bai, it seems that this time, even if you don't go looking for that business opportunity, that business opportunity is about to come knocking on your door!"

Chapter 2570 - Arrogant Alger

Earlier, while Lisa was speaking with Lin Weiwei, Bai Xiaosheng turned his direction, effectively facing away from the hall entrance.

Prompted by Lisa's reminder, Bai Xiaosheng turned around again, looking in that direction.

The Alger that everyone had been discussing was now approaching with his butler and a retinue.

Besides this, accompanying Alger was the senior business department official who had previously invited Bai Xiaosheng.

It was likely through this person that Alger learned of Bai Xiaosheng's identity.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng turned and locked eyes with Alger.

From a distance, Alger's gaze was scrutinizing, sizing up Bai Xiaosheng.

Both were equally young, equally accomplished, equally in positions of high status, and both were men, inevitably leading to comparisons.

As the saying goes, "Like repels like", which possibly aligns with certain "scientific principles".

Just like when two women meet, they instinctively compare each other's fashion sense and makeup, men compare who is more successful and, also, who is more charming in front of others, especially women.

But this mindset of comparison was solely Alger's; Bai Xiaosheng wasn't interested.

This isn't to say Bai Xiaosheng wasn't manly or successful. Over the years, he fought his way up from the bottom, and his disposition was already honed beyond what someone of his age should possess.

Meanwhile, Alger was advancing with unabashed arrogance, noticeable even from afar.

Yang Xiaoyun glanced at Alger, smiling.

Lisa's beautiful eyes wandered between Alger and Bai Xiaosheng.

Soon, Alger arrived in front of Bai Xiaosheng, and the two truly faced each other.

Alger's old butler stole glances at Bai Xiaosheng, his eyes showing slight confusion. Bai looked familiar, but he couldn't recall where he had seen him before.

"This is the leader of the Huaxia Business Group, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, also the renowned Executive President of the Zhenbei Group's Greater China Region!"

The senior official from the Oshan business department introduced them, "And this is Mr. Alger, the acknowledged business genius and future star of the West African Chieftain Union. His titles are numerous, the most famous being..."

Alger smiled and raised his hand to stop the official, saying, "You may go ahead with your work. I'll have a chat with this gentleman."

The senior official breathed a quiet sigh of relief.

If he had to recite all those titles, even just part of them, it would be quite exhausting.

The senior official nodded with a smile, saying, "You two have a good chat."

Speaking thus, he withdrew and left.

"Thank you." Bai Xiaosheng politely addressed the man.

Alger barely nodded, the motion barely noticeable; this was him being polite. His arrogance surpassed even Asgar, the son of the Grand Chieftain, leading one to think Alger belonged to royalty.

Of course, given Alger's background, even royalty couldn't compare to him.

"Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, I've long admired your reputation." Alger said, smiling at Bai Xiaosheng.

Though courteous, his tone was casual, lacking sincerity.

"Likewise, I've heard much about you, Mr. Alger." Bai Xiaosheng replied with a smile.

Out of politeness, he extended his hand proactively.

Indeed, before the reception, Bai Xiaosheng had heard of Alger's "reputation", as few could enjoy such privileges at this gathering.

"I'm honored." Alger didn't think much of it, assuming Bai Xiaosheng was flattering him. He responded with an arrogant smile, shaking hands briefly before withdrawing.

Then, Alger's gaze shifted to Bai Xiaosheng's side.

"Mr. Alger, it's been a while." Yang Xiaoyun greeted enthusiastically.

Alger and Yang Xiaoyun had had encounters before.

"Mr. Yang, long time no see, you're looking more spirited." Alger laughed heartily, extending his hand to Yang Xiaoyun.

During this handshake, Alger did something unexpected—his other hand gently patted Yang Xiaoyun's arm.

This "casual" yet "friendly" gesture was quite inappropriate in this setting.

If done with old friends or those younger or lower in status, it could be excused. Yang Xiaoyun, considering his age and status, shouldn't have been treated this way.

Yet Alger did it publicly, appearing completely at ease and accustomed to it.

Bai Xiaosheng noticed this but remained impassive.

Yang Xiaoyun seemed not to notice at all, maintaining his smile.

Only Yang Yishan, nearby, flashed a trace of displeasure across his brow.

"Miss Yang, nice to meet you again." Alger greeted Yang Yishan, extending his hand more eagerly than he did with Yang Xiaoyun.

Out of politeness, Yang Yishan smiled and shook hands with Alger.

"Miss Lisa." Alger turned to Lisa, smiling and greeting.

"Mr. Alger." Lisa replied gracefully with a charming smile.

After greeting the two women, Alger turned to Lin Weiwei; his eyes glittered. Lin Weiwei possessed a unique temperament that the other two women did not—an Eastern charm.

"May I know your name, miss?" Alger asked with a smile, extending his hand.

Lin Weiwei had a less favorable impression of this man and directly took half a step back, withholding her handshake. She smiled calmly, "Sorry, Mr. Alger, I'm just Mr. Bai's secretary; I cannot accept your gesture."