

Two Trillion 561

Chapter 561: Those Who Want to Deal with Me are All Lining Up_1

Bai Xiaosheng, along with Mo Xin, found the flagship store of Yutianxiang.

The five-story, antique-style building looked especially historic. On either side of the entrance were long wooden boards with the inscription, "A place rich in historical relics, a country graced with beautiful women," and, right above, a large signboard bearing the name "Yutianxiang."

"I can't believe you actually like makeup! I feel like I've traveled back in time!" Bai Xiaosheng marveled.

"What's wrong with makeup? It's not exclusive to ancient times. Modern times have just renamed it. Moreover, this domestic brand has become internationally famous!" Mo Xin walked towards the store, earnestly educating Bai Xiaosheng, "Besides, as bartenders, we inevitably deal with various spices and scents."

Bai Xiaosheng looked at her skeptically, disbelieving, "I'm not well-read, don't trick me! This stuff is for smearing on the face, not for drinking! I may not understand it well, but you can't treat me like a fool!"

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's serious demeanor, Mo Xin couldn't help but laugh out loud, then looped her arm through Bai Xiaosheng's and proceeded inside.

Such a demure girl, yet she made such a bold move.

Bai Xiaosheng was also taken aback and couldn't help but look at her.

Noticing how Mo Xin's cheeks seemed to glow with a blush, irresistibly charming and cute, and smelling the subtle, lingering fragrance nearby, feeling the softness pressing against his arm,

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but touch his nose but felt awkward pushing her away, so he followed Mo Xin into the store.

"Sir, Miss, may I help you with anything?" A Yutianxiang clerk came up with a smile.

"We're just looking around," Mo Xin replied with a smile.

The clerk nodded politely with a smile and stepped back.

Over at the main counter,

The tall and leggy man, with a rather spirited look, was accepting a bag of cosmetics from a clerk.

As he turned around, he caught sight of Mo Xin, his expression lighting up with surprise.

But then, he saw Bai Xiaosheng, whom Mo Xin was arm-in-arm with.

The man's face suddenly changed, his eyebrows furrowed, and the look he gave Bai Xiaosheng was filled with deep hostility.

"Mo Xin!" The man called out and strode over.

Mo Xin and Bai Xiaosheng were perusing the makeup, and upon hearing the call, both turned their heads to look.

"Wu Shiyi?" Seeing the man, Mo Xin seemed somewhat surprised.

An acquaintance? Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself. He's called Fifty-One?

Then is his younger brother called Fifty-Two?

Bai Xiaosheng playfully teased inwardly, but on the surface, he offered the man a friendly smile.

After all, he was a friend of Mo Xin's.

To his surprise, Wu Shiyi didn't bother to look at him, seemingly oblivious to his existence, with all his attention focused solely on Mo Xin.

Bai Xiaosheng touched his nose again.

In this situation, he might have drawn some resentment.

"What are you doing here?" Mo Xin inquired, surprised to see Wu Shiyi.

The man was pursuing her.

Mo Xin had refused him many times, but he was persistent and refused to let go.

"I knew you liked this brand's cosmetics, so I specifically bought some for you!" Wu Shiyi looked at Mo Xin ardently.

However, when his gaze followed to the arm Mo Xin was entwined with and landed on Bai Xiaosheng, his expression was far from friendly, "Who is he, your friend?"

Wu Shiyi's gaze was more than unfriendly, clearly laced with animosity.

"Hello, my name is Bai Xiaosheng, Mo Xin's friend," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, extending his hand.

He did this strictly out of respect for Mo Xin.

To his surprise, Wu Shiyi glanced indifferently at Bai Xiaosheng's outstretched hand, his eyes unapologetically filled with disdain.

Seeing that Wu Shiyi was not interested, Bai Xiaosheng gave a self-deprecating smile and calmly withdrew his hand.

If this was how discourteous he was going to be, then there was no need for Bai Xiaosheng to give him any respect.

"I don't remember you mentioning you had friends in Zhongjing!" Wu Shiyi frowned and asked Mo Xin, with a bit of an interrogative tone.

"Whether I have friends in Zhongjing or not, I don't need to report to you. Also, Mr. Wu, there is nothing between us, and I do not wish for anything beyond friendship, okay!" Mo Xin said very earnestly, "Furthermore, please stop sending me gifts! I won't accept them!"

So, he was a suitor.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Wu Shiyi indifferently.

And a persistent, unyielding suitor who didn't know when to stop at that!

Bai Xiaosheng's impression of this Wu Shiyi worsened by another notch.

"Mo Xin, how can you say such things about me in front of others? Besides, I think it's improper for you to be so intimate with him in public!" Wu Shiyi exclaimed.

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback, feeling speechless. Was this a suitor or a boyfriend who assumed they were in a relationship? He seemed to be overly possessive, with a particularly patriarchal tone. Bai believed if Mo Xin ended up with him, she wouldn't have good days ahead.

"What I do with him is none of your business! Mr. Wu, I've said it, there is no chance between us! And between us, you are the outsider!" Mo Xin's tone was quite harsh.

Wu Shiyi's face turned a shade of green and white.

At the Yutianxiang flagship store, there were already a lot of people. Naturally, their raised voices attracted a crowd of onlookers.

"Is this guy sick or something? It's the girl's freedom to like whoever she wants!"

"Exactly, if I had such a suitor, I'd also refuse. Being with him, what's the difference from being in prison!"

"Does this guy have a mental issue or what..."

The group of onlooking girls pointed and made remarks about Wu Shiyi.

Such dissenting voices, when they entered Wu Shiyi's ears, made him even more furious.

"Mo Xin, you are a Senior Bartender Technician, you have a greater future ahead. You need to think it over. Do you really want to entrust yourself to such a man, such a..." Wu Shiyi appraised Bai Xiaosheng, his eyes full of disdain, "someone who is neither as tall nor as handsome as me, and even his family background doesn't compare to mine! You, you also come from a bartending family, your uncle wouldn't agree!"

Wu Shiyi's loud voice startled everyone around.

Bai Xiaosheng was dumbfounded.

Not as tall as him, not as handsome, not as rich?

Is this ruffian talking about me?!

Bai Xiaosheng had heard that people who are extremely narcissistic see everyone else through a distorted mirror, uglifying others while beautifying themselves.

They say seeing is believing, and Bai had witnessed it today!

Mo Xin was furious and about to say something, but Bai Xiaosheng pulled her into his embrace, placed his hand on her head, and brought it to his chest.

Mo Xin was stunned.

"Wu, look here, she's my girlfriend!" Bai Xiaosheng said coldly to Wu Shiyi in a domineering manner, "If you keep shamelessly pestering her, don't blame me for being impolite! You should go to the hospital and reflect on the rest of your life!"

"Let her go!" Wu Shiyi, seeing this scene, had a ferocious expression and reached out to grab Bai Xiaosheng.

In his mind, with his own height and strength, regularly working out, this pretty boy seemed frail and should be no match for him!

No sooner had his hand touched Bai Xiaosheng's collar than his whole body stumbled back several steps, his ferocity replaced with pain.

In an instant, Bai Xiaosheng punched and kicked, teaching him a lesson in humanity!

Wu Shiyi felt the kick on his leg and his calf muscles trembled uncontrollably, as he fought the urge to kneel.

"Stop embarrassing yourself. Look how weak you are," Bai Xiaosheng said with a cold smile, pointing towards the door, "Now, get lost!"

This overwhelmingly imposing scene, coupled with Wu Shiyi's previously repulsive comments, inspired spontaneous applause from the onlookers, which quickly crescendoed.

Wu Shiyi's face turned pale as he stepped back, threw down what he was holding, and left in a fury.

"Bai, I'll remember you!"

As the man left, his words drifted in.

So you heard my introduction.

Bai Xiaosheng sneered, thinking the queue of those wanting to deal with me is long, which number are you?

Chapter 562 Mysterious Women_1

Once Wu Shiyi left, the onlookers, realizing there was no more excitement to watch, also dispersed one after another.

Bai Xiaosheng stretched out his hand and gently patted Mo Xin on the shoulder, "He's gone."

"Oh." Mo Xin obediently replied and continued to snuggle into Bai Xiaosheng's embrace.

"When I say 'he's gone', you can get up now!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

He wasn't a saint, nor did he possess great self-control, holding a warm and fragrant beauty in his arms, naturally, his heart and mind fluttered.

However, the thought of Wei Xuelian waiting for him calmed Bai Xiaosheng's restless heart gradually.

Mo Xin moved her cheek away somewhat embarrassedly, her face as pretty as a daub of rouge, delicate and charming, with purity mixed with a hint of seductiveness.

Even the store clerk beside them was staring somewhat transfixed.

"Thank you, that Wu Shiyi is so annoying, thanks to you for helping me get rid of him. Right, you, you..."
Mo Xin felt a bit shy, wanting to ask if Bai Xiaosheng had a girlfriend, but she also thought a woman should be reserved.

Being so reserved and seeing the store clerk looking at her, Mo Xin was completely unable to speak her question.

Bai Xiaosheng steadied his mind and said with a smile, "Next time he troubles you again, I'll take care of him! Now, stop thinking about that and pick out the makeup products you like."

"Okay."

In her smile, Mo Xin also secretly took a deep breath, calming herself down.

Yutianxiang was known for its "powder, oil, liner, cream" supreme collection, especially its face powders, famous both domestically and internationally, made from the essence of fresh flowers from all four seasons, pure and natural, delicate and healthy.

Mo Xin liked them very much, and even bought one of each of the most famous "December Commandment • Flower God Powder."

Bai Xiaosheng watched her select and felt a sudden impulse.

Lately, due to heavy workload, he had been busily ordering Lin Weiwei around.

Since that girl became his assistant, she had never really enjoyed any leisure time, always overloaded with work, sometimes even working overtime.

Such hard work must be damaging to her skin.

All of a sudden, Bai Xiaosheng thought of giving her some cosmetics as a modest token of appreciation.

"Help me pick out some too, I'll be giving them as a gift," Bai Xiaosheng said to Mo Xin.

"You're giving cosmetics as a gift?" Mo Xin murmured, her expression changing slightly.

Naturally, these makeups were meant for women. Did Bai Xiaosheng have someone he liked?

Mo Xin suddenly felt a bit flustered, yet she still casually asked, "Is it for your girlfriend?"

"It's for my assistant, the one you met before," Bai Xiaosheng replied and thought for a moment, "Well, pick out a couple more pieces, I have two female assistants."

Song Jiajia could not be overlooked; she was Lin Weiwei's best friend and was also rapidly developing her capabilities, holding her own. Besides, this girl was well accustomed to him, knowing his temperament and manners, informal in private; he couldn't give her any reason to complain.

Moreover, it really wouldn't be right to give these items to Weiwei alone.

"Oh, so it's that Assistant Lin Weiwei!" Mo Xin breathed a sigh of relief, and then looked at Bai Xiaosheng with a somewhat profound gaze, half-jokingly and half-seriously, "I didn't even know you had another assistant. Is she also very beautiful? I must say, Mr. Bai, you sure have a big appetite!"

What a comparison! Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily at a loss for words.

"Don't worry, I'll buy two sets of these, enough to please your little assistants," Mo Xin muttered.

Bai Xiaosheng pretended not to hear.

After purchasing the cosmetics, they left Yutianxiang, and Mo Xin, high-spirited, went on to browse the mall, buying several outfits and trying them on for Bai Xiaosheng to see.

Beautiful in herself, she looked good in every outfit, each with its own style and flair.

Truly a versatile beauty!

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but take a few extra glances.

By three o'clock in the afternoon, Bai Xiaosheng truly couldn't walk around anymore.

They played and shopped along the way, with Mo Xin fully embodying the "street fighter" attribute of a woman, to which Bai Xiaosheng admitted defeat.

"Miss Mo, from the moment you got off the plane until now, a full five hours, I feel like I haven't stopped at all, enough right? I've fulfilled my duty as a host to the best of my ability! Now I really can't keep up, I have to go back to the company to handle business matters," Bai Xiaosheng said decisively, carrying things.

He had agreed to accompany her without paying full attention while on the phone, a punishment that should now surely be enough.

"Well, okay then. I've been on a plane for several hours today, and I'm quite tired! Let's call it a day," Mo Xin agreed.

Quite tired? I sure didn't see that!

Relieved, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but want to grumble inwardly.

Right away, Bai Xiaosheng called Feng to inform him of his location and ask him to come pick him up.

Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin stood by the roadside outside the mall, chatting and waiting.

Before long, Bai Xiaosheng's Maybach S-class car approached from a distance and stopped in front of the two.

When the car door opened, Bai Xiaosheng was stunned to see Lin Weiwei stepping out, holding a stack of documents in her arms.

Lin Weiwei stood before him with her hair pulled up high, wearing a black dress over a snow-white blouse, and a black pencil skirt with flesh-colored stockings. Furthermore, she had donned a pair of glasses today, which far from obscuring her looks, added a unique charm to her appearance.

As Lin Weiwei got out of the car, her gaze immediately fell on Mo Xin, who had been standing by Bai Xiaosheng's side, and both women scrutinized and compared each other.

The more outstanding the woman, the more likely they are to face "peer" rejection.

This was perfectly evidenced in that very moment.

Suddenly, Bai Xiaosheng felt the atmosphere turn a bit strange.

"So it's Miss Mo, I was wondering why Xiaosheng hurriedly left the office, it turns out he was eager to see someone!" Lin Weiwei cast a deep glance at Bai Xiaosheng and smiled.

She recognized Mo Xin.

"Returning to Zhongjing, seeing old acquaintances, naturally, we should catch up and connect," Mo Xin smiled, sizing up Lin Weiwei, "Assistant Lin is dressed so sensually today. With such an assistant by your side, I can imagine work efficiency would greatly increase."

"You flatter me, today's look of Miss Mo is the epitome of a goddess, absolutely enchanting," Lin Weiwei responded with a smile.

The two women were speaking quite "normally," even complimenting each other, yet Bai Xiaosheng could sense something was off, a certain unnaturalness.

But last time, they were polite and cordial with each other, without any issues... Why the sudden change now?

Bai Xiaosheng didn't understand.

"Xiaosheng, you should head back, the company has a pile of business waiting for you!" Lin Weiwei reminded seriously.

"Go ahead. I had a lot of fun shopping today. I'll invite you out next time!" Mo Xin said to Bai Xiaosheng with a smile.

Lin Weiwei frowned slightly.

"Alright, first I'll drop you off at the hotel," Bai Xiaosheng told Mo Xin.

"Sure!" Mo Xin said, with a playful tone.

Lin Weiwei looked away.

On the way to drop Mo Xin off at the hotel, the girl was obviously very talkative, while Lin Weiwei was noticeably more silent.

After dropping Mo Xin off at her destination and bidding her farewell, Bai Xiaosheng finally took a deep breath.

On the way back to the company, he noticed that Lin Weiwei was still silent and moody.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and handed her the set of cosmetics he had bought, "Here, Assistant Lin, this is for you!"

"For me?" Lin Weiwei was taken aback, then overwhelmed with joy, her smile blossoming like a flower, "You thought of me even while shopping with her! Thank you, Xiaosheng!"

That's all it takes to be happy? Using cosmetics to win over a woman, indeed effective!

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief and laughed.

Little did he know, it wasn't the gift that was effective, but the attitude.

Chapter 563: Who's Calculating Whom_1

Bai Xiaosheng returned to Zhongjing Media and, seeing that there was still some time before the end of work, he decided to visit the departments involved in the third phase of the audit, to check on their progress and see if there was anything they needed from the company.

Lin Weiwei followed him throughout, responsible for taking notes.

With Bai Xiaosheng's gift in hand, the young lady was brimming with energy, bright and spirited along the way, attracting the employees to take several glances, all feeling that Assistant Lin was particularly different today, sexy yet charming.

Bai Xiaosheng, however, hardly noticed and continued to instruct Lin Weiwei, who was by his side.

"Time is tight, and the task is heavy, but you also need to ensure that everyone isn't overworked. In principle, I do not really support working overtime. It's better to do what is planned during working hours!"

To Bai Xiaosheng, their progress had already been astonishing—not only was the speed impressive, but it was also crucial to ensure the quality of every piece of work at a most basic level.

Here, people were the key factor.

Continuous work in a state of physical and mental exhaustion is not conducive to thorough and quality work.

"Okay," Lin Weiwei nodded and took note.

After visiting the departments, Bai Xiaosheng brought Lin Weiwei back to his office.

Bai Xiaosheng sat down to rest, and Lin Weiwei brought him a cup of black tea.

"By the way, Weiwei, what has Chen Changqing been up to lately?" Bai Xiaosheng suddenly thought of the man and asked.

It had been a long time since he had paid attention to him.

Since the last time he had thoroughly defeated the team of Chen Changqing and Song Changkong, with Song Changkong disappearing without a hint and Chen Changqing having been dispatched to revise the company culture, the two of them had rarely encountered each other, the most recent encounter being when Mayor Su Shu and Mayor Ji Mingyang came for an inspection.

It felt like a long time had already passed.

"During the days you weren't here, Chen Changqing did come out and went around. He visited Luran twice and showed great interest in the patent research and development. The first time he went, I didn't know about it; Luran knew he was the deputy director, so they talked a lot. However, after I got wind of it, I warned Luran to keep it confidential. The second time, Chen Changqing didn't manage to learn much more," Lin Weiwei replied.

"He went to Luran's place..." Bai Xiaosheng tapped the cup with his fingers, musing in silence.

Chen Changqing was, after all, the nephew of Chen Jiuzheng.

Chen Jiuzheng was the head of the industry in the provincial area under the Greater China Region of the conglomerate!

Chen Jiuzheng had encountered several setbacks through him, and now, he was suspiciously quiet with hardly any movement...

While quiet was good, too much quietness always felt somewhat abnormal!

Bai Xiaosheng felt a vague sense of vigilance in his heart.

However, if the other party did not move, he could hardly go and ask, "What's your next step in dealing with me?"

He could only be on his guard.

"Weiwei, you did the right thing! Take the opportunity to inform the head of each department, if Chen Changqing tries to access important content, they should refuse, and if Chen Changqing insists, tell him to come to me!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

For a deputy director, this approach effectively sidelined him!

Something Song Changkong did not dare to do and failed to achieve, Bai Xiaosheng had now realized.

One wondered what Song Changkong would think if he knew.

From Bai Xiaosheng's point of view, Chen Changqing had schemed against him quite a few times, and even if he had not gained any advantage, he was still a scoundrel—and one should always suspect a scoundrel's intentions.

"Got it, I'll take note of it!" Lin Weiwei nodded earnestly, recording every word without fail.

"Currently, the most important matter is the competition to become the provincial flagship enterprise. Following this pace, it's vastly ahead of what I had anticipated... I can already hear the thundering battle drums, the sounds of warriors and horses in armors!"

Bai Xiaosheng leaned back in his seat, holding a cup of red tea, slowly sipping.

"Mu Beichen, you and I bear no personal grudges, we are compelled to face each other in battle solely for our respective enterprises, and the cities we hail from!"

At this very moment.

In Langbei City, Tianzheng Media.

Mu Beichen was also inspecting, with content similar to that of Bai Xiaosheng.

Unlike Bai Xiaosheng's relaxed human touch, Mu Beichen extremely emphasized a wolfish nature.

The 'do or die' kind.

"I don't care what methods you use, or how many all-nighters you've pulled, even if it kills you, you must first complete your tasks for me!"

When Mu Beichen gave a ruthless order, he was utterly cold-hearted.

"Get the job done well, and the responsible manager gets promoted and receives a raise, and the working staff gets a hefty bonus. If anyone dares to complain, don't blame me, Mu Beichen, for being impolite. If I get irritated, even if you want to change jobs, you'll have to find another city!"

Mu Beichen's 'carrot and stick' was money for kindness and intimidation for sternness.

In every department he visited, from managers to staff, everyone was trembling with fear, as if walking on thin ice.

Whether it was for money or for their careers, these people were going all out, entering a frenzied state.

In terms of the level of insanity, it far surpassed Zhongjing Media.

"Next Friday, I want all your tasks completed! I'm not asking for perfection, just speed and accuracy!" Mu Beichen issued his ultimatum.

After completing his rounds, Mu Beichen returned to his own office.

His assistant, the squint-eyed man, Liu Yue, couldn't help but say, "We have Zhongjing Media's progress at our fingertips. On next Wednesday's milestone, they will complete the third phase and at the same time, initiate the fourth phase. Whereas we, by Friday, will have preliminarily completed the fourth phase! However, it still requires ten days to perfect. If it's too crude, it won't pass muster with the province. Even if we spend ten more days, Zhongjing Media, by estimate, won't even have finished the fourth phase, and our lead over them is unquestionable!"

"One week!"

After hearing Liu Yue's words, Mu Beichen spoke expressionlessly, "By that time, I'll give at most one more week—ensure quality and quantity!"

Liu Yue thought for a moment and then nodded, "Alright, let's urge the team to push on a bit more!"

Tianzheng Media had a firm grip on its competitor's progress, and Mu Beichen didn't relax in the slightest. With such caution, Liu Yue couldn't imagine any possibility for Bai Xiaosheng to turn the tables!

After Liu Yue left, Mu Beichen looked around his vast office and laughed coldly to himself.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you have no idea who your opponent really is! This time, you're going to thoroughly lose the race for the provincial flagship enterprise!"

"But do you think it ends with a loss? No, that's just the beginning!"

"You lose this time, you'll lose the next time too! Eventually, you'll find your Zhongjing Media under attack everywhere by us, and you'll lose everything, even your market in Zhongjing!"

"I want to defeat you again and again, shatter your confidence again and again, take away your status and glory that belongs to you until you've lost everything!"

"However, this isn't about personal vendetta at all, it's totally your own doing, the retribution for your past ignorance of the world!"

Mu Beichen spoke to himself in an almost hysterical manner, his laughter grim, his teeth gleaming white like a wolf's.

Unbeknownst to Bai Xiaosheng, he was trapped in the schemes of a ferociously cunning beast!

Chapter 564 There might be a little problem..._1

For several days in a row, Bai Xiaosheng kept receiving "harassment calls" from Mo Xin.

This girl had virtually turned into an alarm clock, greeting him daily with a reminder.

It was as if she feared he would have a last-minute emergency and be unable to attend the certification event.

This left Bai Xiaosheng both amused and exasperated.

On the weekend, Mo Xin even wanted Bai Xiaosheng to go shopping with her, which he resolutely and decisively refused.

When it came to shopping, he was truly a bit terrified...

After the hectic Monday had passed, Tuesday finally arrived.

In the morning, Bai Xiaosheng arranged all of his work neatly, met with Mo Xin at noon, and had lunch together.

By one-thirty in the afternoon, the two arrived at Zhongjing Mutian International Building.

It wasn't until they had passed through that Bai Xiaosheng realized the place was a conference hall with a sign-in desk by the door guarded by two tall and burly security officers.

Mo Xin walked over and greeted the staff.

The people who had originally been sitting and chatting all stood up, smiling and nodding respectfully to Mo Xin, incredibly polite.

"Is a sign-in desk really necessary?" Bai Xiaosheng looked around and saw hardly anyone coming in.

Mo Xin just smiled and did not answer.

In fact, Bai Xiaosheng had heard from Mo Xin that the scale of the PRO International Bartenders Association certification event fluctuated. The smallest one included only a dozen people, while the largest gathered thousands.

Mo Xin said that this time the meeting was small-scale, attended by a deputy chairman of the Asian region and five Senior Bartender Technicians, the latter serving as witnesses.

Regarding the certification process, Mo Xin had briefed him. It was nothing more than concocting a new cocktail formula on site, offering it for the witnesses and some attendees to taste, and answering corresponding questions, and so on.

If four out of the five Senior Bartender Technicians approved, the certification was considered a pass.

Bai Xiaosheng naturally thought that since it was a small-scale meeting and not many people were signing in outside, there probably wouldn't be many attendees.

Mo Xin led Bai Xiaosheng through the front door.

After entering, Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback.

This was a conference hall capable of holding five to six hundred people. The back half of the tables and chairs had been removed to make room for a tea break and snack table, but the remaining half of the venue was almost full!

There were at least around three hundred people on site!

With so many people, the venue was not noisy.

The crowd was discussing, but no one spoke loudly, all keeping their voices hushed and low.

"These people couldn't all be..." Bai Xiaosheng was a bit flabbergasted and couldn't help but ask Mo Xin.

"They are all people from the circle, but most of them are just bartenders or bartender apprentices," Mo Xin whispered to Bai Xiaosheng, "Those who truly love this field regard Senior Bartender Technicians as idols and are wild about new formulas. This time, these people are probably all the elites from the Anjiang Province bartenders circle, here to see you and your new formula! Today will be the day you make a name for yourself!"

Excitement also showed on Mo Xin's face.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but scratch his face. He truly had no intention of becoming famous in this circle.

Besides, as the General Manager of Zhongjing Media and the future Chairman of Zhenbei Group, did he really need such a small claim to fame?

"Each certification event has never been easy, but for you, it should be a piece of cake!" Mo Xin smiled at Bai Xiaosheng, clearly full of confidence in him. But then, her expression turned slightly strange, "However... there might be a small problem, I forgot to tell you... Of course, with your abilities, anyone who seeks trouble is simply asking for a headache!"

Mo Xin sounded a bit hesitant.

Bai Xiaosheng narrowed his eyes, looking suspiciously at her.

This girl had actually hidden something!

Intuitively, it was not as simple as she claimed!

Bai Xiaosheng was tempted to press the issue.

But suddenly, someone cried out in surprise.

"Isn't that Mo Xin?"

"Mo Xin! Where are you... ah, seriously!"

"My idol actually came so early!"

"Mo Xin, Mo Xin!"

...

The venue that was originally quite calm suddenly erupted into excitement, nearly half the people stood up, some men and women looked thrilled, and others even ran over, just like fans chasing after a star.

Bai Xiaosheng was startled.

In her twenties, a goddess-level Senior Bartender Technician, her charm was indeed exceptional!

There were security guards on-site, who hurried over to block those people.

"Please restrain yourselves, if you don't heed our warning, we will have to ask you to leave!" the security guards bellowed.

The restive crowd then quieted down a bit, not rushing over anymore, but still their eyes sparkled as they followed Mo Xin, calling out her name.

"Hello, everyone." Mo Xin smiled and waved to the people.

As a result, screams erupted again.

The security guards were somewhat helpless.

Fortunately, this time, no one ran over again.

"So you're this famous, Master Mo. Give me an autographed photo sometime," Bai Xiaosheng said as he touched his nose and, bowing his head to shield his mouth with his hand, he spoke in a lowered voice, teasing her.

"Hello, everyone, hello... bug off!"

While Mo Xin was fully in her goddess mode, greeting everyone, she squeezed out two words through her teeth to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng held back the urge to laugh.

Ultimately, Bai Xiaosheng followed Mo Xin to the front row to take their seats.

Countless men followed them with their gazes, shooting daggers through their eyes at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng was undisturbed, oblivious to their stares.

Fearing it was pointless, after all, he was going on stage soon.

Bai Xiaosheng saw it, there on the stage in front of them, a several-meters-long table, with various materials and tools laid out on it.

"I've prepared all this for you, don't worry, everything you need is here," Mo Xin said with a smile.

"Then I thank you," Bai Xiaosheng replied.

"Join me for shopping another day," Mo Xin said with a grin.

Bai Xiaosheng pretended not to hear.

They arrived quite early, 30 minutes ahead of time, while the audience was even earlier, but the remaining crowd, whether they were presidents or other Senior Bartender Technicians, had yet to show up.

"They won't be late, will they?" Bai Xiaosheng checked the time, with less than fifteen minutes left until the official start at two o'clock!

In other industry activities, leaders and guests, those big names, always seem to have a hard time avoiding being late, but it's the same with this certification event?

Logically, these people arrived several days early, staying nearby, even in this building. Could they still be late?

"No, they won't. This kind of certification event is incredibly important to a bartender. With their status, they dare not profane it; they won't be a minute late!" Mo Xin said with conviction before adding with a smile, "But they won't come much early either, after all, they have their own pride."

"Including making these people in the circle wait?" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"Of course!" Mo Xin replied.

As they were talking, a disturbance suddenly came from the entrance.

To the left and right of the door, one security guard each pushed them wide open.

Then, several people entered one by one from outside!

Finally, they arrived, Bai Xiaosheng thought as he looked over.

Chapter 565 - Performance Time_1

From outside the conference room, four individuals made their entrance.

Leading the group was a middle-aged man with slightly frosted hair, a short beard, and an imposing presence that lived up to the phrase "handsome uncle."

This handsome uncle was impeccably dressed in a suit, standing tall with a dignified posture, moving neither too hurriedly nor too slowly, exuding immense charm.

Even Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but silently applaud upon seeing him.

"He is the Vice President of the Asia Region Bartenders Association, Feng Shijie!" Mo Xin took this opportunity to introduce him to Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, but there was a hint of suspicion in his eyes.

Why had only four people arrived?

Mo Xin had previously told him that one Vice President and five Senior Bartender Technicians would attend the meeting.

Among these five individuals, Mo Xin was actually included.

Bai Xiaosheng even joked before that he was taking a huge advantage by having this assessment.

However, it wasn't unusual for the proposer to be present as an assessor, as it was within the rules.

But still, excluding Mo Xin, there should be five attendees in total. Could it be that one person has a higher status than the Vice President?

As Bai Xiaosheng pondered, nearly three hundred people in the conference room stood up at the host's signal, someone led a round of applause, and a wave of clapping immediately filled the room as if to welcome a leader's inspection.

Bai Xiaosheng joined in the clapping.

His former question was temporarily pushed aside.

"Thank you, everyone, please, take your seats," Feng Shijie said with a smile, gesturing with his hands for the audience to sit down while he continued walking.

Only then did the bartenders in the room take their seats again.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at the three people following behind Feng Shijie.

One was a very sturdy man, sporting a long braid that reached his waist.

Another was a mature and sexy woman, with a figure so exaggeratedly voluptuous it seemed almost too much.

And there was also a short-statured man, always frowning and looking quite serious.

Mo Xin quickly introduced them, "That man with the glossy braid is named Zhang Feidu. The woman, who's close to auntie age, is called Tang Xiaoqi. The short guy is Jin Dalu."

"You mentioned there were five Senior Bartender Technicians; where's the fifth person?" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but ask.

Just as Mo Xin was about to reply, she suddenly glanced towards the door, puckered her lips and said, "Look, here comes the last one, see for yourself."

Bai Xiaosheng looked up and was instantly taken aback.

The one who arrived last, walking behind everyone else, turned out to be—Wu Shiyi.

"It's him!" Bai Xiaosheng exclaimed in surprise.

The man who seemed like a fool chasing after someone at Yutianxiang's flagship store was actually a Senior Bartender Technician and an assessor for this new formula?

This joke was a bit too much...

Mo Xin nodded.

"Now I understand why you said there was a small problem. Is this the 'small problem' you mentioned?... This is simply a trap!" Bai Xiaosheng said half-annoyed, half-amused, looking at Mo Xin.

Mo Xin covertly stuck out her tongue and quickly gestured with her lips, "They are coming, the Vice President and the others are headed this way."

Bai Xiaosheng looked again.

Feng Shijie, along with the four Senior Bartender Technicians, was walking directly towards them.

Out of courtesy, Mo Xin and Bai Xiaosheng stood up.

"Hello Uncle Feng!" Mo Xin greeted with a sweet smile.

"Mo Xin, long time no see. You've become even more beautiful," Feng Shijie said with a smile, then looked Bai Xiaosheng up and down, and reached out his hand with a smile, "This must be Mr. Bai!"

"I am Bai Xiaosheng! Mr. Feng, hello!" Bai Xiaosheng replied with a smile, shaking his hand.

Feng Shijie noticed that Bai Xiaosheng responded with poise and that he naturally exuded an air of aloofness with just a smile and a glance. His demeanor was excellent. He thought to himself, "This young man is no simple character! With every smile and gaze, he seems to possess an effortless superiority and detachment, yet his attitude is extremely good. It seems he comes from no ordinary background!"

Feng Shijie chatted very politely with Bai Xiaosheng for a couple of sentences, which made a good impression on Bai Xiaosheng as well.

Afterward, the Senior Bartender Technicians also came to exchange greetings.

Zhang Feidu, despite his exaggerated appearance, did not fall short on etiquette and was quite affable.

Tang Xiaoqi, a woman whose beauty was still evident, found the elegant and handsome young Bai Xiaosheng quite appealing, her handshake lingering twice as long as with others, her smile suggesting a flirtatiousness.

Mo Xin couldn't help but huff in disapproval, as a subtle reminder.

Jin Dalu was actually a man of few words. A simple greeting and a handshake were all he gave.

When it was Wu Shiyi's turn, his face was expressionless, looking indifferent at Bai Xiaosheng. He didn't even bother with a handshake.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't want to shake hands with him either, so seeing this actually pleased him.

On the side, Feng Shijie and others watched the scene unfold but weren't surprised in the slightest.

They all knew about Wu Shiyi's pursuit of Mo Xin, and seeing Mo Xin being so enthusiastic about this Mr. Bai, it was understandable that Wu Shiyi was not pleased.

Everyone pretended not to notice and took their seats.

When Wu Shiyi walked past Bai Xiaosheng, he paused deliberately and said in a lowered voice, mocking, "Kid, we meet again so soon. You were quite pleased with yourself the other day, I haven't properly thanked you for that! Now, you're in my hands!"

"Is that so? Then let's see if you've got the ability," Bai Xiaosheng replied with a light laugh.

Wu Shiyi's face turned a shade uglier, and he huffily walked to his seat.

Once everyone was seated, the host stepped onto the stage with a smile, thanked everyone, and then invited Feng Shijie to give a speech.

Feng Shijie ascended the stage with a smile, not declining the offer.

His speech was off the cuff, but it covered the usual bases—industry trends, domestic achievements, encouragement for the crowd, and expectations for a new mix.

Almost every industry had these sorts of speeches from their leaders.

Following the crowd, Bai Xiaosheng clapped out of courtesy in thanks.

The host returned to the stage, his demeanor now tinged with excitement and anticipation.

"Next is the moment we've all been eagerly anticipating, I believe you've all been waiting for this! Now, please welcome the creator of the new cocktail recipe 'Encounter'—Mr. Bai Xiaosheng!"

The host was clearly an insider, and he roared with passion.

The gaze of every bartender in the room seemed to light up at once, and they couldn't help but burst into applause.

Bai Xiaosheng stood up, first bowing slightly to the clapping audience behind him in thanks before making his way unhurriedly to the stage, walking to the long table prepared in front.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes swept over the items on the table, and then he looked at the audience with a smile.

One minute, two minutes...

He remained silent the entire time.

The room was quiet, everyone watching him curiously.

"In the fields, there is scattered grass, moist with dew. There is a beautiful person: she is clear, graceful, and fine. An unexpected encounter, meeting my desires. In the fields, there is scattered grass, dripping with dew. There is a beautiful person: she is as graceful as the clear wind. An unexpected encounter, walking in step with this person."

At last, under the curious gazes of the audience, Bai Xiaosheng finally spoke.

He recited a poem.

Bai Xiaosheng's voice was modulated with full and falling tones, magnetic enough to immediately attract everyone's attention.

"The poem you just heard is from 'The Book of Songs, Zheng, Wild Grass'," he said slowly.

"It tells of a very romantic encounter. The wild grasses lush and the dewdrops sparkling. An inadvertent meeting with a beautiful lady, her expressive eyes sending affectionate glances. In an instant, captivated by her smile."

"What is an encounter?" Bai Xiaosheng asked himself.

The room fell silent.

"Unprepared, detached from the world, fleeting and transient," Bai Xiaosheng answered himself, "An encounter is a moment of emotional stirrings, the most dazzling ephemeral bloom..."

As he spoke, Bai Xiaosheng strolled from one end of the long table to the other, picking up instruments seemingly at random, yet seamlessly mixing a drink as if it were the most natural thing in the world.

This was his time—performance time!

The bartenders in the room listened and watched silently, admiring each movement Bai Xiaosheng made.

In the shortest time, Bai Xiaosheng successfully captured everyone's attention.

"Snap!"

With a swift motion, the shaker stopped abruptly in Bai Xiaosheng's hand as did his voice.

Everyone's eyes widened, not blinking, staring at the shaker.

Then, Bai Xiaosheng opened the shaker and slowly poured the liquid into a row of crystal glasses, just a touch in each.

"This is Encounter, here for your tasting pleasure," he announced.

Bai Xiaosheng extended his hand in a welcoming gesture, embodying the elegance and composure of a bartender to perfection!

The effortless charm that so many aspire to was on full display!

Suddenly, the eyes of the entire room were ignited!

Chapter 566: The Most Perfect Interpretation_1

It would be more accurate to say that Bai Xiaosheng was interpreting rather than mixing a cocktail,

Beginning with a poem and ending with a sentence.

What is 'Encounter'? This is Encounter!

At this moment, it wasn't an intangible emotion but a tangible, delectable drink within the cup.

Each cup held just a little, and it had to be just that little.

The fragrance of the drink wafted through the air, stimulating everyone's taste buds.

Everyone present was holding their breath and watching intently as the cups of drink were arrayed on the long table on the stage.

Seven or eight cups of beverages, reflecting the light and gently swaying, sparked dots of light that instantly ignited everyone's imagination.

The crowd, seduced by the fleeting aromatic scent, involuntarily fell into the description previously given by Bai Xiaosheng, unable to extricate themselves.

Mo Xin was dumbfounded, her beautiful eyes wide and radiant, staring unblinkingly at Bai Xiaosheng on the stage.

She couldn't help it, feeling an urge to burst into enthusiastic applause.

The interpretation by Bai Xiaosheng was just too perfect!

Even Mo Xin felt that as a bartender, one should be just like this!

What they blended shouldn't just be drinks; it should be romance, delightful emotions!

Although Bai Xiaosheng wasn't even a bartender, in Mo Xin's eyes, he surpassed any Senior Bartender Technician.

Vice President Feng Shijie, along with several other Senior Bartender Technicians, were also stunned.

Feng Shijie rose to his feet silently and headed straight for the stage.

The next step was supposed to be for the creator to offer the new drink for tasting.

But he couldn't wait!

And it wasn't just him, Zhang Feidu, Tang Xiaoqi, Jin Dalu, and even Wu Shiyi, all consecutively stood up and walked forward, with Mo Xin quickly taking a few swift steps.

Even the host joined in.

Feng Shijie carefully picked up a cup of the drink, looking at the sparkling juice inside, and cautiously took a sip. He then closed his eyes.

His eyelids trembled slightly, his expression soon turned to one of rapture, with a slow smile forming at the corners of his mouth.

When he reopened his eyes, Feng Shijie's pupils shone with a brilliance never seen before.

"What a superb drink!" Feng Shijie exclaimed in a murmur, "So this is 'Encounter'!"

Zhang Feidu, Tang Xiaoqi, and Jin Dalu were equally shocked.

Mo Xin had tasted 'Encounter' and even mixed it herself. But drinking the version crafted by Bai Xiaosheng felt completely different, as if there was a sublime elevation to it.

Mo Xin's face took on a flush of red, her expression relaxed, joyful, and slightly hazy.

Meanwhile, Wu Shiyi looked at his cup in disbelief, as if he wanted to taste a second sip.

But there was no more.

The drink, each cup, contained just a tiny amount.

Just like an encounter, it was captivating and enchanting, yet scarce.

Below the stage, two to three hundred people watched eagerly, their swallows almost combining into a chorus.

Many longed to taste and experience the extreme temptation that tantalized their taste buds.

Originally, with so many people present, even increasing the ingredients by tenfold wouldn't suffice for everyone to have a share. But Bai Xiaosheng managed to convey this delightful sensation to everyone's minds through imagination, through the aroma of the drinks.

Indeed, he did it splendidly!

"What an excellent drink, truly excellent!"

Feng Shijie was the first to recover, setting down his cup, he gave a thumbs-up to Bai Xiaosheng and walked off the stage.

Then the others followed, all of them lavishing praise.

Only Wu Shiyi, because of Mo Xin, forcibly suppressed his urge to commend and walked off without a word.

"Mr. Bai, please, could you start the next segment."

The host was so moved by the drink that he was shaking, even stuttering as he spoke.

However, he quickly regained composure.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled slightly.

The upcoming segment wasn't too important. It was simply about narrating the creative process behind the new cocktail, be it an experience lived by the creator or an emotion or epiphany that inspired its creation.

In layman's terms, it meant telling a story that seemed real yet fictional, beautiful and compelling, letting everyone know that this drink had "substance."

Put simply, this was part of the cocktail culture. Once this drink entered the market, the bartenders would always have something to say, to recommend it to customers...

This part was also a kind of unspoken rule of the industry...

Mo Xin grew up in this circle and knew all the ins and outs, originally planning to create a story for Bai Xiaosheng.

However, Bai Xiaosheng refused.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng looked out over the audience.

"Today, I want to tell you a real story, my story," Bai Xiaosheng said earnestly.

His eyes were incredibly sincere and clear.

Mo Xin gazed on, spellbound.

Bai Xiaosheng slowly unfolded his tale.

In his story, he encountered a girl, they were drawn to each other, they adored each other, he knew she was extraordinary and that one day she would leave, the girl also knew she would eventually leave, they buried this mutual understanding of parting in their hearts, until that day arrived, and still, they were happy together.

In the end, the girl left.

The boy didn't get a farewell from her in person.

But, the girl had someone pass on a message, just three words, "I'll wait for you!"

The boy never lost heart and kept striving, believing that one day, he would stand before her and reply with three words, "I'm here."

"No cataclysm, no grand vows, meeting as if by chance, a lifetime's pursuit!" Bai Xiaosheng softly put a full stop to this story.

His voice was calm and tender, with an air of serene harmony, a warm and comforting beauty.

It was enrapturing.

Following his conclusion, the whole room fell silent for a few seconds.

Then, Mo Xin started clapping, and like being woken from a dream, everyone else followed suit with applause!

Great liquor, great story!

In the front row, aside from Wu Shiyi, Feng Shijie and the others nodded repeatedly.

Mo Xin looked at Bai Xiaosheng on the stage, and with a woman's unique sensitivity, she felt that the story Bai Xiaosheng had told was filled with too much sincerity!

"Could this be real!" A thought popped into Mo Xin's mind, startling herself.

It couldn't be, it was just a story!

Mo Xin could not help but bite her lower lip, but seeing Bai Xiaosheng's composed expression, she felt more than ever that it was real!

This story, so wonderful!

But even if it was real, I won't give up! I'll fight for it too!

Mo Xin seriously told herself in her heart.

"Next, we move into the final segment," the host said to the five Senior Bartender Technicians, "Please ask any questions you may have, and if there are none, we can proceed to a vote."

Agreement from four out of the five meant a passed evaluation.

"I have no questions," Mo Xin was the first to say, "Passed!"

"Me too!" Zhang Feidu agreed without hesitation.

"Nor do I," Tang Xiaoqi said with a smile.

Smoothly, three votes were secured.

"I have a few questions!" Wu Shiyi suddenly spoke up.

He then asked many questions that only a Senior Bartender Technician could answer.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Mere quibbling, trying to stump him, was impossible.

With Red Lotus's help, Bai Xiaosheng answered all at once, even earning a round of applause!

"I still disagree with passing him, reason, withheld!" Wu Shiyi looked somewhat displeased but still spoke coldly.

As a judge, he had the right to refuse, even without disclosing his reasons.

The scene immediately turned into an uproar, but Bai Xiaosheng didn't care; he had expected as much.

"And you, Mr. Jin Dalu?" the host continued.

This Jin Dalu, who just had not been stingy with applause, also showed quite an appreciation for the liquor.

"Me too," Jin Dalu said.

No obstruction.

"All right, four votes in favor, this liquor..." the host said, somewhat excited.

"What four votes?" Jin Dalu interrupted the host, snorting coldly.

"My 'me too' was that I also do not, pass, it!"

Chapter 567 Authentication Failed?!_1

The cocktail recipe certification meeting had lasted for less than an hour before it entered its final stage.

The host announced the last segment, where five Senior Bartender Technicians would deliver their final opinions.

The succession of agreements from the others, and Wu Shi Yi's expected objection, did not surprise Bai Xiaosheng too much.

Just when everyone, including Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin, thought the matter was settled,

the most inconspicuous Jin Dalu gave them a shock.

Jin Dalu did not approve of the new recipe!

And he wouldn't disclose his reasons!

This left even the Vice President Feng Shijie stunned; he even looked at Jin Dalu incredulously.

In fact, Jin Dalu was a native of Anjiang Province. Although he was not currently in Zhongjing but working in another city, he had deep connections to Zhongjing.

For instance, the general manager of the Zhongjing Mutian International Building was none other than his elder brother!

This time, Bai Xiaosheng, as a native of Zhongjing from Anjiang Province, was participating in this new recipe certification.

One would think that with the hometown connection, Jin Dalu would be supportive.

Moreover, Bai Xiaosheng's performance at the certification wasn't just excellent—it was nothing short of perfect.

One poem, one drink, one story!

Such flavor that lingered endlessly!

Feng Shijie even felt that this was a level of perfection he hadn't seen in nearly a decade, and even the word perfect seemed insufficient to describe it.

Bai Xiaosheng had presented them with an aesthetic marvel!

Feng Shijie felt honored to witness such an exquisite drink earn certification.

Such perfection, yet Jin Dalu rejected it!

It was simply inconceivable!

And Jin Dalu had the right not to disclose his reasons, and could submit a written report to the association after the meeting!

Now, with Jin Dalu disagreeing and Wu Shi Yi also disagreeing, only three of the five evaluators had approved.

According to the regulations, the drink could not be recorded in the ledger!

It could only wait for the next round of certification meetings, whenever that might be...

Everyone knew that Wu Shi Yi was pursuing Mo Xin. His disagreement did not come as a surprise to anyone.

And for those attending the meeting, it was normal for a drink to have both supporters and detractors.

But for such an impeccably performed drink to be rejected by two people and thereby not pass, that was abnormal!

The attendees were too shocked to speak, and the hall of three hundred people fell silent.

"Mr. Jin, such a good drink... do you really not agree with it? Would you like to reconsider?" even Feng Shijie couldn't help but inquire of Jin Dalu.

As Vice President, his presence was only as a guest, and by the rules, he should not influence any Senior Bartender Technician's opinion.

Feng Shijie was just overwhelmed with regret, even willing to break protocol to speak out.

"My position is very clear, I do not approve!" Jin Dalu looked at Feng Shijie with a blank expression, replying rigidly and coldly.

Feng Shijie might have a prestigious title as Vice President, but unfortunately, it didn't extend to him.

Jin Dalu's lack of deference and unpleasant tone,

made Feng Shijie's expression turn slightly sour as he exhaled heavily through his nose and fell silent.

"Mr. Jin, why do you disagree! You've tasted the drink yourself, and you saw all the stages, everyone here has witnessed it! Why wouldn't it pass!" Mo Xin spoke up loudly, "And Mr. Wu, you too should be objective and fair!"

Mo Xin was furious, unable to understand why Jin Dalu would do such a thing, and of course, while she was accusing him, she had to implicate Wu Shi Yi as well.

The quiet venue was jolted by Mo Xin's outcry. Just like a calm lake surface disturbed by a small stone, ripples spread out, reaching every corner.

The venue erupted into commotion.

"Yes, why not agree? There should be some sort of reasoning!"

"That's right, such a fine wine, there's no reason it shouldn't pass!"

"As a Senior Bartender Technician, you can't just act willfully and rashly!"

...

Countless people shouted.

Although the crowd had not personally tasted "Encounter," the enticing fragrance of the wine that filled the air had already showcased its exquisite beauty to the utmost. What's more, Bai Xiaosheng's interpretation of the wine had also reached a pinnacle!

The whole audience marveled and some were even moved!

With such a wonderful wine and such a perfect presentation, how could it not be recognized!

Bai Xiaosheng was startled to see that nearly three hundred people in the audience were quickly showing a one-sided tendency; in terms of public opinion, they were all in support of him, the newcomer.

Previously, Mo Xin had said that being a Senior Bartender Technician was like being a star, idolized by other bartenders.

She wasn't completely wrong, but not entirely right either. Even as Senior Bartender Technicians, their popularity varied!

For instance, her—youthful, beautiful, and extraordinarily talented—naturally attracted a lot of love and adoration.

In contrast, there were those like Jin Dalu. Even though he too was a Senior Bartender Technician, it was unfortunate that he was short and unattractive, bland and inconspicuous, with neither the technique nor the strength to compare with Wu Shiyi.

How could such a person garner any admirers?

Even here at this venue, in the eyes of the crowd, Jin Dalu's popularity was far less than Bai Xiaosheng's...

In the face of such a massive barrage of questioning, Jin Dalu was expressionless.

No matter how loud the others clamored, they couldn't influence his vote!

Seizing the moment while the crowd was noisy, Wu Shiyi quietly approached Bai Xiaosheng's seat, looking at him with a smile.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at him.

"Didn't expect that, did you, Bai! You offended me and still want to pass the certification, stop dreaming!" Wu Shiyi said with a smile, in a voice that only the two of them could hear, "It's as they say, 'what goes around comes around.' You brought this upon yourself!"

Bai Xiaosheng looked at him expressionlessly.

"If you really want to pass the certification, you can. Just beg me! Apologize first, then leave Mo Xin, and I'll let you pass! Everyone will be happy, wouldn't that be wonderful?" Wu Shiyi advised.

Bai Xiaosheng laughed and gestured for him to come closer.

Wu Shiyi leaned in a bit more, only to be surprised when Bai Xiaosheng reached out and poked his face.

Wu Shiyi staggered back in fright and anger, looking at him angrily.

"You've got some nerve, such thick skin! I really should have slapped your face last time!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a laugh.

The moment Wu Shiyi recalled Bai Xiaosheng's lightning-quick punches and kicks from that day, his complexion changed dramatically, and he pulled back in shock.

Bai Xiaosheng had no intention of getting physical, watching him as if he were just a clown.

"You!" Wu Shiyi's expression was extremely ugly, "Alright, kid, you sure talk tough! You can forget about passing the certification, not in this lifetime!"

"One should never speak in absolutes, it's easy to wind up eating your words," Bai Xiaosheng said, then scoffed, "But with your thick skin, you probably don't care!"

"And one more thing—" Bai Xiaosheng looked at Wu Shiyi, telling him very seriously, "As long as I want to, nothing can stop me, and you least of all!"

At that moment, Bai Xiaosheng truly wanted that recognition.

"We'll see about that!" Wu Shiyi stood up angrily, gave Bai Xiaosheng a fierce glare, and stormed off.

The noisy venue suddenly fell silent as everyone stared in astonishment at Wu Shiyi leaving his seat and walking out.

As a Senior Bartender Technician, such behavior was a great insult to the original creator.

Mo Xin and Feng Shijie were also taken aback; they hadn't expected Wu Shiyi to go so far!

Then, to their surprise, Jin Dalu also stood up and left the room early!

For two of the five Senior Bartender Technicians to do so in succession was unprecedented in the history of these certification events, and nothing could be worse than this!

Feng Shijie and the others exchanged glances, shaking their heads and sighing.

It seemed that today all hope was lost.

"Today's certification event can only end here," the host said with a troubled expression to the audience below, "I regret to announce that the new formula certification has failed!"

Chapter 568 I Think He Should Recognize Me_1

The certification ended in failure, a result that probably no one had anticipated!

The room fell silent, regret written all over everyone's faces, some even tinged with barely concealed anger.

There was definitely foul play!

Mo Xin's fair face was frosted over with rage, her silver teeth nearly crushed in fury.

Bai Xiaosheng gave her a glance, smiled, and consoled her, "Alright, don't be angry, you'll get wrinkles. The result is already this way, getting angry won't help."

"But, it's too bullying! I didn't expect Wu Shiyi and the others to be so brazen in front of so many people, to deny us recognition without any reason!" In her indignation, Mo Xin also felt a trace of remorse, she had truly underestimated these people's shamelessness.

Without a doubt, Jin Dalu must have been bought off by Wu Shiyi!

"But in the end, they are exercising a right within the rules," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"So we just give up like this?" Mo Xin was particularly unwilling to let it go.

"Give up?" Bai Xiaosheng repeated the words, a smile curling the corners of his mouth. He looked in the direction where Wu Shiyi and Jin Dalu had left, his smile carrying a hint of coldness, "The word 'give up' doesn't exist in my dictionary! Quite the opposite, now I'm truly beginning to find this certification a bit interesting!"

Seeing the expression on Bai Xiaosheng's face, Mo Xin felt reassured and also glared fiercely in that direction.

This time, she had been too careless!

She had thought that with many people watching, and relying on Bai Xiaosheng's capability, passing the certification would be a piece of cake. Even without Wu Shiyi's clique, it would be fine.

But she hadn't expected Wu Shiyi to pull such a stunt, bribing a Senior Bartender Technician!

If I use my connections, what are you Wu Shiyi? Even the Wu Family would have to cower!

Mo Xin thought to herself, beginning to plan her next move.

Meanwhile, the two spoke.

On the other side, Feng Shijie whispered something to the host.

The host nodded repeatedly and returned to the stage, announcing to the attendees, "Just now, Mr. Feng Shijie has entrusted me to ask everyone to please stay in Zhongjing for three to five more days. We will have further activities in the coming days, the specifics of which will be communicated in the WeChat group!"

The three hundred attendees were momentarily taken aback, then nodded their heads in agreement.

Having come all this way, what harm was there in staying a few more days!

Feng Shijie greeted Zhang Feidu and Tang Xiaoqi, then rose and walked over to Bai Xiaosheng, smiling, "Mr. Bai, may I have a word with you, if I may?"

Bai Xiaosheng didn't have a bad impression of Feng Shijie and nodded his head right away.

Feng Shijie gestured for Bai Xiaosheng to follow and led the way, with Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin following him.

Feng Shijie led Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin out of the venue to a secluded spot before turning around and smiling at Mr. Bai, "Mr. Bai, I truly admire your wine, and I similarly admire your poetry and stories. I believe this wine is a culmination of what I have witnessed."

"Thank you," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"I'm not sure what the conflict is between you, Wu Shiyi, and Jin Dalu, and I don't want to judge who is right. Nor do I want to play peacemaker. However, I can't bear to see this wine go unrecorded under my watch," Feng Shijie admitted sincerely.

He too had once been a bartender and had a passion for cocktails.

At the same time, he looked meaningfully at Mo Xin.

The favor of the Mo family was also something he valued.

"I wonder, Mr. Feng, what you are planning to do?" Bai Xiaosheng inquired.

Feng Shijie had asked the host to keep the attendees there, which surely meant he had something in mind.

Although Bai Xiaosheng had means to completely settle the matter, the scale of those measures wasn't easy to control. He himself wouldn't mind, but Mo Xin still had to mingle within the circles.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't want to impact her.

Now that Feng Shijie was willing to offer help, Bai Xiaosheng didn't mind listening.

"There are regulations for recertification of the same formula, and it cannot be reconvened for less than a year," Feng Shijie said, "However, if I consider this certification failure as a suspension of the meeting, there will be absolutely no problem."

"But this way, we can't look for substitutes to replace Wu Shiyi and Jin Dalu; we still need one of their votes," Mo Xin couldn't help but say.

"Indeed," Feng Shijie nodded.

Then, he looked towards Bai Xiaosheng.

"So, in the coming time, we need to secure one of them! If Wu Shiyi proves difficult, Jin Dalu should be no problem. As long as we offer him enough benefits!"

As a vice-chairman himself, Feng Shijie was making such a statement, which showed he was truly invested.

However, Bai Xiaosheng noticed his attitude. Helping him was one aspect, but more so, it was about doing a favor for Mo Xin.

It seems the Mo family has a significant influence in the bartending circle, Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

"This Jin Dalu should still be here at the moment, perhaps in his brother's office," Feng Shijie said.

His brother? Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback.

"His brother is the general manager here," Feng Shijie said.

Ah! Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily stunned, then slowly broke into a smile.

So there's this relationship! That makes things simpler!

At this time.

Jin Dalu sat comfortably on the sofa in his brother's office, having been there for several minutes.

The general manager of Zhongjing Mutian International Building, Jin Dayu, was busy with a document in his hands.

After finishing with the document, Jin Dayu looked up and smiled at his brother, "What, has your meeting finished already?"

"It's finished," Jin Dalu replied with a lazy smile. "Simple stuff. Took on a small job, helped a friend screw over a fellow from Zhongjing."

"Oh? That's not very honorable of you," Jin Dayu said with an indifferent smile, stood up to grab a cup of tea, and asked casually, "What fellow from Zhongjing? Someone from your circle?"

Jin Dalu shrugged. "Not officially, but quite a hassle. He's come up with a new cocktail, seems to have a bit of money."

"Really? What's his name? I'll see if I know him," Jin Dayu said, took a sip of water, and walked over.

"Seems like his name is Bai Xiaosheng or something," Jin Dalu said carelessly.

"Pfft!" Jin Dayu sprayed out his water in shock, his entire demeanor stupefied, "Who?"

"Hey, I swear! You just sprayed my face..." Jin Dalu was wiping his face while exclaiming, "It's some guy with the surname Bai!"

"Is it this person!" Jin Dayu hurried to the desk, flipping through to show a photograph to his brother.

It was indeed a photo of Bai Xiaosheng!

"Yes, hey... how come you have this person's photo?" Jin Dalu was startled.

"Damn, it's really him! He came here for a meeting!" Jin Dayu smacked his forehead and then stared wide-eyed at Jin Dalu, "You're saying, you screwed him over?!"

"Huh." Jin Dalu had no clue why his brother was so agitated.

"I... you've screwed me over!" Jin Dayu looked as if he wanted to slap his brother.

That Bai Xiaosheng, was he someone they could afford to offend?

At this moment.

Bai Xiaosheng was heading straight for Jin Dayu's office with Mo Xin and Feng Shijie in tow.

"Since we have such a relative here in Zhongjing, that should make things easier," Bai Xiaosheng said with a relaxed smile.

"What do you mean? You know his brother?" Feng Shijie asked in surprise.

"I don't know him, but I think he should know me!" Bai Xiaosheng grinned.

Chapter 569: This Man, Don't Provoke!_1

Jin Dalu stared at his own elder brother, his face aghast. Big brother Jin Dayu was, after all, a significant figure in Zhongjing—someone of status and reputation. And yet, there he was, his face pale and a layer of fine sweat beading on his forehead.

It was as if he had been frightened by something.

"Brother, are you alright?" Jin Dalu couldn't help but swallow hard. "Why do you look like you're shaking all over?"

"I'll shake your mother!" Jin Dayu pointed at Jin Dalu's nose and cursed angrily, his words becoming indelicate.

Previously, he had gloated over the sons of the Yin and Zhang Families who had provoked someone with the surname Bai and faced terrible misfortune, because he was proud to have raised a well-behaved daughter who would never offend the dreaded Bai bogeyman!

But who could have anticipated—no troublesome sons, yet a brother who was a thorn in the side!

"Are you crazy, brother? How can you talk like that—my mom is also your mom!" Jin Dalu protested discontentedly.

"I'm not your brother, you're my ancestor!" Jin Dayu lamented miserably, pointing at the photo, "You dare to offend this person! What am I supposed to say about you!"

Was this person really that terrifying? Jin Dalu was startled.

"Wait! Does he know I'm your brother?" Jin Dayu suddenly remembered this concern and asked with bulging eyes.

"He probably doesn't." Jin Dalu's words finally gave Jin Dayu some relief.

"But everyone else knows." With that following sentence, Jin Dayu nearly suffocated.

"Damn it!" Jin Dayu smacked his head and said bitterly, "Right, can't afford wishful thinking. This matter has to be resolved quickly, no delays!"

Watching his brother go crazy, speaking incoherently, and completely losing his composure, Jin Dalu was clueless and overwhelmed.

"Who is this person anyway, that you're so scared of him? There's no prominent Bai family in Zhongjing, right?" Jin Dalu couldn't help but ask.

Jin Dayu gave a wry smile.

His brother, rarely returning home, naturally would not be aware of Bai Xiaosheng, such a terrifying person who had emerged from nowhere.

"He's not someone from any big family, but all the big families are afraid of him like the plague and dare not offend!" Jin Dayu sighed deeply, holding the photo of Bai Xiaosheng and recounting in the most succinct language all that Bai Xiaosheng had done.

He had dealt with the Yin Family, handled the Zhang Family, and dominated Zhongjing.

Jin Dalu listened, completely astounded.

"Now, there's news that some big moves are being made by all these impressive companies in Zhongjing, and it seems this is also Bai Xiaosheng's doing! Given my current status and position, I'm not even clear on the basics here. Now do you understand how powerful Mr. Bai is?"

As Jin Dayu spoke, he himself found it unbelievable, "Don't underestimate him just because he is young. Right now, he's the last person the wealthy elites of Zhongjing want to mess with!"

Jin Dalu was utterly dumbfounded.

In Zhongjing, when did such a monstrous person appear!

"With my current status, trying to pay him a visit is adding difficulty to difficulty. Not to mention building a connection or friendship! And yet, you've managed to offend him right here in my house!" Jin Dayu exclaimed, feeling short of breath and chest tightness, "Tell me, are you trying to kill me?"

Jin Dalu stood there dumbstruck, completely speechless. After much struggle, he managed to mumble, "He's got a great business to run, why mess around with cocktails!"

In that statement was Jin Dalu's endless frustration and a deep-seated complaint—and resentment—against Bai Xiaosheng!

He had actually brought such a massive problem upon his big brother!

"Just why did you have to offend him? Tell me!" Jin Dayu couldn't help but press him for an answer.

Jin Dalu stammered, spilling the complete story.

It turned out that Jin Dalu, given to gambling addiction, was recently strapped for cash. Wu Shiyi offered him a hundred thousand to express dissent at the time of voting.

"Just for a hundred thousand, you've brought such a disaster upon us!" Jin Dayu was incredulous and disappointed, "If I had known, I would have given you ten times that much, just to beg you not to provoke this big shot!"

Jin Dalu was starting to panic, "What do we do now!"

"What to do? Rush to give back your approval to him, and come with me to apologize in person! I hope this Bai Xiaosheng is a forgiving person," Jin Dayu murmured.

Give back that approval?

Jin Dalu's expression turned bitter.

The event may have already concluded by now. Holding another certification meeting for the same formula could take a year, and it's not even certain I'd be the appraiser!

Jin Dalu simply didn't know how to broach the subject with his older brother.

If he mentioned it, he was afraid his brother might resort to violence...

Knock knock knock.

While the brothers were talking, someone knocked on the office door.

Jin Dayu furrowed his brows, adjusted his emotions and expression, and called out, "Come in!"

As the door opened, the secretary walked in, "Mr. Jin, these people claim to be your friends and would like to see you."

What friends? No, don't want to see anyone!

Jin Dayu was already irritated and almost reflexively wanted to decline. He glanced at the door and was struck as if by lightning, freezing in place!

That young, confident face from the photo was still on his desk, yet the person was right at the door.

Bai Xiaosheng!

Jin Dayu was startled.

He had been found so quickly!

Jin Dayu's heart skipped a beat as he instinctively hurried to hide the photo.

"Mr. Jin!" Bai Xiaosheng walked in, giving a slight smile to Jin Dayu, then turned to glance at Jin Dalu sitting on the sofa, staring dumbfounded at him, "Ah, Mr. Jin is also here, how perfect!"

...

Feng Shijie couldn't describe what he was feeling at that moment.

He looked at Bai Xiaosheng with complex eyes.

The young man now sat on Jin Dayu's office sofa, chatting with the unfamiliar CEO like old friends; Jin Dayu was simply accommodating him with a smile, leaning forward, even showing traces of fear in his demeanor.

Who is this Bai? Feng Shijie couldn't figure it out.

Even more baffling to him was Jin Dalu's attitude.

Jin Dalu was like a child who had done something wrong, his smile even tinged with a hint of fear, nothing like his arrogance at the venue just before.

He nodded repeatedly to every word from Bai Xiaosheng, like a student listening to a lesson.

If I'm not dreaming, then I must be drunk! Feng Shijie thought to himself, surprised by the aftereffects of the "Encounter" wine. It was so strong, it seemed to cause hallucinations!

Mo Xin sat beside him, her eyes bright as she watched Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng's behavior at the moment was so elegant and stylish that it nearly turned Mo Xin into an adoring young girl.

Bai Xiaosheng was smiling.

Things were even simpler than he had thought. He had intended to have a good talk with Jin Dayu.

To his surprise, upon seeing him, Jin Dayu reacted as if a mouse had seen a cat.

Bai Xiaosheng knew his "fierce reputation" well; he had realized this when he met Mou Yutian at the Li family's.

Am I really that frightening? The Yin Family, the Zhang Family, it was their own lack of integrity, not my fault.

Bai Xiaosheng reflected with a tinge of wry amusement in his heart.

But seeing the Jin brothers like this made things indeed simpler.

"Tomorrow, I'd like to reconvene the certification meeting, and I hope that Mr. Jin can support it," Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Jin Dalu.

"Absolutely, absolutely! Jin here will certainly support it!" Jin Dalu promptly replied, nodding like a pecking chicken.

"I will provide the best venue free of charge. Your presence is an honor for us!" Jin Dayu smiled.

"No need to go through the expense," Bai Xiaosheng said with a slight smile, "For the next session, I'd like a change of scenery!"

Chapter 570: Big Meeting at My Place_1

"You're changing venues? Where to?" Feng Shijie was surprised and couldn't help but ask when Bai Xiaosheng said they were moving to a different location.

Influenced by the Jin brothers, Feng Shijie's tone became more courteous when speaking to Bai Xiaosheng.

"The Zhongjing Wanhe Building," Bai Xiaosheng said to Feng Shijie with a smile.

Just now, after the certification meeting failed, the Vice-Chairman was the first to offer help, leaving a very favorable impression on Bai Xiaosheng.

"Mr. Feng, that place is one of the most renowned landmarks in our Zhongjing, much more upscale than here!" Jin Dayu said with a smile.

This wasn't just flattery; the Zhongjing Wanhe Building was indeed the most upscale hotel and conference venue in Zhongjing, with venue rental fees more than double or triple those of this place!

"Moreover, even if you have the money, it's not guaranteed you can book it," Jin Dayu added.

"Isn't that quite troublesome?" Feng Shijie said with a smile.

He wanted to persuade Bai Xiaosheng to stay here instead of going through the hassle of changing locations.

Especially since Jin Dayu had said that they could waive the venue fee here.

"No trouble at all, I'll just have them set up a conference room over there in a little while," said Bai Xiaosheng with a smile.

His tone was as if he owned the Zhongjing Wanhe Building.

"Mr. Bai, after all, is the General Manager of Zhongjing Media, the leading enterprise in Zhongjing City. The Zhongjing Wanhe Building is part of the Zhongjing Media industry, so naturally, it's just a matter of a word!" Jin Dayu said with a smile after looking at Feng Shijie.

Feng Shijie stared at Bai Xiaosheng in shock.

So young and already in control of a leading enterprise in the city!

Setting aside his background, just his capabilities alone were enough to astonish!

No wonder when I first saw him, I felt an air of natural loftiness about him—it turns out, it was a demeanor developed from holding a high position for a long time! Feng Shijie re-evaluated Bai Xiaosheng, even more amazed.

Bai Xiaosheng, of course, wasn't just showing off his status by changing the venue without good reason.

He had his reasons.

As he had said earlier, the certification meeting would restart tomorrow.

However, tomorrow was Wednesday, the day he would wrap up the third phase of the reporting content, and his agenda would be packed. Therefore, holding the certification meeting nearby would save a lot of trouble.

"Alright then, I'll notify them in a bit," said Feng Shijie.

I have to give a heads-up to Zhang Feidu and Tang Xiaoqi beforehand, to make them aware of his status. This time, we're practically holding the meeting at his "home"—if we can't get it approved, none of us should leave.

Feng Shijie couldn't help but joke to himself.

"Thank you for that!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, glancing at the time, "Let's set it for tomorrow morning at ten o'clock at the Zhongjing Wanhe Building. Just have everyone head over, and I'll have someone arrange the rest."

"There definitely won't be any issues this time." Jin Dalu immediately assured, noticing Bai Xiaosheng glance at him.

"Then thank you very much!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Mo Xin had been silent the whole time, quietly observing Bai Xiaosheng. The depths of her beautiful eyes stirred with hidden emotion; at this moment, Bai Xiaosheng, in her eyes, outshone everyone else!

Having finished their talk, Bai Xiaosheng got up and, with a smile to Jin Dayu and the others, said, "Then I won't disturb you any longer, I have other matters to attend to, so I'll be taking my leave now."

"Let me escort you!" Jin Dayu stood up with enthusiasm.

He had already decided that he would attend the certification meeting tomorrow.

This was a great opportunity to get closer to Bai Xiaosheng, and he couldn't afford to miss it.

Afterwards, he could even boast about it, saying that Bai Xiaosheng had invited him over as a guest, which would greatly enhance his social standing.

Jin Dayu and the others accompanied Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin to the elevator, watching as it descended.

"Then I shall take my leave as well," Feng Shijie said to Jin Dayu with a smile.

"Mr. Feng, hold on a moment," Jin Dayu suddenly said, stopping him.

Feng Shijie looked at him, puzzled.

"Nothing serious, just that all expenses here, including lodging, food, and venue fees for your association, we'll waive it all!" Jin Dayu said with a chuckle.

"Waived?" Feng Shijie was astonished.

"Well, since you are friends with Mr. Bai, that makes you our friend too!" Jin Dayu's smile was warm and eager.

Feng Shijie was suddenly struck with emotion.

He hadn't expected that a spontaneous offer to help Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin would result in such a stroke of luck!

With a content smile, Feng Shijie said, "Then on behalf of the association, thank you, Mr. Jin! We, of course, won't decline such generosity!"

...

As Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin made their way downstairs in the elevator, Bai Xiaosheng noticed that the girl kept staring at him.

"What's wrong, is there something on my face?" Bai Xiaosheng began to doubt himself.

"There is!" Mo Xin said earnestly.

"What?" Bai Xiaosheng didn't believe her.

"Confidence, composure, and presence!" Mo Xin said with a giggle, "Just now, you really made my heart flutter! Mr. Bai, you have no idea how charismatic your tone and demeanor were, almost charm a girl to death!"

Bai Xiaosheng was both amused and annoyed, and gave her a look.

Despite seeming like a joke, what Mo Xin said was genuinely how she felt.

She gazed at Bai Xiaosheng, unable to suppress a flutter in her heart.

However, she then remembered the story Bai Xiaosheng had shared when interpreting the "Encounter" wine, which felt real to her.

She intuitively felt that there was someone, a woman Bai Xiaosheng had once met by chance and fallen in love with at first sight, waiting for him.

But I don't want to give up either!

Mo Xin bit her lower lip secretly.

A "ding" indicated the elevator had reached the first floor.

Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin stepped out, and as they walked into the lobby, they suddenly heard someone calling out, "Mo Xin!"

The two turned to look.

From a corner of the lobby, near the sofa area, a figure dashed out rapidly, quickly approaching them. It was Wu Shiyi.

"Why are you only coming down now? I've been waiting here for quite a while," Wu Shiyi said, blocking their path with a smile.

Like a clingy plaster indeed!

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but frown.

"Why are you waiting for me?" Mo Xin frowned, voicing her disgust.

"I'm waiting for you and him. So, what about it, Mr. Bai? Have you considered my earlier propositions? Certifying the new formula is a big deal, it can bring in a tidy sum and immense prestige," Wu Shiyi said with a smile.

Bai Xiaosheng's face was expressionless as he took a step forward.

Seeing the unfriendly look on Bai Xiaosheng's face, Wu Shiyi suddenly remembered the threat to slap him, and his face turned pale as he hastily covered it and backed away quickly.

"Quite agile," Bai Xiaosheng remarked with a smile. Without any major action, he had closed the gap instantly.

Wu Shiyi's vision blurred, and the next thing he saw was Bai Xiaosheng standing right before him, which scared the daylights out of him.

Is this guy a human or a ghost, to move so fast!

Remembering the beating he had received at Yutianxiang's flagship store, Wu Shiyi sprang away like a cat that had its tail stepped on.

"Very good," Bai Xiaosheng said approvingly, earnestly adding, "Keep at least ten meters away from us from now on! And if there's a next time, you won't be so lucky! Mo Xin, let's go!"

Mo Xin obediently responded and, without so much as a glance at Wu Shiyi, followed Bai Xiaosheng.

Wu Shiyi watched them leave, his face alternating between shades of green and white.

"Bai Xiaosheng!" he muttered through clenched teeth, repeating the name.

His phone rang inopportunistically; Wu Shiyi, still in a rage, didn't even answer it and just hung up.

On the other side.

Jin Dalu stared at his phone in a daze, seeing his call rejected. Frowning, he muttered, "Not answering? Forget it! You almost screwed me over, I'm not even bothering to argue with you! Old Feng pushed the task of notifying you onto me, so I'll just send you the time and place. Show up or don't, it doesn't matter! As if we need you!"