

## Two Trillion 441

### Chapter 441

Use Chen Jiuzheng to deal with Bai Xiaosheng!

Seeing his father, Yin Haoran, nod slightly, Yin Dongfeng couldn't help but swallow hard.

That was exactly the intent!

"But, how could someone of Chen Jiuzheng's stature bother with me!" said Yin Dongfeng with a bitter smile, cautiously adding, "Even if you, personally contacted him, I'm afraid he might not, might not..."

"Might not give a damn!"

Yin Haoran glanced at his eldest son and sighed, "Dongfeng, I've always trained you as the successor of the Yin Family because in comparison to Donglei, be it in terms of temperament or ability, he's far behind..."

To the side, Yin Donglei covertly curled his lip, yet didn't dare let the old man catch him. In his heart, he couldn't accept it, thinking, "It's just because I wasn't given a chance; otherwise, I'd definitely make you all take a second look!"

Yin Donglei's attitude wasn't due to jealousy of his elder brother, quite the opposite; their brotherly bonds were much more respectful and deferential than those of others who fought over a bit of family wealth until blood flowed.

Yet, having always been looked down upon by his father, Yin Donglei had craved attention since childhood, resulting in his actions often being exaggerated and absurd.

Over time, such behavior had become habitual.

This was the case today at the Meng Family's place, attempting to snatch someone's girlfriend right in front of her boyfriend.

"Dad, you flatter me," said Yin Dongfeng, reacting to his father's praise with an attempt at modesty.

"But I didn't expect you to be this foolish!" Yin Haoran suddenly changed his tone.

Yin Dongfeng immediately felt awkward.

"To cooperate with Chen Jiuzheng, must you seek out Chen Jiuzheng himself?" Yin Haoran asked his eldest with a piercing gaze.

To collaborate with Chen Jiuzheng, naturally, one would think to find Chen Jiuzheng himself!

Could it really be someone else...

Suddenly, a flash of insight struck Yin Dongfeng's mind, and he instantly understood!

"I get it, what you mean is for me to find Chen Changqing!" exclaimed Yin Dongfeng excitedly.

The relationship between Chen Changqing and Chen Jiuzheng within Zhongjing Media was no secret; knowing this, Yin Dongfeng assuredly had informed his own father.

"Hmph, at least you're not completely obtuse!" Yin Haoran scoffed.

Yin Dongfeng felt a secret shame.

He knew the information, yet when it was time to act, he wasn't as effortlessly capable as his father!

This was the mindset of a true business magnate!

"I'll contact Chen Changqing right now!" Yin Dongfeng said urgently.

Now was not the time for hesitation, especially since he would have to hand over authority tomorrow!

"Contact him!" Yin Haoran pushed the mobile phone towards him.

Yin Dongfeng picked up the phone, found the number, and dialed.

"Hello." The call connected, and Chen Changqing's voice came through, polite enough, "Director Yin, it's quite late, what brings you to call me?"

The eleven directors made up the high echelon of Zhongjing Media.

Chen Changqing naturally kept their numbers.

"Mr. Chen, I have something very important to discuss with you, is it convenient at your end?" said Yin Dongfeng, stressing his words.

"Go ahead, I'm alone in my room," Chen Changqing responded after a brief pause.

"Mr. Chen, I'll get straight to the point," continued Yin Dongfeng, "Just now, I was ousted by Bai Xiaosheng from the director's position, and the procedures will be handled tomorrow!"

When talking to a smart person, being direct is also an attitude, a form of "courtesy."

On the other end of the line, silence reigned for a few seconds.

"I see, well, if Mr. Bai has made his decision, there's nothing I can do for you. Let me wish you in advance a successful career and a bright future at your next company!" said Chen Changqing, his voice aloof.

Clearly, he was getting ready to hang up!

"Wait!" Yin Dongfeng said anxiously, "Mr. Chen, the reason I'm calling you, to tell you about this, isn't on behalf of just myself, but as a representative of the Yin Family of Zhongjing, and I'd like to discuss something with you!"

Zhongjing Haoran Real Estate Co., Ltd., the Yin Family!

Chen Changqing was of course aware of Yin Dongfeng's identity.

"What else do you want to say to me?" Chen Changqing asked.

"Mr. Chen, let's not beat around the bush in light of our understanding. I know you and Mr. Jiuzheng are both unhappy with the Bai family... His presence harms our interests! Therefore, I impudently wish to join forces with you to drive out this scourge!"

Yin Dongfeng had even changed the way he referred to Bai Xiaosheng.

"If our cooperation succeeds, I would like my position as Director back," said Yin Dongfeng, without waiting for Chen Changqing to ask, revealing his own intentions.

Collaboration without clear incentives couldn't be convincing.

"My uncle controls over a dozen large businesses, and it's not as though we lack real estate companies. Tell me, what makes you think you're qualified to partner with us?" Chen Changqing spoke indifferently, "Just because of your Yin Family's single real estate company in Zhongjing?"

Chen Changqing was proud, and he indeed had the capital to be so.

"Yes, Mr. Jiuzheng's power is vast. However, those enterprises are scattered across various cities. In Zhongjing, our Yin Family has more strength! The things you and Mr. Jiuzheng are not suited to handle in public, we can!" Yin Dongfeng stated firmly.

Yin Haoran listened and nodded slightly.

On the other end of the phone, silence ensued for a minute.

"Then, can you represent the Yin Family?" Chen Changqing asked.

Yin Dongfeng glanced at his father.

Yin Haoran reached out, took the phone and said, "Mr. Chen, this is Yin Haoran, and I can represent the Yin Family!"

The phone now in Yin Haoran's hand, he held it to his ear, nodding frequently.

It lasted for about four to five minutes.

"Alright, that's not a problem. It's only reasonable for Mr. Chen to demand a token of commitment. It will also serve to demonstrate the Yin Family's strength in Zhongjing! However, I would ask Mr. Chen to explain to Mr. Jiuzheng first. Once the deed is done, we will need strong support moving forward!" Yin Haoran said and then nodded his head, "Agreed, it's a deal!"

After hanging up the phone, Yin Haoran looked at the device thoughtfully, "Indeed, he's a scion trained by a great family, extraordinary in speech and action. This Chen Changqing, at his young age, is quite the character. Given time, his achievements might even surpass those of Chen Jiuzheng!"

Amid his contemplation, Yin Haoran felt a hint of regret, "Pity he's not one of the Meng Family's descendants!"

Yin Dongfeng couldn't help but feel a bit ashamed.

Yin Donglei, however, was quite discontent.

"Dad, is Chen Changqing asking for a token of our commitment?" Yin Dongfeng inquired, "He doesn't want us to be his pawns, does he?"

"Pawns or not, do you have a choice?" Yin Haoran glanced at him and asked.

Yin Dongfeng gave a wry smile.

"What's a token of commitment if not to take a hard stance against the Bai family for the Chen family to see? It shows our attitude and our strength! This is something I'm also good at, I have many friends!" Yin Donglei implored eagerly.

He was eager to prove himself.

"Donglei, this isn't a game we're playing!" Yin Dongfeng frowned and scolded softly.

"You're dismissed, there's nothing for you here now. Leave!" Yin Haoran said sternly.

Yin Donglei, with his words caught in his throat, left reluctantly and dissatisfied.

"Dongfeng, let's discuss a plan together!" Yin Haoran said.

"Yes," Yin Dongfeng nodded but couldn't help glancing at the door with a shake of his head.

When would Donglei ever mature?

Outside, Yin Donglei sulked as he headed to his room, but a light of determination flickered in his eyes.

"Isn't it just about taking a hard stance against the Bai family for the Chen family to see? I can do that too! This time if my brother does one, I'll do one as well! Double insurance, and if it succeeds, grandfather is sure to see me in a new light!"

Excitement was written all over Yin Donglei's face as he hurried along.

#### Chapter 442 Bai Xiaosheng's Decisive Strike - Part 1

The day after his visit to the Meng Family, Bai Xiaosheng received a resignation letter, from Yin Dongfeng.

After Lin Weiwei delivered it, Bai Xiaosheng looked at it, threw it onto the table, and laughed, "I underestimated him. I didn't expect Yin Dongfeng to take such initiative! It saves me the trouble!"

"If he wasn't proactive, he'd just be waiting to lose face," Lin Weiwei said with a cold laugh.

After a night's rest, Lin Weiwei seemed much better.

However, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't tell whether she had truly let go or had buried some things deep in her heart.

The best way to forget unhappiness is to get busy.

So early in the morning, they met up to discuss the reports from the directors and managers to see who must go and who could be observed further.

Regarding Yin Dongfeng, his departure was inevitable!

Now it became even simpler.

"Song Jiajia has also arrived. I've arranged for her to go to the new media department, with the same position as my original one, as the department affairs assistant," Lin Weiwei reported to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

He had known it all along.

With Song Jiajia's arrival, he gained a full two points. This also proved that Song Jiajia had real potential.

Currently, Bai Xiaosheng's total score stood at nineteen for a general manager level, still eighty-one points away from being promoted to the regional industry head!

To tell the truth, Bai Xiaosheng was already very satisfied with the pace.

"Also, the film and television department has submitted a schedule. This Friday, the official start-up ceremony will take place. They hope you can attend," Lin Weiwei said.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, leaned back in his chair, and smiled, "Of course I'll attend, you arrange my schedule! We've invested several billion in this TV series! It's almost catching up with the funds from the first phase of cooperation with Kelson in Europe! As the general manager, I must make a good appearance on their behalf at all costs!"

Bai Xiaosheng felt a wave of emotion.

"On that front, things have been smooth sailing!" Lin Weiwei said with a smile.

While they discussed the major IP television series, Yin Dongfeng packed up his belongings and left the company on his own, carrying his things.

Along the way, many looked on in surprise.

Many were pointing and whispering, talking in hushed voices.

Yin Dongfeng's expression remained normal as he made his way to the parking lot. Just as he opened the car door, about to get in, he couldn't help but glance at the Zhongjing Building, his gaze lingering towards Bai Xiaosheng's office.

A hint of a smile played at the corners of Yin Dongfeng's mouth.

A mocking smile, filled with anticipation.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you think the Yin Family is easy to push around, just you wait!" Yin Dongfeng muttered to himself as he climbed into the car.

...

Yin Dongfeng's proactive resignation sparked a wave of heated discussion within the company.

After all, he was one of the eleven directors.

The day after Yin Dongfeng's resignation, Bai Xiaosheng suddenly released a list!

This list caused a huge uproar!

The list included all those who were widely acknowledged within the company for being incompetent or having a track record of misconduct at the middle and upper management levels.

Beneath each name were their respective issues listed, not a single one overlooked!

One director, fifteen managers.

The punishment for these individuals was clear and the same for all — termination!

Even if someone had been with the company for ten years and signed an indefinite-term contract, they showed no mercy, preferring to pay a high compensation over relenting on the decision to fire!

Bai Xiaosheng seemed to have only one way of handling people, apparently knowing nothing else, no concept of lesser punishment to deter others or of mixing kindness with strictness...

His only method seemed to be termination!

From deputy general manager to general manager, all his way up had been marked by this clean, decisive cut!

This time, everyone was shocked.

Because in a single day, with this one stroke, Bai Xiaosheng had cut down a full tenth of the company's upper echelon!

And that did not include Yin Dongfeng who had unexpectedly taken initiative to resign earlier!

The dismissed staff covered almost all departments, except for the New Media Department!

At the moment, every department in the company had a multitude of tasks and was simultaneously advancing various systems. Normally, in terms of personnel, especially at the management level, stability would be sought over change, yet Bai Xiaosheng did the opposite, surprising many.

Although those people had serious issues and were widely criticized, firing them all at once raised the question: Who will take over their tasks and responsibilities?

Such reckless slashing might bring about a terrible ripple effect!

As people worried,

Bai Xiaosheng had already announced a second list!

An appointment list!

Two directors and fifteen managers, positions that were indispensable, were filled by people who held high esteem and strong abilities among the workforce!

They took office the same day!

Suddenly, the void of authority that had been vacated was filled once more!

Moreover, the foundations of these people were extremely solid!

They were all a mix of shock and ecstasy, quickly engaging in stabilizing employee morale.

In just one day, the wholesale replacement of the management team not only didn't fall behind on any progress or delay any tasks, but also had employees clapping their hands in approval!

There's no denying that Bai Xiaosheng did a beautiful job, and he won everyone's respect!

People were deeply impressed by Bai Xiaosheng's ability to recognize talent, and his courage to act!

If it had been Song Changkong, it would have probably taken a year and a half to complete the turnover...

The managers and directors with issues, but whose "crimes did not merit death," all sweated coldly. Bai Xiaosheng's lightning war caught those who were fired completely unprepared, unable to mount a collective defense or any reaction!

Just like that, it was over!

And the precise degree to which Bai Xiaosheng grasped their crimes truly sent shivers down spines!

The remaining staff instantly became much more wary and dared not act rashly. They even unanimously threw themselves into their work, desperate to rack up achievements as talismans for their protection.

Suddenly, it seemed like there wasn't enough work in each department...

Lin Weiwei watched and silently marveled at his approach.

Bai Xiaosheng had fused the cutthroat and autocratic approach with the stabilization of the base.

This move was truly not something an average person could learn!

...

So a week passed, without a single issue arising.

Before blinking, Friday arrived.

At ten o'clock in the morning, the director of the Film and Television Department, Gao Dazhi, appeared outside Bai Xiaosheng's office.

Today, Gao wore a sharp outfit, his hair combed meticulously, his eyes gleaming, stepping briskly as if he'd shed ten years!

Not for any other reason but today, their Film and Television Department's big IP television series was officially launching its kickoff ceremony!

Gao Dazhi was as happy as if he had gained a plump son, personally coming to fetch Bai Xiaosheng for the event.

Upon seeing Bai Xiaosheng, Gao Dazhi was somewhat moved.

Bai Xiaosheng had been formally dressed and waiting for him.

"I've postponed all my tasks today, just to support your department!" Bai Xiaosheng even joked with him, "And let me tell you, from today on, I'm also officially part of your department. I'm the head of the Film and Television Department's exclusive logistics team, ensuring all your needs are met."

"I'm the deputy head!" Lin Weiwei said with a playful smile.

"Then I welcome both heads to attend the ceremony!" said Gao with a hearty laughter.

Eventually, the three of them took Bai Xiaosheng's personal vehicle, heading straight for the kickoff ceremony.

"Where have you chosen for the kickoff ceremony?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile on the way.

"Inside a newly completed project, which is also the first shooting scene!"

"Have you negotiated with the project?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"Rest assured, everything's been discussed and settled! There definitely won't be any problems!"

Chapter 443 Startup Ceremony\_1

Bai Xiaosheng was curious about the film shooting ceremony.

He had only seen some on television, which seemed to involve burning incense or something of the sort.

Of course, every industry has its standards and conventions.

As an outsider, he naturally wouldn't presume to critique or interject.

From the moment he got into the car, Bai Xiaosheng had decided to act like a puppet today; doing whatever Gao Da suggested.

At the very least, he was guaranteed not to make any mistakes.

The shooting ceremony took place on the set of the first scene. It was about an hour's drive from Zhongjing Media, located outside of the fourth ring road and diagonally opposite Zhongjing Media.

It was said to be a newly completed urban complex project with office buildings and a shopping street. Although it had not been officially launched, there were showrooms available for interior scenes, which were made quite beautifully.

This piqued Bai Xiaosheng's interest.

When they arrived and he got out of the car, Bai Xiaosheng looked up to see the brand-new towering buildings, which really had their own charisma, full of modern and technological vibes, and were very fashionable as well.

"Not bad," Bai Xiaosheng praised.

He had also read the script, and this place gave him an impression very much akin to the one described in the script.

"This is all thanks to Wenqing!" Gao Dazhi remarked emotionally, "The guy used half a month, running tirelessly through all projects in Zhongjing that have office buildings and commercial streets! Finally, he chose this place!"

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, and said with feeling, "Success belongs only to those who are persistent."

Gao Dazhi agreed deeply.

"Actually, we ran into a little issue earlier. When we discussed with the person in charge of this project, they initially did not agree. After all, you've seen the quality of this project, do they lack the money for these two shooting locations?"

"How did you manage to get approval in the end?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with curiosity.

"Oddly enough, a couple of days ago, the project leader suddenly called Wenqing, saying they agreed, but they asked us to show their project name more during shooting. I think they came around and wanted to use our series to advertise," Gao Dazhi said.

That was quite normal.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded his head.

As the two chatted, they walked into the project.

The real opening ceremony took place in the internal plaza of the project.

The two walked for a while.

Suddenly, over a hundred people surged from ahead to greet them.

A production team consisted of directors, producers, actors, as well as cameramen, lighting, stagehands, art directors, costume designers, makeup artists, sound recordists, props, transportation, and editors; a whole gamut of departments and staff.

These were just a part of the team.

As they moved forward, they walked on the laid-out red carpet. Bai Xiaosheng led the way, while Gao Dazhi naturally slowed down a step behind him.

Journalists from Zhongjing Media and other media, armed with cameras, rushed over to take pictures of Bai Xiaosheng, with flashes flickering incessantly.

This really felt like walking the red carpet.

Bai Xiaosheng walked steadily, looking up at the welcoming crowd, and suddenly smiled.

All familiar faces!

Shang Wanwan, Yang Qian'er, Zhao Xiaoying, Wenqing, Gao Ya...

Moreover, there were Lin Weiwei and Chen Changqing, who had arrived earlier, as well as heads of various departments...

"Leaders from the district government, the city government will also be arriving shortly, as well as influential figures from the arts and film criticism circles," Gao Dazhi said with a smile.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded; he had skimmed over the guest list after it had been drafted, so he was aware.

Approaching the crowd, Bai Xiaosheng clasped his fists and with a smile, said to the hundred or so people before him, "Today is a day of great joy. Let me extend my congratulations to everyone here, and also wish the shooting goes smoothly!"

Mr. Bai Xiaosheng smiled warmly, amiable and natural, without a trace of haughtiness.

Everyone also beamed with joy as they clasped their fists and greeted Mr. Bai Xiaosheng with auspicious words before surrounding him and heading toward the plaza of the project.

From afar, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng could see the brightly red stage, red banners, and red flags.

Everything was lively and bursting with happiness.

Mr. Bai Xiaosheng saw that the stage was set with a long table full of offerings and a bronze censer as thick as a water jar, emitting a scent of incense that could be smelt from afar, with an antique charm.

In addition, one corner of the stage was filled with many cameras and monitors, all tied with red ribbons—a token of warding off evil and wishing for good luck, fiery red through and through.

As Mr. Bai Xiaosheng and the others made their way over and had just steadied themselves, they saw a smiling, slightly plump middle-aged man squeezing through the crowd to extend his hand eagerly to Mr. Bai Xiaosheng. "You, you must be Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, the General Manager of Zhongjing Media! Oh my, how rude of me! No, I mean, welcome, welcome!"

"Hello," Mr. Bai Xiaosheng replied with a smile, shaking his hand.

This man, however, was unfamiliar to him.

Gao Dazhi quickly introduced the man to Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, "This here is the person in charge of this project, Mr. Zhou Baping."

Zhou Baping?

In an instant, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng thought of the term "Zhou the skinner"...

He wondered what his ancestors were thinking when they named him...

Feeling a bit mischievous on the inside, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng showed a subtle smile on his face. "Speaking of which, I must thank Mr. Zhou for making accommodations and providing such a great location for our drama."

"Oh, you're too kind, too kind!" Mr. Zhou Baping quickly responded with a smile, "It's a win-win situation after all!"

This project leader seemed to be brimming with enthusiasm for the matter, making it hard to believe what Gao Dazhi had said—that at first, he hadn't agreed to it.

Mr. Bai Xiaosheng exchanged pleasantries with Zhou Baping.

Meanwhile, the guests had begun to arrive one after another. Mr. Zhou, knowing when to take his leave, excused himself.

Mr. Bai Xiaosheng turned to greet the guests.

This launch event had guests who were big names invited by Zhongjing Media.

The ones who had arrived were either venerable figures in the arts with youthful looks despite their age or film critics with an artist's air, complete with hair and beards. Some leaders from the city and district governments also made their appearances.

As the General Manager of Zhongjing Media, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng didn't need to personally receive most of the guests; he only went to greet the most important leaders.

In less than an hour, the guests had all arrived.

Mr. Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but reflect.

Back in Tiannan, he had hosted more than one event. Leaders were usually busy, and many who had agreed to attend could end up wrapped in affairs and unable to come, or they would arrive much later than scheduled.

Mr. Bai Xiaosheng had encountered events delayed by two hours because they were waiting for a leader.

But there were no such surprises with Zhongjing Media.

Within an hour from check-in to the start of the event, everyone was present!

Indeed, it was great to be in a large corporation. Even Bai Xiaosheng was impressed.

The event officially began.

Welcome speeches, performances, ceremonies, and lectures proceeded methodically, and the entire event went smoothly.

This project, a certain building, a high floor.

Behind the expansive floor-to-ceiling windows, two people were holding binoculars, eagerly watching the commencement ceremony.

It was none other than Yin Dongfeng and his son, Yin Haoran.

"Such a grand spectacle, with so many influential people!" Yin Haoran remarked, "That's the power of a big company. Set up a stage, and you've got a heap of big shots coming to add fuel to the fire!"

"The bigger the fire, the better!" Yin Dongfeng couldn't suppress his sneer, "We'll roast this Mr. Bai right over the flames!"

Chapter 444: Pickpocket in the Project?\_1

"Where's Donglei?" As he looked on, Yin Haoran suddenly asked.

"Haven't seen him since early this morning, he's not answering his phone either, no idea where he's gone," Yin Dongfeng replied.

"Good-for-nothing brat! It would've been good for him to come and learn from others, might actually grow some ambition," Yin Haoran sighed, put down the binoculars, and turned to leave with his hands behind his back.

Yin Dongfeng glanced down at the crowd below with the naked eye, but in the sea of people, he couldn't make out which one was Bai Xiaosheng.

Today, they were merely onlookers, that was all and there would be no action from their part.

Not just today, but also for the next few days, they wouldn't make any moves.

The only thing to do now was one, wait!

"But where did Donglei go? He loves a busy scene, so why is he missing today?" Yin Dongfeng couldn't help but wonder inwardly.

...

At that moment, at the small square, over thirty tables were set up outdoors. The kick-off banquet was also an important part of the ceremony, symbolizing the crew's upcoming shared hardships and endeavors.

The meal, considering the presence of government leaders, adhered to standard norms, ensuring there was no extravagant waste.

However, Zhongjing Media had brought in a group of star chefs from the Zhongjing Wanhe Building, capable of turning ordinary vegetables into supreme delicacies.

This seemingly ordinary meal was a gourmet treat for all, even the leaders nodded frequently in approval.

Over two hundred people shared the lunch banquet, noisy and lively, with a flavor all its own.

At the outermost table, a man wearing a peaked cap and sporting a small mustache was eating and drinking, yet his eyes kept straying towards the center.

The central table was reserved for the honored guests and leaders.

It was Bai Xiaosheng at that table the man was scrutinizing.

"Buddy, you look new here, which department are you from?" someone nearby greeted him enthusiastically.

The man glared at the other, irritation and rudeness apparent in his low, domineering voice, "Just eat your food, will you? With so much to eat and drink, can't you keep your mouth shut?"

Having said that, he grabbed a napkin in haste to wipe his mouth, rubbing so urgently that half his mustache came loose, and realizing this, he hurriedly left.

"What's wrong with him!" his neighbor couldn't help but curse, though they didn't notice the problem with the mustache.

The man with the peaked cap went to a secluded corner, took off his cap, and tore off his mustache.

It was Yin Donglei.

"This Bai guy's had quite a bit to drink, how come he hasn't gone to the toilet yet? Must have a good bladder!"

Yin Donglei watched from afar and snorted coldly.

He had been waiting here for a while, his phone battery nearly drained from excessive use, when he finally saw Bai Xiaosheng walking through the crowd, seemingly heading to the bathroom.

"The opportunity has come!" Yin Donglei quickly operated his phone, sending out a series of messages.

Bai Xiaosheng left his seat and made his way to the restroom, encountering people from the crew along the way.

Seeing the direction "the big leader" was headed, they understood what Bai Xiaosheng was about to do and eagerly pointed the way for him.

Just as Bai Xiaosheng was about to enter the restroom, a cleaner came out holding a bunch of stuff, and upon reaching the door, he put up a sign— Out of Order.

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback.

"Sorry, it's temporarily out of order, but if you're in a hurry, just walk out of this building, head back a bit, and you'll find a temporary public bathroom set up on the construction site. It's just a bit further away, and you can use that one," the cleaner pointed the way.

On the project site, some of the landscaping work was still unfinished, so a small construction area was kept.

That place was also to be a scene for the crew.

Bai had also learned about it from Old Gao.

"Thank you," Bai Xiaosheng stepped back out.

The cleaner stretched his neck to watch as Bai Xiaosheng walked away.

"Eh, the restroom is out of order?" the people coming after were surprised to see the yellow sign and prepared to leave.

"It's fixed now, you can go in," the cleaner immediately removed the yellow sign and turned around.

...

Bai Xiaosheng walked past the building towards the back, where it grew quieter and there seemed to be hardly anyone around.

The project had just been completed, the flora and trees along the way were freshly planted, and the landscape was at its most beautiful. Bai Xiaosheng took it as a stroll in the park, admiring the view as he walked.

Halfway through, someone suddenly burst out horizontally, crashing directly into Bai Xiaosheng's arms.

"Sorry," the person apologized hurriedly before scurrying away. However, during the escape, that person looked back twice, with a sly expression.

Bai Xiaosheng frowned immediately and reached for his pocket.

It was empty!

His cell phone was gone!

There were pickpockets in this project?!

"You, stop!" Bai Xiaosheng knitted his brows and bellowed.

The person took to their heels and ran.

Without another word, Bai Xiaosheng swiftly gave chase.

Since taking charge of Zhongjing Media, Bai Xiaosheng had more responsibilities but also paid more attention to exercising his body. Under the guidance of the Red Lotus System, he adopted a scientific and systematic training method, achieving in three months what others might in nine.

As the chase went on, Bai Xiaosheng steadily closed the distance with the person ahead.

The thief was running out of breath, slowing down increasingly.

Up ahead was a construction site with a gap in the enclosure, and the thief dived into it.

Chasing after, Bai Xiaosheng's brows furrowed.

The thief no longer ran but bent over gasping for air, glaring fiercely at him.

Around him stood four other people, armed with iron pipes and wooden sticks, each looking menacing and vicious.

Bai Xiaosheng, using the breathing techniques taught by Red Lotus, quickly regulated his breath and fearlessly faced the thief, disregarding the others.

"Give me back my phone, and I might spare you," Bai Xiaosheng stated calmly.

"Are you fucking stupid? Can't you see the situation? Who are you sparing? Get on your knees and beg me to spare you!" The thief responded with a snarl and arrogance, "Get him!"

The four individuals wielding iron pipes and wooden sticks charged at him.

"Since you insist on violence, I won't hold back. You outnumber me, so my punches might land a bit hard. Please bear with it," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

The group looked at him with bemusement.

This guy must be insane.

The thief was so amused that he nearly cried, "Come on, don't hold back, I want to see how heavy your hand is..."

In the middle of speaking, the first person had already swung their stick high above, and before it could come down, he received a heavy punch to the nose, blood spurting out, followed by a kick to the shin and a pained cry as he stumbled forward.

Without even looking, Bai Xiaosheng dodged to the side and landed a palm strike precisely on the back of the neck of the falling man.

"... how hard could it be." By the time the thief finished speaking, the first attacker had already rolled his eyes back and fainted.

It only took the span of a sentence, just the time it took to utter a single sentence.

A burly man, armed and aggressive, had fallen so easily?!

The thief, eyes still mocking, now held a look of horror.

This pretty boy was a master!

After taking down the first person, Bai Xiaosheng charged with force at the second.

He was unarmed, facing four, with the opposition brandishing weapons.

Yet it was like a wolf among sheep!

"Oh my god!" That was the last thing the thief managed to say as he saw a fist as large as a casserole flying towards him...

Chapter 445 You Should Leave...\_1

Bai Xiaosheng found the restroom, took care of his business, and leisurely walked back.

Not long after he left, a head popped up outside the construction site's barricade, mumbling, "These guys need to know when to stop, don't really kill someone..."

It was Yin Donglei.

Yin Donglei only took one look, and his eyeballs nearly popped out. He blinked in disbelief, then rubbed his eyes.

Five men, all lying flat on the ground!

Three were groaning, while the other two had already passed out.

"I, I... Fuck!" Yin Donglei could no longer say anything else.

Seeing no one else around, he snuck in like a thief, ran over, and looked around.

Five big men lay scattered on the ground, some with faces covered in blood, some with noses twisted. It was a terrible sight.

Yin Donglei walked over, grabbed the thief by the collar, and hauled him up.

"What happened here! It wasn't even five minutes, how did all of you get knocked down! How many people came with him!" Yin Donglei shouted.

Even now, he still couldn't believe it! Was it Bai Xiaosheng alone who took down five men, and not just any men, but five muscular brutes wielding weapons!

"Just one, only him!" the thief cried out in utter grief, "My front teeth!"

Yin Donglei, infuriated, shoved the young man hard to the ground.

"I really underestimated him!" Yin Donglei couldn't help but swallow his spit, a hint of fear flashing in his eyes.

The scene at the Meng Family's house, where his jaw was dislocated, still vivid in his mind!

This Bai Xiaosheng was not just an ordinary expert, but a supremely skilled one!

"To get this job done, these useless guys won't cut it!" A cold glint flashed in Yin Donglei's eyes, "I need to find a real professional!"

Yin Donglei's thoughts were actually quite simple.

On this very day, he wanted to beat Bai Xiaosheng into a pig's head, maybe dump some mud or feces on his head as well, and let this General Manager of Zhongjing Media lose face in public, turn into the laughingstock!

His thoughts were truly that simple!

If Yin Haoran knew, he would probably vomit blood and die. He truly underestimated his second son's intelligence; not only was he inadequate in doing things right, but he was exceedingly proficient in screwing them up!

As the saying goes, "the dragon has nine sons, each different from the others." The eldest son barely managed to inherit part of his intelligence, but the second son amplified his slyness and ruthlessness to the extreme, the kind that didn't involve a brain...

A hundred percent pig-headed teammate...

...

Walking leisurely back, Bai Xiaosheng bumped into the project manager, Zhou Baping, along the way.

"Mr. Bai, hello there." Zhou Baping greeted him with overflowing enthusiasm.

"Hello," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"You, have you been to the restroom?" Manager Zhou asked with a flicker in his eyes.

"Manager Zhou, how did you know what I went to do?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

Zhou Baping was startled, then laughed, "I heard it from the cleaning staff."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, then all of a sudden asked, "Can outsiders easily enter our project site?"

"No!" Zhou Baping shook his head but then said in a lowered voice with a wry smile, "However, to be honest with you, there are some petty thieves from around here who always sneak in, pilfer and steal. We're a bit short on security staff, so... I've informed Director Gao and others to deploy more people to be on the lookout for theft. But don't worry, in a few days, our new security guards will be on duty, and I believe the situation will improve a lot."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, "Alright, I'm heading over now."

"Ah, take care, Mr. Bai!" Zhou Baping watched Bai Xiaosheng leave.

Only after seeing Bai Xiaosheng walk away did he wipe the sweat off his brow.

"This guy has a strong presence! His sudden question scared the hell out of me. Lucky I was quick-witted!" Zhou Baping let out a sigh of relief.

Walking away, Bai Xiaosheng seemed pensive.

"This Zhou Baping, he wasn't entirely truthful... Never mind, I'll have Old Gao bring over some security from the company later. I believe there won't be any trouble." Ever since Bai Xiaosheng started using the third system to train, his insight had become exceptionally sharp, easily seeing through ordinary lies.

However, he didn't mind, nor did he suspect that this was all targeted at him.

Meanwhile, the kickoff banquet was approaching its end.

Overall, today's launching ceremony was a success, a complete success.

The guests were very satisfied, and after offering their congratulations once more, they left one after another.

After the start-up banquet was over, the crew quickly cleaned up the site and began to set up the equipment and scenery.

Bai Xiaosheng stayed for a while longer, even taking an interested look at a scene being shot.

It happened to be the scene with Shang Wanwan and Yang Qian'er as adversaries.

Bai Xiaosheng had read the script. In a fit of rage over emotional entanglements, the female lead, played by Shang Wanwan, slaps the character portrayed by Yang Qian'er in front of everyone. The plot was not complex, the lines not many, but the difficulty lay in capturing the emotion in one seamless execution.

Someone shouted "ACTION".

Shang Wanwan's anger was completely shown, with teeth clenched and lips trembling from rage. Her lengthy dialogue was delivered with passion, and when she landed the slap, Bai Xiaosheng felt the pain himself; however, Yang Qian'er was relentless, her rebuttal was full of explosive power and tension!

It was completely indistinguishable from reality!

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but move closer in excitement, his eyes shining as he watched intently.

However, catching sight of his expression, Shang Wanwan unexpectedly lost her composure amidst her "fury" and broke into laughter.

"Cut!" the director could only call a stop with regret. The actors had been perfectly in the zone, it was such a pity to end in laughter.

The second take saw Shang Wanwan holding back, but this time Yang Qian'er couldn't help laughing.

The reason, of course, was still Bai Xiaosheng.

Normally cool and leisurely, Bai Xiaosheng now looked like a naive boy who hadn't seen much of the world, causing those who knew him well to struggle to keep a straight face.

The director was amused and exasperated.

In the end, Director Gao politely pulled Bai Xiaosheng aside, "Mr. Bai, you're so busy, you'd better go."

"Alright, I'll come visit the set another day," Bai Xiaosheng said.

Director Gao wore a strange expression, while Wenqing directly bowed to him, "Mr. Bai, my real dad, please, if you can stay away, do stay away—not for anything else... it wastes film! Once we wrap up, we'll invite you again, okay?"

...

How unwelcome am I...

Bai Xiaosheng felt awkward as Lin Weiwei beside him struggled to hold back her laughter.

In the end, Bai Xiaosheng left in a miffed mood.

Only then could the crew shoot normally, the director let out a sigh, muttering, "Mr. Bai, really is a calamity..."

"Hey, watch your language!" Wenqing glared, then thought about it and mumbled, "But that saying is actually kind of true."

"Hey, watch your language!" echoed Director Gao, glaring to the side, then he, too, pondered and...

Bai Xiaosheng sneezed several times in the car.

"Caught a cold?" Lin Weiwei asked with concern.

"Maybe, someone must be cursing me," Bai Xiaosheng joked.

...

At the old residence of the Yin Family in Zhongjing.

Yin Donglei was sneaking back to his own room when he discovered his brother waiting for him at the door.

"Where have you been sneaking off to now?!" Yin Dongfeng asked annoyed.

Yin Donglei gave a sheepish smile, "Bro, how did you know I'd come back now..."

"What do I know, I've been standing here for half an hour. If you hadn't come, I'd be about to bring out a chair and sit here waiting for you!" Yin Dongfeng huffed.

"What's the matter?" asked Yin Donglei curiously.

"Tell me the truth, have you been thinking of going against that Bai guy, have you done something?" Yin Dongfeng inquired.

Yin Donglei was startled.

He thought he had been exposed, but seeing Yin Dongfeng's probing look, he became confident.

"No."

"Really?"

"Really!"

After a round of Q&A, Yin Donglei was full of confidence.

"Good!" Yin Dongfeng grunted, "The old man said he doesn't trust you, and told me to give you a message. Within this week, don't you dare stir up trouble with that Bai! If you startle the grass and scare the snake because of your antics, beware the old man breaking your legs!"

Chapter 446

Yin Dongfeng issued a stern warning.

Upon realizing it was the old man's will, Yin Donglei shrank his neck, unable to help himself, and swallowed hard.

Do not be fooled by the old patriarch's current demeanor, as calm as a monk, speaking unhurriedly and acting deliberately.

That has only been for the last couple of years!

Go back a few years, and if he said he would break someone's legs, they would be broken for sure.

Not even his own sons were exempt!

At worst, after breaking them, he would find a German orthopedic surgeon to mend the bones!

These past two years, the Yin Family has been through massive ups and downs but ultimately survived, albeit significantly weakened.

Since then, the old man began to temper his mind, maintaining a small Buddhist hall where he would recite scriptures for two hours every day.

Now, his actions and speech resemble those of a monk, and although he's less concerned with minor details, his ruthless streak remains intact.

Has the old man attained enlightenment, or has he not? Yin Donglei had secretly asked before.

Yin Dongfeng told him that whether one has attained enlightenment or not depends on the criteria you set.

The old man, he said, has cultivated his behavior but not his heart!

At that moment.

Yin Donglei, abandoning his frivolous attitude, assured his brother with utmost seriousness, "Rest assured, this week, I will absolutely, absolutely not provoke anyone with the surname Bai. If I know where he shows up, I'll back off three to five miles immediately. Is that good enough?"

Back off three to five miles? If Bai Xiaosheng comes to our place, you'll have to hide outside of Zhongjing!

Yin Dongfeng laughed at his brother's words.

"Just remember what you've said! Otherwise, I can't save you!"

"Alright, I remember what I said, I remember what Dad said, I remember it all crystal clear," Yin Donglei bantered back.

The old man said one week, so be it one week. In any case, during this time, I also need to look for some experts. Once the time passes, I can make my move. If the old man has given his word, he certainly can't be unreasonable! Yin Donglei thought to himself.

In the early years, even when Yin Haoran acted in a high-handed and despotic manner, he liked to reason things out. As long as there was a good reason, no matter how grave the mistakes made by those below him, he would let bygones be bygones.

Yin Donglei remembered this clearly and had benefited from it as well.

Yin Dongfeng had no suspicion and didn't realize that his younger brother, with his jesting, was actually playing a game of verbal gymnastics.

"I'm off," said Yin Dongfeng, who needed to report to the old patriarch.

Yin Donglei chuckled as he watched his brother leave and then slipped back into the house.

...

In the following several days.

Bai Xiaosheng stayed in the company, focusing on handling affairs.

Currently, everything was on track, and among the five trial systems, two had been further promoted.

Zhongjing Media was thriving with unprecedented vigor and advancing at full speed.

Before, Bai Xiaosheng had pondered why his journey of inheritance had to start from the bottom.

What his great-uncle was thinking, he had no idea.

Now, however, Bai Xiaosheng was beginning to appreciate the benefits!

That is, having climbed up from the employee ranks, he understood very well that as long as a company's foundation is solid, one or even several middle or high-level managers won't be able to throw it into chaos!

What is the foundation? Employees! What is reliability? Knowing what the employees think, acting on what the employees think!

If this point is truly achieved, then he would firmly grasp the employees' hearts, the broadest base; whether he undertakes sweeping reforms or aims his sword anywhere, it would align with the will of the people.

Therefore, only he, Bai Xiaosheng, dares to take such bold steps in reform; therefore, only he can be so successful!

For grassroots employees, talking to them about grand visions, ideals, or career ambitions is nothing but thuggish!

Even a three to five hundred yuan full attendance bonus is more substantial!

Thus, every policy Bai Xiaosheng implements leads with benefits; as the company profits, it immediately maximizes employee compensation. For activities that are not profitable, rewards are granted. The money may be less, but there's always something!

Under such motivation, everyone is full of energy!

These days, Bai Xiaosheng's policies have been effective, and he has reaped quite a sweet reward.

He has scored another six points, currently holding twenty-five points at the general manager level, seventy-five points away from being promoted to provincial industry head.

The speed of scoring, which would usually decrease as one climbs the corporate ladder, was now even faster than that during his time as a deputy general manager—all thanks to Bai Xiaosheng's proactive efforts in creating scoring opportunities.

Having no tasks isn't a problem; taking the initiative is also fine.

Having tasted the sweetness, Bai Xiaosheng naturally feels delightful.

Lin Weiwei brings Bai Xiaosheng a cup of tea, and seeing his good mood, she is also very happy.

"By the way, Weiwei, how is your friend, Song Jiajia, doing these days?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

Although it has only been a few days, judging a person's abilities sometimes doesn't take years.

"Song Jiajia is better than me!" Lin Weiwei sincerely praised, "Her education is higher than mine; she studied abroad, interned at foreign enterprises, and she has been exposed to more new things. She started off a bit flustered but when I went to help her, I found that she picks up everything very quickly! Now she's doing an excellent job."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

"Song Jiajia, I have talked with her and understood her quite a lot. My idea is, once she adapts to our company environment, to have her solely in charge of system monitoring. The monitoring I'm talking about might be different from before, involving oversight of multiple systems and delving into the workforce to obtain the most genuine feedback!"

Bai Xiaosheng continued, "The people inside the company won't do, they have been here too long, have too many acquaintances; even if they don't wish to, they will still have considerations about personal relationships, and besides, they are doing well in their current positions. So, if we are to use someone, it should be this capable newcomer. What do you think?!"

"Great!" Lin Weiwei's eyes brightened, and she couldn't help but praise, "Xiaosheng, you really do think ahead! And with Song Jiajia keeping watch, we can be liberated and won't have to micro-manage everything!"

Bai Xiaosheng felt secretly ashamed.

Thoughts ahead? He just wanted someone to focus on the system so he wouldn't be so tired, and Lin Weiwei's praise made him feel somewhat embarrassed...

"By the way, Weiwei, how is the filming going in the film and television department?" Bai Xiaosheng changed the subject.

He had been "explicitly forbidden" from visiting the set, to avoid affecting everyone's mood.

Bai Xiaosheng was sometimes curious and wanted to see, but he could not disregard the advice of professionals, sometimes lamenting, "Who says being a top leader means having absolute power, when I'm actually being driven away and despised..."

"Over there, I visited yesterday, did some exploring on set and had a chat with Director Gao Dazhi, getting an overall idea of the situation." Lin Weiwei knew Bai Xiaosheng was concerned about that area and had prepared in advance.

Bai Xiaosheng was very appreciative of this.

Lin Weiwei was born to be an excellent assistant.

"They had planned to film there for two weeks; they are now halfway through the schedule, and everything is proceeding smoothly with high morale," Lin Weiwei summarized the situation briefly.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded frequently. He was very satisfied with the status quo.

However, for some reason, Bai Xiaosheng thought back to the day when his phone was stolen, to those thugs, and to Zhou Baping. These faces flashed through his mind one after the other.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but frown; he always had a slight sense of unease.

"Forget it, maybe I'm overthinking it," Bai Xiaosheng silently reassured himself.

Chapter 447: The Crew Stops Work\_1

Bai Xiaosheng was discussing matters related to the film crew with Lin Weiwei.

Suddenly, the office phone on the desk rang.

Lin Weiwei walked over and answered the phone, "Hello, this is the office of the General Manager of Zhongjing Media. I'm Lin Weiwei, the General Manager's assistant. What can I do for you?"

Bai Xiaosheng picked up his teacup, blew on the leaves, and took a sip.

As he looked up, he saw Lin Weiwei's expression change drastically, and her elegant eyebrows furrowed slightly.

Bai Xiaosheng put down his teacup.

Lin Weiwei covered the mouthpiece with her hand and said to Bai Xiaosheng, "Xiaosheng, something's happened with the crew!"

Bai Xiaosheng motioned for her to continue.

"That project, they just informed the crew that they are refusing us further use of the location!" Lin Weiwei said gravely.

"Give me the phone." Bai Xiaosheng reached for the phone, "Hello, this is Bai Xiaosheng."

"Mr. Bai, it's me, Gao Dazhi!" On the other end of the line was Gao Dazhi's anxious voice.

Gao Dazhi was a competent and reliable man, one of Bai Xiaosheng's most trusted people. That was why he had been left in charge there, tasked with handling the matters.

Now, even Gao Dazhi's voice was laced with urgency, a clear sign that the situation had to be troublesome!

"Don't panic, tell me again in detail!" Bai Xiaosheng said in a deep voice.

His calm voice seemed to steady Gao Dazhi somewhat.

"Mr. Bai, here's the situation..."

Through Gao Dazhi's description, Bai Xiaosheng got the gist of the problem.

Just now, while the crew was in the midst of shooting, a group of people, led by Zhou Baping, arrived and halted their filming. They cited a company higher-up's decision, stating firstly that the project was to start a trial operation ahead of schedule, and secondly, that a Feng Shui master claimed that the filming activities were bad for Feng Shui, so they were ordered to stop.

Gao Dazhi attempted to negotiate, but to no avail.

In the end, they had to pause the shoot!

"Mr. Bai, it's alright if we pause for a few days, but if they don't let us shoot, that's going to be really bad. We've only completed half of the filming schedule! If we change the location, we'd have to scrap what we've already filmed. The investment in personnel, time, and capital has been huge! Moreover, finding a new location will take up a substantial amount of time, and if word gets out, it's going to be tremendously bad press for our show!" Gao Dazhi said in a flurry of distress, "The actual impact is much more serious than what I'm saying!"

"Don't panic, getting anxious won't solve anything!" Bai Xiaosheng shouted.

Gao Dazhi had put a lot of effort into this drama and was directly involved, so naturally, he was prone to anxiety, a clear case of caring too much leading to chaos!

"You keep talking to them on that end; I'll have Weiwei head over right away!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

Gao Dazhi could only agree to that.

After hanging up the phone.

Lin Weiwei immediately said, "Should I take Shi Yu, Song Jiajia, and the others over there right now?"

"Yes, go ahead!" Bai Xiaosheng nodded and said.

Shi Yu was formerly involved in new media editing and had been with the company for a long time, having worked as a reporter, editor, and host. He was particularly good at communication and negotiation. Following his promotion to manager by Bai Xiaosheng, he proved to be exemplary in his position, and eventually even earned the appreciation of Song Changkong and Chen Changqing, rising to the rank of director.

Song Jiajia also had a natural talent for handling such affairs.

With them going along with Lin Weiwei, Bai Xiaosheng felt reassured.

"Let Feng take you over!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

Lin Weiwei nodded and stepped out.

Only Bai Xiaosheng was left in the office, and he couldn't help but fall into deep thought.

"I really didn't expect my premonition to be so accurate, but I don't know if it's a coincidence or..."

"Never mind. We'll discuss it after Weiwei and the others return from the negotiation," Bai Xiaosheng shook his head, deciding not to dwell on it further.

On the film set.

The temporarily halted production cast a shadow of concern over everyone's faces. Although they were not as clear about the consequences as Gao Dazhi, the abrupt pause on their fervent work ethic made it tough for everyone.

"It's going to be okay, right? Miss Wanwan has gone to talk to them, and with a big star like her, it should be effective," Gao Ya couldn't help but mutter to Zhao Xiaoying.

"Did Zhou Baping just find out today that Miss Shang Wanwan is involved?" Zhao Xiaoying sighed lightly. "I think this issue isn't that simple! The company must know by now, I wonder how Xiaosheng... Mr. Bai, will handle this."

Gao Ya suddenly became excited, nudging Zhao Xiaoying, "Hey, did you know, Yang Qian'er is actually Xiaosheng's... I mean, Mr. Bai's blind date? You two are in the same team – isn't that a 'misfortune that brings people together'? And later, you two even have a scene where you exchange a bout of angry words. Oh, I'm looking forward to it!"

Zhao Xiaoying couldn't help but roll her eyes at Gao Ya. What a time to be thinking about that!

Zhao Xiaoying's gaze inevitably searched and found Yang Qian'er, who was diligently memorizing her lines, seemingly undisturbed by the production halt.

"Impressive!" Zhao Xiaoying was convinced and picked up the script herself, focusing on her lines once more.

They might be helpless to resume work, but the effort they were supposed to make couldn't be disrupted by unexpected events!

Doing their best was the only thing they could do and the only thing they should do.

Genius is born of talent and is realized through hard work.

Zhao Xiaoying was genuinely impressed by Yang Qian'er. Yet, beneath that admiration was a hint of competitive spirit.

"Hey, have you memorized the lines yet?" Gao Ya was surprised, and then, glancing at Yang Qian'er, thought for a moment, "Let... let me join you two!"

Seeing the three women intently memorizing lines, more and more actors quieted down and joined in. This behavior subtly influenced more and more people. Actors and crew alike began to emulate them, eventually spreading to the entire production team.

While the cast and crew were busy doing their own things, in the Marketing Center Conference Room of a project called Haobei International, Shang Wanwan and Gao Dazhi were in discussion with Zhou Baping.

Zhou Baping sat steadily, no longer wearing his usual kind and enthusiastic smile, but rather a smile that was ambiguous and insincere.

Even when facing a big star like Shang Wanwan, his attitude remained unchanged.

"Manager Zhou, with you doing this, what do you expect us to do? At the beginning, we had an agreement to use your location for two weeks, and it's only been one. We're only halfway through our filming process, so... Perhaps we can pay you for the site. How much? Name your price! We'll try our best to meet it," Gao Dazhi said pleadingly out of desperation.

He tried his best to convey goodwill.

"Mr. Gao, there's nothing I can do about this. It's a directive from higher up. You're putting me in a difficult position; I surely can't go against the wishes of our head office," Zhou Baping said leisurely, shrugging his shoulders without an ounce of helplessness, his eyes and brows, however, looked as if he was enjoying the spectacle.

"Manager Zhou," Shang Wanwan spoke up, "if it's a matter of your opening schedule, tell us a time. We will work overtime to speed up production. Four days, no, three days. Give us another three days, and we'll be able to pull out!"

Gao Dazhi looked at her.

Three days instead of seven meant the entire crew, including her, would have to work day and night to make it happen!

Miss Shang was really ready to go all out! Gao Dazhi couldn't help but be moved.

"No way!" Zhou Baping rejected flatly, leaving no room for negotiation.

Chapter 448 What conditions, you name them!\_1

"Miss Shang, I know you're a big star! To tell the truth, I quite like you as well, and could even consider myself half a fan. But on this matter, I truly don't have the authority," Zhou Baping spread his hands out and said with a smile.

His attitude remained lukewarm and unmoved.

"But you've had us stop work for almost half a day now, and while the time is idle it remains idle, why can't you let us rush the work? If it's a matter of money, you can just say it!" Gao Dazhi couldn't help but raise his voice, saying anxiously.

He was really getting upset.

To him, this TV drama was his blood, sweat, and tears, his child!

Shang Wanwan secretly kicked Gao Dazhi under the table, signaling him to keep calm.

Being anxious wouldn't solve anything.

"It's not entirely due to the grand opening," Zhou Baping replied languidly.

"Is it because of the Feng Shui issue you all brought up?" Shang Wanwan asked, "If that's the case, we've already been working for a week, whatever impact there was should have already happened. It seems a little late to bring it up now, don't you think? You could report back to the company. If they allow us to continue using the site for three days, we'll pay the site fees in full! At the same time, we can hire a well-known Feng Shui master from the mainland or Hong Kong or Taiwan to ensure there's no risk to your project! How about that?"

Shang Wanwan's words allowed Gao Dazhi to let out a breath of relief and also made him feel somewhat embarrassed; he was so concerned that he was losing his composure. This was a big no-no in negotiation!

Fortunately, they had Shang Wanwan there, Miss Wanwan, who stayed calm and clearheaded in the face of danger, a true heroine among women. If she had gone into business instead of the entertainment industry, she most definitely would have been a remarkable figure.

Gao Dazhi secretly gave her a thumbs up with a shimmering gaze as he looked towards Zhou Baping.

This had to be good enough.

"Well..." Zhou Baping thought for a moment and then said with a smile, "Alright then, I'll give the company a call, let them know, and you two go back first and wait for the news."

Can't you make the call now?

Gao Dazhi was truly frustrated with Zhou Baping's steady and unflappable demeanor.

But since they needed help, they couldn't rush him.

"In that case, please make it quick," Shang Wanwan said with a smile as she stood up.

"Thank you, Manager Zhou!" Gao Dazhi also stood up and sincerely thanked Zhou Baping.

"Of course, of course!" Zhou Baping said with a laugh as he got up to see them out. "I'll make that call right away and won't delay a bit."

Shang Wanwan and Gao Dazhi left with their crew, and Zhou Baping saw them to the conference room door. Watching them depart, he turned and went back inside.

"Go, pour me a cup of tea. All this talking has left my throat smoking," Zhou Baping ordered his subordinate.

Once the conference room was empty, he propped his leg up in a relaxed pose and a mocking smile curled at his lips.

"Make a call? Mr. Yin has already calculated all your moves without any omissions and has given instructions," Zhou Baping sneered to himself.

The Mr. Yin he referred to was not Yin Dongfeng but Yin Haoran. He had followed Yin Haoran for many years, showing unwavering loyalty, and was well aware of this Mr. Yin's way of doing things. Working under Mr. Yin, it was best to be loyal because while it's easy to get on the boat, it's hard to get off once you've reached a certain rank, and even your family could suffer the consequences.

"A big star? Heh, compared to my own safety, what can I do to help? If I take this issue to Mr. Yin, that'd just be asking for trouble."

Zhou Baping sighed, but then, as if he thought of something, his neck shrunk a little, fear apparent in his eyes, and his smile turned slightly bitter, "That second young master, Yin Donglei, actually dared to issue a fake imperial edict... If I can hide this matter, I will, if not, I can only report it. After all, he can see a German orthopedic surgeon... and I sure don't have that option!"

As Zhou Baping mumbled to himself alone in the big conference room, Shang Wanwan and Gao Dazhi headed back with their team.

Gao Dazhi couldn't help but take a deep breath, feeling fairly confident that Shang Wanwan's conditions were quite reasonable. There should be a way to resolve this!

"Boss Gao, when will Mr. Bai's people arrive, is it Lin Weiwei?" Shang Wanwan suddenly asked.

Lin Weiwei could represent Bai Xiaosheng and make more decisions on his behalf.

"It should be soon, probably Assistant Lin," Gao Dazhi nodded.

"Once she arrives, let's come up with a plan. I'm afraid this won't work out," Shang Wanwan said bluntly, her face finally showing a hint of solemnity.

"That Manager Zhou, wasn't he supposed to call their company's senior executives? Maybe the problem will be resolved," Gao Dazhi couldn't help saying.

"Believe me, there won't be any progress!" Shang Wanwan shook her head.

"Ah, why?" Gao Dazhi was startled.

Hadn't the negotiation just been going well? Shang Wanwan had offered generous terms, and the solution seemed very reasonable.

Gao Dazhi even felt that the other party would ultimately agree.

"A woman's intuition."

Shang Wanwan said only that, shrugged Gao Dazhi off, and strode forward.

In her gaze, there was a fleeting trace of worry.

"Bai Xiaosheng, this time, will you need to step in personally?"

Twenty minutes later, Lin Weiwei and her group arrived, and Shang Wanwan and Gao Dazhi had a brief meeting with them.

After explaining the situation, Shang Wanwan had a private talk with Lin Weiwei, as some speculations were not suitable for everyone to hear, to prevent unnecessary overthinking.

Lin Weiwei nodded subtly and remained composed.

Shang Wanwan thought to herself, "The closer Lin Weiwei gets to Bai Xiaosheng, the more she's influenced by him. Now, Lin Weiwei gives me the impression more and more like him, with the aura of a great leader. In times of trouble, this kind of attitude is the best at stabilizing people's hearts."

When the two women came back, Lin Weiwei directly told Gao Dazhi, "Director Gao, contact the project manager and ask him what the result is, I want to meet with him and discuss it further."

Gao Dazhi nodded and made a call to Zhou Baping.

Coming back from the call, Gao Dazhi's expression was quite grim.

"He said there's still no reply from above, and asked us to wait," Gao Dazhi couldn't help but look at Shang Wanwan. Hearing Zhou Baping's slow and methodical tone, he increasingly felt that what Shang Wanwan had said was true, that the other party was simply stalling for time.

"All right, this time I will go with you, just the two of us to have a talk with him!" Lin Weiwei said firmly.

At this point, bringing more people had become meaningless. Shang Wanwan and Gao Dazhi had done all they could in negotiations. The only thing left was for her to go and increase the stakes by herself and try all possibilities!

"It all depends on what the other party is really after!" Lin Weiwei stated gravely.

Everyone watched full of anticipation as Lin Weiwei and Gao Dazhi left.

It wasn't until noon that they returned, their faces clouded with dark expressions, making everyone's hearts sink!

As expected, the deal hadn't been reached.

This time, even Gao Dazhi remained silent.

"Don't worry, there's always a solution to the problem!" Lin Weiwei reassured everyone, then took out her phone and walked to a secluded spot.

"Weiwei, how's it going?" Bai Xiaosheng's voice came from the other end of the phone.

"Xiaosheng, the situation is quite tricky!" Lin Weiwei's voice was serious.

Chapter 449: The Crux of the Matter!\_1

Bai Xiaosheng quietly listened to Lin Weiwei's report, which was very detailed, including the content of the negotiations previously held by Shang Wanwan and Gao Dazhi with the other party.

A high location fee was offered, along with the hiring of several mainland and Hong Kong/Taiwan feng shui experts for the site.

On this basis, Lin Weiwei further increased the conditions!

Zhongjing Media would provide some promotional support for the project, as a bonus, in exchange for the use of the location!

However, even with this condition, the other side still did not show much interest.

"He only said he would report it, saying that we had to wait! I think he's delaying time!" Lin Weiwei was candid and shared her feelings.

"How is the film crew now?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"Here's another strange thing. They've refused to let us continue filming and even had someone watching us, but they haven't driven the film crew out." Lin Weiwei also felt puzzled.

Bai Xiaosheng slightly furrowed his brows, falling into silence.

That day he had an encounter with thieves on the project site, facing several thugs, and it felt a bit off; later, meeting Zhou Baping only intensified that feeling.

However, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't with the film crew. Encountering personal issues, it was hard to link those with the problems the crew faced. Besides, regarding security concerns, they had deployed guards to increase vigilance; almost everything that could be done was already in place. Moreover, there had been no issues for a week straight.

He had let his guard down!

"Weiwei, give me a moment to think, I'll call you back later!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

"Okay," Lin Weiwei responded.

Bai Xiaosheng hung up the phone, clasped his hands together on the desk, and gazed intently at one spot, deep in thought about the matter.

This issue, upon closer inspection, had many questionable points.

He could understand if the other side genuinely had a reason to stop the crew from using the location.

Yet, if they halted the filming, they were not in a hurry to make the crew leave, giving the impression that there was room to maneuver.

But when it came to negotiations, as Lin Weiwei said, the other party clearly had an insincere attitude.

If it was about money, they could pay the high location fee.

If there were concerns about so-called feng shui, they could hire renowned feng shui masters to dispel the other party's worries.

Even, Lin Weiwei suggested they could use some form of cooperation in exchange.

All this, just for three to seven days of filming time!

Frankly speaking, they had mentioned everything they could offer.

If the project side agreed, they would definitely make a killing.

If someone else presented him with such terms, Bai Xiaosheng would agree!

However, the other side maintained an ambivalent stance!

Completely insincere!

"Now that's interesting!" Bai Xiaosheng murmured, "What exactly do you want!"

This appeared to be more like deliberate obstruction!

A sophisticated form of difficulty placed exactly at the critical juncture of the crew's filming!

Didn't Zhou Baping repeatedly say that the superiors disapproved?

It seemed to resolve the problem, they had to start with the developers.

"Haobei International!" Bai Xiaosheng muttered, "Red Lotus, find out for me which company developed this Haobei International!"

"Haobei International, a well-known urban complex project in Zhongjing, was developed by Zhongjing Haoran Real Estate Co., Ltd., and officially started in 2014..." Red Lotus's pleasant voice began.

"That's enough!"

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes brightened, emitting a sharp gleam.

"Found the source! Zhongjing Haoran, the Yin Family of Zhongjing, Yin Haoran!" Bai Xiaosheng murmured.

A few days ago, he had refused Yin Haoran's plea and resolutely fired Yin Dongfeng.

But now, they've turned the tables on him!

"The opening ceremony took place after my fallout with the Yin Family. That day, I asked Old Gao, and he said he was initially against the project, but then somehow agreed to it! It seems that Yin Haoran has set a trap for me! You've got to hand it to the older generation; they are indeed more cunning!" Bai Xiaosheng sighed deeply.

If he wanted to solve this, the root lay with the Yin Family.

After some thought, Bai Xiaosheng pulled out his phone and looked up an old contact list from the table, finding Yin Dongfeng's number and dialing it.

There were several rings, and just as the call was about to end, someone picked up on the other end.

"Hello, who is this? I am quite busy at the moment and it's not a good time; please make it quick," the voice on the other end conveyed a barely-hidden schadenfreude.

Bai Xiaosheng was certain they knew it was him. Perhaps, they were even waiting for this call.

"It's me, the General Manager of Zhongjing Media, Bai Xiaosheng! Mr. Yin Dongfeng, I hope all is well with you," Bai Xiaosheng's voice remained calm and steady.

"Oh, the big General Manager! What's prompted you to call me?" There was a trace of mockery in the voice from the other end.

"Mr. Yin, let's not beat around the bush; it's pointless," said Bai Xiaosheng straightforwardly. "Let's get to the point. What do you want to allow the film crew to continue shooting?"

An outrageous demand is the precursor to a reasonable negotiation.

As long as there's willingness to talk, there's a possibility of resolution.

Bai Xiaosheng handed the power to set the price over to Yin Dongfeng.

After a silence that lasted several seconds, Yin Dongfeng's voice came through again, less roguish and more formal, "What I want to say is, I'd like to return to Zhongjing Media as a director..."

"That's out of the question!" Bai Xiaosheng rejected flatly. "However, our two companies can collaborate in many fields, and I'm willing to offer some concessions!"

Coming from Bai Xiaosheng, this offer carried significant weight!

It was enough to quicken anyone's heartbeat.

Especially for Zhongjing Haoran, which might look prosperous on the outside but is actually having a hard time!

Bai Xiaosheng believed this offer to be astonishingly tempting!

Even Yin Haoran couldn't refuse!

That's why he was willing to make this call.

This was not a plea, but a demand!

He wanted to negotiate as an equal and use cooperation as leverage to stop the other party's obstruction.

In the Yin Family's study,

Yin Dongfeng, upon hearing Bai Xiaosheng's proposal, couldn't help but feel tempted. He glanced at his father.

As the call was on speakerphone, Yin Haoran could hear everything clearly.

Yin Haoran shook his head slightly.

As attractive as the benefits were, they didn't compare to the steady position of a director.

Furthermore, they had already connected with Chen Changqing and Chen Jiuzheng, and at this point, it was somewhat difficult to back out. If Bai Xiaosheng hastily agreed to give the director position, they might still take a risk!

As things stood now, obviously it was not acceptable!

"Mr. Bai, my terms won't change. Maybe you should think it over," said Yin Dongfeng, this time with a trace of politeness.

He hung up the phone.

Yin Dongfeng looked at his father and asked softly, "Dad, are we just going to drag this out? If Bai Xiaosheng remains adamant and we don't budge, what should we do about their crew pulling out?"

"If they could easily decide to pull out, would Bai Xiaosheng be calling us?" Yin Haoran retorted with a sneer. "No hurry, let's wait."

Yin Dongfeng nodded his head.

Outside the study, Yin Donglei was eavesdropping. After listening, he tiptoed away.

"It seems the old man and my brother are making good progress, cornering that Bai. So does that mean their plans are succeeding? Good, now if I move forward with mine, there shouldn't be a problem, right?" Yin Donglei's lips curled into a smile.

Chapter 450: Don't Go!\_1

After hanging up the phone, Bai Xiaosheng's expression was neither pleased nor sad.

He first called Lin Weiwei—after all, they were still waiting.

"Xiaosheng, how did it go?" Lin Weiwei asked. Although she didn't know what Bai Xiaosheng was doing, she was sure that he was devising a plan for the situation, and might already have a countermeasure.

"Weiwei, you calm the crew down first, tell them to tough it out and wait patiently for a couple of days," Bai Xiaosheng said.

"Oh," Lin Weiwei responded, and then said, "Xiaosheng, I've been thinking, we probably still need to talk to the project developer to solve the problem at its source..."

"I've already spoken to them," Bai Xiaosheng interrupted softly. "The developer of Haobei International is Zhongjing Haoran, which belongs to the Yin Family."

This gentle sentence stunned Lin Weiwei on the spot.

It belonged to the Zhongjing Yin Family!

Then everything made sense!

Days ago, Yin Dongfeng and Yin Donglei were publicly humiliated at her aunt's house, and Yin Dongfeng was even forced to resign. Now, this was the Yin Family's retaliation!

"Otherwise, I can go talk to the people from the Yin Family..." Lin Weiwei said.

She always felt that she couldn't completely disassociate herself from this matter.

"Don't you dare go!"

Bai Xiaosheng's tone was indisputable, "They want the position of the supervisor, not you! Going there would only lead to humiliation, and it wouldn't help the situation. Besides, is it such a big deal that you think I can't handle them? Hmph, I'm just trying to downplay the situation. But if they still refuse to compromise in the end, then I'll have no choice but to declare war on them!"

His tone was chilling.

"Fine, I won't go. I'll inform the crew to wait," Lin Weiwei answered softly.

Because of Bai Xiaosheng's authoritative "Don't you dare go," Lin Weiwei felt not aggrieved but rather a warm and fuzzy feeling.

That phrase was Bai Xiaosheng's way of showing care for her.

"When you're done with your tasks, hurry back. No one's around to pour my tea, and I'm hungry—I feel like having some snacks," Bai Xiaosheng's voice softened.

Lin Weiwei instantly smiled sweetly.

After hanging up, Lin Weiwei went to inform Gao Dazhi and Shang Wanwan, updating them on the situation.

Upon hearing that the developer was from the Yin Family, which harbored a grudge against Bai Xiaosheng, both of them gasped.

"This is my negligence! If I had done some research in advance, if I had signed a contract, it might not have come to this!" Gao Dazhi blamed himself deeply.

"Cunning plans against the unsuspecting are hard to guard against," Lin Weiwei comforted.

"Has Mr. Bai said how he plans to resolve this?" Shang Wanwan asked. "I have some connections. Why not ask a few influential people to mediate, or apply pressure if need be!"

The mere Zhongjing Yin Family couldn't possibly leave them without recourse!

Shang Wanwan snorted coldly.

Did the Yin Family really think she would blame the crew, blame Zhongjing Media, making the situation worse and Bai Xiaosheng's position more difficult?

They were the ones who had no clue!

Was Bai Xiaosheng someone they could provoke?

He was not only the general manager of Zhongjing Media but also a friend of Wei Tianhou!

Would the little Zhongjing Yin Family be able to withstand the huge power behind him once it was deployed? They were blind to Mount Tai!

Shang Wanwan inwardly sighed; this unfortunate Yin Family, they were really courting death...

It vaguely reminded her of herself in the past.

Only she had been luckier; later on, she heard that Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't be too harsh on women...

"No need, Mr. Bai said he has a solution, we just have to wait," Lin Weiwei spoke with unwavering faith in Bai Xiaosheng's words.

Shang Wanwan couldn't help but take another look at her.

Another woman poisoned by Bai Xiaosheng...

But he really is quite charming!

Shang Wanwan thought to herself

After Lin Weiwei finished sorting things out, she immediately took Shi Yu and Song Jiajia back to Zhongjing Media.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng, calm and composed, was leaning over the desk, holding a pen, doodling on a sheet of A4 paper.

"Zhongjing's Yin Family!"

"You want to start a war with me? Then don't blame me for not being polite! You decide when the conflict begins, but I hold the power to end it!"

Bai Xiaosheng scribbled away, and after he finished, he examined his work, somewhat hesitant, "Is this too harsh? We don't have deep-seated hatred for each other... Perhaps, I should give them another chance!"

"There's no need to be so ruthless!"

After mumbling to himself, Bai Xiaosheng sighed, "I really am a kind-hearted person!"

In Zhongjing, at a villa in the Moon Lake neighborhood, Chen Jiuzheng's home.

"Bai Xiaosheng, this despicable, shameless, sly and vile bastard, I can't believe that he actually got held by the throat by little Zhongjing's Yin Family! I'm truly at a loss for words!" Chen Changqing was expressing his astonishment to Chen Jiuzheng.

His opinion of Bai Xiaosheng clearly differed from Bai Xiaosheng's opinion of himself.

Who knows what Bai Xiaosheng would think if he heard Chen Changqing's heartfelt and "sincere" comments about him...

Chen Jiuzheng nodded slightly.

Chen Changqing had informed him about the cooperation with Zhongjing's Yin Family.

The uncle and nephew didn't take it too seriously.

It might be that the Yin Family had strength in the past, but after the chain-funding disruption two years ago, the Yin Family was nothing more than a paper tiger.

When Chen Changqing once visited his uncle to seek advice on various businesses in Zhongjing and even Anjiang, Chen Jiuzheng had mentioned the Yin Family as nothing but a cautionary tale.

Yin Haoran was once arrogant and conceited, not knowing his own limitations, so it was almost inevitable his business would run into problems.

What was unexpected, though, was that after two years of reflecting and cultivating his character, Yin Haoran made his move and caught Bai Xiaosheng off guard.

After succeeding, the Yin Family made a point of notifying Chen Changqing, who was greatly surprised and made a special trip to see his uncle to discuss this matter.

"Actually, what Yin Haoran said is quite true!" Chen Jiuzheng sighed, "We are, after all, part of the same group as Bai Xiaosheng, which restricts our actions, preventing us from being too obvious or excessive. The Yin Family, as outsiders, don't have to consider these things! Looking at it this way, they do indeed serve as useful pawns!"

Chen Jiuzheng acknowledged the Yin Family's capabilities.

Chen Changqing chuckled, "It might be similar to the game of Jungle, where the elephant overpowers the lion, but is threatened by a tiny mouse."

"Your analogy is logically sound, but not quite fitting. Bai Xiaosheng is not the elephant, and the Yin Family is not just a mouse. Even a skinny camel is bigger than a horse," Chen Jiuzheng replied with a smile.

"Uncle's lesson is well noted," Chen Changqing smiled, probing, "Then should I, contact the Yin Family? It's just that I'm not quite sure how we could best cooperate..."

How to cooperate, and to what extent, were all questions that Chen Changqing specifically came to ask Chen Jiuzheng.

"There's no need to rush this matter; let them just make trouble!" Chen Jiuzheng smiled, "Later on, I'll think about how to use this pawn. They've eagerly come knocking on our door; it would be too rude not to make use of them!"

Chen Jiuzheng also needed to discuss this matter with Chen Jiutian.

"Alright," Chen Changqing nodded.

He looked elsewhere, his eyes gleaming with satisfaction.

Bai Xiaosheng, you've finally met your match!