

Two Trillion 611

Chapter 611: I bought this floor_1

Bai Xiaosheng wouldn't let scoundrels like Mu Changlin and Jin Yonghui off the hook.

But before punishing them, he had indeed something else to do.

Miranda said that this place was very important for their current stage of development, and changing the location would be all harm and no benefit.

Since Bai Xiaosheng's arrival, he had looked around and felt that the environment was indeed nice, truly up to the standard of a Grade-A office building, suitable for an office and conducive to the company's development.

As everyone was on tenterhooks, waiting for Bai Xiaosheng's command, he unexpectedly ignored the current issue and turned to ask Ron, "How much for one floor here?"

Ron was instantly stunned.

Even Miranda beside him was somewhat astonished.

Why was he suddenly asking the price of this place, and what's more, the price per floor?

Was there any precedent for pricing per floor?

Shouldn't it be how much per square meter?

Hearing the tone of their real boss, it was almost like he was buying vegetables in a market, as though asking, "How much is this cabbage per pound, and how much for these radishes per pound...?"

"A whole floor?" Ron hadn't come back to his senses.

"Ninety-five million!" It was Miranda who chimed in first.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at her, nodded, and smiled at Ron, "I mean, Pangzi, if there's an issue, can't you just talk to me? You always call me the boss, but is this how you treat me as a boss?"

Ron opened his mouth but didn't know how to respond.

"Alright, this was also my oversight. I should have realized that the money we had initially was not enough for you to set up and maintain a company," Bai Xiaosheng said apologetically as he glanced outside at the Ron Team.

Within the Ron Team, a few who understood German translated the words, and everyone was visibly moved.

Originally, it was Bai Xiaosheng who ensured their well-being, preventing the team from breaking up. He invited them to the East to revive their spirits and also facilitated Kelson to look after their families.

What did he have to feel guilty about? He was already the best boss!

"BOSS, don't say that, you're the best!"

"That's right, you'll always be our best boss!"

The crowd was impassioned.

Mu Changlin and Jin Yonghui overheard Bai Xiaosheng speaking German, and amidst the uproar from these foreigners, they almost wet themselves in fear, thinking that these tall and brawny fellows would start a fight at Bai Xiaosheng's instigation!

They wouldn't survive the beating!

"What did they say?" Mu Changlin grabbed the translator beside him and demanded urgently.

The translator hurriedly explained.

Those who understood Chinese finally caught on.

Mu Changlin and Jin Yonghui heaved a sigh of relief, but they didn't dare to act arrogant anymore.

Once everyone calmed down a bit, Bai Xiaosheng then looked at Mu Changlin and said coldly, "I'll buy this floor."

He said this in Chinese.

With a casual demeanor, it made Mu Changlin's pupils suddenly dilate.

He looked at Bai Xiaosheng and stuttered, "You said, you want to buy, buy, buy this floor?"

This nonchalant generosity was somewhat unbelievable to Mu Changlin.

Jin Yonghui and the others were also dumbstruck.

Even Lin Weiwei was taken aback.

Just casually spending a billion yuan?

The most shocking was the casual attitude itself, which left everyone speechless.

Miranda translated the words for Ron, and when the members of the Ron Team heard it, there was a burst of exclamations.

For a company, allocating a billion wouldn't be much, but as an individual, one would have to possess an immense amount of assets to speak so freely.

"Really?" Mu Changlin couldn't help but ask to confirm, his voice trembling.

"I'll pay in full," Bai Xiaosheng said calmly, looking at him.

Mu Changlin was suddenly excited.

If it was true, then he had made a fortune today!

Mu Changlin's reaction caught Bai Xiaosheng's eye. In his heart, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but sneer coldly.

"Mr. Mu is getting happy too early, thinking he's secured the deal already," he thought.

Let him be happy for a moment—losing what you're about to gain is the most painful!

Jin Yonghui also couldn't believe it as he looked at Bai Xiaosheng. Their company was buying two half floors for a total of one billion, while this young man casually spoke of a deal worth one billion!

What's his background?

Jin Yonghui scrutinized Bai Xiaosheng carefully, growing increasingly uneasy. The more attention he paid to the young man, the more astonishing the aura he emitted seemed!

The oppressive feeling that came out of nowhere made him even more reverent!

This might actually be an extraordinary person.

"You said you'll buy this entire floor... can you sign the contract and pay, pay the deposit today?" Mu Changlin asked with a quivering voice.

"I said full payment. As quickly as you can get it done, that's how quickly the money will be transferred. One billion, it's not a corporate transaction, it's a personal purchase," Bai Xiaosheng said.

Mu Changlin was struck by a huge surprise, and his gaze towards Bai Xiaosheng became extremely respectful, even to the point of being obsequious.

"Alright, alright, I'll get it to you right now, prepare the contract for you!" Mu Changlin said.

Jin Yonghui and his company had already signed for half a floor, securing the deal, just leaving this other half behind.

Compared to them, Jin Yonghui and his company were lacking to an extent.

Here, they became the biggest buyer!

"Of course we need to sign a contract," Bai Xiaosheng nodded, but then he smiled, "but not with you!"

His words made Mu Changlin's smile freeze, and he suddenly exclaimed, "Why?!"

"Because I detest you," Bai Xiaosheng said bluntly.

Mu Changlin stood stunned.

"You're just an idiot!"

Bai Xiaosheng seriously insulted Mu Changlin with crude words in front of everyone.

The candor of such earnest and proper cussing left everyone astonished.

Lin Weiwei couldn't help but laugh out loud.

Miranda laughed as she translated loudly, and Ron and the team members roared with laughter.

They had already taken a disliking to Mu Changlin!

Mu Changlin, being mocked by everyone, became flushed with shame and anger, yelling, "I'm telling you, don't go too far. If you don't sign with me, who do you want to sign with? I'm the Deputy Director of this project and I manage everything here! I'm the boss in this place!"

"You're the boss?" Bai Xiaosheng laughed.

He pulled out his phone and dialed a number.

Mu Changlin watched uncertainly, not knowing whom Bai Xiaosheng was calling.

"Could it be, he knows someone in our group?" Mu Changlin was startled, but then he dismissed the thought, "Impossible, he couldn't possibly know anyone in our group. Otherwise, that group of foreigners would have mentioned it when they were renting the office space!"

"Furthermore, even if he does know someone from the group, what can he do about it? He can't do anything to me that easily!" Mu Changlin's eyes shaded with malice.

Even if those foreigners had told this man that he made a profit from the company's project, they had no evidence, and he had more than a dozen excuses to get himself off the hook!

He also had detailed contingency plans!

Thinking this way, Mu Changlin instantly relaxed.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at him indifferently.

It wasn't long before his call connected.

"Young Bai, what's up? You've actually got time to give me a call," a hearty laugh came from the phone.

"Brother Wang, I need a favor from you!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"Oh? Just say the word, and I'll do my best to help out!"

On the other end of the phone was Wang Xincheng.

The secretary to Officer Li of the Affairs Department for the Greater China Region.

The Affairs Department had the authority to monitor all related industries within its jurisdiction!

Chapter 612: Mr. Bai, I Was Wrong!_1

"I'm currently in Linshen, at a place called Tianxuan International Building, and the developer of this project is Tianxuan International..." Bai Xiaosheng was talking to Wang Xincheng when he was suddenly interrupted by Wang.

"You're in Linshen, haha, Brother Bai, I'm also in Linshen. Yes, you know. Our Greater China Region Affairs Department, it's located right here in Linshen!" Wang Xincheng said with a mix of surprise and joy.

The headquarters of the Greater China Region Affairs Department was in Linshen!

Bai Xiaosheng was a bit surprised, but upon reflection, it wasn't unexpected.

After all, Linshen is one of the four old first-tier cities in the country, a super city of today.

It's only normal for the headquarters of the Greater China Region Affairs Department to be located here.

Thinking that Wang Xincheng was also here, Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Things would be even easier to handle!

"However, it's a pity that Officer Li has urgent business and flew to Europe this morning; you probably won't be able to see him in the next couple of days," Wang Xincheng said, a bit regretfully.

After the last incident, Wang Xincheng had always suspected that Bai Xiaosheng had a connection with Officer Li.

Back then, Officer Li was a Candidate Great Affairs Officer, and now, he was about to become a real Senior Affairs Officer.

By then, Wang Xincheng's own status would be elevated further!

Now, just thinking about these things excited Wang Xincheng.

Receiving a call from Bai Xiaosheng, who was associated with Officer Li, he naturally showed great enthusiasm.

"You're at the Tianxuan International Building? I've been there before. I've met the boss of Tianxuan International, Xiao Lizhi. His company is one of our subsidiaries. Whatever you need, Brother, just one word from you!" Wang Xincheng said generously.

Calling the boss Xiao Lizhi directly made Bai Xiaosheng freeze for a moment, feeling a mix of amusement and disbelief.

"I want to buy an entire floor here, for personal purchase," Bai Xiaosheng said calmly.

"Is that so? Great! I'll have Xiao Lizhi give you the biggest discount!" Wang Xincheng laughed.

He didn't doubt Bai Xiaosheng's financial strength at all. How could someone connected to Officer Li be lacking in wealth? From their level of perspective, an entire office building was just a hundred million, surely nothing to fuss about.

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback; he hadn't called to get any discount, as he had money.

After being promoted to general manager, Red Lotus granted him fifty million in funds, and if it was for use in matters related to group affairs, he could spend another fifty million, making up a total of one hundred million.

Bai Xiaosheng had asked Red Lotus if, as the future president setting up a subsidiary that would later be incorporated into the group, he could withdraw this amount of money.

Red Lotus had approved.

So, Bai Xiaosheng had this confidence.

Of course, if he could get a discount, Bai Xiaosheng was naturally willing.

"Hey you, have you finished your call yet? What exactly do you want!" Mu Changlin shouted.

The voice was so loud that Wang Xincheng on the other end of the phone heard it.

"Who's talking? Are they speaking to you, Brother Bai? This person, why are they so rude!" Wang Xincheng said, quite displeased.

"It's a vice president of marketing for the Tianxuan International Building project; he also scammed my man. Besides, I suspect him of embezzlement. Can Brother Wang take care of this?" Bai Xiaosheng said.

Since the project developer was a subsidiary held by their group, this would also count as embezzling the group's assets, giving Wang Xincheng the right to oversee it!

"Oh, is that so? Alright, I got it!" Wang Xincheng said gravely.

Then, he laughingly added, "Brother Bai, don't be in a hurry to leave there; I'll be right over. Since you've come to Linshen, I must treat you, and also, I have some things I'd like to talk to you about!"

"Okay, I'll wait for you," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Wang Xincheng was a person of significant status within the Greater China Region Affairs Department, and building a good relationship with him was certainly beneficial.

Bai Xiaosheng was naturally not averse to getting a bit closer.

The phone call from Bai Xiaosheng didn't last three minutes before it ended.

Many people were at a loss, not knowing who he had called or the outcome of the conversation.

Mu Changlin frowned and stared at him.

"You guys sort out your own issues, I won't entertain you any longer," Jin Yonghui said aloud.

Staying here any longer might lead to who knows what; had he not seen how the group of foreigners had all gone mad just now? If things turned physical, there would be no good outcome for him.

Jin Yonghui wanted to leave.

"Assistant Jin, don't hurry off, I'll be done here very soon," Mu Changlin naturally refused.

It was a joke; he had been scared by the situation just now, and with Jin Yonghui and her people here, he had a bit more courage. Even if he got beaten up, it wouldn't be just him, and with more people around, he might get hit less.

As they were entangled, Mu Changlin's phone suddenly rang.

He pulled it out and looked at it, his face immediately changing.

"Chairman!"

The call had come from none other than the Chairman of Tianxuan International Group. Since he had saved this number, it was only used for matters of great importance and even then only for reporting to the Chairman. Normally, he would only contact the Chairman's secretary.

"Chairman, you were looking for me!"

As soon as he connected the call, Mu Changlin's expression was extremely sycophantic, and his voice dropped an octave.

"Mu Changlin, are you talking to a Mr. Bai right now?" On the other end of the phone, the Chairman's voice sounded very strange, rushed, revealing a peculiar sense of panic.

This made Mu Changlin startled.

Why was the Chairman speaking with such a tone as if... he had been scared by something?

"Someone surnamed Bai? No, not at all!"

Mu Changlin didn't know of any important person surnamed Bai who would know the Chairman.

But after he spoke, he looked up and saw Bai Xiaosheng looking at him; his body suddenly shook, and his expression turned incredulous.

"My surname is Bai." Bai Xiaosheng gave him a faint smile.

Mu Changlin felt as if struck by lightning, his voice quivering, "Yes, yes, there is..."

"You, offending that gentleman, is tantamount to seeking death! Do you know who he is? Even I, when I see him, must be polite!" The voice of the Chairman of Tianxuan International was deep, each word thundering, bombarding Mu Changlin's ears.

A man that even the Chairman had to be polite to when he met him?

...

Mu Changlin's complexion was as white as wax paper as he looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Effective immediately, you are fired, and since Mr. Bai has raised concerns about you, we will definitely contact the police to thoroughly investigate! You better turn yourself in quickly!" The Chairman's voice was extremely stern.

Afterward, a busy signal beeped.

Mu Changlin was completely dumbfounded.

Jin Yonghui watched as Mu Changlin's expression turned ghostly with fear, and he was about to ask what was the matter when he saw an unbelievable scene.

Everyone was shocked.

Mu Changlin knelt straight down, his face to the ground, wailing, "Mr. Bai, I was wrong! I was blind to not recognize Mount Tai!"

Mu Changlin was afraid.

This was an occupational crime. As long as the Chairman was determined to investigate, a thousand excuses would be useless.

He was going to jail!

His kneeling was an eye-opener.

Even Bai Xiaosheng was stunned.

There's gold under a man's knees, could it be that this Director Mu had a body made of soft gold, so pliable...

Jin Yonghui watched the scene in disbelief, his gaze full of fear as he looked toward Bai Xiaosheng. What was the background of this man who could make a vice president of marketing kneel with just one phone call?

"Apologize, and then get out. Otherwise, you're next," Bai Xiaosheng said indifferently to Jin Yonghui.

Now that was intimidating!

Bai Xiaosheng, of course, had no idea who Jin Yonghui was aligning with, nor did he have any interest.

The one who had been rude and scammed Ron and the others was Mu Changlin.

Jin Yonghui's scalp exploded with the thought that in Linshen, someone could intimidate Mu Changlin to this extent over a single phone call...

It must be a very influential person!

Wait, this man's surname is Bai?

Jin Yonghui's pupils dilated sharply.

He suddenly remembered a rumor spreading around Linshen these past few days about a young man surnamed Bai who even bullied the young boss of Qingbei Group...

Could it be him!

Jin Yonghui broke out in a cold sweat!

He had provoked a major figure!

"I'm sorry!"

In full view of everyone, Jin Yonghui bowed deeply, more than ninety degrees!

The entire place was astounded once again!

What was happening now!

Even Jin had capitulated?!

Chapter 613 Regrets Too Late_1

Bai Xiaosheng had merely made a phone call.

Mu Changlin knelt on the ground, weeping bitterly, begging for mercy continuously, and repenting without end.

Jin Yonghui was sincerely terrified, bowing deeply at a ninety-degree angle without rising, profoundly admitting his mistakes, and pleading for forgiveness.

This scene was beyond everyone's expectations.

In the midst of it, the two men also managed to exchange a glance on the sly, with a look of faint shock in their eyes.

Mu Changlin was horrified by Bai Xiaosheng's power—not only could he compel his own boss, but he could also make the unrelated Jin Yonghui submit. Knowing Jin Yonghui, although Mu hadn't had many dealings with him, he saw through him clearly. Without the presence of absolute overwhelming strength, it wouldn't be possible to make him so thoroughly cower.

What on earth did Bai do during the time I was kneeling and begging for mercy?

What did he say, or what did he do?

Mu Changlin, despite his confusion, was certain that Bai Xiaosheng had intervened.

What exactly is his background?

Mu Changlin was filled with regret, green with it, wishing he could slap himself.

Similarly, Jin Yonghui thought the same.

Who exactly is this Bai?

A single phone call made the marketing vice president Mu Changlin kneel? That's too exaggerated!

What's scarier is, if this Bai is the one from the legend... then he's the person who even dares to bully the young director of Qingbei Group!

My goodness, it's fortunate the mistake I made just now wasn't too big!

Jin Yonghui was immensely relieved; after all, he had only followed in making a few mocking remarks, and the one who cursed the most was Mu!

The two men harbored their own thoughts.

The others present were dumbfounded.

Whether it was the people brought by Mu Changlin and Jin Yonghui, or those from Ron's side, they looked at each other in bewilderment, failing to understand.

The development of the situation was beyond puzzling; it was downright bizarre!

"My God, he actually did it, solved the trouble, and punished these people in public..." Miranda muttered to herself, her beautiful large eyes wide, staring fixedly at Bai Xiaosheng.

This man, whom Ron and Lin Weiwei placed immense trust in, seems truly invincible!

In Miranda's eyes, there was a hint of admiration.

In the eyes of Ron Team's members, there was a mix of awe and respect.

That was the look one gives to a superior.

Having a boss with such supreme authority filled them with immense pride.

Moreover, Bai Xiaosheng's treatment of them was always tender and warm, like a spring breeze bringing rain.

"Alright, you all can leave now. Don't stay here and interfere with us." Whether it was facing Mu Changlin's kneeling pleas or Jin Yonghui's deep bows in apology, Bai Xiaosheng responded with just this indifferent sentence.

The two guys didn't want to leave yet.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes suddenly hardened, "Leave now!"

Without waiting for Mu Changlin or Jin Yonghui to express themselves further, Ron Team's people had already surged forward, dragging them out.

Once these burly men got rough, it was akin to herding chicks.

As these people were driven out, someone respectfully closed the door to the office for them.

In the office, there were suddenly only the four of them left: Bai Xiaosheng and his company.

And once again, tranquility was restored.

"Okay, the trouble's over," Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Ron, saying, "I happen to know their boss; there won't be any more issues. I've bought this entire office floor. Later on, you decide how to redecorate appropriately. The company's development still relies heavily on your efforts."

This was an entire billion, an entire office floor!

Ron was still astounded but didn't ask any more questions.

Initially, Bai Xiaosheng paid two million euros for them and gave them the money to restart the company, amounting to twenty million! He did not pry any further.

As long as it was legal and compliant, there was no problem at all.

Everyone needs their own space and has the right to keep their secrets!

"Rest assured, I will definitely make the company grow stronger!" Ron said, excited.

Miranda's eyes shone with admiration as she gave a sweet smile to Bai Xiaosheng, "I'll go pour you a cup of coffee!"

The young lady hurriedly ran off.

After all the chaotic fuss, she still hadn't served her boss his coffee, which was quite impolite.

Bai Xiaosheng watched her leave with a smile.

"Xiaosheng, what's going on, explain it to me." Lin Weiwei looked at Bai Xiaosheng with a half-smile, "I can't believe I didn't know you were the boss here. Visiting a friend? Hmph, I think it was a real inspection!"

Lin Weiwei wasn't worried about Ron hearing because he couldn't understand Mandarin and was not a concern.

Indeed, Ron watched them with a goofy smile, thinking they were still discussing financial issues.

"Actually, I've been trying to hint at it to you, but it just never seemed like the right time," Bai Xiaosheng shrugged innocently and smiled.

But then, he looked earnestly at Lin Weiwei and said, "Weiwei, I might not stay at Zhongjing Media for long, I'll be transferred to another position in the group. This company is personally mine. I really want to poach you over! Would you be willing?"

"I'm not willing!" Lin Weiwei's response was very straightforward.

She rejected him directly!

Bai Xiaosheng was stunned.

He thought Lin Weiwei would agree as usual.

"I can leave Zhongjing Media, leave Zhongjing, and accept your invitation, but I want to keep being your assistant, no matter your position," Lin Weiwei said, her cheeks slightly flushed.

Bai Xiaosheng let out a sigh of relief and smiled.

He really thought the girl had outright refused him.

"If I go somewhere else, it will not be as convenient to bring you along as it is from here. Although this company is mine, it is intricately linked with the group... you'll understand in time. I need you here!" Bai Xiaosheng reiterated his invitation earnestly.

This time, Lin Weiwei smiled sweetly and finally nodded, "I agree!"

Bai Xiaosheng also smiled, feeling much more at ease.

Ron, seeing them laugh, though unaware of what had transpired, sensed that it was a good thing and joined in the laughter.

"Boss, what were you talking about?" Ron couldn't help but mutter a question.

"I've found you a business assistant," Bai Xiaosheng said, pointing to Lin Weiwei.

Ron was surprised, then overjoyed.

He had heard of Lin Weiwei's capability.

Miranda entered with the door pushed open, saw the cheerful atmosphere, and started smiling contentedly as she passed around the handmade coffees to everyone.

While some were joyful, others were sorrowful.

At that joyful moment for them, Mu Changlin was nearly in tears down at the Tianxuan International Building.

On the project site, another project manager brought his people over, and upon seeing Mu Changlin, their eyes lit up.

"Mr. Mu, sorry, you'll have to come with us, we need to escort you to report this matter!"

"You! You're not clean either, and neither are you!" Mu Changlin looked at them in horror and anger.

Those men just sneered.

"I'm very sorry, but the chairman said he would have us act as tainted witnesses, exonerate us, and hold only you accountable. It's your own fault for offending someone you shouldn't have this time!" The manager looked at him with pity, shouted loudly, "Take him away!"

Several burly men ignored Mu Changlin's screams and dragged him away.

They just brushed past a car that was pulling up.

Sitting inside the car was Wang Xincheng.

Chapter 614 This Major Figure of Linshen..._1

Wang Xincheng, accompanied by an attendant, entered the D building of Tianxuan International Building, busy heading to meet Bai Xiaosheng.

Before this, he had received a piece of gossip.

Although he couldn't explicitly mention it to Bai Xiaosheng at the moment, he could reveal some of it, which counted as a hint to this younger brother.

Of course, Wang Xincheng was also doing it for himself.

Bai Xiaosheng had connections with Officer Li, and his future was boundless.

An ordinary Affairs Officer was on equal footing with a provincial industrial leader, but Officer Li was very special, with an extremely hard background. He had previously been up for promotion to Senior Affairs Officer and was now about to become a true Senior Affairs Officer.

Wang Xincheng felt that it was essential to maintain a good relationship with Bai Xiaosheng, a practice of taking precautions.

If both sides were destined to become "one of our own," then sowing the "cause" early meant reaping a great "fruit" in the future.

It was only beneficial and not detrimental to himself!

The more Wang Xincheng thought about it, the better it seemed.

Soon after, he and his attendant entered the elevator.

The floor lit up in the elevator was the very one they were heading to.

Besides them, there were others in the elevator.

Those people seemed to be together. The person in the lead was a haughty middle-aged man who was scolding a man with meticulously combed hair wearing a crisp suit.

The scolded man bore some Japanese or Korean features and stood with his feet together, nodding and bowing constantly with an anxious expression.

Wang Xincheng merely glanced at them indifferently and turned away without paying them any heed.

The man doing the scolding didn't even see Wang Xincheng's face, preoccupied with berating his subordinate and displaying his authority.

"I tell you, Assistant Kim, what were you thinking, embarrassing me in public like that! Don't you realize who he really is, and you were bowing and apologizing to him in front of everyone! Are you out of your mind? I took you on as my assistant to embarrass me? A big shot? There are plenty of big shots here in Linshen; I want to see just how important he is! In a moment, you'll come up with me, and I'll watch as you yell at him for me. If he refuses to accept it, I'll have you raise your hand to him!" the man ranted, "He's getting too big for his boots!"

The scolded man nodded his head in agreement, without stopping.

The scolder was still not satisfied, continuing to shout aggressively.

Finally, Wang Xincheng frowned, turned his head, and calmly addressed the man, "Hey, this is a public place. If you want to scold your subordinate, please find another place!"

Wang Xincheng's voice was not loud, but each word was crystal clear and carried an air of authority.

"It's none of your business who I scold. You mind your own..." the scolder started angrily, turning around and locking eyes with Wang Xincheng, then suddenly felt like he had been struck by lightning.

"You, you, you are Wang Xincheng Mr. Wang?!" the man exclaimed in surprise.

Wang Xincheng looked at him with a puzzled expression.

He didn't recognize him.

"Hello, hello, Mr. Wang, it's me, little Sun!" The man's haughty demeanor instantly dissipated, replaced with a warm and obsequious smile.

Zhenbei Group also had numerous top-tier companies in the first-tier city of Linshen!

As the secretary of Officer Li, Wang Xincheng had attended many events, where these heavyweights were also extremely respectful and courteous toward him.

He had a certain reputation in Linshen's circles.

Although this person in front of him was a boss, he had no qualifications to hold a conversation with Wang Xincheng, even at a large reception, he was just a common guest.

Seeing Wang Xincheng, he naturally became extremely enthusiastic.

"Oh," Wang Xincheng nodded indifferently.

There were many he did not know, and there was no need to know them all.

"What a coincidence, you're also going to this floor?" the man attempted to make conversation with enthusiasm.

"Indeed, meeting a friend with the surname Bai," Wang Xincheng answered indifferently.

"Oh, someone who you personally go to meet must be quite the big shot!" the man marveled.

His subordinate's pupils suddenly constricted.

On the floor they were going to, there was only one company!

And the one surnamed Bai... isn't that...

He hurriedly tugged at his boss, Boss Sun, who was cozying up to some big shot, but with the incessant tugging, he instantly became irritable. As soon as he turned his head, his Assistant Jin rushed to his ear, babbling something urgently.

Boss Sun's face turned instantly pale as wax.

"Ding." The elevator arrived.

"Let's go," Wang Xincheng made a token gesture of politeness to the other party.

Boss Sun, panicked to the extreme, hurriedly pressed the first floor, offering a smile, "Ah, Mr. Wang, it seems I've mistaken the floor. After you, please, I won't trouble you any longer!"

Wang Xincheng stepped out of the elevator, looking at the shutting doors with a surprised expression as the other party had a face that seemed both crying and laughing.

"Crazy," Wang Xincheng muttered, no longer paying attention, and walked away with his assistant.

Inside the elevator, Boss Sun kept wiping sweat off his forehead.

His assistant Jin, also truly anxious, said, "Luckily, I reacted quickly. He was going to see that Mr. Bai! My goodness, that really is a big shot!"

This Assistant Jin was Jin Yonghui.

At the moment, Jin Yonghui was extremely relieved that it was he who had stopped his boss from courting disaster. Seeing how obsequiously his boss treated Mr. Wang Xincheng, and Mr. Wang Xincheng was proactively seeking out the one surnamed Bai, wouldn't confronting Bai face to face be tantamount to seeking death?

This time, the boss should thank me! At the very least, he can't scold me anymore! Jin Yonghui thought to himself.

Just as he thought this, a slap landed on his head.

Boss Sun pointed at his nose, thundering, "You idiot, who asked you to provoke that Mr. Bai? There are so many big shots in Linshen, how could you not keep an eye out!"

Jin Yonghui, "..."

In Ron's office.

While Bai Xiaosheng and others were chatting and laughing, there came a knock on the door.

"Come in," Ron called out.

A blonde woman leaned in; she was the receptionist, and also a girl who understood Chinese.

Her gaze swept across the room and landed on Bai Xiaosheng, to whom she then respectfully said, "Boss, there's a Mr. Wang here to see you."

Mr. Wang? Wang Xincheng? Had he arrived so quickly?

Bai Xiaosheng was somewhat surprised.

"Hmm, then please have the gentleman come over," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile to her.

Watching the receptionist nod and leave, Bai Xiaosheng turned back to Ron and others with a smile, "Old Wang probably wants to talk to me in private. You all go ahead with your business, and Weiwei, you go along and familiarize yourself with the place."

The others nodded and departed.

No sooner had they left than the office door opened and Wang Xincheng entered, leaving his assistant outside.

Upon seeing Bai Xiaosheng, Wang Xincheng burst into hearty laughter, "Little Brother Bai, we meet again!"

"Big Brother Wang, looking spirited," Bai Xiaosheng smiled, went forward, and gave him a firm handshake.

The informal titles they used with each other carried an undertone of intimacy.

After exchanging pleasantries for a few moments, the receptionist brought in fresh coffee, took the old cups away, and gently closed the door behind her.

This also meant that no one would be coming back to disturb them for the time being.

Bai Xiaosheng and Wang Xincheng sat opposite each other in the lounge area and resumed their casual conversation.

Ten minutes later, the small talk subsided.

Bai Xiaosheng, holding his coffee cup, looked at Wang Xincheng with a smile.

"Did Big Brother Wang make a special trip here because you have something to tell me?"

Wang Xincheng smiled.

"Yes, and no."

Chapter 615 "Rumors" and Heartfelt Words_1

Wang Xincheng helped Sheng solve the trouble with just a phone call; there was no need for him personally to come over, but since he had.

Bai Xiaosheng guessed that he must have something to say to him.

However, when asked, Wang Xincheng gave a vague reply that left Bai Xiaosheng somewhat amused and frustrated.

"Yes and no"?

So, is there something or not!

This Brother Wang was really careful and guarded. Even now, with no third person present, his words were still so elusive.

Bai Xiaosheng sighed.

But since he spoke up, he would certainly reveal something.

"Then, please enlighten me, Brother Wang," said Bai Xiaosheng with a smile.

He wasn't in a rush or pushing; what was to be said depended entirely on the other party.

Wang Xincheng smiled, "I wouldn't dare to enlighten. It's just that I've heard some nebulous rumors here and there. You can listen, but don't take it to heart."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

Only then did Wang Xincheng speak, "Recently, the corporation indeed has some big moves planned, intending to select a group of outstanding talents. The positions these talents are vying for are at the level of provincial industry heads!"

Bai Xiaosheng felt surprised but remained composed, nodding slightly.

"Could it be that Brother Bai already knows?" Wang Xincheng asked with a smile.

"Not at all. Please continue, Brother Wang," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Wang Xincheng gave him a meaningful glance, the more he denied knowing, the more Wang believed Bai Xiaosheng knew something.

Still, he went on.

"And the candidates for selection are naturally the general managers of subsidiaries just one step below the rank of provincial industry heads, including directly affiliated subsidiaries!" Wang Xincheng chuckled, "I heard that Brother Bai is likely on the list!"

"Are all subsidiary general managers participating?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

That would mean quite a large number of people!

Wang Xincheng shook his head smilingly, "No, not at all. There are quota limitations this time. One must be recommended either by a regional head or a Senior Affairs Officer. There are only about thirty spots available for the Greater China Region. Of course, locations outside the Greater China Region don't concern us, so let's not mention them."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

This corporate selection seemed somewhat like the time when Shang Wenshu was chosen, yet it was different.

This time, recommendations were needed.

Listening to Wang Xincheng, did someone recommend him?

Was it Red Lotus?

Just as this thought appeared in Bai Xiaosheng's mind, Red Lotus's voice echoed in his head, "Master, it wasn't me."

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head internally.

Right, this time recommendations were required, and one couldn't just write: Red Lotus, Artificial Intelligence.

Yet he didn't really know any regional heads, so who recommended him?

Bai Xiaosheng was somewhat puzzled.

According to what Red Lotus had explained, a regional head was someone who had authority over the provincial industry heads, on the same level as a Senior Affairs Officer.

This "regional" referred to areas like East China or Southwest China, covering several provinces.

And there were others, equivalent to the Greater China Region, known as "large regional" or "continental" level.

Of course, those were too far removed from him; it was better not to think about them.

"This news, I just happened to hear Officer Li mention in passing, so I can't be sure. That's why I'm mentioning it to you, Brother Bai. Don't take it seriously, really don't!" Wang Xincheng said in a lowered voice, smiling.

Don't take it seriously, yet you tell me? Are you trying to play me for a fool... Bai Xiaosheng thought ironically.

However, with Wang Xincheng saying this, Bai Xiaosheng actually began to believe that the matter was most likely true!

"Regardless, thank you for going out of your way to give me a heads-up, Brother Wang," Bai Xiaosheng said earnestly.

Bai Xiaosheng complied.

Wang Xincheng smiled and nodded.

"I haven't received any notice yet, but once I do, will I immediately leave my current position?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

Initially, Shang Wenshu had been nominated by the inspection team and was immediately transferred away.

Bai Xiaosheng felt it was very likely.

"Little Brother Bai, let me disclose a bit more to you," Wang Xincheng seemed to have decided to say more as he immediately lowered his voice, "About the rules, I also know a little bit."

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at him.

How do you know a little bit about everything, the Affairs Department is impressive!

Thinking of the Affairs Department and its similarity to the omnipotent inspection team, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but want to go have a look.

But he also knew that, although the Affairs Department was in Linshen and he knew Wang Xincheng, wanting to go have a look was probably wishful thinking!

After all, that was the institution overseeing all corporate industries in the Greater China Region!

They wouldn't just casually allow him, a mere general manager of a subsidiary, to stroll around for a visit!

While Bai Xiaosheng was pondering, Wang Xincheng spoke again.

"I heard it from an Affairs Officer offhandedly that during this assessment, the nominated heads of subsidiaries are to complete their competition in office. As long as they make it into the final round, regardless of success or failure, they all have to step down and leave their position! Those who fail are divided into two types, one is being transferred to another subsidiary as a deputy director or general manager, and the other is to join an improvement course as reserve talent, or to go to the Affairs Department and become a secretary to an Affairs Officer."

Doesn't that mean he really has to leave Zhongjing Media!

Wang Xincheng's words took Bai Xiaosheng by surprise.

However, listening to Wang's recount, this isn't just what he picked up with a passing ear; he clearly heard a lot...

"Anyway, I'm giving you a heads-up. You'll know these things sooner or later," Wang Xincheng said with a smile.

"Knowing early rather than late isn't about the difference of a few days, it's about well-preparedness, which is crucial to success or failure! Thank you, Big Brother Wang, I'll remember this kindness," Bai Xiaosheng said earnestly.

Wang Xincheng felt content on hearing this.

"Haha, you're too serious, Little Brother Bai! Why so formal between us, we are family, family!" Wang Xincheng laughed heartily.

Right after that, a hint of hesitation appeared in his eyes.

"Big Brother, is there something else you want to say?" Bai Xiaosheng noticed and asked.

"Little Brother, don't mind me sounding morbid," Wang Xincheng was indeed sincere as he said to Bai Xiaosheng, "In this selection, the top winner can become the person in charge of the provincial industry. But there's only one spot and the competition is fierce. If you fail to win, and I'm just saying if... I still suggest you come to the Affairs Department, even if just to be the secretary of an Affairs Officer..."

Wang Xincheng said no more.

Bai Xiaosheng thought for a moment, then nodded with a smile, "I'll take note of your advice, Big Brother."

Wang Xincheng nodded with a smile.

This young man competes with others like a sword cleaving through the vast skies, breaking through thousands of troops.

Yet he could also maintain a peaceful mindset and listen to well-intended advice.

And he had the keen insight and almost bewitching intellect.

Impressive indeed!

The more Wang Xincheng observed, the more he believed in Bai Xiaosheng's extraordinary prospects, and keeping a relationship with him would only bring surprises in the future.

After their discussion on this topic, they naturally transitioned to some ordinary topics.

After more than ten minutes, Wang Xincheng glanced at the time, "It's almost forty minutes now, I have other matters and can't keep you company any longer. Ah, I had promised to invite you for a meal, but it seems there's no time now."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, "There will be plenty of time in the future. By then, I'll invite Big Brother Wang!"

"Good, good!" Wang Xincheng said, laughing as he stood up.

Bai Xiaosheng walked him out.

Upon returning to his office, Lin Weiwei, Ron, and others had also returned.

"Isn't he from the group... What did he talk to you about?" Lin Weiwei asked curiously.

"A matter concerning the future," Bai Xiaosheng said distantly, murmuring to himself.

Chapter 616: Promotion Task, Released!_1

Wang Xincheng had discussed matters internal to the group, which he felt were of little benefit to discuss further with Lin Weiwei and Ron.

Bai Xiaosheng wanted to talk about other things.

For instance, he was interested in Lin Weiwei's impressions and suggestions for the company after her tour, and what Ron thought about the company's upcoming expansion of the office area and its development in the next phase.

But before he could voice his thoughts, a "ding" sound suddenly rang out in Bai Xiaosheng's mind, followed by a notification.

Then came the voice of Red Lotus—"Promotion task for managers at the provincial industry level, released!"

"Task Description: Become the final winner or the one who profits most in the group's new round of talent selection."

"Upon task completion, difference in points will automatically be topped up to complete the promotion."

"Upon task completion, a special reward will be granted, with the option to choose the region or department of appointment."

...

Hearing this, Bai Xiaosheng suddenly became tranquil.

Lin Weiwei and Ron were surprised to see how bright Bai Xiaosheng's eyes had become, filled with excitement and a subtle fighting spirit.

What on earth had Wang Xincheng said to make Bai Xiaosheng so suddenly excited?

Lin Weiwei and Ron exchanged glances, their eyes filled with confusion.

Bai Xiaosheng sat still, now and then frowning, now and then deep in thought.

He was pondering over each word of the task that had been announced.

Lin Weiwei and Ron waited quietly.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the office door.

Lin Weiwei and Ron jumped, both eager to answer it, trying their best not to disturb Bai Xiaosheng.

However, Bai Xiaosheng had already come to his senses, and seeing their hurried expressions and movements, he immediately understood they were afraid of disturbing him.

"It's alright, I'm done thinking," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Only then did they feel at ease.

As the door opened, the beautiful receptionist once again appeared and said with a smile to Bai Xiaosheng, "Boss, there's someone else looking for you."

"They're here to see me too?" Bai Xiaosheng was a bit curious.

The beautiful receptionist nodded her head.

"Then, let them in," Bai Xiaosheng said.

The receptionist left and soon led in several people.

The one at the front was a very tidy-looking man, around forty, with white hair, yet spirited and even somewhat handsome.

He was followed by several others.

"Are you Mr. Bai Xiaosheng?" the visitor asked with great politeness, his language filled with humility.

"I am, and you are?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with curiosity.

The man smiled and introduced himself, "Hello, Mr. Bai, I am Zheng Qian, a special legal representative entrusted by the Tianxuan International Group, and these are the financial staff from our company."

Tianxuan International Group's legal and financial representatives?

Bai Xiaosheng suddenly realized and smiled, "You've arrived rather quickly."

"Yes, the chairman specifically called, requesting us to come to sign the contract with you as soon as possible," Zheng Qian said respectfully.

It seemed that Wang Xincheng's phone call had been effective.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded and said half-jokingly, "Did your chairman also tell you to give me the highest discount possible?"

Beside Bai Xiaosheng, Lin Weiwei tried to suppress a laugh.

Xiaosheng, is this you haggling?

After whispering with Miranda, Ron also understood and muttered to her, "Guess, how much of a discount can we get this time?"

Miranda actually took the question seriously and did some mental calculations.

"Based on the precedents here, with a full payment, there is a 3% discount. However, our boss is familiar with the other party, and it looks like we may get an even higher discount," Miranda expressed confidently. "I think we could get a 5% discount, so if the total price is 95 million, that would be around 90.25 million."

Miranda even estimated the approximate figure.

Ron nodded.

On the other side, Zheng Qian had already spoken to Bai Xiaosheng, "The Chairman said to set the price for Mr. Bai at 85%."

At that remark, Miranda was startled.

15% off?!

How was this figure calculated, such a big discount!

This wasn't buying clothes, this was a property worth hundreds of millions, real silver and gold!

Instantly... a discount of more than fourteen million!

"Internal price!" Zheng Qian said with a smile, his eyes revealing awe.

He had been incredibly shocked by this price himself, even double-checking multiple times to the point of annoying the Chairman.

"Okay," Bai Xiaosheng smiled satisfied and didn't get too excited.

This money would first come out of the fifty million in his card, and then Red Lotus would deduct from the special fifty million fund; as for the remaining money, he couldn't touch it...

"I didn't expect to become penniless overnight!" Bai Xiaosheng lamented in his heart.

"You can afford that bit of money for renovations, right?" Bai Xiaosheng turned to Ron and asked.

Zheng Qian seemed to understand German and his face twitched slightly.

Renovations, a small amount of money?

This was an office area of two thousand square meters. How could the renovation costs be small...

The world of the wealthy, incomprehensible...

"No problem, we still have thirty million in liquid funds on our side," Ron said.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded his head in satisfaction, yet he breathed a sigh of relief internally.

If it really came to asking him for money, things would have been awkward.

Right now, the only card with money on him was his company salary card. It contained six months' worth of pay from his time as vice president and general manager, less than four hundred thousand.

"Let's go, I'll sign the contract with you guys," Bai Xiaosheng called out to Zheng Qian.

When it came to contract issues, with Red Lotus overseeing, Bai Xiaosheng himself was a legal expert.

As for payment issues, a designated institution appointed by Red Lotus would also handle them.

Bai Xiaosheng just needed to sign his name and make a phone call to Zheng Qian.

That phone call, Bai Xiaosheng didn't even know whom it was to, only seeing that after Zheng Qian made the call, his face was full of shock, and his eyes looked at him with even more respect.

Everything went smoothly, and the follow-up work could be left to Ron and his team.

Bai Xiaosheng was also happy to have some free time.

At noon, Bai Xiaosheng treated everyone from Ron's team to a meal.

Luo Pangzi strongly suggested spicy crayfish, a delicacy that had completely conquered the fat man's stomach.

In the afternoon, after staying for a while longer, Bai Xiaosheng bid farewell to Lin Weiwei and headed back to the film city in Qingbei Town.

The film crew's work here was also going smoothly. In a few days, they would be able to finish shooting in this location.

Bai Xiaosheng greeted Gao Dazhi and Shang Wanwan. Tomorrow, he would end his five-day set visit and return to Zhongjing.

Everyone was quite reluctant to see him go.

That evening, Bai Xiaosheng once again treated the entire film crew to dinner.

Looking at Gao Dazhi, Zhao Xiaoying, Gao Ya, Wenqing, and the many familiar faces, Bai Xiaosheng's face showed a serene smile.

"Xiaosheng, are you unable to part with Zhongjing Media, unable to part with everyone?" Lin Weiwei, gentle and virtuous, saw through his thoughts.

"Although it's only been a few months, a lot has happened, and everyone has been great," Bai Xiaosheng replied, seemingly off-topic, but his gaze could not hide his inner feelings.

"Do you have to go?" Lin Weiwei gathered her courage to ask.

"Yes," Bai Xiaosheng answered without hesitation, "but not too soon, a few months I guess."

After all, he had to complete the group selection process.

Lin Weiwei wanted to speak but stopped herself, ultimately just smiling.

Right as Bai Xiaosheng was about to comfort her, his phone rang before he could speak.

Bai Xiaosheng pulled it out to take a look at the number and felt a sudden stirring in his heart.

This was an extraordinary call!

Chapter 617: The Moonlight Remains, The People Remain_1

Bai Xiaosheng greeted Lin Weiwei and quietly left his seat. He made his way out of the banquet hall through a side door and into an unoccupied private room before answering the call.

The number was unfamiliar, but he knew who was calling.

Because the moment he saw the number, Red Lotus reminded him.

The call was from the Greater China Region Affairs Department!

"Hello, is this Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, Zhongjing Media General Manager?" the person on the other end asked.

"Yes, it's me," Bai Xiaosheng replied.

"This is the Zhenbei Group's Greater China Region Affairs Department. You have been nominated for the selection of the provincial industrial leader position. This is a phone notification, and the official notification and related documents have been sent to your personal email. Please check," they continued.

"Alright, I've got it, thank you," Bai Xiaosheng said.

The notification call was brief, but it signified the beginning of a new competition, officially commencing!

Clutching the phone, Bai Xiaosheng was exhilarated.

The much-anticipated promotion was finally on its way!

Bai Xiaosheng steadied his emotions in the private room before he went out.

As he was about to return to the banquet hall, he heard someone calling from behind, "Bai... Xiaosheng."

The voice was soft, carrying a mix of nervousness, conflict, and embarrassment.

Bai Xiaosheng turned around in surprise, spotting a woman standing not far away—Yang Qian'er.

Yang Qian'er had a peculiar expression, seemingly gathering courage to speak to him, a far cry from her usual forthright demeanor.

Bai Xiaosheng was curious and smiled at her, "Everyone's inside; why are you out here?"

"I saw you leaving, so I followed. I have a few words I'd like to discuss with you," Yang Qian'er's demeanor regained some composure, not as awkward as before.

Bai Xiaosheng was puzzled but nodded with a smile.

Eventually, the two settled in a corner of the hall, where there were sofas, a table for two, and large floor-to-ceiling windows.

But Yang Qian'er didn't take a seat and instead stood by the window, gazing out.

Outside, the lights were still resplendent.

Bai Xiaosheng stood beside her, intending to ask what she wanted to talk about.

Yang Qian'er, however, spoke first.

"I like you."

A simple sentence, like a thunderclap, fell from the heavens and struck Bai Xiaosheng, leaving him dumbfounded.

He had anticipated many scenarios, but never expected Yang Qian'er's words to be such, presented to him so abruptly, without any forewarning.

Even Bai Xiaosheng was somewhat flustered.

Once Yang Qian'er spoke, her cheeks flushed red, yet she gazed at him with her beautiful eyes, full of burning intensity, and suddenly threw herself into his arms, embracing Bai Xiaosheng.

The suddenness sent Bai Xiaosheng into turmoil.

The fervor immobilized him.

"Isn't this too sudden?" Bai Xiaosheng said, his mind somewhat blank and forced a smile.

"Not at all!" Yang Qian'er clung to him tightly, "Not at all! From the moment you came back to Zhongjing, from the moment you saved me from the kidnappers, I started to like you. It's just that I, I didn't dare to speak up. Until yesterday, seeing so many women by your side, the way they looked at you, I knew, it was with admiration! So, I can't be reserved anymore, I must express my feelings!"

Once Yang Qian'er's words flowed, there was no previous shyness. She was passionate and direct.

"I was originally your date match! Do you, do you dislike me?" Yang Qian'er asked.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't speak, his expression gradually becoming calm.

"I don't dislike you, I even like you a bit. With a righteous heart and forthright nature, aside from occasionally being a bit impulsive, you are a very good girl," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Yang Qian'er's face brightened with joy.

"However, I already have someone I like," Bai Xiaosheng said softly.

Emotions are like tangled threads, they do not begin clear-cut and only become more entangled as they are teased.

Hiding to avoid hurting someone only ends up causing deeper, more painful wounds.

Bai Xiaosheng did not wish for that, so he spoke candidly.

He could clearly feel Yang Qian'er's body stiffen in disbelief, stepping back to gaze at him.

Her eyes were filled with disappointment.

"Is it, is it Shang Wanwan?" Yang Qian'er asked.

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head.

"Lin Weiwei?"

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head again.

"Zhao Xiaoying?"

Bai Xiaosheng looked at her and said softly, "None of them. It's a girl I met in Tiannan."

Afterward, Bai Xiaosheng told Yang Qian'er about his relationship with Wei Xuelian.

From acquaintance to love, to confessing their feelings to each other, to parting ways.

Bai Xiaosheng did not speak of the hardships or the dramatic ups and downs.

He spoke very calmly, like a babbling brook, serene and purely beautiful, that caused Yang Qian'er's expression to become transfixed.

Yang Qian'er's sorrowful demeanor was cleansed away, turning into infatuation.

"There is such a girl waiting for me. How can I let her be disappointed?" Bai Xiaosheng said softly.

"Go back," Bai Xiaosheng said before turning and leaving.

Yang Qian'er watched his upright figure, her gaze still full of yearning, and then she suddenly called out with determination, "I, Yang Qian'er, am not a woman who gives up easily! Nor will I give up without a fight!"

Bai Xiaosheng did not look back but simply smiled faintly.

He could not stop others from liking him.

Just as he had never ceased moving forward, pursuing the one he loved!

Upon returning to the banquet hall, the feast continued cheerfully with everyone coming up to toast.

Bai Xiaosheng drank with them all.

Before long, he saw that Yang Qian'er had also returned to the hall.

She seemed unchanged, still laughing and joking with everyone, but when she looked at him, her gaze still carried a hint of fervor.

In response, Bai Xiaosheng simply smiled.

After the banquet ended, Bai Xiaosheng went back to his room.

Before sleeping, he poured a glass of milk, stepped onto the balcony and sipped it slowly, reminiscing about those many nights in Tiannan, the girl next door with waterfall-like long hair and a demeanor as gentle as water.

"There's still two and a half years. I will find you," Bai Xiaosheng said to the moon in the sky, softly.

At this very moment.

On a spacious terrace somewhere, a quietly ethereal beauty set aside the business report in her hands and looked up at the sky.

It was Wei Xuelian.

The moonlight was serene and beautiful.

Wei Xuelian wore a serene smile, looking at it, engrossed.

Just as in Tiannan, she and that person would enjoy the moon each night.

In the distance, a man with a handsome face and bright red lips and white teeth gazed at her with a look of admiration deep in his eyes.

Liu Wudao, the man who brought Wei Xuelian back from Tiannan, finally stepped forward and said gently to Wei Xuelian, "Miss, it's getting late. You should rest. These work matters can be dealt with tomorrow."

"I know," Wei Xuelian said softly.

She continued to enjoy the moonlight for a while before finally rising and going back inside.

Liu Wudao watched her leave, hesitated to speak, but in the end couldn't help himself, "As far as I know, he is still trying, his love undiminished."

Wei Xuelian slowed her pace.

"I know," she replied with the same words.

But in that phrase, Liu Wudao heard the melting of ice and snow, the babbling of a brook, the warmth of a spring breeze.

Even though she was facing away from him, he knew.

The Miss had smiled.

Chapter 618: Old Man Xiahou Qi_1

The next day was the day Bai Xiaosheng had originally scheduled to leave Linshen, with his train ticket for the five o'clock train in the afternoon already purchased.

Bai Xiaosheng's initial plan was to simply time his departure to head straight to the train station when necessary.

However, Lin Weiwei strongly insisted that they go to Linshen City first to buy some local specialties for Bai Xiaosheng to take home to his family.

This girl was really thoughtful!

Bai Xiaosheng thought about it and felt that it indeed made sense.

Having come all the way to Linshen, it was only right to purchase some local products to take back.

So, early in the morning, they bid farewell to the crew.

Gao Dazhi, Shang Wanwan, Yang Qian'er, Zhao Xiaoying, Gao Ya, Wenqing, and others saw them off. Yang Qian'er, among the crowd, seemed no different from usual.

But her gaze held the same admiration and passion for Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng could only pretend not to notice.

In less than three hours, they arrived in the city of Linshen. Lin Weiwei took out her phone, which was filled with a checklist of things she had researched to buy.

However, after visiting a few places, Bai Xiaosheng felt something wasn't right.

The places they went to for local products were too commercialized.

The goods, processed by modern machinery and then commercially operated, were not very authentic.

"No need to look anymore, just follow me!" Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Lin Weiwei's list, then took the lead.

He avoided malls and supermarkets, instead seeking out corners and quiet alleys.

The vehicle arranged by the crew could only follow behind.

Lin Weiwei followed him, continuously expressing her amazement along the way.

Bai Xiaosheng always found an old store tucked away in some hidden place, some with signs so worn and old it was hard to recognize them.

But inside, whether it was snacks or handicrafts, everything was absolutely authentic, and the prices were not expensive.

Lin Weiwei was overjoyed and sincerely admired Bai Xiaosheng.

"Xiaosheng, have you lived in Linshen before? How do you know all these places so well!"

Faced with Lin Weiwei's praise, Bai Xiaosheng just smiled and gave a vague response.

With Red Lotus as a search tool, this was all a piece of cake.

The two of them easily finished buying everything they needed.

But Lin Weiwei was not yet satisfied with the shopping; after all, it was still early, and she was naturally thrilled to tour Linshen.

Bai Xiaosheng agreed.

He asked the vehicle from the crew to deliver the luggage and the bought specialties to the train station in advance, while he and Lin Weiwei genuinely wandered the streets and alleys, enjoying their time.

By noon, both of them were hungry after walking around.

"There's an old restaurant here, I'll take you to eat something delicious!" Bai Xiaosheng suddenly said eagerly.

"Sure," Lin Weiwei happily agreed.

The two passed through a narrow alley and suddenly found themselves on a street.

Bai Xiaosheng didn't stop and made a beeline for another small alley across the street.

Following behind, Lin Weiwei noticed many cars parked on both sides of the street, making the lane very narrow.

Upon closer examination of those cars, she gasped in surprise.

Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Cadillac, and even Aston Martins and Bentleys!

These cars were mostly luxury vehicles!

Many well-dressed people were also walking into that alley.

Approaching the entrance of the alley, Lin Weiwei caught a whiff of an aroma that tantalized her taste buds, rivaling the temptation she experienced from the meat swallows Bai Xiaosheng had made that day!

"It smells so good!" Lin Weiwei felt her mouth watering.

Bai Xiaosheng was also looking forward with great anticipation.

The alley was quite busy with people coming and going, and after walking a few dozen meters, the space gradually opened up.

Bai Xiaosheng and his companion found an old eatery with a stove set up at the door, where smoke curled up and the aroma hit them.

There were two rows of long wooden tables at the entrance, all filled with people.

Some without seats, even people in sharp suits, were holding their bowls and squatting to one side, simply eating there.

"Eight Immortals Stuffed Pigeon, Fresh Marinated Goose Feet, Silver Thread Wontons..." Bai Xiaosheng glanced at a wooden board propped against the wall.

The wooden board had a shiny, mottled surface, showing its age. It was about the height of a person and had dish names carved into it in beautiful script.

"Let's try a couple of these dishes," Bai Xiaosheng decided on the spot.

It was mealtime, they were hungry, and with such delicious food in front of them, there was no need to be polite.

The waitstaff at the entrance of the eatery were deftly carrying various delicacies on wooden trays, frequently bringing them out.

Ordering was quick.

However, it was honestly hard to find a place to eat.

After Lin Weiwei circled around without success, Bai Xiaosheng was already holding two large plates of delicious food.

"What do we do now?" Lin Weiwei couldn't help but ask.

"Young lady, here, there's room!"

Just as she was at a loss, a voice suddenly came from the side.

Bai Xiaosheng and his companion looked over and saw an elderly man with kind eyes, squatting nearby, holding a wooden plate and smiling at them as he ate.

It wasn't just this elderly man, many people were squatting to eat, including handsome men and beautiful women.

It seemed that this was the local way.

Still, Lin Weiwei hesitated.

But Bai Xiaosheng laughed and said, "Let's go over there."

Lin Weiwei had no choice but to follow. When they got closer, she realized that what looked like squatting was mostly just sitting on the curb of the bluestone road.

Bai Xiaosheng found a clean spot to sit down and found it rather nice.

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

The old man gave him a glance, "What's with you? You thank someone and it sounds like you're cursing at them? Also, am I that old? Young man, if you had called me 'Uncle' instead, we could have just let bygones be bygones. What do you think?"

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback, then laughed realizing his words were indeed inappropriate, "Sorry about that, Uncle!"

The old man nodded slightly, expressing his satisfaction, and took a glance at Lin Weiwei.

"It's only because this young lady looks pleasing to the eye that I bothered to call you over," the old man muttered as he ate from his plate.

"Thank you, Uncle," Lin Weiwei also found the old man interesting.

She sat down next to Bai Xiaosheng and took a tray of food from his hand.

Lin Weiwei took a bite of the goose foot and found it incredibly delicious. She nodded repeatedly and casually asked the old man, "Uncle, may I know your name?"

"Xiahou Qi," the old man responded without any evasion.

"So you have a compound surname, Xiahou, which is quite rare," Bai Xiaosheng commented with a smile.

"Yes, it's rare," the old man nodded. "But my surname is Xia, and my given name is Hou Qi."

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback and exchanged an awkward glance with the old man.

Lin Weiwei couldn't help but stick out her tongue, burying her head to savor the delicacies.

"It's not just you; many people mistake it. There's nothing I can do, since I belong to the 'Hou' generation," the old man seemed quite open about it.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

Elder Xia ate while looking at the tall wooden board and nodded slightly.

"It's indeed not bad calligraphy," Bai Xiaosheng remarked with a sense of appreciation.

"Do you understand calligraphy?" Elder Xia asked, curiously glancing at Bai Xiaosheng.

"I have a little knowledge," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Even if he didn't understand it, with Red Lotus around, it wouldn't be difficult to find out, easy as pie.

"Oh, that's good. Why don't you tell me about it, how's the calligraphy?" the old man asked with enthusiasm.

"You really want to hear it?" Bai Xiaosheng took a bite of the pigeon and said with a smile, "Well then, since you found us seats, I'll share some thoughts with you!"

Chapter 619: Awesome, My Brother_1

Bai Xiaosheng carefully examined the wooden board covered with the names of dishes.

In his mind, those characters were quickly deconstructed and analyzed.

"Horizontal and vertical strokes are even and upright, the structure is square and regular, it is indeed regular script," Bai Xiaosheng said.

Elder Xia, expressionless, bowed his head and picked up a piece of honey-glazed dried tofu.

If one doesn't even recognize that this is regular script, there's no point in discussing further.

Bai Xiaosheng continued, "The brushwork is dangerously forceful, the structure uniquely distinctive, it's Ouyang Xun's Ou style."

"What do you mean by 'dangerously forceful' brushwork and 'uniquely distinctive' structure? Be more specific," Elder Xia said languidly, "Don't tell me you've already asked the staff here and are now showing off to me."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, one hand holding a wooden tray, the other picking up a pebble.

He started to imitate the calligraphy on the flagstone beneath his feet, while murmuring to himself.

"The dot like a mountain peak casting stones, the vertical stroke and hook like the nascent moon in the vast sky, the horizontal as a formation of clouds stretching a thousand miles, the straight like an ancient vine living a myriad years, the slanted hook with the strength of a pine bending backwards, the horizontal and bent hook like a crossbow unleashing its force, the flick like a saber cutting through rhino horns and elephant tusks, and the pressing stroke like waves surging past the pen three times!"

After writing a row of ten characters, Bai Xiaosheng flicked his finger, and the pebble flew away.

"Thus, this is 'dangerously forceful' brushwork and 'uniquely distinctive' structure!"

Having finished, Bai Xiaosheng started eating the pigeon on his plate without another thought.

But Elder Xia was suddenly stunned, looking at the characters on the ground in astonishment.

Next to him, Lin Weiwei was also greatly surprised, her eyes wide open.

She looked at the characters on the ground, then at the characters on the wooden board, and couldn't help but exclaim in admiration, "Xiaosheng, you're amazing! It's exactly like the one on the board!"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled faintly.

"Girl, what do you mean 'exactly'? They are not the same, not at all!" Elder Xia shook his head and directly negated it.

Lin Weiwei's eyes widened, and seeing no difference whether she looked left or right, she became unhappy, "Where is it not the same? It's clearly the same, sir, are you having vision problems?"

Her annoyance brought back the former address of 'sir' instead of 'uncle'.

Elder Xia seemed not to hear her, remaining calm and collected.

He scrutinized the characters Bai Xiaosheng had written, his eyes faintly shining with admiration.

"Your Xiaosheng's writing is much more powerful than that on the wooden board!" Elder Xia couldn't help but sigh, "Such calligraphy! If it is but an amateur's hobby, it would be considered the pinnacle, and even for a professional scribe, it could certainly be called the work of a master!"

With that, the elder sized up Bai Xiaosheng, clicking his tongue in wonder, "I didn't expect someone as young as you to possess such brush strength. I underestimated you just now, young man!"

Elder Xia actually praised Bai Xiaosheng to such a degree.

Lin Weiwei was equally astonished, having thought his previous comment was a criticism.

"Really? Well, sir, now that you mention it, I do see it's quite different. It's much more beautiful than the writing on the wooden board!" Lin Weiwei immediately became happy again.

She reverted back to her previous way of addressing him.

This caused Elder Xia to involuntarily roll his eyes.

In the face of Elder Xia's praise, Bai Xiaosheng simply smiled faintly, first swallowing the food in his mouth before speaking, "Sir, you flatter me. My modest skills are still far from perfect."

Bai Xiaosheng appeared humble on the surface, but inwardly he was secretly astonished by this Elder Xia, Xiahou Qi.

This old man, what discerning eyesight!

That wooden board, after being appraised by Red Lotus, had a history of over a hundred years and was still perfectly preserved, as good as new, which showed that it was also a treasure of the restaurant!

Whether the dishes were the same as those from a hundred years ago, it was hard to say.

However, to attract the rich and elite to eagerly dine here, even willing to sit by the roadside to eat, these delicacies were surely worthy of that signboard.

The calligraphy on that board, in terms of pure skill, was genuinely a superior work in Ou style.

Based on just that calligraphy, the valuation Red Lotus gave to that wooden board was hundreds of thousands.

Just now, Bai Xiaosheng saw that Elder Xia had listened to his discussion on calligraphy with a distracted expression, which suddenly gave him a wicked idea.

He had Red Lotus search for an ancient, somewhat famous calligrapher who specialized in Ou-style regular script, and integrated his techniques into his emulation.

It could be said, therefore, that the scattering of characters on the ground were on par with the authentic work of a minor calligrapher.

Of course, Bai Xiaosheng didn't dare to overdo it, and he didn't copy down the calligraphy of Ouyang Xun.

However, these imitations that incorporated some ancient techniques were immediately recognized by Elder Xia as superior to those on wooden boards, proving his remarkable ability!

"Come, come, come, young friend, let's have a good talk about calligraphy," Elder Xia suddenly became enthusiastic.

With no way to decline such generous interest, Bai Xiaosheng had no choice but to chat with him.

The old gentleman knew a lot, but no matter how much, he couldn't stump Bai Xiaosheng.

After all, with Red Lotus's help, Bai Xiaosheng could already be considered an expert.

In the end, Elder Xia had to concede, "I've studied hard for ten years and nearly had a battalion of masters to consult, yet I haven't learned as much as you! You're incredible!"

These words made Bai Xiaosheng feel a bit embarrassed.

After all, he had "cheated."

Bai Xiaosheng quickly expressed modesty, and Elder Xia gave him another round of high praise.

Back and forth they went, chatting endlessly.

"Uncle, Xiaosheng, please start eating, the food is getting cold," Lin Weiwei said helplessly from the side.

Though it's handsome to see a man concentrating on something, he should still exercise some restraint; besides, it's not healthy to talk while eating.

"No more eating for me, no more eating," Elder Xia said with a laugh, putting his plate aside, "You see, I've been having stomach pain recently. If I eat too much, it hurts terribly later at night, sometimes even breaking out in a cold sweat. Now, I skip dinner altogether. It's strange, I've consulted several experts, undergone numerous tests, taken lots of medicine, all to no avail. Old age comes with all sorts of bizarre ailments."

After hurriedly finishing his food and wiping his mouth, Bai Xiaosheng said to Elder Xia, "Uncle, stick out your tongue, let me have a look."

Elder Xia looked at him in astonishment. "What for?"

"My calligraphy is mediocre, but I'm pretty good at traditional Chinese medicine," Bai Xiaosheng said. "Perhaps I can take a look for you, at least it can't hurt to check."

With that said, Elder Xia, somewhat skeptical, stuck out his tongue.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at it once, then proceeded to pull back Elder Xia's eyelid.

Elder Xia initially wanted to dodge, but seeing Bai Xiaosheng meant no harm, he let him continue the examination.

After the inspection, Bai Xiaosheng pressed gently on several acupoints on Elder Xia's body.

"Does this hurt? What about here, and here?"

Watching Bai Xiaosheng's confident and practiced manner, Elder Xia believed him somewhat and cooperated, continuously saying, "No pain, I don't feel anything."

Lin Weiwei watched with curiosity at her side.

Did Xiaosheng really know medical techniques?

"Ouch." Suddenly, Elder Xia cried out in pain; the sound was a bit loud, drawing looks from several people nearby.

Bai Xiaosheng withdrew his hand.

"Well, it's nothing serious," Bai Xiaosheng nodded, "but in a year or two, there is a risk of paralysis."

Elder Xia's expression had just relaxed when it froze, and he said angrily, "How can you say it's nothing serious!"

Bai Xiaosheng laughed heartily, "Weiwei, give me paper and a pen!"

Lin Weiwei had a pen and sticky notes to mark the specialty products they bought.

When Bai Xiaosheng asked for it, she immediately took them out and handed them over.

Taking the paper and pen, Bai Xiaosheng began writing swiftly in the same European script he had used earlier, muttering to himself all the while.

"Uncle, after you go back, buy some vinegar and liquor over sixty degrees, mix them three to one, and soak your feet in it every night before bed. Angelica, safflower, red peony, and several other herbs in the right quantities, boil three cups of water down to one, drink it before soaking your feet."

"One day to ease, one week to eliminate pain, one month to eradicate the problem." Bai Xiaosheng finished writing in one go, tore off the sticky note, and handed it over.

"Really?"

Elder Xia's eyes shone, "If it really works, then you, my boy, will be my lifesaver!"

Meanwhile, Lin Weiwei looked at Bai Xiaosheng with eyes full of admiration and mirth.

Impressive, my brother!

Chapter 620 You saved my life again!_1

Elder Xia's illness, he had an air of nonchalance when he talked about it, but it was truly a suffering only he knew.

When the pain struck, it was simply unbearable for ordinary people!

Sometimes, in the middle of the night, the pain would be so intense that he'd break out in a cold sweat!

Seeking medical advice, he didn't lack money.

Experts had given various interpretations and prescribed many medications, but to no avail!

In the past six months, he had traveled far and wide, seeking all sorts of cures, even flying abroad multiple times to seek medical treatment.

But to no avail.

Now, this young man, whose calligraphy was second to none, claimed his medical skills were even greater.

The old man wanted to believe, but he was also afraid, afraid that the greater his hopes, the greater his disappointment would be.

Watching Bai Xiaosheng examine him with ease and pen the prescription in one go,

this carefree and natural elegance rekindled the old man's hope.

"What if it really works!"

Elder Xia stared intently as Bai Xiaosheng tore off that page of sticky notes, covered with tiny, beautiful Euclidean script.

The writing was truly beautiful!

"I dare not claim to be a savior, but the fact that we could sit together on the curb and eat is also a twist of fate. If you trust me, you might as well give it a try," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, passing over the sticky note.

"Hmm, good, good!" Elder Xia was still a bit excited, treasuring the square piece of paper as if it were a precious gem.

It's not just a prescription; even the handwriting is a treasure.

"Young friend, may I ask you one more question?" Elder Xia spoke up, "Do you know what my ailment is?"

Lin Weiwei watched from the side, her eyes also filled with curiosity.

She was full of admiration for Bai Xiaosheng as she witnessed him diagnosing and prescribing with such authority.

Bai Xiaosheng, who excelled in his career, was knowledgeable in cooking, his handwriting comparable to a calligrapher, and also understood medicine.

There seemed to be nothing he didn't understand!

Lin Weiwei didn't know how to praise her Xiaosheng enough.

He was a man who seemed perfect, capable, and extraordinary!

Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Elder Xia, "Your problem is not with internal organs; it is a series of reactions caused by blood stasis in the 'blood mansion'. To say it is a difficult and complicated disease would be an overstatement. Chinese medicine can treat it, and so can Western medicine. It's just that I think you have yet to choose the right specialist."

Bai Xiaosheng spoke humbly about Chinese medicine and respectfully about Western medicine, his words sensible and to the point.

This unbiased perspective earned repeated nods from Elder Xia.

Convinced by such impartial comments, he believed!

"Alright, we've finished eating, and it's time we left," Bai Xiaosheng said as he stood up with a smile.

An encounter is predestined. Sitting together for a meal is an unforgettable fate.

But all banquets must come to an end.

Having dined, it was time for them to part ways.

"Uncle, give me your plate, please."

Lin Weiwei stood up and took the wooden plate from Bai Xiaosheng's hands, and also casually took Elder Xia's plate, delivering both to the shop owner.

"What a good girl!" Elder Xia smiled and stood up too, carefully pocketing the precious sticky note.

It wasn't just an exceptional piece of calligraphy but also a valuable prescription that might relieve his own pain and suffering.

"Young man, I will remember this favor," Elder Xia said to Bai Xiaosheng with a smile, gazing at him deeply.

Bai Xiaosheng returned the smile casually, without taking it to heart.

Chances of meeting again were probably slim in these fleeting encounters.

Moreover, he knew Elder Xia's name, but the old man had never asked for his, and probably only heard Lin Weiwei calling him "Xiaosheng." With such a huge sea of people and a nickname like that, even if he wanted to repay the kindness, it would be like finding a needle in a haystack.

Of course, Bai Xiaosheng didn't care about whether or not his kindness would be repaid.

Being able to easily do a good deed and feel content was, in his view, the greatest reward.

Lin Weiwei had already returned the plates and was hurrying back with a cheerful smile.

At the moment, Bai Xiaosheng and his company were leaning against a wall.

The wall was also built of stone blocks, tall and showing its age, with some of the stones on top looking loose. That's why those sitting on the ground always had to look up before sitting down, to check for any signs of looseness overhead.

Bai Xiaosheng and his group had been under a stable part of the wall.

But suddenly, on top of the wall, two plump, dirty little hands appeared, fiercely clawing at a stone, which immediately started to wobble. Then, a mischievous little boy burst halfway over the wall in one go.

A watermelon-sized stone plummeted straight toward Elder Xia!

Lin Weiwei watched with wide eyes as the little boy scrambled onto the wall, and wide eyes as the stone fell.

She didn't even have time to alert anyone; her eyes filled with sheer terror.

Elder Xia was about to be drenched in blood amid the alleyway.

Bai Xiaosheng, who had been standing still, suddenly stepped forward and yanked Elder Xia to the side.

Caught off guard, the old man stumbled, nearly falling to his knees.

The stone grazed the heel of the old man's foot and smashed onto the curb with a loud noise.

The curb was forcefully indented with a bowl-sized hole!

Had the stone hit someone on the head, the consequences would've been unthinkable!

The commotion alarmed the people eating nearby, and seven or eight of them, men and women alike, jumped up in fear, looking at Elder Xia and also at the little boy on the wall.

Elder Xia, jerked around so suddenly by Bai Xiaosheng, was initially startled and angry.

He turned at the sound and saw the stone on the ground and the gash in the curb, breaking out into a sweat with beads the size of soybeans on his forehead.

"Oh my goodness!"

That was too close!

He had nearly lost his life.

"Kid, what are you doing! Didn't you see people down here?!"

"Messing with the wall like that, don't you know how dangerous it is!"

"Whose child is this? They must have their parents discipline them!"

The men and women were righteously indignant.

The little boy had been trying to get some food over the wall, but seeing the trouble he had caused and being scolded by everyone, his face turned pale with fright, and he let out a wail before withdrawing his head.

In the midst of their anger, the crowd gathered around.

"Old sir, are you alright?"

"Are you injured, do you need to go to the hospital?"

"Let's call a car first and get a check-up at the hospital!"

The crowd was in disarray as they spoke.

Their enthusiasm left Bai Xiaosheng dumbfounded.

Lin Weiwei, who had rushed over, was also somewhat astonished.

The Lingshen locals were indeed warm-hearted; seeing their reaction, one would've thought they were helping their own father!

"Stop the noise," Elder Xia said, and everyone immediately shut their mouths.

"I'm fine, you all go back to eating, no need to crowd around."

His words seemed quite effective, and after a moment of hesitation, the crowd dispersed once more.

Elder Xia's eyes sparkled as he clutched Bai Xiaosheng's hand gratefully and earnestly, "This time, you truly saved my life. I will remember this, young man!"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

"It's nothing, uncle. Just now, I was simply reacting to my friend's expression; it was a natural response. Besides, isn't that what anyone should do?" Bai Xiaosheng said with a laugh, "It's good that you're safe and sound."

Lin Weiwei also let out a sigh of relief and chimed in, "Yes, it was a close call but thankfully, no harm done!"

"You're a good young man!" Elder Xia laughed heartily, "I owe you a debt of gratitude for saving my life; I won't thank you with mere words! In the future, there will be plenty of opportunities."

Seeing that he was unhurt, Bai Xiaosheng didn't take these words to heart and, after saying his goodbyes, was about to leave.

Elder Xia suddenly said with a smile, "Then allow me to escort my savior!"

At that moment, outside the alleyway.

A group of people hurried over, with a familiar face among them beside the leader.

Zhang