

Two Trillion 2581

Chapter 2581 - Another Failed Negotiation (Part 2)

"So, it's better for you to just nod and sign an intention document. I also need to report to my superiors."

Wagg had thought it through well; as long as Bai Xiaosheng, the leader of the business group, signed it, it would count.

If any changes arose later, they could push all the issues onto the Huaxia Business Group.

Bai Xiaosheng had been in the business world for many years. Even as a newcomer to the political circle, he knew that many things in the world were connected.

In his urgency, Wagg was clearly treating him like a novice.

Bai Xiaosheng placed the documents on the table and pushed them toward Wagg, smiling, "Mr. Wagg, you flatter me. In the case of Karan, we had many meetings before I was temporarily recommended. This time is different; the merchants are not yet aware, so I can't make the decision. Furthermore, our actions last time received criticism from the top leadership."

Bai Xiaosheng was clearly trying to refuse.

Wagg immediately said, "Mr. Sheng, are you dissatisfied with the benefits? Are you worried your business group will find them unsuitable? No problem, I received authorization when I came here. We can offer you additional favorable policies and convince local businessmen to further reduce the cooperation price by ten percent in the first year. That should work."

What Wagg said indeed gave Bai Xiaosheng and the business group enough face.

Reducing the price for Oshan's business by an additional ten percent would require compensation, and their department would have to bear the risk of media backlash.

It could be said that at this point, they had reached the limit of what they could offer.

The Huaxia Business Group would greatly benefit from this, presumably no longer refusing...

To be honest, with what Wagg just said, Bai Xiaosheng was indeed tempted.

However, forty percent of the business cooperation framework was meaningless to Huaxia merchants, simply a waste of investment and effort.

Ten percent of the contents involve industries that might be completely phased out of the market by Huaxia within the next two or three years.

The other fifteen percent were included merely to "support" development here...

Bai Xiaosheng believed that even with such huge profit inducements, Dong Tianlu and Lu Tiandao among others would, after due consideration, painfully refuse.

"Mr. Wagg, unfortunately, we can only sign a part of the content of your cooperation framework. Our business group's current capacity is limited."

Bai Xiaosheng said, "However, if you wish, I can personally recommend other partners for you."

Upon hearing this, Mr. Wagg's smile froze momentarily, then he responded with a smile, "A part, so Mr. Sheng, how much do you estimate can be signed?"

"As for other partners, our department has its own arrangements. You don't need to worry, Mr. Sheng." Mr. Wagg continued.

When Bai Xiaosheng mentioned introducing other partners, it was a joke, as it would be hard to find enterprises with scale and significance.

Mr. Wagg promptly refused him.

He was unaware of Bai Xiaosheng's influence.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't mind his goodwill being rejected.

Based solely on the framework Mr. Wagg brought, those industries and those companies might not interest the major financial consortiums that Bai Xiaosheng knew.

Actually, Oshan is not lacking in better business cooperation fields, but Mr. Wagg and his team should be eager to fill some gaps, so they only use certain backward industries for negotiation.

When asked how much could be signed, Bai Xiaosheng didn't rush to respond but seemed to contemplate.

Seeing this, Mr. Wagg quickly said, "Eighty percent? Or seventy percent!"

Wagg's bottom line in mind was sixty-five percent of the cooperation framework he brought.

Not lower!

Bai Xiaosheng extended three fingers, trying to make his smile appear sincere and his voice sound earnest, "Mr. Wagg, based on my understanding of our business group, we need... thirty percent of cooperation from your documents."

Thirty percent?!

Mr. Wagg was stunned, looking at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

He had offered conditions up to this point, and Bai Xiaosheng only mentioned thirty percent cooperation?!

This was really insane!

"Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, are you joking?" Wagg's facial smile twitched and began to lose control.

"I can only guarantee thirty percent, and we also need to choose specific contents ourselves." Bai Xiaosheng took a deep breath and spoke seriously.

Sometimes negotiations can't always be measured by tactfulness; the other side must know our real demands.

Upon hearing this demand, Mr. Wagg could no longer manage his smile; it disappeared instantly.

"Mr. Bai, are you serious?" Wagg asked in a deep voice.

Bai Xiaosheng gazed at him with confident eyes and nodded affirmatively.

"We've been so sincere, and you can only offer this?!" Wagg couldn't help but say.

"Sorry, Mr. Wagg, business is business." Bai Xiaosheng replied.

Wagg stared at Bai Xiaosheng for two seconds, confirmed there was no room to maneuver, and slightly nodded, reaching out to organize the documents on the table and put them in his briefcase.

"Since that's the case, I must leave first to report to the higher-ups." Wagg said.

Though Wagg's face showed no smile and his words weren't harsh or cold, it was clear he was not happy.

"I'll see you off." Bai Xiaosheng said.

"No need, please continue to enjoy your party."

Wagg stood up, nodded to Bai Xiaosheng, and walked straight out.

Bai Xiaosheng stood up to see him off.

Outside the small lounge, Mr. Wagg nodded to Bai Xiaosheng, summoned his people, and left directly, without happiness or sadness on his face, showing no trace.

Bai Xiaosheng stopped, watched, and sighed silently in his heart.

"Profit-driven" issues destined this conversation could only stop here.

But aren't all business negotiations like this? They'll never be completed in one move; there will be a second and third round if there is one...

At the collapse of Wagg's negotiation with Bai Xiaosheng, Alger was receiving guidance from Lisa.

"Look, your uncle is an executive of Oshan's Commerce Department. As long as you put sufficient thought into this... Bai Xiaosheng and the Huaxia Business Group will have to comply. After all, if something goes wrong, they can't bear it!"

Lisa instilled this thought in Alger for quite some time.

During the conversation, Alger drank quite a bit and was feeling fiery, thinking it made sense.

Lisa presented many schemes and plans; Alger couldn't help but nod repeatedly.

"I'll go find my uncle now, and then act accordingly." Alger immediately stood up, intending to return to the banquet hall.

Lisa smiled and raised her glass, "Then I'll be here, waiting for good news!"

Alger smiled, pushed open the door, and went.

Lisa looked at the doorway, smiled faintly, placed the glass on her lips, and sipped gracefully...

Alger, propelled by the alcohol, headed directly to the banquet hall.

However, he was only slightly tipsy, not foolishly drunk and was pondering how to persuade his uncle.

This matter... isn't that simple...

Alger thought as he turned the corridor corner and heard a familiar voice, "Sir, there were some issues with the negotiation with Bai Xiaosheng... please don't get angry, this isn't my fault..."

Alger was immediately taken aback and then saw someone coming briskly, almost colliding with each other.

The person was none other than his uncle, Mr. Wagg.

But at this moment, Mr. Wagg looked extremely pale.

Alger instantly sobered up, and his mind spun like never before.

His uncle failed in the negotiation with Bai Xiaosheng?

It seemed the key person from Oshan's Commerce Department was angry, even blaming his uncle?

His uncle seemed under tremendous pressure!

Then this matter...

Seemed to be heading in a "quite favorable" direction.

In a split-second, Alger integrated the many strategies Lisa proposed and had a moment of inspiration, suddenly innovating.

"Alger?" Wagg also saw Alger and immediately frowned.

"Uncle Wagg, I have something to discuss with you!" Alger immediately said seriously, and then lowered his voice, saying, "I can help you resolve that Huaxia Business Group issue with Bai Xiaosheng! Want to hear?"

Chapter 2582 - Perilous Crisis

When Wagg saw Alger again, he was actually deeply troubled and anxious to return to his own department.

The failure of the face-to-face meeting with Bai Xiaosheng surprised him and disrupted their department's plans. He had to return quickly to let the department make alternative arrangements.

But just now, Wagg thought of calling the Head. first to explain the situation, but was severely reprimanded over the phone.

The Head. was very angry and actually shifted all the responsibility onto him.

Mr. Wagg felt both extremely furious and deeply uneasy.

Will those above sacrifice him as an excuse to protect themselves by telling the parliament his mistakes led to the department's failures, thus using his sacrifice to preserve the entire department?

The others in the department would surely agree!

After all, when it comes to "profit," they would rather sacrifice others than themselves.

If everyone in the department speaks with one voice, he would have no defense!

In extreme cases, even if he wants to tear up things and go down fighting, it's unlikely to succeed.

Deep fear arose in Mr. Wagg's heart.

With these feelings, when Alger suddenly appeared to block his way, Mr. Wagg immediately wanted his nephew to move aside and not obstruct him.

But when Alger said "help him handle Bai Xiaosheng," Wagg was electrified, staring surprised at his nephew.

"Alger, what... what are you saying?!" Wagg quickly said in a low voice.

As they spoke, their entourages walked over.

Though those people were close confidants, in such a public setting, eyes were many and it was hard to guarantee privacy.

Alger lowered his voice and said, "Uncle, let's find a place to talk in detail!"

Wagg forced down his emotions, nodded, glanced around, and pointed to a distant spot, "There's a lounge there..."

"Not suitable." Alger immediately shook his head upon seeing it.

Lisa was there, and going over could be inconvenient.

"Why not there?" Wagg asked in confusion.

"There's another lounge over there that seems quieter," Alger suddenly noticed another lounge on the opposite side and indicated it with a nod.

Wagg glanced at the room Alger pointed to and also nodded.

Where they talked was not important; the key was secrecy.

Wagg was eager to understand the true meaning of Alger's words.

It wasn't that Wagg particularly respected his nephew, thinking his nephew had exceptional talent and clever strategies, but now his thoughts were scattered, resembling a desperate attempt to seek any possible solution.

Moreover, seeing Alger prompted Wagg to have a sudden idea.

If Alger's family could support him, the Head. would not dare easily harm him, causing him undue suffering or wrongfully blaming him.

With these calculations in mind, Wagg naturally wanted to speak with Alger as soon as possible.

The two immediately hurried to the lounge.

The many followers congregated together, following behind.

Upon reaching the lounge door, Wagg turned back to the people behind him and sternly said, "Wait outside, do not disturb us!"

With his command, those underlings immediately obeyed, not daring to disobey.

Wagg and Alger entered the lounge one after the other.

Once they sat down, Wagg first asked Alger, "Alger, you said you could help me handle that Bai Xiaosheng. What exactly do you mean? Do you, do you know what happened with me?"

No matter how much Alger knew, Wagg felt he should let him understand some circumstances.

"Did you go to Bai Xiaosheng to discuss cooperation, and it didn't meet expectations?" Alger probed, "He was indifferent! Even dismissive!"

Alger knew somewhat of the situation in his uncle's department.

Wagg going to Huaxia Business Group to find Bai Xiaosheng was surely about discussing cooperation, with high expectations, which wasn't hard to guess.

Just looking at his uncle's expression now, it was obvious the outcome between them wasn't great.

Not to mention, Alger also heard snippets of his uncle's phone call to the superior.

Listening to it, it seemed his uncle was in big trouble because of this...

Naturally, this was beneficial for convincing his uncle...

Faced with Alger's words, Wagg glanced at the door and nodded slightly, acknowledging.

"Before you, I also went to Bai Xiaosheng, wanting to discuss a major deal with their group. I even rallied seven or eight large companies, but was also turned down!" Alger said.

"You too..." Wagg was suddenly surprised to hear Alger, and followed with a question, "Did you go to him because of your family's intention?"

"It was just me personally."

While speaking, Alger briefly explained what he had experienced.

After hearing Alger's words, Wagg's eyes sank slightly, "I didn't expect the two of us would consecutively suffer setbacks at Bai Xiaosheng's hands!"

"That arrogant Huaxia person made our mood terrible! Uncle, do you want to show him a thing or two!" Alger spoke with a hint of menace.

"What do you mean?" Wagg stared into Alger's eyes.

Alger moved a bit closer, lowered his voice, and said, "Not only to vent our anger, but we can also force him to humbly work with us!"

Hearing Alger say this, a glimmer appeared in Wagg's eyes.

"It depends on whether you dare or not." Alger smiled, still exuding a hint of alcohol.

Alcohol burned in his blood and mind.

Wagg narrowed his eyes, looked at Alger, and whispered, "What's your idea? What do you want to do!"

Chapter 2583 - Perilous Crisis (2)

Alger's expression and tone made Mr. Wagg feel a hint of danger.

Yet, he couldn't help but want to listen to his nephew's plan.

Seeing that his uncle was interested, Alger guessed that his current situation wasn't much better, and immediately felt hopeful.

In this way, his uncle could be more on his side in this battle!

Alger lowered his voice and laid out the plan that he had devised in a moment of inspiration, after combining Lisa's many "suggestions."

To be honest, the more he talked about it, the more excited he became.

Mr. Wagg was better off not listening, because once he did, he was shocked, staring at his nephew in disbelief and shouting, "Are you crazy, Alger!"

To Mr. Wagg, Alger's plan seemed incredibly audacious!

Absolutely appalling!

At that moment, Alger's eyes appeared slightly ferocious, and taking advantage of the alcohol, he laughed and said, "My dear Uncle Wagg, think about it, is this method really not feasible?"

Mr. Wagg stared at him with wide eyes.

"You know your current situation; think carefully about whether it can work or not. If it really can't, then just say I was talking nonsense because I've had too much to drink!" Alger said, "But I think it could be useful to you!"

Alger's demeanor made Mr. Wagg's gaze turn uncertain.

What Alger proposed was indeed insane!

But it was also an unexpected, unconventional move!

If he agreed, he would be facing enormous risk, and possibly dire consequences.

But if he didn't agree, would the outcome be any better?

At the moment, his boss wanted to make him the scapegoat, and his colleagues wanted to use him as a shield!

Rather than being sacrificial lambs... they might as well take a risk!

Even if something went wrong, he would drag everyone into it, not sacrifice himself alone!

Once the thought occurred to Mr. Wagg, it grew like wild grass, unchecked and rampant, making his breathing increasingly rapid.

In the end, Mr. Wagg made up his mind, his gaze revealing an unprecedented madness.

"Alger, your method... I think it's not bad! Now, let's work on perfecting it!" Mr. Wagg finally spoke, agreeing.

Seeing his uncle agree, Alger was overjoyed, his face beaming with a wide smile, and he whispered, "Alright, Uncle!"

The two of them conspired in that lounge for a whole hour.

Eventually, they finalized most of the plan.

Mr. Wagg needed to leave immediately, intending to return to his department to talk to his boss personally.

Such a crazy plan needed to be accepted by a boss also facing a crisis to be implemented.

However, Mr. Wagg believed that he would accept it.

After Mr. Wagg left, Alger's eyes gleamed with a sinister light, as he muttered to himself, "Bai Xiaosheng, I tried to do business with you, and you left me hanging. This time, I'll show you that this place is not for your arrogance! Hehehe, hahaha!"

While Alger was reveling in his satisfaction, Mr. Wagg was leaving with his people, also taking out his phone to make a call, "Sir, I'm heading back, and there's been a change in the situation; I need to tell you personally! It's about everyone in our department!"

As Mr. Wagg hurriedly walked past a lounge with his men, a beautiful lady inside was watching them closely.

That was, of course, Lisa.

"I didn't expect them to talk for so long. If Alger had failed, it would have been over with just a few words, no need for so much time," Lisa murmured with a smile, "Now that it's settled, with Mr. Wagg's intelligence, the plan will certainly become more interesting. Enough for Bai Xiaosheng to have a real challenge! This way, it won't be in vain for Miss Caroline to have instructed me!"

A part of LLK Company, Lisa was directly employed by Caroline, and the real financial backers behind the scenes were Caroline's family.

Previously, when in Karan, she had already been causing trouble for Bai Xiaosheng at every chance, though he managed to resolve them all.

This time, Lisa was convinced she would fulfill her mission.

Not only Alger, but with Mr. Wagg, she wanted to involve another party to deliver a surprise blow to Bai Xiaosheng!

Lisa leisurely swirled her Cup, watching the liquid inside swirl around.

Her smile was particularly triumphant.

Five minutes later, footsteps approached outside the lounge, and someone pushed the door open, it was Alger.

In fact, Lisa was also waiting for him.

Lisa needed some information from his mouth about how things had turned out.

"Miss Lisa, it worked, Mr. Wagg has agreed to my plan," Alger couldn't help but say with pride.

He was eager to share with someone.

For most people, such a significant matter would not be shared loosely, but Alger had drunk quite a bit, was excited, and wanted to boast, so he was naturally less cautious.

Furthermore, when Lisa had previously been offering suggestions, she repeatedly stated that she had suffered significant losses in Karan due to Bai Xiaosheng, and if Alger intended to target Bai Xiaosheng, she would be willing to lend her support.

Her enthusiastic suggestions and promise of resource support unequivocally proved she was a trustworthy ally.

Therefore, Alger naturally wanted to "share" the new plan with her.

"Now, Mr. Alger, which plan of yours convinced Mr. Wagg?" Lisa asked with great interest, taking a sip of her drink.

Alger lowered his voice and told her.

Upon hearing it clearly, Lisa almost spat her drink onto Alger's face.

Alger's plan was none of the ones she had suggested, but it was even more "ruthless!"

"Miss Lisa, you didn't get scared, did you?" Alger smiled.

Even tipsy, Alger wasn't foolish. He only shared half of the plan, and if Lisa made it clear she didn't want to be involved, he wouldn't share more to avoid leaks.

Lisa set down her Cup, picked up a tissue to wipe her mouth, and composed herself.

"How could I be? Mr. Alger, I think your plan is simply... brilliant! If Mr. Wagg agreed, that's even better!" Lisa smiled.

Underneath her calm appearance, Lisa was still quite shocked.

She hadn't expected Alger to be so bold and capable of persuading Mr. Wagg to accept such a plan.

It seemed, as rumors suggested, that Mr. Wagg and his department were indeed at a life-and-death crisis point, otherwise, why resort to such madness?

Lisa smiled at Alger and said, "Mr. Alger, I also want to contribute to your perfect plan!"

Then, Lisa said something.

Alger was amazed upon hearing it, and then joyous beyond measure.

"I didn't expect Miss Lisa to have such resources, that's great, I'll inform Mr. Wagg, which will significantly increase our plan's success rate." Alger said with excitement.

Lisa's words were equivalent to pledging allegiance to Alger, which naturally earned his tremendous trust.

Lisa smiled and said, "However, Mr. Alger, please do not involve me with Mr. Wagg; as an outsider, he may not trust me, and I want to avoid any complications."

"Yes, yes, that's what I was thinking," Alger laughed.

Lisa's "addition to the icing on the cake" was something Alger was eager to present as his own discovery to Mr. Wagg, making it a point of pride.

The two hit it off, raising their Cups with smiles, and Alger also lifted his Cup.

"To our success!"

"Here's to Bai Xiaosheng going to hell!"

The two Cups clinked together, making a crisp and pleasant sound.

At this moment, in the banquet hall, Bai Xiaosheng was continuing to engage with the guests, contemplating calling all the members of the commercial group together that evening to share the outcome of his conversation with Mr. Wagg.

Bai Xiaosheng was even considering visiting the head of Oshan's Commerce Department the next day to openly discuss cooperation; if they were interested, he could introduce other partners, earning some goodwill for the commercial group.

Little did Bai Xiaosheng know, a conspiracy against him had already come together and was about to unfold.

It would be a perilous crisis for him!

Chapter 2584 - Friendly Chamber of Commerce

The Oshan Chieftaincy, Oklandt City, the night was deep, lights were brilliant.

In the city center, a building was brightly lit. The employees inside did not head home despite it being after office hours, each bearing a grave expression, walking hastily.

They were working overtime, rushing to complete various reports and documents, in preparation for the impending survival crisis facing the entire department.

In a corridor, Mr. Wagg walked briskly, unable to pay attention to the greetings from the staff along the way.

Finally, Wagg arrived at an office door. Before entering, he turned to look at the people behind him, then in a low voice told his entourage, "Wait outside, and don't let anyone in to disturb us. Not a single person, no matter who they are!"

Those accompanying Wagg were his trusted aides, and they naturally nodded in agreement.

Two strong men stood by the door like guardian deities, one on each side.

Wagg extended a finger to loosen his tie, making his neck feel more comfortable.

Then he knocked on the door, not waiting for a response from inside, and pushed the door open to enter.

After entering, Wagg turned and locked the door behind him.

"Wagg? What are you doing?" As soon as Wagg locked the door, a suspicious voice exclaimed.

Wagg turned his head and saw a man sitting behind the desk.

The man appeared to be in his sixties, solid in build, even burly and powerful, sporting a beautiful beard. Although his hair was streaked with gray, he was not bald, but his face showed signs of fatigue, as if he hadn't rested well for many days, with dark and puffy bags under his eyes.

Wagg stared directly at the man, striding forward, and said, "Mr. Mira, I want to talk to you!"

Mr. Mira squinted at Wagg, one hand placed on the desk phone.

As soon as he picked it up, one button could make a call, even without speaking, security could be summoned.

"Wagg, what do you want to tell me?" Mr. Mira asked in a stern voice, "You know perfectly well what our department is facing! I sent you with top authority and maximum privileges to persuade the Huaxia people to cooperate, yet you failed!"

At this point, Mr. Mira seemed extremely furious, roaring accusations, "Our department will suffer misfortune because of your stupidity and incompetence! Let me tell you, I will explain to the council that it was your mistake that caused great loss to our entire department!"

Wagg listened with a blank expression, continuing to walk forward.

"You will be investigated, while I will assure the council that I will do my best to make up for the losses you've caused!" Mira said, staring at Wagg.

As Wagg approached, Mr. Mira had already gripped the phone's receiver, ready to pick it up at any moment.

Simultaneously, Mira changed his tone, speaking earnestly and instructively, "I hope you can resign voluntarily, it's for everyone's good, isn't it? Rest assured, as long as I'm here, even if you're not in this position, I will ensure you receive what you rightfully deserve!"

In Mira's view, it was best to persuade Wagg to cooperate proactively, sacrificing the individual to save the collective.

If not, tearing the face apart would be very troublesome.

"Mr. Mira, you haven't even heard what I want to say, and you're advising me to sacrifice myself, isn't that inappropriate."

Despite feeling furious inside, Wagg remained calm on the surface.

Seeing his composed demeanor, Mira's brows furrowed with a hint of doubt.

No normal person would remain so calm after hearing they were to be treated this way.

Amidst this doubt, Wagg had already approached, firmly pressing down on the hand Mr. Mira had placed on the phone.

Just as Mr. Mira was abruptly startled, thinking Wagg was about to act irrationally, he heard Wagg say, "I have a method that doesn't require sacrificing anyone, that can protect our department and secure our positions!"

This statement left Mr. Mira momentarily stunned, looking at Wagg with disbelief.

Wagg was serious.

Mr. Mira stared intently at him for two seconds, then withdrew his hand from the phone.

"Mr. Wagg, I'd like to hear your plan!" Mira said.

Indeed, sacrificing a Wagg and shifting all blame onto him to the council could temporarily ease the urgent situation.

But scapegoating a Wagg could only buy the department a little more time, and they still needed to guard against Wagg retaliating in desperation, which could backfire.

If there was a better solution, Mr. Mira certainly didn't want to go this route.

Seeing this, Wagg lowered his voice and divulged to his superior everything he had discussed with Alger.

The more Mira listened, the more shocked he became, staring at Wagg with astonishment, uttering the words Wagg had originally said to Alger, "Are you crazy, Wagg!"

"Mr. Mira, don't you think that only this extreme method can give us a breakthrough now! Fully utilize our resources and power!" Wagg asserted fiercely.

With that, Mr. Mira was momentarily speechless.

This was indeed a crazy idea.

But indeed, it could make the crisis crash against the barrier.

If lucky, it might even completely resolve the current trouble.

"Mr. Mira, I've thought the plan through thoroughly; it's foolproof, and even if something goes wrong, we can shift the blame to others, avoiding our department falling into a set-up crisis. Don't you really want to give it a try!" Wagg gazed into Mira's eyes and added, "If you have to sacrifice me to seek an opportunity, well, so be it, but I assure you the outcome won't be as you expect! Rather than internal strife, why not work together to find an external solution! The opportunity is greater!"

Chapter 2585 - Friendly Chamber of Commerce (Part 2)

"What do you think, Mr. Mira?" Wagg smiled.

Mira looked at Wagg, clenching and unclenching his fist repeatedly, showing he was weighing his options internally.

For a full five minutes, Mira hadn't finished deliberating.

Wagg decisively stood up, turned around, and started walking out the door without looking back, saying, "If you disagree, then let me be the sacrificial lamb! I'll go back early to prepare, rather than waste time here!"

As Wagg spoke, he walked step by step towards the door, his face extremely gloomy.

When he reached the door, Mr. Mira finally couldn't hold back, "I agree with your suggestion!"

Wagg let out a sigh of relief internally, his palms sweaty.

But as he turned back, he smiled, "Your decision is exceedingly wise!"

Once they reached a consensus, the two of them sat together again to discuss every detail.

"In the next couple of days, I can tell the council that there's a significant private meeting with the Huaxia Business Group and report positive progress, which can buy us two days."

"I'll keep an eye on the upcoming arrangements to ensure there are no slip-ups."

"I'll alert the relevant departments, they should be ready quickly."

...

As they were conversing, Wagg's phone rang.

Initially, Wagg didn't want to answer, but seeing it was his nephew Alger calling, he immediately explained to Mira that the call was important to the plan and had to be answered.

With Mr. Mira's permission, Wagg took the call.

Upon hearing what Alger said, Wagg couldn't help but show a joyful expression.

After hanging up, Wagg's smile broadened, and he said to Mira, "Mr. Mira, we have a new opportunity that can be used in this plan!"

Mira's eyes lit up instantly.

Wagg explained the situation to him.

"Great!" Mira said with delight.

Next, the two of them went through all the scenarios.

Once everything was confirmed to be in order, Wagg got up to take his leave and head back to prepare.

As he left Mira's office, Wagg looked at the lights and shadows in the hallway, feeling a bit surreal.

Then, he thought to himself fiercely, "Next, it's time to roll the dice big!"

On the second day after the Huaxia Business Group arrived at Oklandt City, Bai Xiaosheng and his team were informed that the higher-ups had thoroughly considered their suggestions and agreed to shorten their itinerary. Negotiations with Oshan were currently underway to reach an agreement as soon as possible.

The quick response from the higher-ups was well-received by everyone in the business group.

That day, the focus was on examining key companies. Those that needed signing, the business group decisively signed on. The outcomes were naturally gratifying.

On the third day, it was again a focus on key companies, with each of the big businessmen in the group securing a new round of collaborations.

In just these two days, the residual "appetite" of people like Dong Tianlu and Lu Tiandao was almost fully satisfied.

The remaining five days of the tour were largely going to be just formalities.

After all, it was about fulfilling obligations of friendly exchange.

On the fourth day after arriving in Oklandt City, early in the morning before Bai Xiaosheng organized the group's outing, an unusual visitor came to see him.

Bai Xiaosheng received him in his temporary office.

When Lin Weiwei led the guest in, Bai Xiaosheng saw a man in his fifties, short and stout, resembling a penguin, with a constant smile, followed by two secretaries.

The man seemed a bit slick, yet seemed to be quite knowledgeable; even Bai Xiaosheng couldn't see through the changing expressions hiding his thoughts.

Just because of this "ability," Bai Xiaosheng considered this person uncommon.

"Mr. Bai, hello, my name is Kro, and I'm a Deputy Secretary-General of the 'Donggu' Chamber of Commerce in Oshan. Here's my business card." The penguin-like Mr. Kro smiled and directly handed his card to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng took it, glanced at it, then smiled warmly, "Mr. Kro, please have a seat."

The day before, Bai Xiaosheng received news that Oshan had allowed them to change their itinerary, but in exchange, they would need to send businessmen to Huaxia for a tour later.

And the 'Donggu' Chamber of Commerce in Oshan was one of several major chambers suitable for the visit.

So, Bai Xiaosheng was quite courteous to the visitor.

Lin Weiwei served tea to the guest, then left.

The secretaries accompanying Mr. Kro were also signaled to leave by him.

"Mr. Bai, I'm here on behalf of our president who couldn't be in Oklandt City, but they'll be returning soon." Kro smiled, "Our chamber holds great respect for the businessmen in your group, and some of the businesses you're examining are part of our chamber."

"We've also heard much about your chamber," Bai Xiaosheng replied courteously with a smile.

Upon hearing this, Kro looked very pleased, "That's wonderful. We hope to visit Huaxia in the future and cooperate more with your prominent businessmen. I'm here to establish connections in advance."

This person seemed proactive, and Bai Xiaosheng smiled and concurred, "We're keen to build a deeper friendship with the Oshan business community."

This polite remark instantly opened up the deputy secretary-general Kro's conversation box, and he warmly and enthusiastically conveyed the cooperation expectations of the many businessmen in the chamber to Bai Xiaosheng.

While listening, Bai Xiaosheng inquired about some situations. Deputy Secretary-General Kro was truly impressive, detailing things proficiently, with an intimate knowledge of their business group's enterprises.

This singular competence confirmed to Bai Xiaosheng his identity, making him admire Kro's business skills.

However, after chatting for more than an hour, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't resist checking the time twice, hoping to wrap up the conversation soon.

Chapter 2586 - Friendly Chamber of Commerce (Part 3)

After all, today's inspection hasn't been carried out yet.

"Mr. Bai, do you have work to do?" Kro noticed Bai Xiaosheng checking the time and immediately said, with a foolish smile, "Look at me, I was so excited that we've been talking for so long, I've already taken up your time."

"No problem, I'm also happy to converse with Mr. Kro," Bai Xiaosheng replied with a smile.

"Then I shouldn't take up any more of your time," Kro offered proactively, then suddenly slapped his forehead and apologized with a smile, "Oh, how could I forget such an important matter!"

Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily startled upon hearing this and found it amusing.

We've been chatting for over an hour and he only now remembers he has important matters to discuss?

This surely delays things...

Kro flipped through his personal briefcase and handed over a document to Bai Xiaosheng with a smile.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes went wide with surprise as he glanced at the document, smiling, "Mr. Kro, this is...?"

Kro's smile widened as he said to Bai Xiaosheng, "This is a token of goodwill, no, I should say benevolence from the businessmen of our chamber of commerce. We hope Mr. Bai can receive it on our behalf and redirect the donation to relevant organizations in Huaxia."

Bai Xiaosheng curiously flipped through the documents and was amazed to find a comprehensive list of materials, all sorts of bizarre things, including cement and building materials.

What's all this nonsense... Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but grumble inwardly.

As Bai Xiaosheng was examining the contents, Kro added from the side, "Some of it is for the pandas, to improve their living conditions. Some are donated to children in rural areas, hoping to build new school buildings for them, fostering friendship between the future generations of both countries. And then some..."

Kro continued without pause, the range of items discussed was incredibly vast, with the document showing only a small part.

Bai Xiaosheng was left bewildered.

"Mr. Kro, Mr. Kro!" Bai Xiaosheng had to interrupt Kro, smiling as he said, "It's generous of you to want to donate these items to us, for which I'm grateful. However, it's not appropriate for me to accept them. If you want to donate, you can contact the official channels."

It's not that Bai Xiaosheng didn't wish to be a friendly ambassador, but he didn't have the authority or the energy to do so.

Kro pulled out additional documents and hurriedly said, "These items are already at the port, all customs clearance and quarantine has been completed. There's no need to worry about any issues with the goods. Our businessmen do not wish to go through official donation routes; they only want to give them to fellow businessmen such as yourselves for forwarding. Mr. Bai, you are the business group leader, so we can only trouble you with this. Surely you wouldn't let our goodwill be wasted?"

Kro seemed somewhat disheartened.

Their motives weren't hard for Bai Xiaosheng to guess; they wanted to donate to Huaxia via the business group, thereby earning a reputation for friendly exchanges with the business group, and indirectly establishing good relations with the group.

The effort was commendable.

Bai Xiaosheng hesitated for a moment, then said, "How about this, I'll reach out above and see."

Kro instantly shifted from worry to joy.

Bai Xiaosheng could only call Hou Yuncheng.

Upon hearing about this matter, Hou Yuncheng said over the phone to Bai Xiaosheng, "Xiaosheng, yesterday a leader from their department of commerce talked to me about how their business group wants to privately engage in friendly exchanges with you. I think this is a good thing. If there are no issues, you can temporarily accept it."

With Hou Yuncheng's remarks, Bai Xiaosheng ended the call and agreed to the proposal.

The clearance and quarantine documents provided by Kro were entirely in order, and the donation agreement presented had no omissions. After careful review, Bai Xiaosheng signed his name.

Leaving behind some documents and taking away the ones signed by Bai Xiaosheng, Kro happily bid farewell.

Out of courtesy, Bai Xiaosheng accompanied him to the door.

As Kro walked away and reached a place where Bai Xiaosheng could no longer see him, his smile became sly and he murmured to himself, "It's done!"

Chapter 2587 - Sudden Turn of Events

After sending off Kro, the deputy secretary-general of the "Donggu" Chamber of Commerce, Bai Xiaosheng called Lei Ying and handed him the list and documents he had received, asking him to make a trip to the relevant port to check on the batch of materials.

The procedures and documents were all fine, and there was no problem with the signed donation agreement either. Bai Xiaosheng had also communicated with Hou Yuncheng about the situation, so he didn't worry too much about it.

After Lei Ying left with the instructions, Bai Xiaosheng went on with his routine inspection work.

There were only two companies to be inspected that morning, and only three to five people in the business delegation were interested, so Bai Xiaosheng arranged for them to set out first.

The main event, the collective inspection, was scheduled for the afternoon.

Once everything was carefully arranged, Bai Xiaosheng found some time to rest, and it was almost noon.

He thought today would be another uneventful day, but just as he was about to have lunch, he received a call.

The caller was Lei Ying, who by then had arrived by plane at the port of the relevant city and had found the batch of materials donated by the "Donggu" Chamber of Commerce, all piled in containers. According to the management, the batch comprised a total of 2,500 containers.

"How could there be so many?!" Bai Xiaosheng was shocked. He recalled that Mr. Kro had shown him a list indicating there were only supposed to be 1,000 containers.

This discrepancy was too large!

"I asked the staff here, and this batch of materials indeed consists of so many. So, I thought I'd better call you right away to see if there's a problem somewhere." Lei Ying reported over the phone.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded immediately, "Alright, I understand. I'll verify with the Chamber over there right now. Thank you for your hard work, Lei Ying. Go have lunch quickly."

"Is there a problem, Sheng?" Lin Weiwei, who was nearby, asked with concern as Bai Xiaosheng put down the phone.

She had overheard snippets of the conversation.

"The number of goods doesn't match. It's not less, but more—by as many as 1,500 containers!" Bai Xiaosheng frowned and said.

"1,500... such a huge difference!" Lin Weiwei was equally astonished.

Bai Xiaosheng dug out Kro's business card, which had been resting quietly in the drawer all morning, and didn't expect to have to use it so soon.

Bai Xiaosheng dialed the number, but soon creased his brow.

"What is it, Sheng?" Lin Weiwei quickly inquired.

Bai Xiaosheng put down the phone and said solemnly, "The number does not exist!"

"How can it not exist?!" Lin Weiwei exclaimed in disbelief.

Mr. Kro had arrived that morning, and the business card was new; surely, he couldn't have changed the number so quickly.

Bai Xiaosheng narrowed his eyes; he now harbored a bad premonition.

"Red Lotus, find me the phone number of the president's office of the 'Donggu' Chamber of Commerce!" Bai Xiaosheng muttered to himself.

"Got it." As Red Lotus responded, Bai Xiaosheng was already aware of the phone number.

But before Bai Xiaosheng could make the call, the door to his office was rudely pushed open, and several people rushed in.

"What are you doing?!" Lin Weiwei was the first to react, immediately exclaiming sternly.

The people entering were all in formal attire, looking serious, seemingly like government officials.

No one responded to Lin Weiwei's question, but shortly thereafter, those people parted to the sides, and one person came forward.

Lin Weiwei recognized him; it was Mr. Wagg, who had previously sought out Bai Xiaosheng.

Mr. Wagg's face was expressionless at this moment. He approached Bai Xiaosheng and, with a backward gesture, someone handed him a piece of paper from behind.

Mr. Wagg took the document and showed it to Bai Xiaosheng, and Lin Weiwei read, "Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, you are now suspected of being involved in a commercial smuggling case, allegedly harming the interests of thirty-four companies in our country. We must exercise the power of our country's Ministry of Commercial Affairs to initiate an investigation on you, and we hope for your cooperation."

Upon hearing Wagg's words, Lin Weiwei's eyes widened.

What smuggling case?

And they want to investigate Bai Xiaosheng?

"Mr. Wagg, you must understand, we are a visiting business delegation, newly arrived in your country. How could we be involved in any smuggling case?" Lin Weiwei spoke up for Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng narrowed his eyes, curious as to where the problem arose.

Moreover, the investigation came too quickly; Mr. Wagg even had the investigation papers, truly "remarkably fast"...

Bai Xiaosheng looked calmly at Wagg.

The latter, seeing Bai Xiaosheng's expression, couldn't help but reveal a meaningful smile. He seemed to be addressing Lin Weiwei, but was actually speaking to Bai Xiaosheng, "Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, did you accept materials from someone claiming to be the Deputy Secretary-General of the 'Donggu' Chamber of Commerce? That person is a commercial fraudster, impersonating a top executive of a large Chamber within our territory, and has already deceived over thirty companies. We've been looking for him, and it was only this morning that we apprehended him. On him, we found something bearing your signature, so you must come with us for investigation. As to whether you're an accomplice of his, personally, I am reluctant to believe so."

Lin Weiwei was dumbfounded upon hearing Kro's name.

This morning, the person had just interacted with Bai Xiaosheng and even donated a batch of materials.

But unexpectedly, he turned out to be an impersonator, dragging Bai Xiaosheng into the situation!

However, this matter should be clarified soon.

Lin Weiwei looked towards Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng opened the drawer and pulled out some of the documents Kro had handed him, pushing them forward, "Mr. Wagg, how do you explain these?"

"These were brought to us this morning by that Kro, claiming to donate a batch of materials to our side." Lin Weiwei also chimed in, "The paperwork is complete, with no issues whatsoever!"

Chapter 2588 - Sudden Turn of Events (Part 2)

Mr. Wagg reached out and picked up the documents, glanced at them nonchalantly, then handed them to his subordinate behind him to put away.

"That Kro is a master of forgery. The things he fabricates can even deceive computer checks, which doesn't prove anything. However, he admitted personally that he bribed Mr. Bai Xiaosheng to help him transport goods to Huaxia, which is why we're here!"

Lin Weiwei suddenly became anxious.

Isn't this blatantly lying!

"Mr. Sheng is the leader of our business delegation, how could he..." Lin Weiwei wanted to argue with Mr. Wagg.

"Miss!" Mr. Wagg suddenly shouted, interrupting Lin Weiwei's words, with an impatient expression on his face, "Do you know the total value of those smuggled goods?!"

"With such enormous wealth, I can't guarantee who won't be tempted!"

"This matter is significant! We know Mr. Bai Xiaosheng's identity is not ordinary. We're only inviting him to assist with the investigation now! Please don't interfere with our work!"

At this point, it was hard for Lin Weiwei to speak further.

Bai Xiaosheng slowly stood up, looking at Mr. Wagg calmly.

"To prove my innocence, Mr. Wagg, I'll go with you. I believe the truth will eventually come out. However, Mr. Wagg, when the time comes, I expect you to give me an explanation. We have a saying in Huaxia: it's easy to invite a god, but difficult to send one away."

Bai Xiaosheng only knew something unusual was going on; Mr. Wagg was moving swiftly, able to investigate many matters, yet insisted on taking him back, likely as a pretext for revenge after Bai Xiaosheng refused to cooperate with them initially.

That's why Bai Xiaosheng warned him like this.

Faced with Bai Xiaosheng's words, Mr. Wagg just smiled and made a "please" gesture to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng stepped toward the outside.

Lin Weiwei wanted to follow but was stopped by Mr. Wagg.

"Weiwei, contact Lei Ying to come back, tell everyone not to worry, and proceed in an orderly fashion. Let Miss Dong contact Director Hou to temporarily take over as the delegation leader."

Bai Xiaosheng, without turning back, calmly issued orders.

Lin Weiwei stood there, watching Bai Xiaosheng walk out the door before loudly saying, "Yes, please rest assured!"

The news of Bai Xiaosheng being taken away quickly reached the ears of the business delegation, shocking everyone.

Dong Tianlu immediately contacted Hou Yuncheng and asked Lin Weiwei to explain the situation over the phone in detail in front of everyone.

Hou Yuncheng was also very surprised to hear the news.

Previously, there was no prior notice from Oshan's side.

"Everyone, don't worry. I'll report this to the higher-ups right away and contact the Oshan side!" Hou Yuncheng reassured them a little before hanging up the phone.

With Hou Yuncheng's reassurance, everyone felt somewhat relieved.

They originally thought Bai Xiaosheng would be back that night, but were disappointed.

In the evening, Hou Yuncheng contacted the business group again, saying they had engaged in stern negotiations with the Oshan side.

The Oshan side stated that they were not investigating Bai Xiaosheng, but asking him to assist, guaranteeing his rights in all aspects, though he couldn't return temporarily.

Hou Yuncheng stated that the authorities would closely monitor the matter, urging the Oshan side to resolve it quickly so as not to harm the relationship between both parties.

"Director Hou, if the Oshan side still has no compelling evidence connecting Mr. Bai Xiaosheng to their investigation, and they continue to detain him, we will terminate our cooperation with Oshan Enterprises to make our stance clear!"

Dong Tianlu seriously expressed her position to Hou Yuncheng.

All along, Bai Xiaosheng had been extremely helpful to them, considered the uncrowned king of their commercial alliance.

Letting him face troubles without intervention was something Dong Tianlu would never agree to.

"Exactly, they must allow Mr. Bai to return!"

"Otherwise, we will stop collaborating with them!"

"As Huaxia merchants, we cannot allow our integrity to be insulted!"

Lu Tiandao, Zhang Qinglin, and Wang Xuantian, these big merchants, all voiced their stance in unison.

"Everyone, please remain calm. Leave this matter to us, and trust that we will not let Bai Xiaosheng suffer any baseless losses!"

Hearing the group's stance over the phone, Hou Yuncheng immediately and solemnly expressed his position.

After this call ended, none of them stayed idle. They directly contacted Oshan Enterprises, with whom they had signed a cooperation agreement, and informed them that cooperation was on hold.

The reason? Let them ask Mr. Wagg!

That night, Lei Ying also returned from the port, having already learned the situation on the way back, and was equally furious.

That night, many tossed and turned, unable to sleep.

By noon the next day, news finally arrived, shocking everyone.

The investigation department of Oshan's business department claimed to have found new evidence, extremely unfavorable to Bai Xiaosheng.

Previously, Bai Xiaosheng purchased a second-hand cruise ship from a company called "Maiwen Transport Company" in the Aisha Emirate. During the investigation, Mr. Maiwen claimed that Bai Xiaosheng had privately stated a plan to use the cruise ship to ocean freight a large batch of goods, asking them to dock the ship at Oshan's port, where 2,500 containers were stored. However, due to customs paperwork and other issues, Maiwen did not agree.

He further claimed that Bai Xiaosheng later requested confidentiality.

Later, Bai Xiaosheng sold the second-hand cruise ship.

This matter was deemed a significant clue by Oshan's business department.

Upon hearing this news, Lin Weiwei, Lei Ying, and others were stunned.

No one expected these two events to be connected!

However, that Maiwen Transport Company is owned by the Yang Family of West Africa, so Dong Tianlu immediately called Yang Xiaoyun.

"Is there such a thing? I had no idea! That Maiwen has already left and is no longer with our family enterprise!"

Chapter 2589 - Situation Drastically Changes (Part 3)

On the phone, Yang Xiaoyun was also shocked and kept asking about Bai Xiaosheng's situation.

"How is Mr. Bai Xiaosheng? Hasn't he come back yet? Has anyone asked Mr. Hou Yuncheng to intervene? Mr. Hou can't do anything for now either? Oshan's business department is really so tough..."

Finally, Yang Xiaoyun said indignantly, "Our Yang Family absolutely cannot sit idly by in this matter. We will use all resources to mediate, and we must rescue Mr. Bai Xiaosheng!"

With such a statement from the Yang Family, Dong Tianlu naturally also expressed thanks on behalf of everyone.

Another half a day passed.

In the evening, news came again.

This time, the situation got even worse.

Those containers were delivered to the port in batches, nominally signed by multiple companies for storage. However, after investigation, it was found that they were all shell companies, registered on an island in Asia, with the boss having the surname Bai.

This result undoubtedly shocked everyone.

It also worsened Bai Xiaosheng's situation even more!

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, upon hearing this news, were filled with anger, loudly claiming it was framing!

However, who exactly had the means to set up such a scheme left the two completely baffled.

Dong Tianlu and the others naturally did not believe it either and felt the situation was beyond imagination.

They immediately contacted Hou Yuncheng.

Hou Yuncheng stated that he was flying to Oshan with a team to intervene in the investigation.

Amidst everyone's anxiety, anger, and confusion, in a mansion, Alger and Lisa, the two people behind the scenes, were leisurely drinking and laughing about the event.

"I didn't expect even the registration of dummy companies under the surname Bai to come out; there won't be any issues, right?" Lisa asked Alger with a smile.

Alger, with a powerful family network and the covert support of Mr. Wagg and even his superior, had set up such a scheme that even Lisa felt a bit amazed—it was almost perfect.

Alger smiled proudly, full of confidence, "Don't worry, everything is foolproof."

Then, his eyes flashed with a murderous gleam, "Since that Bai Xiaosheng doesn't appreciate our kindness, he has to face such consequences today!"

"Are you really planning to ruin him?" Lisa's eyes flickered and she smiled.

"Do you take me for someone bloodthirsty?" Alger said lazily, "For me, it's just to vent some anger. He should have shown gratitude earlier. If he manages to bring in various businesses for me, I'll step in to help him."

"What does Mr. Wagg think?" Lisa asked with a smile, "And his superior..."

Alger sneered, "My uncle and they just want to use this incident to divert the parliament's attention, which has worked. Then push the Huaxia Business Group to the brink, and finally let the Huaxia side mediate and sign huge deals to make up for business losses. This way, their department's annual performance will be sufficient. Small leverage for big gains, making a major country compensate, their department is sure to gain fame, at least Mr. Mira and my uncle could both rise further."

Saying this, Alger lowered his voice and laughed with Lisa, "I guess the Huaxia people had previously mentioned shortening the inspection period to Oshan, which made the higher-ups furious. After all, Huaxia stayed in small countries like Aisha and Karan for so long, signing so many deals, but Oshan was given no respect. So my uncle told me, in this case, the higher-ups also silently agreed to it."

Hearing this, Lisa couldn't help but nod repeatedly.

"That Bai Xiaosheng is really unlucky. When he goes back, I'm afraid he won't have a good time," Lisa laughed, "Perhaps his business path might end, you never know."

No matter what, such an incident involving him would certainly not be tolerated in any country or place.

Hearing this, Alger laughed heartily, feeling joyful, "Then let's toast to Bai Xiaosheng's tough times ahead!"

Chapter 2590 - A Conversation Without Resolution

Oshan Chieftaincy, Oklandt City, early morning.

Outside the door of a luxurious suite in a five-star hotel in the city center, two men stood, appearing to be bodyguards.

They wore identification cards around their necks, their hands clasped in front, standing with a straight posture, capable of standing motionless for long periods, their eyes sharp, capable of unnerving anyone with their gaze.

They exuded an aura of lethal force, and along with the bulges at their waists indicative of weapons, they commanded a respect that kept others at a distance.

These two belonged to the Oshan Business Department Special Security Division, both were former special forces soldiers, sent to "protect" the person inside the room—Bai Xiaosheng.

At this time, it was the third day since Bai Xiaosheng had been brought here.

Just as the two guards were diligently on duty, a group of people came around a corner in the corridor, led by Alger's uncle, the second-in-command of the Oshan Business Department, Mr. Wagg.

Seeing Mr. Wagg approach, the two guards at the door simultaneously and respectfully greeted, "Mr. Wagg!"

Wagg nodded slightly and asked the two guards, "Has breakfast been delivered, according to the requirements?"

One guard responded, "An hour ago, the 'guest' finished dining, prepared by the hotel's Chinese chef. The 'guest' expressed great satisfaction."

The "guest" mentioned by the guards, of course, referred to Bai Xiaosheng.

This temporary resident, a Huaxia person, wasn't a prisoner. Rather than being detained, it seemed more like a stay of enjoyment. Residing in the most expensive suite of a five-star hotel, eating meals personally prepared by the hotel's Chinese chef, with twenty-four-hour "protection" at the door.

Privately, the guards envied him greatly.

Receiving such a reply, Wagg nodded in satisfaction and pushed the door open to enter.

Most of the people with Wagg stayed outside the door, but two high-ranking personnel followed him inside.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng was sitting on the sofa in the living room, watching TV.

His face was relaxed, without a trace of worry.

Seeing this scene, Wagg couldn't help but feel a sense of wonder; this was not inviting him to assist in an investigation—this was clearly keeping a master.

Nevertheless, burdened with allegations affecting his reputation and status, how much of Bai Xiaosheng's calm demeanor was genuine?

Wagg did not believe Bai Xiaosheng was truly so carefree, thinking it was just a facade, deliberately displayed.

As Wagg looked at Bai Xiaosheng, Bai Xiaosheng also glanced at him, maintaining a calm demeanor, and even greeted first, "You've come, Mr. Wagg."

"Mr. Bai, you're really in high spirits, watching American dramas early in the morning."

Wagg laughed, walking over with his people.

"Then what? Can I leave already?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

"Not yet for the time being, but if you cooperate with our investigation, it should be soon."

Wagg maintained a businesslike demeanor.

Bai Xiaosheng picked up the remote and turned off the TV, watching as Wagg and the three approached him.

Besides Wagg, the other two brought chairs, lining them up in a row.

Wagg sat in the middle, facing Bai Xiaosheng, the other two on either side, placing briefcases on their laps as tables, each taking out computers and pens and paper.

"I've already told all the details; perhaps Mr. Wagg can tell me about your investigation."

Bai Xiaosheng leaned comfortably against the sofa, crossing his legs.

In Bai Xiaosheng's view, regarding the conspiracy against him, there were at least dozens of flaws, if not a hundred, yet he had not been cleared of suspicion and instead faced more and more incriminating evidence.

If it were said that Wagg and his team were neglectful, they met with him eight to ten times a day, each conversation cleverly setting traps, none of them were fools.

This could only mean they intended to keep him entangled in trouble.

A little research and some connections made it clear to Bai Xiaosheng that getting tangled in this was beneficial to Wagg and his department.

It allowed their department to temporarily avoid the storm of scrutiny from the national assembly.

Previously, Wagg talked business with him, the urgency evident in his demeanor perfectly illustrating their department's anxiousness.

Surely now, thanks to this affair diverting the attention, their department must be having a breath of relief, their mood must be good.

Understanding this left Bai Xiaosheng feeling quite displeased.

In this matter, he was entirely being used as a scapegoat.

Furthermore, after several conversations, Bai Xiaosheng suspected more troubles were connected to Mr. Wagg and his department; it might not be deliberate framing, but they certainly weren't aiming to quickly clear his name.

With this anger inside, Bai Xiaosheng inevitably appeared "arrogant" in demeanor.

Facing Bai Xiaosheng half-lying against the sofa with crossed legs, Wagg and the two others seemed like subordinates reporting to him.

The two beside Wagg felt somewhat displeased but were helpless.

After all, even Mr. Wagg hadn't made any gesture.

"Since Mr. Bai Xiaosheng wishes to hear about our investigation progress, I am naturally obliged to satisfy you," Wagg said nonchalantly, smiling.

He then reached out to take a document from the person beside him, glancing at it while remarking, "Oh, Mr. Kro has confessed something new; he provided the time and place of two prior meetings with you, Mr. Bai, as well as the conversation contents."

"Is there surveillance?" Bai Xiaosheng still had the presence of mind to ask.

"Unfortunately, at that time, the surveillance in that location was under maintenance, nothing was recorded," Wagg shrugged, smiling, "but we found service personnel who can testify."