

Two Trillion 471

Chapter 471: Not That You Call Me _1

Bai Xiaosheng, Lin Weiwei, and Song Yiming spent two days listing and clarifying the content items for review required by "Anjiang Province's Top Ten Benchmark Star Enterprise Recognition and Management Methods".

Among them, many of the contents needing audit were areas where they were already leading in their industry, and some even reached the top standard in their field.

For instance, the promotion of "innovative systems", "new system driving force", "sales and taxes generated by innovative systems and work methods", and the "effectiveness of middle management" were areas where Zhongjing Media had already excelled. All they needed was to prepare the materials.

Of course, these successful audit items were scattered across various stages of the review, and it was the first stage that had some minor aspects Zhongjing Media was lacking in.

On one hand, Bai Xiaosheng arranged for materials to be organized urgently, to complete the content required for the first review stage; on the other hand, he arranged for the progression of those minor tasks.

A preliminary estimate suggested it would take about a week.

Bai Xiaosheng reported the progress to Ji Mingyang.

"Very good! You're ahead of my anticipated schedule by quite a bit! In that case, I'll give you two weeks. You must do it with care and make it the best. The first stage may seem simple, but it includes an 'impression score'. You absolutely can't overlook it or slack off," Mayor Ji Mingyang reminded over the phone, and then he laughed, "Details make perfection! Also, I think, Sheng, you should take a break. You've been busy dealing with the Yin Family, and you're worn out. Being under stress is not good. You need to relax so you can face the audit with a better mindset!"

Bai Xiaosheng laughed, "Mayor Ji, who else sets tasks and then insists on rest? Your expectations as a senior leader are very high."

"Haha, then just treat it as part of your task," Mayor Ji Mingyang laughed heartily over the phone.

Since the relationship with Master Song Kai had developed, the two had grown closer, almost like friends, yet with a hint of a senior-junior dynamic.

After hanging up the phone, Bai Xiaosheng stretched his back; indeed, he had been very tired recently.

"This is a good task. How about I carry it out?"

...

The Zhongjing Empire Crown Holiday Hotel, located on the edge of the Third Ring, adjacent to a national park, is known as a hotel but is actually a small estate consisting of several small villas surrounding the central building, which also serves as the banquet hall.

In the evening, the hotel is lit up, signaling a major event.

At the entrance of the estate hotel, the security guards wore brand new uniforms, their faces beaming as they welcomed the arriving guests.

From the plaza to the hall, a red carpet stretched out, fresh and bright.

At the entrance of the hall stood a male butler, in his fifties, with a ramrod straight back. One hand behind his back, the other raised in front, he wore snow-white gloves and a gentlemanly and mild smile as he checked the invitations of the guests entering.

At this time, guests were arriving in waves and there were many people.

However, everyone maintained their dignity, queuing politely and entering in order.

At the front of the queue, a young man particularly stood out. Not because he was exceedingly handsome — compared to some of the younger faces in the crowd, his looks were just above average. It was the manner in which he carried himself, a certain charisma evident in his gestures and smile, bearing an air of authority.

Even the butler at the door was more deferential than usual when checking his invitation.

That man was Bai Xiaosheng.

Fulfilling Mayor Ji Mingyang's advice, Bai Xiaosheng had come out to unwind.

As the General Manager of Zhongjing Media, he had suitable venues at his disposal whenever he pleased.

Lin Weiwei had at least a dozen invitations on hand, all sent from various industry leaders, invitations to a variety of events.

If Bai Xiaosheng chose to grace them with his presence, good; if not, Lin Weiwei had her ways of handling the invitations tactfully.

The event Bai Xiaosheng was attending, "Crown Night • Wine Tasting and Charity Gala", fitted his timetable perfectly and he found the content very interesting — a legendary mixologist returned from abroad would be present, promising a feast for the taste buds, supplemented by a foreign vocal group for entertainment.

Bai Xiaosheng had never attended such an event before. Curious, and wanting to taste what divine wine was like, he decided to attend.

He had not told Weiwei to notify the hosts of his presence; since he was there to relax, he preferred to arrive quietly and avoid the complexities of socializing.

The butler at the entrance opened the invitation and was visibly taken aback. He blinked several times, double-checking before taking a long hard look at Bai Xiaosheng. So much so that it took him twice as long as it did with others to let him in.

"Is there a problem?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

The butler opened his mouth.

Yes, there was indeed a big problem!

Firstly, this invitation, with its dark gold cover heavy in hand, was the most prestigious supreme invitation to the banquet, of which there were only ten in total!

Was someone with such an invitation even supposed to queue?

What a joke! Surely the owner himself should come out to greet me in person!

And, this young man is just too young!

His position is General Manager inside!

Is this really his?

The butler was uncertain!

However, he did not dare to question it to his face; after all, everyone with an invitation like this was extremely prestigious, and if it were true, how could he afford to offend him.

Perhaps, he's the son of some big family?

But that doesn't seem right either! The young masters who usually come here, their faces are almost memorized by the butler!

Not this one...

The butler scrutinized Bai Xiaosheng over and over again.

Bai Xiaosheng frowned slightly, feeling a touch of displeasure, but still patiently asked the face-judging butler, "Is there a problem? Maybe make a phone call to verify it."

Having served as both deputy general and general manager, Bai Xiaosheng had contended with countless big shots along the way, even interacting with mayors as equals. He himself didn't feel anything amiss, but having been in constant contact with those in higher positions, his demeanor had long since assimilated quietly. A single look or expression from him, in the eyes of others, carried an overwhelming authority, especially to someone like a butler.

Definitely not an ordinary character!

When questioned by Bai Xiaosheng like that, the butler instantly became fearful and respectfully handed back the invitation with both hands.

"No problem, please come in!"

Bai Xiaosheng's expression eased, and he reached out to take back the invitation.

Suddenly, a deep voice came from behind him.

"Excuse me, please step aside!"

The words were polite, but the voice was not so kind.

And as he spoke, a large hand had already been placed on Bai Xiaosheng's shoulder, pushing with force to move him aside.

Bai Xiaosheng nearly lost his balance and immediately furrowed his brow, misstepping and putting force into his shoulder that crashed into the chest of the man behind him.

This simple movement caused the big man behind him to stagger back several steps, even bumping into his boss and stepping on his foot.

"Ah!" a cry of pain followed by a cursing voice laced with violence, "You imbecile, you stepped on me!"

There was a loud slap.

Gasps filled the surroundings, the old butler's expression changed, and he rushed over from Bai Xiaosheng's side as fast as lightning.

Bai Xiaosheng also turned his head to look.

It was a man of about his own age, not bad-looking, but at the moment, his face was twisted with a surge of violent rage.

Several servants followed by his side.

A big man, fearfully covering his face, hung his head low.

"Mr. Zhang Xuan, are you alright?" the old butler asked fearfully.

"Fine my ass! Look at this!" The man named Zhang Xuan angrily pointed at his shoes.

The old butler, disregarding the public around him, kneeled on one knee and used a pristine white glove to wipe the man's shoes.

Such tremendous authority!

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head, not wanting to get involved in idle affairs, and turned to enter the hall.

"You, stop right there!" But then a loud shout came from behind him.

Not talking to me!

Bai Xiaosheng didn't even turn his head and just walked straight into the hall.

Chapter 472: Stepping on Your Foot is Going to Cost You Your Life_1

Bai Xiaosheng entered the hall.

The hall was decorated lavishly and magnificently. Even the dome that resembled the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore sparkled with gold and brilliance, somewhat reminiscent of the top-floor restaurant in Zhongjing Wanhe Building. However, if truly compared, there was still a significant difference.

Having seen better, Bai Xiaosheng naturally had higher standards. With a casual glance, he let it be.

He saw there was a sofa area on one side of the hall with refreshments and tea, so he planned to go there, sit, and wait for the event to officially start.

"You there, stop, didn't you hear what I said!"

Bai Xiaosheng heard a loud shout from behind.

It must not be calling me... Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

However, all the guests in the venue turned their attention to him in unison.

Bai Xiaosheng sighed, fearing it was indeed him they were calling.

He had originally come to relax today; why couldn't he be left in peace?

Bai Xiaosheng turned around.

The young man named Zhang Xuan, who he had seen earlier, was approaching angrily with a group of people.

"You just pushed my man and stepped on my foot! I called you, and you dare to ignore me!" Zhang Xuan said in anger.

Bai Xiaosheng frowned and then smiled, "If your man stepped on your foot, by all means, go and reprimand him. It has nothing to do with me."

"It was you who pushed!"

"Who saw it? People outside saw your man pushing me, now that's actually true!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

"Then let them testify for you. If one person is willing to do so, I'll consider it my loss!" Zhang Xuan said with a cold laugh.

Seeing his demeanor, Bai Xiaosheng fully believed that no one outside would speak up for him.

"So what do you want?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"Clean it off!" Zhang Xuan snorted coldly, pointing at his shoe that had been stepped on.

It was already free of dust, presumably cleaned by an outside butler. How could it be cleaned further? Zhang Xuan's clear intention was to make Bai Xiaosheng bow his head in public, kneel at his feet, and act like the butler outside.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but want to laugh.

There was always a funny saying online, claiming that some second-generation rich kids are so arrogant and delusional that if you step on their foot, they could scream about killing your entire family.

Looking at it now, this Zhang Xuan was a prime example of taking that saying to new heights.

It wasn't even him who stepped on the foot, yet Zhang Xuan could chase after him, yelling and threatening.

Is this really a peer of my own age? How childish. Bai Xiaosheng truly didn't know whether to cry or laugh.

In fact, what angered Zhang Xuan was Bai Xiaosheng's attitude.

A peer with extraordinary temperament, looking at him as if he was an idiot, that gaze infuriated him.

This was precisely why he was intentionally picking a quarrel.

"Don't you think you're too arrogant? In front of so many guests, in such a public place, you behave like this, do you really think this is your own home?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

"Ah, this place is indeed run by our family!" Zhang Xuan declared very plainly.

Bai Xiaosheng was at a loss for words.

No wonder, I thought it was an arrogant guest, but it turned out to be an arrogant young master!

"Oh my, that young man seems to have offended Mr. Zhang Xuan!"

"This young man in the Zhang family's estate, offending this precious scion, there's quite a show to see!"

"Tsk tsk, the Zhang family patriarch has only this beloved son, spoiled beyond measure. He's unruly outside and even more so at home. Provoking him here, one is likely to face serious misfortune!"

The people around murmured among themselves, looking at Bai Xiaosheng with eyes full of sympathy, as if seeing an unlucky fellow.

Bai Xiaosheng looked around and suddenly felt a bit dispirited.

I came here to relax, not to look for trouble.

Having caused such a scene, how can I stay any longer? Better to go back and get some sleep.

"All you did was step on a foot, slap someone across the face, and make an old man kneel to clean your shoes. Isn't that enough? They're your servants. It's their business if they're willing to do that, but it doesn't mean everyone will tolerate you. Fine, since you think I'm an eyesore here, I'll just leave your house," Bai Xiaosheng said with an indifferent smile.

He was nothing more than a pampered scion from a big family.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't be bothered to stoop to his level.

Besides, the owner of this estate doesn't even rank in the top ten of Zhongjing's business world!

In Bai Xiaosheng's eyes, he was even less impressive!

My presence here was a favor to them!

When the Zhang Family head finds out that the Zhongjing Media General Manager was forced to leave by a junior over a ludicrous reason, I wonder what he will think!

Bai Xiaosheng prepared to leave.

"You think you can walk away that easily? In my house, I won't let you bully me!" Zhang Xuan's eyes flashed fiercely as he raised his hand, and three or four fierce-looking men stood up behind him.

"A fight's about to break out!"

"Oh my God, this young man is going to get trashed today!"

"Tsk, tsk, this is getting good!"

The surrounding onlookers buzzed with barely concealed excitement.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the several burly men in front of him and couldn't help but sigh. It seemed there was no avoiding it today; he would have to beat up the son in his own house as a way to relax...

If the Zhang Family came after him later, he wouldn't be as polite as he was with the Yin Family!

If I really have to take care of them, I'd better go complain to Ji first! I still need to help him secure the spot as one of the top ten provincial landmark enterprises; he's got to have my back! Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but think mischievously to himself.

At this tense moment, someone suddenly shouted from outside the hall.

"Miss Mo Xin has arrived!"

Mo Xin was the "god-level" beauty bartender claimed on the invitation.

Hearing this name, an irate Zhang Xuan's face instantly cleared of anger, his eyes almost shining as he turned and left.

The several menacing servants immediately paused, their breath hitched, frozen in place.

Now, what to do? To fight or not to fight?

With Miss Mo Xin here, if they proceed, Lord knows the master will have them killed!

"What are you still standing around for? Hurry up and follow, your young master needs you as a backdrop," Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but scoff, mockingly.

The three or four burly men actually nodded and hurriedly followed suit.

"Oh my, this household is too funny," Bai Xiaosheng suddenly felt in high spirits.

The guests in the hall no longer paid attention to him, rushing towards the door with gleaming eyes, like fans chasing a star.

Just a female bartender, what's the big deal?

Bai Xiaosheng felt puzzled.

Honestly, he didn't quite understand the hype, but with Red Lotus by his side, he could quickly become an expert in this field just in time.

With Red Lotus's help, Bai Xiaosheng found out that in Europe, bartenders are categorized as Assistant Bartenders, Bartenders, Senior Bartenders, Bartender Technicians, and Senior Bartender Technicians, and Mo Xin was a Senior Bartender Technician certified by multiple countries.

This was no small feat, representing the pinnacle of an industry, and also a testament to her extraordinary talent within the profession.

Bai Xiaosheng had done his research, so he knew how difficult it was to achieve this certification, not to mention from multiple countries.

It was indeed the peak of an era.

"Maybe I won't leave in a hurry? I'll go see for myself what kind of presence Miss Mo Xin is," Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself, stepping towards the door to witness her brilliance.

Chapter 473: How is He Here!_1

As Bai Xiaosheng walked over, the doors of the great hall split to either side, ushering in a flurry of people.

Dozens of individuals surrounded a beautiful woman, even Zhang Xuan had a full smile on his face, following by her side.

The beauty, roughly in her twenties, approached in a white gown, moving elegantly with grace, standing tall like a lotus rising from the water.

Her face, lightly made up, radiated a charm that was at once captivating, demure, dignified, and remarkably approachable. Her eyes and brows were impeccably refined; her smiling eyes were like crescent moons, her nose delicate, and her lips petite. Her figure was proportioned to such perfection that an ounce more would make her seem plump, an ounce less, too thin; she was flawlessness incarnate.

Especially her skin, so soft and fair, appeared like flawless white jade.

Bai Xiaosheng inwardly marveled. Of all the women he had seen, this one's beauty, comportment, and poise could easily rank in the top three. Probably only Wei Xuelian and Wei Moran, the pair of sisters, could surpass her.

Bai Xiaosheng quietly stood aside, watching these people pass by in front of him.

"Has Miss Mo Xin arrived? We've been waiting so eagerly!"

Suddenly, a booming voice echoed from the second floor.

Bai Xiaosheng looked up.

Upstairs, leaning on the railing stood a somewhat gaunt middle-aged man. Beside him was an elderly man with short frosty hair, exhibiting a calm and measured demeanor.

As soon as Bai Xiaosheng saw the old man with white hair, he was taken aback—it was Yin Haoran.

He hadn't expected to meet again so soon.

He wondered what Yin Haoran's expression would be if he noticed him.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but scratch his face.

Considering the Yin Family had already been swindled so badly, it was surprising that Yin Haoran was in the mood to attend a wine reception...

But then again, perhaps he was here seeking partnership...

Bai Xiaosheng speculated.

After all, Yin Haoran was a man of purpose in his actions and style.

Yin Haoran's attention was fully on Mo Xin; he didn't notice Bai Xiaosheng in the crowd at all, which explained his nonchalance.

"Mr. Zhang Shucheng has been waiting, Xin Xin wouldn't dare to make him wait," the beauty, named Mo Xin, responded with a sweet smile, giving Yin Haoran an extra glance. A beautiful woman by her side leaned in to whisper something in her ear.

In Mo Xin's eyes, a radiant light burst forth.

"So Mr. Yin Haoran is also here. No wonder I heard magpies calling when I was leaving home—it's an honor to meet such an important person, I'm privileged," Mo Xin said with a smile.

That young lady certainly had a sweet tongue, Bai Xiaosheng chuckled to himself.

"Miss Mo Xin is too modest. To have the chance to drink a cocktail mixed by a Senior Bartender Technician recognized by several European countries is not common! It is I who am honored," Yin Haoran replied with a laugh.

Zhang Shucheng grinned and made a welcoming gesture. Yin Haoran modestly declined, but did not persist, and walked in front.

These two heavyweight figures immediately became the center of attention in the entire venue.

Zhang Xuan stood there, honest and obedient. The arrogance and haughtiness from before had vanished into thin air.

In fact, he was secretly wiping sweat from his brow.

"I didn't expect the old man to be on the second floor, and even less did I expect that old codger from the Yin Family to be here, too—I almost made a scene just now!" Zhang Xuan thought to himself.

Zhang Shucheng led Yin Haoran downstairs, approaching Mo Xin, and when he saw his son, his expression slightly darkened.

"Xiao Xuan, have you greeted Mr. Yin yet?"

"Hello, Mr. Yin!" Zhang Xuan quickly said respectfully.

His own Zhang Family couldn't make the top ten in Zhongjing, whereas the Yin Family ranked within the top five—that was the difference! The old man was usually so haughty that he couldn't be invited over, and every time his father mentioned it, he was very displeased.

This time, however, the man had come to them.

Mr. Zhang Xuan's eyes flickered as he recalled something he had heard a few days ago. The Yin Family had had a falling out with Zhongjing Media and almost got wiped out by them. His father had been muttering about it for days, saying how impressive the new general manager of Zhongjing Media was, and that the Yin Family's decline was an opportunity for their Zhang Family to capitalize on.

Mr. Zhang Xuan didn't understand, nor did he want to. All he knew was that as long as he had plenty of money to spend and could live a carefree life, that was enough for him. He couldn't be bothered with anything else...

This attitude naturally resulted in his father, Zhang Shucheng, cursing him out numerous times, but he, Mr. Zhang Xuan, just took it as if his old man was farting loudly...

"Just now upstairs, I heard you making a racket down here, what's the commotion about?" Zhang Shucheng asked lazily.

"Nothing much, just a blind bastard who pissed me off," Mr. Zhang Xuan muttered.

"As long as you don't cause me any trouble, that's good enough!" Zhang Shucheng huffed coldly.

Being scolded by his own father in front of so many people, especially in front of Mo Xin, was humiliating for Mr. Zhang Xuan!

"Dad, it really wasn't me causing trouble. The butler told me that there was something fishy about this guy's invitation card! He suspected it was stolen. What he had was our family's supreme invitation card," Mr. Zhang Xuan muttered.

"Oh?" Zhang Shucheng frowned.

The supreme invitation card.

The Zhang Family had issued only ten of them, each one incredibly prestigious. If those people were coming, they naturally would have notified in advance, and it would be no small matter; Zhang Shucheng would have personally gone to receive them.

Yet, so far, he hadn't heard of any additional guests.

This indeed was a problem!

It really wasn't Mr. Zhang Xuan acting rashly.

"Tell me who took the supreme invitation card!" Zhang Shucheng demanded.

When Mr. Zhang Xuan saw that his old man was actually taking it seriously, he quickly stretched his neck, looking into the crowd for Bai Xiaosheng.

"You brat, acting so arrogant. This time, it's not just me who wants to see you; my dad is curious too. If you stole that invitation card and came here under false pretenses, my dad will break your legs for sure!" Mr. Zhang Xuan was getting excited.

From beyond the crowd, Bai Xiaosheng was already preparing to leave.

He was planning to slip out quietly, unnoticed.

Seeing the beautiful bartender was indeed a sight to behold, ethereal and stunning—it had been worth the trip. Now he was ready to head back.

After an unpleasant encounter and seeing people he didn't want to see, this place was no longer a good spot to relax.

Bai Xiaosheng had no interest in creating further complications and was ready to make a swift exit.

However, just then, the elderly butler who had been at the main hall's entrance was staring at him, noticing that Bai Xiaosheng was about to leave, while Mr. Zhang Xuan was still looking around for him.

The loyal butler, acting out of desperation, quickly raised his hand and shouted, "Mr. Zhang Xuan! This person is over here!"

At this shout, Bai Xiaosheng was startled.

Over there, two or three hundred guests all turned to look at once. So many gazes turning his way made Bai Xiaosheng the center of attention in an instant.

Next to Mr. Zhang Shucheng, Mr. Zhang Xuan spotted Bai Xiaosheng, his eyes instantly lighting up like torches as he yelled, "It's him!"

As he spoke, Mr. Zhang Xuan pushed through the crowd and charged toward Bai Xiaosheng, looking as if he were going after a thief...

Bai Xiaosheng, bemused, simply stood still and calmly watched as Mr. Zhang Xuan approached.

Since he hadn't managed to leave, he decided not to go after all. After all, he had nothing to fear.

Zhang Shucheng curiously looked over, and Mo Xin by his side was also looking at Bai Xiaosheng with interest.

Neither paid him too much attention.

However, what Zhang Shucheng did not see was that at the moment Yin Haoran, standing beside him, saw Bai Xiaosheng, his usually composed face changed color dramatically as if he had seen a ghost.

"Oh my god, how is he here too!"

Chapter 474: Kick and Fly_1

Bai Xiaosheng just wanted to leave quietly, but with the butler's shout, he suddenly became the focus of all the guests.

"This guy is trying to slip away!"

"Offended Zhang Xuan in the Zhang Family and still wants to sneak off, I don't think he'll be able to!"

"There's a good show to watch now, I wonder what kind of drama will unfold next!"

"The Zhang Family is a lineage of only sons for three generations, and the level of indulgence is incomparable; this young man has stirred up a hornet's nest!"

Countless voices were heard, some gloating, others sighing quietly.

Regarding Bai Xiaosheng's fate, everyone was already mourning for him.

Zhang Xuan rushed over, his expression fierce and excited.

"Kid, whose invitation did you steal to come here and freeloader? It seems you've been caught by me. You think it's that easy to leave!" Zhang Xuan reached out to grab Bai Xiaosheng's collar.

Bai Xiaosheng's gaze turned cold.

As the General Manager of Zhongjing Media, if he was caught by the collar and reprimanded in public, where would Zhongjing Media's dignity be then?

The moment Zhang Xuan's hand touched Bai Xiaosheng's collar, his whole body was flung backward, staggering several steps and nearly falling, extremely embarrassed, his face twisted in pain.

In the face of the charging Zhang Xuan, Bai Xiaosheng simply kicked out.

"You!" Zhang Xuan's expression twisted, gasping in pain.

"Guests are to be treated with respect; is this how the Zhang Family treats its guests? And you, what right do you have to lay a hand on me!" Bai Xiaosheng smirked coldly.

He had come with an invitation, fair and square, as the General Manager of Zhongjing Media!

How could he endure such an insult!

Bai Xiaosheng's kick left the entire scene in shocked silence.

His arrogant words made people couldn't help but swallow their saliva.

To kick Zhang Xuan flying in his own home, and then question his right to retaliate...

This was asking for trouble!

Regardless of gender, all the guests were incredibly incredulous.

There, Zhang Shucheng was completely dumbfounded.

His son had gone a bit too far, but it was in his own home, and in his eyes, it was excusable.

But today, he met someone even more formidable!

Someone who beat up his son in his own house and still had the audacity to talk big!

Zhang Shucheng's face darkened in an instant, ominous clouds gathering, and thunder seemed imminent.

The beautiful bartender Mo Xin also looked surprised, her beautiful eyes fixed on Bai Xiaosheng's face, examining him carefully.

This young man, with a calm and indifferent expression, confident and fearless, had delivered that kick with absolute precision and flair, making her can't help but feel like applauding!

Of course... to cheer for someone getting beaten up in the Zhang Family, right in front of them, was indeed a bit too much...

Next to Zhang Shucheng and Mo Xin, Yin Haoran shrank back, almost wanting to become invisible so Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't see him, yet he couldn't stop sneaking glances his way.

Yin Haoran's face looked extremely unpleasant, and he even cast resentful glances at Zhang Shucheng—

Zhang Shucheng ah! You have truly raised a good... a child seeking his own death!

This Bai... is he someone to be trifled with? Yet your son even dared to attack him!

My son dared to do the same, and I broke his leg for it!

Yin Haoran sighed inwardly: The Zhang Family might be in danger now; how did Zhang Shucheng raise his son to be like this...

How Yin Haoran's heart trembled was naturally unknown to the others.

"You dare to kick me!" Zhang Xuan recovered from the shock, his face instantly turning purplish-red, roaring miserably.

To be kicked and sent flying in front of so many people, in his own home, with so many beauties around—what an extreme humiliation!

Zhang Xuan turned his head and yelled at Zhang Shucheng, "Dad, he kicked me!"

This shout made Bai Xiaosheng, who had previously been somewhat stern, now unable to help but find it laughable.

This was a bit like children fighting, the loser calling for his parents... Is this really my peer...

Bai Xiaosheng was speechless.

It turns out that among his peers, there were not only outstanding individuals like Chen Changqing and Lu Qingfeng, but also a good-for-nothing like Zhang Xuan.

In the past, Bai Xiaosheng had also seen in the news, some spoiled children who didn't even know how to dress themselves or how much water to put in when cooking noodles until they went to college.

He had always thought these were odd tales, but now, Zhang Xuan was a living example...

Is it okay to argue with someone like that...

Bai Xiaosheng suddenly felt a bit disheartened and wanted to leave.

"Stop right there, you think you can hit someone in the Zhang Family and just leave!"

Zhang Shucheng's eyebrows shot up, and he roared with authority, resounding like a clap of thunder.

The guests present all jumped in fright, while servants around fixed their eyes on Bai Xiaosheng, ready to pounce at a single command!

"Boy, today, you won't be walking out of here!" Zhang Xuan exclaimed excitedly, shouting aloud.

Bai Xiaosheng gave him a cold glance, Zhang Xuan's face turned white instantly, and he turned his head, scrambling back until he was beside Zhang Shucheng, only then daring to look at Bai Xiaosheng again.

Around them, a group of servants slowly closed in.

Bai Xiaosheng, however, was not fearful, and as he looked towards Zhang Shucheng, his gaze met that of Yin Haoran, who was peeking out nearby.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Yin Haoran, faced with that smile, felt a chill in his heart!

"Stop, tell them to stop!" Yin Haoran quickly made his presence known, yelling at the top of his lungs.

"Mr. Yin, do you know this kid?" Zhang Shucheng was startled and asked in confusion.

At the moment, the Yin Family was greatly weakened, but they were still far superior to the Zhang Family.

Zhang Shucheng did not dare to slight Yin Haoran.

"Ahem. Shucheng, let's just let this go for my sake!" Yin Haoran looked towards Bai Xiaosheng and gave an awkward smile.

Let it go!

Zhang Shucheng frowned.

To be hit in his own home and just let it go?!

"No, we can't just let this go. Beat this brat to death, and if not to death, then cripple him!" Zhang Xuan was the first to disagree.

"Mr. Yin, this involves our family's honor, I fear this may not be appropriate!" Zhang Shucheng whispered under his breath.

"Can you do me this favor? I'm willing to cut you in for thirty percent!" Yin Haoran whispered back through clenched teeth.

He was afraid, afraid that if things escalated, Bai Xiaosheng might not spare even him.

"This..." Zhang Shucheng hesitated.

Face was important, but benefits were more tangible! However, with so many eyes on them right now...

Zhang Xuan anxiously looked at his father, unable to suppress his eagerness to speak.

He couldn't let that kid off the hook, no matter what!

Just at that moment, a fragrant scent suddenly wafted over. At first, it was light and ethereal, but then it grew rich and intoxicating, easily soothing the guests' emotions, to the point where even the irritable Zhang Xuan couldn't help but pause and say, "That smells good!"

"It smells so good!"

"Indeed delightful!"

"Is this the scent of wine?!"

The entire room of guests was also taken aback by the aroma.

Such intoxicating fragrance had successfully diverted the attention of everyone.

Zhang Xuan, Zhang Shucheng, Yin Haoran looked over, all the guests looked over, and even Bai Xiaosheng looked over.

On a long table covered with a snow-white tablecloth, various cocktail-mixing tools were arranged, and several beauties stepped aside.

The setup was promptly done by them.

The beautiful mixologist Mo Xin was holding a stemmed glass, gently swaying it, as the amber liquid within released its enchanting aroma.

"Tonight is a beautiful evening, instead of quarreling, why not enjoy a glass of fine wine and let bygones be bygones," she said.

Mo Xin then gave Zhang Xuan a sweet smile, "I wonder if Mr. Zhang could grant Mo Xin this favor!"

Chapter 475

Mo Xin was beautiful, with a voice just as lovely, and her mesmerizing eyes seemed to speak. Her fair jade hand held a crystal goblet, exuding indescribable nobility and elegance, an enchantment irresistible.

Inside the glass, the amber liquid was like nectar and ambrosia. The fragrance alone was enough to intoxicate.

Beauty beseeching, fine wine preceding.

Zhang Xuan's towering rage unexpectedly dissipated.

For such a stunning woman to publicly implore him—refusing would not only be discourteous, it would tarnish a man's reputation.

"Fine, I agree!" Zhang Xuan said, bewitched, his consent slipping out without a thought.

Zhang Shucheng couldn't help but glance at his son.

Having already been tempted by Yin Haoran's proposition of benefits, Zhang Shucheng saw no harm in agreeing since his son had done so.

He could explain to the guests afterwards that it was merely children's folly.

Not holding it against them would appear magnanimous.

Finding such rationalizations in his mind, Zhang Shucheng was ready to let the matter rest.

"However, should this brat be thrown out?!" Zhang Shucheng wondered silently.

Yin Haoran tugged at his sleeve, whispering urgently while Bai Xiaosheng was distracted, "Mr. Zhang, you must endure this! This man is not to be trifled with!"

With that, Yin Haoran immediately returned to his composed demeanor, looking straight ahead at Mo Xin.

This abrupt remark left Zhang Shucheng stunned; he looked at Yin Haoran, hardly believing the words were meant for him.

That brat is not to be trifled with?

Zhang Shucheng was skeptical.

He knew full well the kind of man Yin Haoran was.

If it was merely a relative of his, Yin Haoran wouldn't protect him by offering favors so readily.

Yin Haoran's manner suggested fear!

Who was this kid, and what sort of significant background did he have?!

Zhang Shucheng was alarmed.

He wanted to ask, but noticed Yin Haoran had distanced himself, clearly unwilling to elaborate.

Why was Yin Haoran so wary?

Could it be that the boy belonged to some powerful family?!

Zhang Shucheng dared not act rashly.

Zhang Xuan approached Mo Xin.

"Mr. Zhang, please have a drink," Mo Xin said with a sweet smile, offering the crystal glass with both hands.

"Certainly, certainly!" Zhang Xuan took the glass in both hands, eyes fixed on Mo Xin, and sipped lightly from the wine.

However, that light sip made his eyes widen with disbelief, gazing at the glass, his expression a mixture of rapture and ecstasy.

"This, this... such fine wine! Such fine wine!" Zhang Xuan was somewhat enraptured.

The guests exchanged glances, Mr. Zhang Xuan's reaction seemed overly exaggerated—over just one sip of wine, he resembled nothing so much as an addict.

"Life is not a hundred years long, I wish to always be merry. The goblet holds fine wine, my heart knows no vexing matters. Neither favor nor disgrace perturbs me, in action or in repose, my desires fulfill themselves."

Mo Xin gracefully moved, her delicate hands picking up wine utensils in succession along the long table, elegantly and composedly blending a fascinating drink.

In a moment, the enchanting fragrance of the wine wafted through the hall, irresistibly drawing the guests closer, their gazes fixed on Mo Xin, without exception.

Bai Xiaosheng was also incredibly curious.

Mo Xin looked over at Bai Xiaosheng and smiled faintly, raising her glass to him as if silently inviting him.

Bai Xiaosheng pondered briefly, then with a smile, made his way over, squeezing through the crowd to stand at the front.

Upon seeing this, Zhang Shucheng slightly furrowed his brows, but ultimately did not speak.

"Today, we set aside grievances and simply savor fine wine. Mo Xin offers a cup of 'Forget Sorrow,' please taste it, everyone," Mo Xin said with a smile.

The female assistant who accompanied her presented a half-foot tall celadon wine jar.

Mo Xin poured the wine she had mixed in her jug into it, and instantly, a rich fragrance wafted forth.

The onlookers already appeared three parts intoxicated by the aroma alone, their eyes fixed longingly on the celadon wine jar.

Mo Xin smiled, personally took the jar, and walked to a small mountain made of crystal glasses, lightly touching each one, leaving just a shallow bottomful of wine in every cup.

After filling several cups, Mo Xin handed the wine jar back to her assistant and personally served wine to Zhang Shucheng and Yin Haoran.

Then, she handed a cup to Bai Xiaosheng, but Bai Xiaosheng's share was clearly less than that of the other three.

Zhang Xuan saw this clearly and could not help but show off, swinging his wine cup with a smug expression.

"Thank you," Bai Xiaosheng, ignoring Zhang Xuan, smiled at Mo Xin and politely said.

"You're welcome," Mo Xin replied with a sweet smile.

Bai Xiaosheng picked up his wine cup, gently fanning it to waft the fragrance toward him, and took a light sniff. He felt an indescribable sense of wonder travel from his nostrils to his brain. Although he had not yet drunk the wine, it gave him a sense of total relaxation.

Meanwhile, the guests could not resist anymore. They crowded around, scrambling for their cup of "Worry-Free Wine."

"Let us thank Miss Mo Xin for concocting such a wonderful wine for us. With wine like this, no more words are needed. Everyone, let's drink this together!" Zhang Shucheng declared loudly.

All the guests raised their glasses at the same time, carefully tasting the wine. Many closed their eyes and let out a long, intoxicated hum of pleasure.

Bai Xiaosheng took a small sip and felt as though his whole being floated, as if about to ascend to immortality.

"This is truly a fine wine!" Bai Xiaosheng felt an urge to dance with joy.

"Warning! Endorphin and other metric indicators are excessively high!" Suddenly, a cool, female voice rang out in Bai Xiaosheng's mind—it was Red Lotus's voice.

"Health mode activated!" Red Lotus's voice sounded again.

Bai Xiaosheng felt a sharp pricking sensation in his head, making him tremble involuntarily. After that, the sensation disappeared, and the euphoric desire to dance wildly vanished in an instant, replaced by an unparalleled clarity in his mind.

Bai Xiaosheng discreetly examined the wine in his cup.

"What are endorphins?" Bai Xiaosheng asked Red Lotus in his thoughts.

"Endorphins, also known as enkephalins or brain opiates, are endogenously produced peptides that are secreted by the pituitary gland. They bind to opioid receptors, producing pain relief and a sense of joy similar to that of morphine and opiate drugs," Red Lotus responded.

"What would have happened to me if you hadn't awakened me?" Bai Xiaosheng asked silently.

"Based on the dosage and extrapolating from the inhalation of other substances, in ten minutes, you'd be in a state of impulsiveness, excitement, and easily influenced. In two hours, you'd exhibit signs of drunkenness with mild hallucinations, and in four hours, you'd enter a sleep state. Twelve hours later, your body would metabolize it automatically, and there would be no side effects other than a hangover," Red Lotus replied.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but glance at Mo Xin.

This beautiful mixologist's cup of Forget Sorrow was not wine at all—it was more like a date-rape drug!

Yet, the dosage was controlled so subtly that it only induced impulsiveness, excitement, and suggestibility, with no substantial aftereffects. Whatever happened would simply be attributed to the wine being too good, and to drunkenness.

Was this woman truly a mixologist?

Bai Xiaosheng grew suspicious.

Mo Xin, watching everyone consume the wine, suddenly smiled, and her gaze swept across the room, only to find Bai Xiaosheng looking at her. His eyes seemed to be exceptionally clear.

What's going on? Could it be that I gave him too little wine? Mo Xin thought to herself.

Nevertheless, she was highly confident in her Forget Sorrow, which had never failed before.

Besides, if only one or two people remained sober, it wouldn't hinder the main event!

"Now that everyone has tasted the wonderful wine, why don't we play a game?" Mo Xin suggested with a smile.

In Bai Xiaosheng's eyes, her seemingly pure innocence had morphed into that of a cunning little fox!

Chapter 476: Win 12 Games in a Row_1

"Play a game, what game?"

After the guests had some drinks, once they heard Mo Xin's suggestion to play a game, they were instantly filled with boundless curiosity.

Mo Xin did not rush to answer but instead, with a serious face, addressed the guests, "Today, I have been entrusted by Mr. Zhang to mix fine drinks for everyone and I bring with me a wish."

The crowd looked at each other, unsure of what wish Mo Xin was referring to.

Mo Xin looked at the audience and slowly said, "Everyone here is a person of success, without worry for food or clothing, living a comfortable life. But in remote mountain areas, in foreign lands, there are many children who do not have enough to eat, no clothes to cover their bodies, enduring cold and hunger, in a most pitiable state. I would like to take this opportunity to hold a charity fundraising event. I know that those who come to wine gatherings are connoisseurs of wine, so I will mix cocktails for everyone. If someone can guess the ingredients, Mo Xin will offer him a drink. If you cannot guess, I ask that you donate with love for those poor children!"

Upon hearing Mo Xin's words, the guests nodded repeatedly.

"Miss Mo is truly kind-hearted!"

"Yes, attending this charity cocktail party, we also thought about making a donation!"

"Miss Mo's game also gives us an opportunity to enjoy fine wine, great idea!"

The guests were very approving and full of praise.

They were already like this before the effects of the alcohol had fully taken hold; Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but wonder what they would be manipulated into later.

Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself in silence.

Ever since he found out that there was something fishy about the "Worry-Free Wine," he didn't believe a word of Mo Xin's nonsense!

If it's for those poor children, then fundraise openly and directly, why start with a confusing soup?

Bai Xiaosheng kept his expression unchanged while sneering inwardly.

Mo Xin, looking moved, turned to the crowd and then brought over a lady, "This lady here is Sun Xiaoqiao, my friend and also a staff member of the Love and Care Foundation. She will handle the process on the spot. In the future, each of you will receive a receipt to verify the direction of the funds."

If it could actually be traced, that is...

Bai Xiaosheng silently critiqued.

Sun Xiaoqiao, with an air of seriousness and grace, took out a tablet from her briefcase, standing by and waiting for people to transfer funds.

"That's so well said!"

Zhang Xuan's face lit up with excitement, his eyes nearly filled with admiration, he exclaimed loudly, "Miss Mo, you, you, not only are you beautiful, but your heart is even more beautiful. I support you, I, I will donate five hundred thousand!"

The first one to fall into the trap appeared.

"Not so fast! Mr. Zhang, please enjoy a drink from me first, then it's not too late to talk."

Mo Xin smiled sweetly, casually mixing a drink and handing it over.

Zhang Xuan took the drink, had a sip, but shook his head with an embarrassed smile, "Miss Mo, you put me in a difficult position, I... I can't tell..."

Mo Xin smiled slightly, not urging him to hurry.

Zhang Xuan went over to donate money consciously.

Five hundred thousand, just like that!

Talk about having money!

Bai Xiaosheng inwardly remarked.

In the past, he had only heard about these rich youths spending money generously. Sometimes they could throw in hundreds of thousands just watching a live stream, or spend millions playing a game, now it seemed to be true.

Especially for someone like Zhang Xuan who had never earned money himself and didn't understand the hardships of making money.

"True to be my son, being part of the Zhang family, we ought to set an example!" Zhang Shucheng said with grandeur, walking forward, "Please, Miss Mo, mix a drink for me! However many ingredients you mix, if I can't guess, I will donate hundreds of thousands!"

Zhang Shucheng so freely declared, yet Mo Xin dared not actually add too much and chose only four or five ingredients to mix.

Zhang Shucheng savored his drink intently without a word and went over to donate money.

"I would like to give it a try as well," said Yin Haoran, showing interest and stepping forward.

But Bai Xiaosheng noticed that in his eyes, there was a glint of excitement!

Forget Sorrow was taking effect, Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

Yin Haoran was defeated momentarily and went to donate money.

After that, other guests approached with excited smiles, but each in turn was defeated and retreated.

At Sun Xiaoqiao's station, a crowd of people had gathered.

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head slightly, ready to take advantage of the chaos to leave, as he had no interest in donating his goodwill to a fraud.

"Sir, are you leaving?" Mo Xin's voice came from behind him.

"Kid, have you got no shame? If you're too scared to play and you're just running off, are you broke? If you don't have money, I can lend you some!" Zhang Xuan laughed heartily upon seeing Bai Xiaosheng.

Zhang Shucheng snorted coldly, his face also wearing a mocking smile.

Even Yin Haoran's mouth curled into a faint sneer.

However, this old man's eyes betrayed a color that did not match his expression, seemingly tinged with a faint fear.

He didn't understand why he felt this way, wanting so badly to see Bai Xiaosheng make a fool of himself, yet a voice in his head kept warning him: Don't do this, don't do this!

Yin Haoran himself was somewhat puzzled.

"Is this kid going to sneak away, with no love in his heart?"

"I think he's just a pauper who's too stingy to spend money!"

"Just now he even hit Mr. Zhang; I thought he was a tough guy, but it turns out he's too cowardly to even try, completely lacking in balls!"

Countless voices of ridicule.

Bai Xiaosheng's footsteps halted, he turned around expressionlessly, and stood before Mo Xin, looking at the beautiful swindler.

"Guessing cocktails, is it?" Bai Xiaosheng stretched out his hand, "Give it here!"

This voice was impressively loud.

Mo Xin saw the clarity in his eyes and suddenly felt an inexplicable unease.

He drank the "Forget Sorrow"; I saw it with my own eyes!

Mo Xin thought to herself, calming down, smiled broadly, and quickly prepared a cocktail, passing it to Bai Xiaosheng.

"Please!"

After taking a slight sip, Bai Xiaosheng stated expressionlessly, "Margery, tequila, Cointreau, lime juice."

Mo Xin was startled.

He had actually guessed it; it seems this guy drinks cocktails often!

"Next!" Bai Xiaosheng snorted coldly, commanding.

Mo Xin's eyes flickered with a hint of brilliance, and without hesitation, she prepared another glass.

"Fitzgerald, gin, lemon juice, pomegranate juice, chilled soda water, next!"

One glimpse of surprise flitted through Mo Xin's eyes, and she prepared another glass.

"Tequila sunrise, tequila, orange juice, lemon juice, pomegranate juice, next!"

...

In one go, Bai Xiaosheng tasted twelve cocktails, with the last one containing over ten kinds of ingredients. Still, he did not falter at all and named each one.

Mo Xin looked at him incredulously, even beginning to sweat slightly on her forehead, "How is this possible! How can you possibly—"

The entire room fell silent, the guests were dumbfounded.

Zhang Xuan, Zhang Shucheng, Yin Haoran, were all completely flabbergasted.

"Is this the standard of a Senior Bartender Technician?" Bai Xiaosheng's face bore a somewhat sardonic smile, he strolled over, casually mixed a cocktail, and held it under Mo Xin's eyes, "If you can guess it, I will donate five million. If you can't, then I'm afraid that, Miss Mo Xin, you are not qualified to take even a dime from me!"

"Then you can only blame yourself for not being skilled enough in your craft!"

Chapter 477: Don't Understand, I'll Teach You_1

Bai Xiaosheng took a deep breath and guessed the recipes for twelve cocktails in a row.

The crowd was astounded!

Could he also be a Senior Bartender Technician?!

Everyone looked at Bai Xiaosheng's face in disbelief.

Bai Xiaosheng's expression was nonchalant.

With Red Lotus by his side, were these questions even a problem? If necessary, he could even state the exact weight of each ingredient!

Mo Xin was equally shocked. The last cocktail was rarely known in the circle, yet it posed no challenge to him!

Then this guy, at the very least, was no less skilled than her in bartending!

Now, Bai Xiaosheng was the one challenging her.

When Bai Xiaosheng mixed drinks, he only turned his back to her for a brief moment; all other times, he brazenly reached for the various bottles and jars. His movements were as smooth and skilled as flowing water.

Since the utensils were hers, she naturally knew what base spirits and ingredients each contained.

The question was, how did this man know what was inside each one?

"Could it be that his sense of smell has become so frighteningly acute that he can discriminate the contents merely by their scents, even under such complex conditions, and through the utensils!" Mo Xin was almost terrified.

If Bai Xiaosheng knew, he would surely burst into laughter.

With Red Lotus's assistance, he naturally found the accurate ingredients, and even measured the precise quantities to add.

However, when mixing a cocktail for Mo Xin, he asked Red Lotus to compute the effects of the addition of a certain ingredient, believing it would certainly give Mo Xin, the god-level mixologist, a huge "surprise"!

"Take a guess!" Bai Xiaosheng presented the mixed cocktail to Mo Xin.

Guess right, and donate five million!

This amount set the entire place abuzz.

"Five million, did this kid just say five million? Does he have that much money?!"

"Whose scion is this, so magnanimous and bold in his gestures!"

"He stayed even after hitting Zhang Xuan, showing no fear—it seems he comes from a major family!"

"Is there such a figure in Zhongjing, or why have we never seen him before!"

In their astonishment, the crowd was skeptical of Bai Xiaosheng's move.

"This kid is too arrogant, intending to test a Senior Bartender Technician!"

"Indeed, does he even comprehend what this title signifies?"

"Even if he can identify various cocktails, he shouldn't dream of stumping Miss Mo Xin in mixing drinks—Miss Mo Xin is at a master level, isn't she?"

What is a Senior Bartender Technician?

First, let's talk about an assistant bartender, who must possess a certain level of education, have at least one year of continuous bartending experience, and have completed formal training to meet the specified instructional hours to apply for the initial professional qualification.

And from there, it only gets tougher.

One must go through bartender, senior bartender, Bartender Technician, and only then reach Senior Bartender Technician! To qualify as a technician or senior technician, one must have over 10-15 years of industry experience or have made significant contributions to the industry!

In other words, even if Mo Xin started young, at around ten years old, she would need to possess almost demonic talent and make significant contributions to finally reach this level of certification!

This represents the pinnacle of the industry.

Bai Xiaosheng was challenging the pinnacle!

Mo Xin felt a bit annoyed; she believed Bai Xiaosheng was mocking her. She didn't even need to taste it. By watching Bai Xiaosheng's unguarded mixing method, she knew he had made a "Long Island Iced Tea"!

"Are you making fun of me, sir?" Mo Xin huffed coldly. "Using Jin, rum, vodka, and tequila as the four base spirits, mixed with orange liqueur, lemon juice, sugar, and cola, 'Long Island Iced Tea' originated from Long Island, New York, in the 1920s. I could mix it when I was ten!"

To test her with such a cocktail was simply laughable!

This man, does he look down on her!

"Wow, Miss Mo Xin is so amazing, she knows what the wine is without tasting it, and can even name the ingredients!"

"Truly deserving of the title of Senior Bartender Technician, the legendary beauty bartender, her reputation is indeed extraordinary!"

"Amazing! At the age of ten, she managed to mix a drink, this guy is really humiliating himself!"

"Ha, make him donate five million quickly!"

"Right, exactly, cough up the money, kid!"

"If you're a man, don't disgrace yourself!"

"Exactly, don't let us look down on you!"

The guests were in an uproar, cheering for Mo Xin and mocking Bai Xiaosheng, urging Bai Xiaosheng to pay up, and the multitude of voices merged into a noisy clamor.

This also had a bit of the "Worry-Free Wine" taking effect, as everyone was starting to get excited.

"Stop the nonsense, just admit defeat. If you dare not to honor the bet, today I'll break your dog legs and leave you lying out of the Zhang Family residence!" Zhang Xuan shouted the loudest.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at him, and that look was filled with endless chill. Zhang Xuan's body shivered, and fear showed in his eyes.

The Worry-Free Wine wasn't enough to make one forget fear!

Bai Xiaosheng's kick was extremely vicious, and Zhang Xuan felt the pain again, his momentum instantly deflated, and he even dared not look directly.

"Kid, I advise you to still follow the rules, otherwise I won't agree either!" Zhang Shucheng coldly huffed.

But he found that Bai Xiaosheng was completely ignoring him, and Zhang Shucheng couldn't help but feel his anger surge, glancing at Yin Haoran next to him.

Yin Haoran kept silent, quietly watching. Under the influence of the alcohol, he didn't dare to follow suit and pressure Bai Xiaosheng.

The fear that Bai Xiaosheng brought to the Yin Family, to him, might already be deeply engraved in his bones.

It made him not dare to repeat his actions.

The jeering around grew louder, but Bai Xiaosheng appeared as if he hadn't heard, calmly looking at Mo Xin, and nudged his own glass lip with his mouth, "Try it!"

I've already named the wine and the ingredients, does he want to hear the proportions before admitting defeat!

Or does he want to play dumb!

Mo Xin's beautiful eyes narrowed slightly, suspiciously looking at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Try it!" Bai Xiaosheng repeated, his voice leaving no room for doubt.

Mo Xin finally picked up the glass, sniffed it, and sure enough, it smelled like Long Island Iced Tea. She took a small sip and became even more convinced!

"This is clearly, clearly..." Mo Xin began confidently as if she wanted to say it was "Long Island Iced Tea," but then she felt something was off. She couldn't say exactly what was wrong, but she felt it distinctly, an odd sensation.

"Drink more, take a bigger sip!" Bai Xiaosheng nearly commanded.

Mo Xin nodded and indeed took a larger sip this time.

This scene, witnessed by the bystanders, left them all astonished.

Miss Mo Xin actually obeyed so easily, and also, her demeanor was a bit odd.

Could it be that she guessed the wrong wine?

Impossible, how could that be!

Mo Xin tasted it again and again, savored it over and over, her delicate brows furrowed, and she still didn't speak up, let alone insist it was "Long Island Iced Tea."

"Enough now, any more and you'll have drunk it all." Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile, "How about it, have you tasted it?"

Mo Xin was uncertain.

"If you don't understand, let me teach you!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a laugh.

Chapter 478: A Wine Called "Encounter" _1

Bai Xiaosheng actually said in public that he was going to teach Mo Xin, to teach a Senior Bartender Technician!

How arrogant that was!

However, no one could find the words to respond. The clamorous noise that had just filled the air slowly came to a halt.

Not for any other reason but that Miss Mo Xin, really hadn't spoken again...

Even she seemed uncertain whether this drink was indeed the "Long Island Iced Tea" she had so confidently claimed it to be.

Bai Xiaosheng's words, "Don't understand? I'll teach you," made Mo Xin's cheeks turn a faint red and a flush of pink spread over her slender neck. It was irresistibly alluring, causing Zhang Xuan beside her to feel restless and involuntarily swallow his saliva.

Mo Xin opened her mouth, but between those delicate lips, not a word came out. She truly could not find an answer and felt the complexities of the moment multiply, having guessed seven or eight possibilities, only to silently dismiss them all in her mind.

"Tell me, what exactly did you add to it?" Finally, Mo Xin couldn't hold back any longer and asked in a lowered voice, biting her lower lip.

"What's that, you said something? Speak up!" Bai Xiaosheng looked at everyone with amusement and asked Mo Xin loudly.

He really had, stumped a Senior Bartender Technician!

Everyone was shocked, their expressions when they looked at Bai Xiaosheng — uniquely complex.

Zhang Xuan gripped his fists in frustration but was powerless to do anything. Bai Xiaosheng had won in front of everyone; what could he do? He could act shamelessly in public but then feared that Miss Mo Xin wouldn't be pleased.

Zhang Shucheng and Yin Haoran had complicated expressions as they looked at Bai Xiaosheng, both of them silent. The only difference being that Zhang Shucheng was holding back because of Yin Haoran, while Yin Haoran was fearful because of Bai Xiaosheng himself.

"Please, tell me!" Mo Xin, her pearly white teeth biting her lower lip, asked with a mixture of shyness and annoyance.

This guy, he really didn't leave any face for her!

And yet, Mo Xin was incredibly passionate about the bartending craft, and the allure of an unknown recipe was more than she could bear!

Bai Xiaosheng took some pleasure at her predicament. After all, having such a beautiful and ethereal woman humbly bow her head to him in public was bound to evoke envy, jealousy, and resentment from onlookers.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

In front of all the male guests, in Zhang Xuan's face, he walked up to Mo Xin and bent slightly to whisper in her ear.

Mo Xin could feel Bai Xiaosheng's breath on her earlobe, tickling the fine hairs there. She wanted to pull away, her snow-white teeth softly biting her tender lips, but she couldn't move an inch — her heart was too eager to learn the secret of the recipe.

She endured it.

Zhang Xuan watched this scene, nearly shooting flames from his eyes out of jealousy, as if Bai Xiaosheng was desecrating his goddess.

"I only added three drops of Oblivion Grass. It's quite something, it works with the other ingredients to not stimulate the body to produce endorphins, but instead, it turns into dopamine," Bai Xiaosheng said with a light laugh.

This was the result calculated by Red Lotus!

Dopamine could also influence mood, resulting in excitement and happiness, exhilaration and pleasure!

Some say that the feeling of being in love involves the presence of dopamine.

"You actually used my... Worry-Free Wine!" Mo Xin's expression changed slightly.

But then, she was deeply amazed that Worry-Free Wine could produce such a subtle change with certain ingredients in the cocktail "Long Island Iced Tea"!

It was truly unexpected!

Worry-Free Wine was something Mo Xin had discovered during a trip to a small country, where local doctors used a plant called Oblivion Grass. After grinding and refining it into a powder, mixing it with alcohol and fruit juice, the final product had the effect of being exciting and easily stimulating.

Mo Xin had studied it and even sent it to a laboratory for component analysis, understanding terms such as endorphins and dopamine, and she was able to minimize potential harm to human bodies.

She had spent a full six months perfecting Worry-Free Wine, but Bai Xiaosheng had casually caused this wine to react with other cocktails, creating a new drink!

Surprised as she was, Mo Xin was also immensely delighted.

Even, her gaze towards Bai Xiaosheng carried a hint of gratitude.

"This is a new cocktail, it should have a name, right?" Mo Xin couldn't help but say.

For a bartender, nothing could be more exhilarating than witnessing the creation of a new drink and naming it, which was more rewarding than anything!

After thinking for a moment, Bai Xiaosheng said, "In an unintended Encounter, the drink makes one's heart beat expectantly, I think we should call it 'Encounter'."

Mo Xin's eyes sparkled, "Good, from now on, this cocktail will be called 'Encounter'!"

At this moment, a new cocktail was born!

Everyone in the audience heard this exchange and couldn't help but have their eyes light up; they too wanted to taste the novelty.

After her joy, Mo Xin gazed at Bai Xiaosheng, saying earnestly, "I don't know how to address you, but this new cocktail should be listed under your name and recorded in the annals of cocktail history!"

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Mo Xin and couldn't help but chuckle to himself.

This woman, on first meeting, was like a lotus rising out of the water, standing solitary and proud. When seen again, she was cunning as a fox, shrewd in her dealings. But at this moment, in her eyes, there was nothing but sincerity. No matter what, she genuinely had a heart devoted to the art of cocktail-making, and Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but admire her for that!

Faced with such a Mo Xin, Bai Xiaosheng actually felt a degree of admiration.

"My name is Bai Xiaosheng," Bai Xiaosheng answered.

Bai Xiaosheng!

Mo Xin silently repeated the name, nodding seriously.

Beside her, Zhang Xuan's eyes flickered, and he too memorized the name!

Bai Xiaosheng? Zhang Shucheng slightly furrowed his brows. That name seemed somewhat familiar, yet he couldn't quite recall, but he was certain he had heard it before!

Who was it, and when did they tell me about him!

This person is so young, yet I remember his name, could it be he comes from some remarkable noble family, but in Zhongjing, among the top ten forces, is there a Bai Family?

Zhang Shucheng rapidly searched his memory for information on the so-called Bai Family, but came up with nothing.

Could it be a somewhat less prominent family...

Zhang Shucheng continued to ponder hard.

Yin Haoran heard the three words Bai Xiaosheng and his expression turned slightly bitter, a mix of complex emotions.

"I think this Bai Xiaosheng has an extraordinary bearing, seems to have quite the background!"

"Do we have a prominent Bai Family here in Zhongjing?"

"Perhaps, he is from somewhere else!"

"A foreigner, being so conspicuous on Zhongjing turf, is that really possible?"

The guests were also buzzing with discussion.

It's about time to leave, letting my identity slip would lead to no end of trouble!

Bai Xiaosheng took out his phone and sent a message to Lin Weiwei, asking her to send a car to pick him up nearby.

After sending the message, Bai Xiaosheng put his phone away, offering Mo Xin a light smile, "To meet is to have fate! I must leave now, but before I go, I would like to offer you a piece of advice, Miss Mo Xin."

"Please do!" Mo Xin gazed at Bai Xiaosheng and smiled.

"Who shelters the moth from flame, the silkworm weaves its own chains." Bai Xiaosheng smiled while reciting the verse, then turned without further explanation and walked away.

Mo Xin displayed a dazzling talent, and he believed she understood what he meant.

"Who shelters the moth from flame, the silkworm weaves its own chains." Mo Xin stared blankly at the retreating figure of Bai Xiaosheng.

She's entangling herself!

Bai Xiaosheng was warning her, using Forget Sorrow Wine to solicit donations would be weaving her own chains!

Mo Xin was startled in her heart!

As all eyes watched, Bai Xiaosheng strode away, but before he reached the entrance, the doors of the hall were violently pushed open.

A group of people rushed in, led by a middle-aged woman who shouted angrily.

"Who's the damn wretch that dares to beat my son in my own house!"

Chapter 479 The Fierce Woman Wang Lianyun_1

Bai Xiaosheng was about to leave.

On the brink of his departure, he tried to play it cool, attempting to drift away with an air of superiority, flicking his sleeves as if not taking even a wisp of cloud with him.

But before he could make it out the door,

a loud and raucous group burst in from outside.

The woman leading them seemed to weigh almost two hundred pounds, her flesh nearly splitting the seams of her clothing as it trembled with each step she took, a sight to behold!

With every step she took, Bai Xiaosheng could feel the ground quaking beneath his feet.

Her entrance roar was enough to cause Bai Xiaosheng's ears to ring slightly!

"This woman is Zhang Xuan's mom!" Bai Xiaosheng realized when he heard what she was yelling, his expression turning somewhat odd.

Zhang Shucheng had always looked lean, yet his wife was so robust—it was quite the mismatch.

It was quite remarkable that she could give birth to Zhang Xuan...

No, it should be said that Zhang Shucheng was truly remarkable...

Bai Xiaosheng amused himself with the thought silently.

Zhang Xuan's mom, named Wang Lianyun, came from the Wang Family, which was much wealthier than the Zhang Family. It was with the Wang family's resources that Zhang Shucheng had been able to climb to where he was today.

Wang Lianyun always acted domineeringly, while Zhang Shucheng was the kind to always give in and never compete with his wife, turning him into a figure of amusement among the local bosses—Scared of Wife Zhang.

At this moment, seeing Wang Lianyun arrive, Zhang Shucheng's expression instantly changed.

He might put up with Bai Xiaosheng for the sake of benefits, but Wang Lianyun would not. She didn't care about cooperation or benefits at all. Hitting her son was simply out of the question!

In elementary school, a teacher once symbolically slapped Zhang Xuan's palm, and Wang Lianyun used all her resources to force the teacher to resign. This incident was telling.

When a child is protected by such a mother, he grows up accordingly. Zhang Xuan's unrestrained behavior at his age was most likely the result of being spoiled by his mother.

The family was hosting a cocktail party, yet this hostess went to play cards by herself, returning only after she had lost everything. Upon her return, she heard that her son had been kicked and sent flying in public, yet the assailant was unscathed and still attending the party.

How could this be tolerated!

Wang Lianyun immediately led her people over in a rage!

"Who hit my son, stand out!" Wang Lianyun's eyes reddened, completely ignoring whether there were important guests present or the impact on Zhang Shucheng's dignity.

Zhang Shucheng felt extremely awkward at the side.

Yin Haoran's expression changed, and with a mix of sympathy and concern, he watched Bai Xiaosheng.

"Do you know who it was?!" Upon receiving no response, Wang Lianyun's eyes bulged out. Spotting Bai Xiaosheng right in front of her, she asked after sizing him up.

"Not sure," Bai Xiaosheng replied calmly, "maybe you should ask around over there, I'm leaving now."

"Oh," Wang Lianyun stepped aside.

"Mom, it was him, he's the one who hit me!" On the side, Zhang Xuan was jumping and shouting frantically, pointing at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Yes, it was him!"

"He's the one who kicked Mr. Zhang, we saw it!"

"It's this guy right here!"

Many guests recovered their senses and began pointing at Bai Xiaosheng.

The whole room was excited, especially the men, who envied Bai Xiaosheng for being so close to Miss Mo Xin. Now, as he faced his comeuppance, they waited eagerly to see him get beaten down like a dog!

So many people wanted to see a spectacle? Bai Xiaosheng could only offer a wry smile.

He didn't know what it was about today, but from the moment he arrived, he had been trying to leave. He had considered leaving three or four times, but had never managed to do so. It looked like he wasn't going to be able to leave now either.

It seemed he couldn't avoid this ridiculous situation any longer. Bai Xiaosheng sighed inwardly.

Mo Xin's complexion changed as well, not wanting to see Bai Xiaosheng get into trouble.

"Mr. Zhang, could you please, for Mo Xin's sake, let this go?" Mo Xin said.

"If you're asking me, naturally it could be possible. But now that my mom's here, I can't call the shots anymore," Zhang Xuan said, spreading his hands as if he were helpless. In reality, he was extremely pleased; he had no intention of letting Bai Xiaosheng go, but he couldn't withstand Mo Xin's pleas.

Now that his mom had arrived, he finally had an excuse.

Anxiety immediately appeared on Mo Xin's face.

She had heard of this Wang Lianyun, outrageously arrogant and excessively maternal, unable to tolerate even the slightest grievance against her son.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng was in danger!

"Mr. Yin, Lianyun is here, and I can't hold back her temper! This time, I'm afraid I can't do you this favor, I hope you can understand," Zhang Shucheng said with a wry smile to Yin Haoran beside him.

Zhang Shucheng's face was a picture of helplessness but tinged with a hint of satisfaction.

With this daughter-in-law to bear the brunt of the bad reputation, their Zhang Family could utterly ruin this young man, and since Zhongjing wouldn't miss the Bai Family, they need not be the least bit concerned!

Yin Haoran remained silent, casting a silent glance at the Zhang father and son.

You're all excited, yet you have no idea that disaster is upon you!

Yin Haoran couldn't help shaking his head.

This Zhang Shucheng of the Zhang Family, no wonder they've never made it into Zhongjing's top ten; he is nothing but a fool! I can't let such a person drag me down!

Just as he was thinking this, a series of exclamations erupted from the other side.

Yin Haoran quickly looked over.

Just now, Wang Lianyun, unable to contain her anger, had slapped at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng merely stepped to the side and lightly tapped his foot.

Wang Lianyun fell heavily to the floor, the entire hall shaking with the impact.

"Lianyun!" Zhang Shucheng's expression changed, a mix of shock and rage, "You brat, you dare to fight back!"

Bai Xiaosheng was caught between laughter and tears.

The way you're speaking, if I didn't fight back, who could handle your wife's powerful slap?

"What are you useless things standing around for, beat him up for me, beat him to death!" Wang Lianyun cried out while pounding the floor as she lay there.

Suddenly, dozens of servants rushed forward to gang up on Bai Xiaosheng!

"Stop it right now!"

A fiercely piercing shout came, practically splitting the air.

Zhang Shucheng was startled.

This voice came from right beside him, issued by Yin Haoran, his voice filled with urgent fear.

"Zhang Shucheng, have them stop right now! Are you looking to die!"

Yin Haoran could no longer contain himself and shouted across the room at Bai Xiaosheng, "Mr. Bai, the events here have absolutely nothing to do with me, Yin Haoran, or the Yin Family! To prove my innocence, I am willing to stand shoulder to shoulder with you in this fight!"

Blustering inelegantly, he grabbed a wine bottle as he dashed over, unexpectedly standing by Bai Xiaosheng, ready to join the fray.

Bai Xiaosheng was stunned, then somewhat caught between laughter and tears.

This old man, to clear his name and avoid being misunderstood by me, he's really going all out.

"Mr. Yin, what are you doing?" Zhang Shucheng was flabbergasted.

Not just him, Mo Xin, Zhang Xuan, everyone was dumbstruck.

"Zhang Shucheng, let me warn you, it would be best if you don't touch a hair on him today, or else not even the greatest gods will be able to save your Zhang Family. Do you know who he is?"

Yin Haoran pointed at Bai Xiaosheng, took a deep breath, and shouted loudly, "He is Bai Xiaosheng, the new General Manager of Zhongjing Media! If your Zhang Family has hit him, from now on, forget about standing in Zhongjing ever again!"

Chapter 480: Zhang Shucheng, Man Up!_1

As the Zhang Family people were about to ruin Bai Xiaosheng, Yin Haoran finally stepped forward, resolutely standing by Bai Xiaosheng's side.

He didn't know what would become of Bai Xiaosheng today, but he knew that if something truly happened to Bai Xiaosheng today, then tomorrow, the Zhang Family would be finished!

In his furious state, perhaps even the Yin Family would not be spared by Bai Xiaosheng!

The Yin Family had just struggled to come back from the brink of death and couldn't withstand another turmoil, let alone Bai Xiaosheng's thunderous fury!

To protect the Yin Family, Yin Haoran threw caution to the wind.

Zhongjing Media's new General Manager!

As Yin Haoran called out, those nine characters seemed to possess an almighty magic, making the atmosphere in the room freeze solid.

Everyone looked incredulously at Bai Xiaosheng's young and calm face.

Among these guests were influential figures; though they were not among Zhongjing's upper echelons, they were still significant!

Just two days ago, Zhongjing Haoran had been in the eye of a media storm, almost capsizing, seen firsthand by everyone.

The loudest voices against Yin came from Zhongjing Media.

Some analysts suggested that it was solely the media front formed by Zhongjing Media that forced Zhongjing Haoran into a comprehensive crisis, pushing the Yin Family nearly to a dead end!

Some had calculated that the Yin Family's losses from this storm amounted to billions.

For a behemoth like the Yin Family, this wasn't an exaggeration; the loss of intangible assets can never truly be quantified with specific numbers.

This matter had been brewing and, through various channels and in various versions, spread all over Zhongjing's big and small circles.

One theory that shocked people: The reason why Zhongjing Haoran was on the verge of collapse was that the Yin Family had offended the new General Manager of Zhongjing Media!

With just one sentence, they stirred a storm, almost destroying the Yin Family!

In the end, it was the Yin Family who had to appeal to some unnamed influential figure to mediate and settle the matter!

This seemed somewhat far-fetched, and any sensible person would not believe it.

But the problem is, the more ludicrous a claim sounds, the more market it has!

The General Manager of Zhongjing Media was practically demonized!

Nonetheless, under these absurd claims, there was indeed a great deal of truth. After all, it was Bai Xiaosheng who initiated and led that battle.

Both rational and irrational people admitted one thing:

Zhongjing Media had the capability to bring down a family business that ranked in the top five of Zhongjing!

Zhongjing Media is not to be offended!

The new General Manager is even less to be offended!

Right now, Zhongjing Media's General Manager was standing right in front of them.

And he was so young!

Mo Xin's face was filled with disbelief; her beautiful eyes filled with astonishment as they landed on Bai Xiaosheng's face, whispering to herself, "He's not just a mixologist, but the General Manager of Zhongjing Media!"

This seemed unbelievable to her.

Bai Xiaosheng was already dazzling to her eyes, with exceptional talent, and the gift of mixology was merely a thread of his radiance!

Not just Mo Xin, but all the young women in the room had eyes like wolves, gleaming as they stared at Bai Xiaosheng.

As if they had spotted fresh meat!

The men were no longer envious, no longer jealous; the difference between them was like that of clouds and mud, and their eyes were full of admiration!

A real bigwig of Zhongjing, who could change the weather with the flip of a hand!

And he had actually come!

"He, he is the General Manager of Zhongjing Media, that's impossible! He isn't even older than me!" Zhang Xuan shouted in disbelief.

Sadly, no one was looking at him.

Zhang Shucheng stared dumbfounded at Bai Xiaosheng, staring at Yin Haoran.

In his heart, he didn't want to believe it!

But was what he wanted even a factor in this situation?

Yin Haoran, always so composed and measured, now looked like a crazy old man, clutching a bottle and baring his chest, ready to engage in full combat. This couldn't possibly be fake, right?

If Yin Haoran could be driven to this state, it could only mean one thing—that this young man really was the General Manager of Zhongjing Media!

Zhang Shucheng suddenly remembered why Bai Xiaosheng's name sounded familiar to him! He shouldn't just find it familiar, he should have it engraved in his heart!

However, he always thought that such important figures, aloof and distant, wouldn't be someone he could encounter in the short term, and even if he had sent an invitation of the highest honor, it was just a formality, a sign of reverence!

He didn't expect that the other party would come, arriving silently at his house and, in full view of everyone, kicked his son.

He saw that his servants were about to lay hands on the guest.

As Yin Haoran said, if Bai Xiaosheng were missing even a single hair, the Zhang Family wouldn't be able to get away with it!

Zhang Shucheng's face turned extremely ugly, feeling a chill running up his spine to the back of his head, causing his entire body to jolt as if electrocuted.

"Attack then, hit him! I don't believe he is some damn General Manager!" Zhang Xuan shouted, hopping mad.

Under the influence of Worry-Free Wine, and with his impulsive nature, he naturally had no restraints.

"Slap!"

Before Zhang Xuan's words were finished, a resounding slap echoed throughout the venue.

Zhang Xuan spun around on the spot like a top for two full rotations before finally collapsing to the ground. He was dumbfounded by the slap, holding his face and staring in disbelief at the person who had struck him—Zhang Shucheng!

From his childhood to adulthood, Zhang Shucheng had never laid a finger on him, yet now had gathered all his strength to deliver a sound slap!

This slap also silenced the entire venue in shock.

On the other side, Wang Lianyun's chubby face completely froze, then she frantically got up from the ground like a madwoman, ignoring Bai Xiaosheng completely and rushed toward Zhang Shucheng with fierce gestures.

"You heartless scoundrel Zhang Shucheng, you dare hit my son, I won't let this go today!" she roared.

Zhang Shucheng's face darkened, he charged at Wang Lianyun and kicked the plump woman in the stomach.

Wang Lianyun let out a half-scream, and went down.

"Shameless wife, you bring disgrace to our household, take her away!" Zhang Shucheng bellowed.

The Family Head had never shown such assertiveness; his orders left the servants stunned for a good long while until several strong women hurried over to drag Wang Lianyun away, while she was still

trying to curse. Zhang Shucheng approached and delivered four more slaps back and forth across her face!

"Take her away!"

Accompanied by Zhang Shucheng's resoundingly masculine shout, Wang Lianyun was finally dragged off.

Zhang Xuan, witnessing all this, was so shocked that he forgot about the slap he had received.

His father had hit his mother, and it was a public beating, punctuated by sharp slaps!

This father was defying all rules!

The surrounding guests were speechless with shock, and the servants stood agape.

"What are you all still doing here, get out! All of you, out!" Zhang Shucheng roared furiously.

The servants, terrified, quickly scattered.

"Mr. Bai, your visit brings honor to the Zhang Family! If there has been any offense, I hope Mr. Bai can be magnanimous!" Zhang Shucheng tried to offer an apologetic smile, but it looked uglier than crying, and his eyes held a tinge of fear as he looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Mr. Zhang, you're too kind," Bai Xiaosheng said simply.

Then, he turned and left.

Yin Haoran watched with complex emotions as Bai Xiaosheng's figure receded.

Zhang Shucheng opened his mouth, finally not saying anything to retain him, and in the end, all he said was, "Mr. Bai, I wish you safe travels!"