

Two Trillion 831

Chapter 831: Impressive, Bai Xiaosheng (Part 2)

Before visiting the clothing store, Jiang Yue was very skeptical. Bai Xiaosheng's so-called "understanding of fashion and outfit coordination" was just a bunch of hot air, groundless boasting.

Bai Xiaosheng and Su Lingyu were walking in front, chatting about literature while she observed Bai Xiaosheng from behind.

Bai Xiaosheng was dressed appropriately, and even had a bit of handsomeness about him.

Especially after witnessing his behavior at Jijinzhai, Jiang Yue had to admit that he was, in fact, a little more handsome than she had thought.

But, could dressing in women's clothing be the same as men's?

Women's fashion could totally be considered a discipline in its own right!

Men, those creatures, sometimes couldn't even tell the difference between a woman wearing a broad-striped or narrow-striped top, thinking it's the same garment.

Claim to understand women's fashion coordination?

Sheer arrogance!

Just consider, the color of a woman's clothing must harmonize with her lipstick shade, hair color, and skin tone.

Not to mention selecting materials, patterns, styles, accessories, and all sorts of other details.

Jiang Yue, seeing herself as a trendsetter in women's fashion, often felt dissatisfied with her own outfits.

Because it also had to match the day's weather and her mood!

Could this Mr. Bai really understand such things?

Unless he understood the human heart, and even the heart of a woman! Could he read minds?!

Jiang Yue curled her lip, ready to give Bai Xiaosheng a good mocking later.

Now, they were headed to a branded chain store, where Jiang Yue was a gold card member, entitled to a ten percent discount.

They entered the store.

A stylish sales associate came up with a smile, "Welcome, beauty, would you like me to tailor a set of clothes for you that suits your temperament?"

"No need, we've brought our own expert." Jiang Yue pointed at Bai Xiaosheng, her tone dripping with irony and mockery.

The sales associate curiously glanced at Bai Xiaosheng and smiled without saying a word.

Clients who come to buy clothes all have their "strong opinions," but in the end, which one doesn't politely ask for their help?

They just need to wait a little while.

Su Lingyu smiled at Bai Xiaosheng, "It's getting cold, I want to buy a coat. Help me choose one, and I'll take the opportunity to see if your aesthetic is as stunning as your talent."

Su Lingyu, being a woman, also loved beauty.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

He casually strolled around then picked out a caramel-colored trench coat and handed it to Su Lingyu, "Try this on, it's the most suitable for you."

A flicker of surprise appeared in the sales associate's eyes.

"Are you not even trying? You didn't look carefully or compare, how can you be so sure? Lingyu, I think this color doesn't suit you!" Jiang Yue called out.

Su Lingyu smiled, shoved what she was holding into Jiang Yue's hands, grabbed the trench coat, and headed straight for the fitting room.

"Not listening to me anymore, so annoying!" Jiang Yue gave Bai Xiaosheng a fierce glare.

Bai Xiaosheng, as if deaf, walked to one side, looked around, and picked up a scarf.

"That colored scarf doesn't suit Lingyu's temperament!" Jiang Yue said, "I don't like the pattern either."

Bai Xiaosheng completely ignored her.

Meanwhile, Su Lingyu elegantly walked out, dazzling everyone's eyes.

The trench coat was as if it had been tailored for her, the size especially perfect, and the color very flattering for her temperament.

The sales associate nodded her head repeatedly, and Jiang Yue also wanted to offer a few words of praise.

"Tie this on," Bai Xiaosheng walked over, handing the scarf to Su Lingyu.

Su Lingyu obediently did as told.

That small scarf seemed to bring it all together like the finishing touch to a dragon.

Once Su Lingyu adjusted it and looked up with a smile, she was simply stunning!

"Wow!" Jiang Yue was taken aback.

Her best friend, was she always this beautiful? Fresh and pure, yet with a hint of shyness.

"Goddess!" Jiang Yue couldn't help but exclaim, running over and staring wide-eyed.

"Amazing, this outfit is truly incredible!" The saleswoman couldn't help but marvel as well.

With the commotion on their side growing, it immediately attracted a crowd of onlookers. As everyone observed, they couldn't help but praise admiringly.

"I saw just now; it was this young man who picked out the clothes. Incredible, it completely elevated her aura to another level." A young girl pointed at Bai Xiaosheng and excitedly told her companion.

Before long, all eyes were fixed on Bai Xiaosheng.

Without needing a mirror, Su Lingyu could tell from everyone's expressions that this outfit was the perfect match for herself.

"I'll take it," said Su Lingyu, decisively.

"Is it really that miraculous?" Jiang Yue muttered, then called out to Bai Xiaosheng, "Hey, then you—"

"Style an outfit for me too, young man!"

"I want one as well, please help me choose!"

"Me too!"

A group of young girls who were watching the excitement immediately surrounded him.

Jiang Yue was dumbfounded.

"Don't worry, one at a time," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

After that, he was like someone with a cheat code.

The outfits he casually put together elevated people's demeanors by more than just a level as soon as they tried them on.

Even the saleswoman was so impressed that she kept giving Bai Xiaosheng thumbs up.

Suddenly, even customers outside the store were being drawn in, one after another.

Many people were spreading the word—"A young fashion master has arrived at this store, offering his services for free. You should let him dress you up while you have the chance; it's a rare opportunity!"

The scene was more fervent than Bai Xiaosheng had ever expected.

However, to him, these were just trivial matters.

With the help of Red Lotus, he only had to take a glance to know the sizes of all the beauties, read their expressions to understand their moods, and then choose attires appropriate for their demeanors, hair colors, and skin tones. He was bound to succeed every time.

With all this commotion, even the store manager came to take a look and seeing how Bai Xiaosheng was bringing in so much business, was grinning from ear to ear.

Upon seeing the manager, Bai Xiaosheng quickly pulled him aside and whispered a few words.

When he returned to Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue, his expression was slightly downcast.

"What's wrong, you look disappointed," Su Lingyu said curiously.

"Me? I was fulfilling our agreement and went to talk to the manager about a discount, but it didn't go as well as I had hoped," Bai Xiaosheng said, shrugging helplessly.

"Haha, you tried to bargain with the manager? This branded store, I'm a gold member, you know. The discount rate is ten percent off! They won't budge even a fraction more!" Jiang Yue said with a sneer, "Who do you think you are, bargaining..."

"It's okay, we still have Jiang Yue's membership card," Su Lingyu consoled.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and slowly said, "The manager said if I sell clothes here for an hour, we'll get a 25% discount. He can't go any lower because they can't afford to lose that much."

What, a 25% discount!

Jiang Yue was staring at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

Buy clothes at this store for a 25% discount?

Who would believe that if they heard it!

Jiang Yue's first reaction was that Bai Xiaosheng was lying!

Su Lingyu also found it a bit unbelievable.

The saleswoman came over with a piece of clothing for Bai Xiaosheng and said with a smile, "Sir, please put on our clothes; it has the logo on it. After an hour, the clothes you buy will be settled at a 25% discount."

Really a 25% discount?!

Jiang Yue was about to go crazy!

"Right, what do you want to pick for your mom? Describe her height, build, demeanor, and her favorite colors," Bai Xiaosheng said to Su Lingyu with a smile. "I'll help you choose."

"Great!" Su Lingyu nodded with a smile.

"I want one too!" Jiang Yue shouted.

Chapter 832: The Villain Bai Xiaosheng!

Bai Xiaosheng was in a clothing store, selling clothes for an hour. During that time, customers practically flooded in.

Those who had bought clothes came back, bringing along their families and sisters, causing quite a stir.

Moreover, the sales staff were promoting under the store manager's instruction, telling customers that this young master of fashion styling was only staying for an hour, an opportunity too rare to miss.

Instantly, it sent people into a frenzy.

There was even a long line forming at the checkout.

The store manager couldn't stop grinning from ear to ear.

The foot traffic and sales rate for this one hour today simply peaked for the month!

No, it was the daily peak of the entire quarter!

Just for this, giving that man a "25% discount" was totally worth it!

At worst, they would miss out on the profit of a few pieces of clothing!

The store manager was extremely satisfied with his "brilliant decision."

An hour later.

Bai Xiaosheng, Su Lingyu, and Jiang Yue left with the clothes they had purchased and checked out.

The store manager followed them, smiling at Bai Xiaosheng, "Young man, are you interested in working as a sales consultant? I'll offer you ten thousand a month. Do you think the position is too low? How about assistant store manager? There's commission too!"

In the eyes of the beautiful store manager, Bai Xiaosheng was not merely a person but a walking Divine Artifact attracting wealth.

A sales consultant earning ten thousand a month plus commission!

In Linzhou, this was simply unimaginable!

Jiang Yue was so shocked she wished she could take Bai Xiaosheng's place and accept the offer herself.

Unfortunately, Bai Xiaosheng, with a smile, gently declined.

He didn't even blink at the offer of ten thousand, what a snob!

Jiang Yue felt a surge of irritation.

After leaving the clothing store, it was almost one o'clock. Su Lingyu said to Bai Xiaosheng with a smile, "Making you help out twice, I feel bad. Let me treat you to a meal."

"Forget it, I'll treat you instead. After all, I'm staying at your place, and for room and board..." Bai Xiaosheng smiled. "I'm sorry, I forgot you don't like to talk about that. Well, just think of me as a guy who can't accept a woman paying."

Su Lingyu wanted to say more, but then heard Jiang Yue sneering sarcastically at Bai Xiaosheng, "You're offering to pay? Do you even have the money?"

Clearly, the girl was angry.

Earlier in the store, she had repeatedly asked for recommendations, and Bai Xiaosheng had ignored her while helping another young lady choose.

She thought he couldn't hear her because of the noise and crowd.

But when Su Lingyu said a few words, not even loudly, Bai Xiaosheng immediately responded.

Jiang Yue was fuming at this point, showing not a hint of gratitude towards Bai Xiaosheng, but rather an increased animosity.

"I don't have money, but you do," said Bai Xiaosheng to Jiang Yue with a chuckle. "You made me miss my high-speed train to Yunhai. Starting from here, that's hundreds of yuan, isn't it? Just take it out."

Jiang Yue's complexion changed instantly, and she wanted to say outright—I won't give it.

Yet, deep down, she didn't want to owe anything to this guy!

"Let's go. We're not just going to eat, but also watch a movie. Ah, there seems to be a very popular domestic military film out now, I can't wait!" Bai Xiaosheng walked ahead, calling out to Su Lingyu, "Oh, and I've been asked to buy some dried fruits and candied goodies. Could you recommend some stores later, please?"

Su Lingyu saw Bai Xiaosheng's exaggerated acts, then looked at Jiang Yue whose face was almost a shade of purple, her eyes filled with rage, and didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

When will these two ever stop their endless bickering?

Eventually, the three of them found a decent Chinese restaurant and ordered a lavish lunch.

Su Lingyu and Bai Xiaosheng chatted happily about literature and fashion.

Jiang Yue sat with a tense face, furiously chewing her food as though she were gnawing at Bai Xiaosheng himself.

After finishing the meal, Bai Xiaosheng called over the waiter with an air of supremacy, truly acting the part of a big boss even more than the big bosses themselves, and pointed at Jiang Yue, "My assistant, pay the bill!"

The waiter looked at Bai Xiaosheng with utmost respect and then turned to Jiang Yue with a smile.

Jiang Yue felt like smashing the plate in Bai Xiaosheng's face but in the end, she gritted her teeth and reached for her wallet, slamming each bill onto the table with force.

The waiter's expression turned peculiar.

Do assistants nowadays all have such big tempers?

Doesn't this girl's hand hurt?

After leaving the restaurant, Bai Xiaosheng said to Su Lingyu with a smile, "It's still early, are you in a hurry to go home? If not, let's go see a movie, my treat."

"Sure," Su Lingyu replied with a slight flush on her cheeks and a smile.

"Not going, Lingyu is coming home with me," Jiang Yue said.

"You're the one in a hurry, you go ahead," Su Lingyu replied earnestly.

Jiang Yue shot Bai Xiaosheng a sideways glance and said through gritted teeth, "With so many fraudsters around these days, how can I leave you alone with a man whose background I don't know? No way! If you don't leave, I'm coming with you!"

"If you want to come, then come, I'll treat you to the movie as well," Bai Xiaosheng said with a laugh, "Of course, you'll have to pay."

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's demeanor, Jiang Yue sincerely wished she could beat him to death.

And so, the three of them strolled down the street, looking for a movie theater.

Along the way, Bai Xiaosheng even found an old-time shop selling dried fruits and candied goods and made some purchases – naturally, Jiang Yue was the one who paid.

Jiang Yue didn't want to pay, so Su Lingyu took the initiative to pay for Bai Xiaosheng instead.

"That's fine, let her pay you back later. If she won't even pay you back such a small amount of money, it's better to cut ties with such a stingy friend," Bai Xiaosheng teased.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you're a jerk, a bad person!"

Jiang Yue was so angry her teeth itched; she very much wanted to grab Bai Xiaosheng's arm and twist the flesh a few times.

That would surely feel incredibly satisfying!

The three of them eventually found a theater and bought tickets for the 3:30 p.m. show, also purchasing some popcorn and drinks along the way.

During the movie, Jiang Yue stuffed her mouth with popcorn, chewing furiously, using her appetite to vent her frustration.

Su Lingyu bit her lip, trying not to laugh.

This was probably the first time someone had managed to humiliate her strong-willed friend to such an extent.

Two hours later, when the movie ended, it was almost 5:30 p.m.

The daylight was fading.

"It's time to go home, it will take an hour to get back by bus," Su Lingyu said.

No sooner had she spoken, when Jiang Yue suddenly yelled, "Oh no, Lingyu! I left the bag with the brushes, ink, paper, and inkstone you bought inside!"

They had too many things, spread out everywhere, and with all her anger, she had become muddled again.

"I'll go back and look for it!" Su Lingyu said, ready to return.

"Let me do it, you two wait here for a while," Bai Xiaosheng said and quickly turned back.

"This guy, acting quite manly all of a sudden," Jiang Yue muttered, watching Bai Xiaosheng's retreating figure, then her anger returned, "If it weren't for him, how could I have forgotten my stuff! He really pisses me off, he's nothing but a jinx!"

"Xiaoyu, it seems like you have a pretty good impression of him; you better not really fall for him. A man like him will only bring you bad luck!" Jiang Yue emphasized seriously.

Su Lingyu looked at her friend with amusement and annoyance.

This little gossip, so petty; with Bai Xiaosheng offending her to such an extent, she was seeking revenge.

"Ah, you..." Su Lingyu sighed helplessly and shook her head.

At that moment, just dozens of steps away from them, at the mouth of a quiet alley, two people stumbled out, supporting each other.

Heading straight for them!

Chapter 833: Call the Police! Arrest Someone!

"This idiot, why hasn't he come out yet, so stupid! Is it that hard to find a bag!"

While waiting for Bai Xiaosheng, not even five minutes had passed when Jiang Yue couldn't help but start to grumble.

At the moment, the movie theater they were in was actually in a remote location. It was entirely found while searching for a place to buy dried fruits and preserves, and the theater was not very crowded; it was still a walk to the main street.

The sky was getting dark, and Jiang Yue was also worried about getting home late.

"Don't speak like that, he just went in for a bit, and besides, it was you who lost the bag." Su Lingyu couldn't help but speak up for fairness.

"Fine, you blame me then!" Jiang Yue said angrily, "If it weren't for him angering me, would I, a meticulous person, have lost the item?"

Su Lingyu silently watched him.

"Alright, alright, I did pick up the wrong bag on the high-speed train, but I've compensated him!" Jiang Yue insisted confidently.

"Alright, alright, he'll be back soon." Su Lingyu said with a comforting smile.

"Miss!"

When Jiang Yue was about to continue speaking, he suddenly heard a timid voice behind him.

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue turned their heads and saw a man and a woman standing behind them.

An elderly couple.

"You, what is it?" Jiang Yue, startled, couldn't help but ask.

Su Lingyu looked the two people up and down.

The man looked honest and simple, with a slightly stooped back, greasy and messy hair graying at the roots, a face full of wrinkles, a pained expression, slightly trembling lips, hands held to his chest, with rough and sturdy fingers, the fingernails filled with dirt.

The woman looked even older, with gray hair, holding her mouth, looking pitifully at the two of them.

"Miss, please be kind." The woman's eyes were desolate, she didn't say anything else, only kept begging incessantly.

"Kind folks, we are from a village, we lost our tickets, we've walked all day, haven't eaten a bit, and can't bear the hunger anymore, could you please help us, good people are rewarded!" the man also begged.

Beggars!

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue exchanged glances.

Such people were not rare, seeming utterly pitiful, but the truth and lies were hard to discern.

The media often reported on beggars who beg as a profession, taking advantage of modern people's kindness, some even earning more than high-collar workers.

Su Lingyu pondered for a moment, took out her wallet, and handed over twenty yuan.

Faced with this, she would give some money regardless of it being real or fake.

She had even discussed this topic with Jiang Yue.

If it was true, this bit of money could at least ensure they have a full meal or make a call for help at a newsstand.

If it was fake, then all the better, showing that no one was destitute and stranded in a strange land.

Moreover, she did not mind being cheated out of this small amount of money.

Jiang Yue was already used to Su Lingyu's style and didn't bother to stop her, just waited for the beggars to take the money and leave.

"No, no! Miss, we don't want money!" The man gestured with his hands, as if also afraid that his dirty hands would touch Su Lingyu, and even stepped back half a step.

The woman also exclaimed, "Yes, kind miss, we don't want money!"

Don't want money?! Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue looked at each other, stunned.

This was somewhat surprising.

"Why?" Su Lingyu couldn't help but ask.

"We're not beggars!" The man seemed quite aggrieved, and rather stubbornly said.

"We really did lose everything, we're not scammers," the woman was very distressed and even started to sob.

"Don't cry, hey, don't cry." Jiang Yue couldn't help but say.

Su Lingyu quickly took out a tissue and handed it over

The man carefully and politely took it.

"So, how do you want us to help you, where is your hometown, we can give you money for a train ticket," Su Lingyu said.

Jiang Yue couldn't help but glance at her and then looked cautiously at the man and woman.

She started to realize something, this couldn't be some sob story, could it?

The tricks of scammers had evolved with the times, not to be underestimated.

"We are from Lucheng Duoxian," the man said.

Jiang Yue glanced at Su Lingyu, "Well, it's quite close. Train tickets are just over twenty each!"

She knew this place well.

If it were a ploy to get money for tickets, they should have claimed a faraway place, wishing as far as from north to south, even close to the border.

All this crying wasn't just to scam twenty bucks, surely.

Jiang Yue wavered as well.

"Okay," Su Lingyu nodded, then took out a hundred yuan and handed it over, gently saying, "Grandpa and Grandma, take this money to get some food and buy a ticket to go back home."

A hundred and twenty, that should be enough.

"No, we really don't want your money! Thank you, kind miss!" The man refused to accept it, even bowing to them both, and even pulled the woman to bow with him.

"No need, no need!" Su Lingyu waved her hands repeatedly, hastily stepping back.

"Hey, I said Grandpa, if you don't want money, how do you want us to help you?" Jiang Yue asked astonishedly.

The man looked at her, his voice trembling, "Miss, we've been hungry all day, we just want to eat some hot noodle soup; please, help us."

"Hot noodle soup?" Jiang Yue was taken aback, "But, where do I find you hot noodle soup?"

"Just there, in that alley, there is a shop," the woman timidly pointed to an alley nearby, pleading, "Could you please take us there to eat a bowl? Thank you, kind misses."

Just to eat a bowl of noodles, did it need to be this difficult.

"You two, take this money, you can go eat to your fill, and then buy a ticket to go home, ah!" Jiang Yue said.

She, too, started to feel sympathy for these old folks.

I mean, considering their situation, they don't even want money, just asking for a bowl of hot noodle soup.

Could they really be scammers!

"No, we don't want the money!" The man still insisted.

"The people from our village, we also have our pride, we don't want to be seen as beggars, we just want a bowl of hot noodle soup," the woman also persisted.

No matter what, they firmly refused the money.

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue helplessly exchanged glances.

"Alright then, I'll take them to get the noodles, you wait here," Su Lingyu told Jiang Yue.

"This... I'll go! Bai Xiaosheng will be back any moment, and I don't want to deal with his attitude," Jiang Yue muttered.

Listening to them agreeing to take them for noodles, a sincere, grateful smile appeared on the weathered faces of the man and woman.

"I'm back, have you been waiting for long?" Suddenly, a voice called out.

Bai Xiaosheng, carrying the retrieved bag, came over with a smile, "What's going on, what are you guys doing here?"

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue looked pleased.

"You've come back just in time. It's like this," Su Lingyu immediately described the situation.

Bai Xiaosheng listened and observed the two people.

After hearing Su Lingyu's explanation, Bai Xiaosheng nodded slightly.

"You're here, great, you take them to eat noodles, and we'll wait here for you," Jiang Yue quickly said.

Having someone else run the errand naturally made her happy.

"Eating noodles? When did prison food get so good?" Bai Xiaosheng's expression suddenly turned stern, his eyes fierce as he pointed at the old couple and shouted, "Call the police! Arrest them!"

Chapter 834 His Only Wish Was to Eat a Bowl of Noodles

Confronted with the pitiful, homeless old couple, even Jiang Yue's attitude softened gradually, and she decided to help them.

But Bai Xiaosheng was fierce and threatening, yelling to call the police and have them arrested.

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue were stunned into disbelief, looking at him incredulously.

"Don't, please don't, we aren't scammers! We didn't deceive anyone for money!"

The old couple looked at Bai Xiaosheng in terror, retreating repeatedly.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes showed no mercy, glinting with cold ruthlessness as he advanced step by step, ready to act.

"What are you doing, have you gone mad!" Jiang Yue snapped to her senses, grabbing Bai Xiaosheng's arm.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you, you..." Su Lingyu couldn't finish her sentence, her beautiful eyes wide with shock, staring at Bai Xiaosheng, unable to understand why he had suddenly changed into this state.

Before this, he had always been well-learned, elegant and humorous, a true gentleman in Su Lingyu's mind.

How could he become so "vicious and wicked" towards this old couple!

"I'm not mad, it's you who haven't seen clearly. I'm doing what I must!" Bai Xiaosheng, with a light flick, responded to Jiang Yue's grip on his arm.

Jiang Yue cried out in pain and released her hold.

Bai Xiaosheng strode toward the old couple.

Su Lingyu quickly stepped in to block him.

"Bai Xiaosheng, what on earth is wrong with you!" Su Lingyu demanded, staring at him.

"I think his true colors are showing; he's not a good man!" Jiang Yue rushed to Su Lingyu's side, glaring at Bai Xiaosheng.

Seeing them react this way, Bai Xiaosheng had no choice but to stop, "Su Lingyu, listen to me..."

"What do you have to explain? You claim to be right, saying they're playing the victim to deceive us for money. You, this man, just want to play the hero in front of Lingyu. You should be tough with robbers and fighters, aren't you brave? Or is it that you don't dare, don't even get the chance, so you bully a pair of pitiable honest folks instead!" Jiang Yue said loudly.

She had always been irritated by Bai Xiaosheng, and just now, she was flicked by him, noticing a bruise appearing on her fair hand.

This jerk did it on purpose!

Therefore, Jiang Yue was determined to not give Bai Xiaosheng a break.

If Bai Xiaosheng continued to be so aggressive, she would not let Su Lingyu take him home, to avoid unnecessary trouble!

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at Jiang Yue.

"What are you looking at me for, I'm not afraid of you!" Jiang Yue retorted, hiding behind Su Lingyu and continuing, "I hit the nail on the head, didn't I? You're feeling guilty, aren't you? Otherwise, why look at me."

Bai Xiaosheng was quite helpless, turning to Su Lingyu, "Su Lingyu, you don't trust me either?"

Su Lingyu was conflicted, hesitating.

"Miss, we truly aren't bad people, here are our ID cards. There's a ticketing point over there; can you ask that young man to help us buy a ticket?" The old woman behind them said tremblingly, handing over two ID cards.

It seemed she was truly scared by Bai Xiaosheng.

Su Lingyu glanced at her, nodded gently, and took the two ID cards.

If they could produce their ID cards, could they still be scammers?

"Bai Xiaosheng, look, these are their ID cards. With these, can you still not be assured? Can you go buy two train tickets to Lukon City for these elderly gentlemen and ladies?" Su Lingyu handed Bai Xiaosheng the ID cards along with a hundred-yuan note.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the two people being shielded by Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue, sighing softly.

Then, he smiled at Su Lingyu, "If you insist, alright then."

After speaking, Bai Xiaosheng turned to check and confirmed that the building over there indeed had a sign for the ticketing point before heading over.

"Let's go, hurry! I'll take you to eat some hot noodle soup!"

Jiang Yue, seeing Bai Xiaosheng being forced away and feeling victorious, urged the old couple with a smile.

"Oh oh." The old couple responded eagerly, turning quickly to leave.

"Lingyu, come with us," Jiang Yue called out.

"But what if Bai Xiaosheng comes back and can't find us?" Su Lingyu couldn't help saying.

"Silly, just call him later," Jiang Yue said, pulling Su Lingyu along.

Su Lingyu had no choice but to follow.

The four of them hurried towards the mouth of the alley, uniformly glancing back to check for Bai Xiaosheng. Not seeing him, they all breathed a sigh of relief.

"Off for noodles!" Jiang Yue cheered cheerfully.

Entering the alley, Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue realized that it was narrow and dilapidated, filled with garbage, twisting and turning, and particularly dim due to the time of day.

"What kind of noodle shop is hidden in here?" Even Jiang Yue couldn't help wondering.

The couple seemed familiar with the place, swiftly leading the way for about several dozen meters, until they reached a decrepit storefront, shrouded in a thick, filthy curtain that made it impossible to glimpse any sign.

"This is the place, their noodles smell amazing," the old woman said, drooling as she pulled back the curtain and ducked inside, the man following closely behind her.

"Ugh, it feels so dirty," Jiang Yue remarked with a frowned brow, hesitant to enter.

But since the couple had gone in, and they had already reached the doorway, how could they not follow?

"Just go in, pay, and we'll leave," Su Lingyu said.

Jiang Yue nodded.

The two women, stifling their disgust, lifted the curtain and entered.

Inside the room, a foul stench pervaded the air, nauseating.

As soon as they stepped in, they heard the door slam shut behind them, followed by the sound of a bolt sliding into place.

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue hadn't even had time to react when their arms were suddenly twisted behind them.

"Ah!"

They both cried out in pain.

"Don't move!" A woman's vicious voice rang in Su Lingyu's ear.

"Hehe, such soft, delicate skin," the man clutching Jiang Yue's arm chuckled lewdly.

By the sound of it, it was definitely that old couple!

In their severe pain, Su Lingyu's and Jiang Yue's eyes widened in disbelief.

With the door now closed and the windows covered by curtains, coupled with the gathering darkness,

they couldn't see anything inside the room.

Suddenly, a "snap" and the lights came on.

There was a large mirror on one side of the room, and Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue could see through it that it was indeed the old couple.

But the difference now was that they no longer appeared weak and helpless but rather exhibited a terrifying and sinister mien.

"Hehe, Yan Pozhi, Wang Laoliu, you've scored again!"

Another excited voice echoed in the room.

Three men emerged from the back, all bearing fierce expressions, and the one in the lead had his upper body bare, his formidable muscles trembling.

"Ah, let go of me!" Jiang Yue screamed again.

"Let go, who are you people!" Su Lingyu also shouted.

Through the mirror, she saw that the man wasn't hunched over at all; instead, he stood tall and imposing.

The woman had lost any semblance of pitifulness, her eyes gleamed with malicious amusement.

"What are you going to do to us!" Jiang Yue continued to yell.

"Stop struggling already, you can scream yourself hoarse, and no one over here will hear you," the lecherous old man gripping her retorted, pressing his nose close to Jiang Yue's ear and snorting her scent aggressively, his face unable to hide his restless excitement.

Like a wolf.

"This one's such a catch! It's a damn shame to sell her as someone's bride, maybe we should have our fill first!" The leader of the three men in the room, panting heavily, his whole body's muscles quivering.

"You, you're human traffickers!" Su Lingyu could hardly believe it.

"Didn't that fresh-faced young man warn you? What a pity you didn't listen, eh!" The old woman holding Su Lingyu cackled maliciously, addressing the three men, "Don't be shy, guys, play with them however you want, just leave 'em with a breath left in them. Send them into madness, it'll save us the trouble of transporting the goods!"

"Help!" Jiang Yue cried out in terror.

"Haha, louder!"

"Yeah, make it louder, it's exciting!"

"Right, you're enjoying it now, but soon we'll make you enjoy it even more!"

The three men circled closer, their laughter unrestrained, egging each other on.

After all, in this secluded alley, not even a ghost's shadow was usually seen.

And after today, they would be long gone and never return.

"Help us, please!" Su Lingyu also screamed in fear, "Bai Xiaosheng!"

All Su Lingyu could think of now was him.

The few men were about to mock her again, but then a voice came from outside the door.

"What do you want me for!"

Chapter 835: Invincible Bravery

Accompanied by Su Lingyu's cry for help, Bai Xiaosheng's voice suddenly rang out from outside the door, remarkably clear.

Instantly, everyone in the room was stunned.

Then, the eyes of Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue filled with joy.

"Bai Xiaosheng, we're in here!"

"Come and save us!"

The two of them shouted.

"Quiet!" "Shut up!"

Yan Pozi and Wang Laoliu, who were guarding them, shouted angrily at the same time.

"There's someone!" "Who is it?!" "Who's out there!"

The three men couldn't help but cry out in panic.

This kind of "transaction" they were involved in was the last thing they wanted exposed, as getting caught would be a serious matter!

"Don't panic; it's just a kid!" Yan Pozi yelled.

"Just a pretty boy who's with these two women. He almost messed up my deal earlier!" Wang Laoliu quickly added, "Hurry and open the door."

The three men looked at him in surprise.

"What are you looking at me for, do you want him to go call the police? Control him first!" Wang Laoliu glared at them harshly and whispered a reminder.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you need to go call the police now!" Su Lingyu immediately screamed.

"Make the call, don't, don't go!" Jiang Yue wanted Bai Xiaosheng to call for help but was also afraid that their only hope might really leave, leaving them alone to face these ruthlessly vicious people.

If that happened, then it would truly be a case of crying to heaven for help but receiving no answer, and crying to earth but getting no response.

With Bai Xiaosheng there, at least there was some consolation, after all, he was a man.

Still, Jiang Yue didn't believe that Bai Xiaosheng could single-handedly rescue them.

After all, the men in the room were each more brawny than the last.

Especially the leader who was all muscle, big as a bull calf.

In front of him, Bai Xiaosheng was simply like a frail little chick.

"If you two make another sound, believe it or not, I'll break your arms!" Yan Pozi threatened furiously, tightening her grip.

Su Lingyu instantly felt intense pain in her arm, as if it was really about to break, and her fair and smooth forehead suddenly beaded with perspiration.

Yet she clenched her teeth and kept silent.

"Ah, my hand, don't use force. It's going to break!" Jiang Yue cried out miserably.

While the chaos ensued, the muscular man had already signaled the two men behind him with a glance.

These two men quickly unlatched the door, using Jiang Yue's cries of pain as a cover, swiftly lifted the door curtain, and rushed out.

The dirty, heavy curtain, like ripples on a calm lake's surface, fluttered twice, then returned to calm.

Outside, there was silence.

No shouting, no fighting, nothing.

The quiet was eerie, unsettlingly so.

"Wu? Donkey!" The muscular man called out twice from next to the door, but there was still no response.

At this point, even Yan Pozi and Wang Laoliu couldn't help but exchange looks.

Two street thugs, in terms of fighting, one could match two ordinary men, yet they couldn't handle one kid?

Could it be that the kid decided to run and they chased after him?

The muscular man seemed to guess this too, pondered for a moment, but did not rashly rush out. Instead, he grabbed the curtain and yanked it hard.

The curtain was pulled away in one swift motion, revealing a figure at the doorway.

The muscular man's reaction was incredibly swift; he delivered a heavy right hook.

The fist, as big as a rice bowl, squarely hit the person's face.

The person didn't even have time to cry out before collapsing.

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue screamed in shock, while Yan Pozi and Wang Laoliu's eyes gleamed with ferocity.

However, their ferocity lasted only a second before freezing on their faces, full of disbelief.

The one toppled by that beautiful right hook was not the pretty boy but one of the muscular man's own brothers!

"Pretty fierce, huh!"

A light laugh came from outside the door.

As Bai Xiaosheng appeared, he unleashed punches to the left and right, using the muscular man as a punching bag with a flurry of combination punches.

Fast and fierce, the punches whistled through the air.

Turns out, he knew kung fu!

Yan Pozi and Wang Laoliu, who had taken Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue hostage, suddenly narrowed their eyes.

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue, seeing this, were initially stunned, then filled with joy.

They hadn't expected Bai Xiaosheng to be so formidable!

Thank goodness, they were saved!

The two who had rushed out just now must have been subdued by Bai Xiaosheng.

He was simply too amazing!

The two women's hearts instantly ignited with hope.

"You've got some skills. We underestimated you! But...hehe, fighting with Zhao Da?!" Wang Laoliu suddenly sneered, his voice dripping with scorn.

"This reckless youth, truly thinking his fancy moves are of any use!" Yan Pozi sneered, curling her lips.

Then, seeing the expressions on Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue, she laughed out loud, "Looks like you're quite happy, feeling hopeful, aren't you? Open your eyes and watch closely! Is Zhao Da taking a beating? He is a boxing expert! That kid's flimsy punches are just tickling him!"

Yan Pozi's words were like needles, bursting the balloon of hope that Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue held.

They widened their eyes and indeed saw that Bai Xiaosheng's punches, despite all the effort, hadn't hit the man at all!

The opponent had his hands guarded around his head, tight as a shield!

All his punches that seemed to hit the flesh, in fact landed on the man's arms, which bulged like steel.

Zhao Da, hidden behind his arms, wore a sinister smile on his face.

The two women shuddered.

"Kid, not enough power! Are you just itching my boss here?!" Zhao Da's voice was filled with boundless arrogance.

The women's hearts sank.

"Ah!" Suddenly, an extremely miserable scream echoed.

Zhao Da, who had just been unassailable, now had a tomato-red face, twisting in agony, his legs clenched together, both hands covering his crotch.

"You, you, you motherfucker, don't, don't, don't play fair!" Zhao Da screamed angrily, his words squeezed through his teeth.

"All muscles, think you can take a beating, huh? Why didn't you train your lower parts? Next time, remember to wear iron underwear." As Bai Xiaosheng spoke, he smiled and with his right hand, he formed a triangle with his thumb and index finger, striking precisely at the neck acupoint of Zhao Da.

Zhao Da's eyes bulged, rolled back, and he collapsed directly.

Just like that, the problem was solved...

Yan Pozi and Wang Laoliu, who were just confident a moment ago, were once again dumbstruck, while Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue watched incredulously throughout.

"Two left, are you going to surrender, or do you want me to knock you out?" Bai Xiaosheng stepped forward with a smile in his steps.

Yan Pozi and Wang Laoliu looked at him as if seeing a ghost, trembling in fear.

"You, you, stop, don't come any closer, otherwise..."

Just as Wang Laoliu was about to threaten Bai Xiaosheng with Jiang Yue, he saw Bai Xiaosheng's smile deepen, his eyes turning ghostly and wolfish as he swiftly moved closer and suddenly grabbed Jiang Yue's face and pushed her back harshly.

Accompanied by two screams, Jiang Yue's head smashed directly into Wang Laoliu's nose.

Bai Xiaosheng's left hand lifted, striking Wang Laoliu's chin and sending him crashing against the wall, while his right fist struck hard, passing under Su Lingyu's armpit, hitting Yan Pozi's chest squarely.

The old woman screamed, falling back instantly.

In a flash, the situation was resolved.

Su Lingyu, unsteady on her feet, exclaimed and fell, but Bai Xiaosheng caught her, steadying her in his arms.

Su Lingyu stared with wide eyes still filled with shock, fixedly watching Bai Xiaosheng.

That reassuring smile was just like an angel's.

At that moment, Su Lingyu was utterly enchanted.

"Bai Xiaosheng you bastard, it hurts so much, you, you..." Jiang Yue beheld the scene, both angry and aggrieved, "You did that on purpose!"

Being a woman herself, why didn't she receive the same treatment as Su Lingyu?

"Call the police!"

Bai Xiaosheng even had the nerve to order her around, how infuriating!

Chapter 836: Sometimes, Please Don't Be Kind!

Three police cars arrived with sirens blaring, taking away the traffickers.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others followed back to the station, gave statements, and assisted in the investigation.

When the police learned that Bai Xiaosheng alone had handled five traffickers, including a boxing expert, many uncle officers specifically came to see if this righteous young man had three heads and six arms.

After all was done, to commend Bai Xiaosheng for his bravery, the captain even offered to give them a ride.

Bai Xiaosheng tactfully declined.

First, he did not want to waste the officers' time, and second, being escorted by a police car might give the impression of being apprehended for misconduct rather than acting heroically.

The situation was manageable for Bai Xiaosheng, but they were heading to Su Lingyu's place, and the impact had to be considered.

Upon leaving the station, the three of them took a taxi.

With all the hustle, it was almost eight o'clock, and it had already gotten dark.

In the station, the two girls had already called home to report their safety.

They did not mention the traffickers since the ordeal was incredibly bizarre and frightening just to hear about. Moreover, it was over, and there was no point in worrying their families any further.

Once in the car, Su Lingyu only mentioned a place, catching Bai Xiaosheng's surprised look, and suddenly smiled, "Jiang Yue and I live in the same neighborhood. Our mothers met when they were pregnant, so we've been friends since childhood."

That explained it! Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

"By the way, Bai Xiaosheng, there's something I've been wanting to ask you," Jiang Yue suddenly said, "how did you know that old couple was up to no good, and why did you insist on calling the police right away to arrest them?"

Su Lingyu also nodded, sharing the same curiosity.

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at them and couldn't help but laugh softly.

"Are you still thinking about that?"

"Who said it's over? I remember it vividly," Jiang Yue said with a double entendre, snorting coldly.

She hated swindlers and despised this Bai Xiaosheng.

She still had a headache, wondering why when Su Lingyu was rescued, it was done romantically, while her own rescue was so traumatic.

However, thinking about those despicable and frightening traffickers, she felt grateful towards Bai Xiaosheng.

Even thinking of Bai Xiaosheng's bravery made her heart flutter a bit.

Indeed, Jiang Yue's feelings for Bai Xiaosheng were complicated, a mixture of resentment, gratitude, and admiration.

The expression 'a mix of emotions' perhaps best described her state.

"You girls are good, kind-hearted, and benevolent!" Bai Xiaosheng looked at Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue, earnestly saying.

Su Lingyu smiled shyly, while Jiang Yue snorted coldly, but also smiled.

"However, your kindness can sometimes be exploited by evildoers, leading you into perilous situations," Bai Xiaosheng continued, "Therefore, even in acts of charity in the future, I hope you can be vigilant. This is being responsible for yourselves and your families."

"Imagine, what if I hadn't arrived in time today? What would have happened to you?"

Thinking of the fiercely dangerous traffickers, Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue shivered involuntarily, even breaking into a cold sweat.

"As for how I knew something was off?"

"Very simple, it was abnormal!"

"You noticed this abnormality too, but you were deceived by their appearance, which softened your instincts."

"You might have noticed the man's weather-beaten face, his pitiful expressions. But you didn't notice his robust body, his muscular arms, strong as iron clamps."

"You might have seen the woman's snowy white hair, but failed to see her robust physique, her agile stride."

"You might have heard them talk about losing their tickets, losing their belongings, being strangers in distress, yet they were familiar with this area, even knowing where to buy tickets. If they've only been wandering for a day, how could they know so much?"

"Also, really destitute and longing to go home, would they refuse any help and just want you to take them for a bowl of noodles?"

"People can be kind, and they should be kind. It's a virtue to help others when we're capable," Bai Xiaosheng said to the two girls, his tone becoming serious. "However, remember this. If someone makes an abnormal, unreasonable request, wants to take you to a place you're not familiar with, or behaves in a way that makes you feel even slightly uneasy, even if it's just a trace, even if it's just what you think is a misperception."

"Please refuse them!"

"You don't have to be kind!"

Bai Xiaosheng's last sentence was earnest and sincere.

"Well said!" Even the driver couldn't help but commend him. "Although I'm not sure what you've encountered, what this young man said is right!"

Su Lingyu and Jiang Yue couldn't help but nod in agreement.

The taxi driver talked about many instances he'd encountered of evildoers exploiting kindness.

He talked all the way to the destination and couldn't help but add, "Ultimately, while it's good to be charitable, it must be moderate. We shouldn't give bad guys a chance or encourage laziness in those who are just idle."

"You're right!" Bai Xiaosheng praised him.

As the taxi stopped at the entrance of the housing complex, after paying the fare and getting out, Bai Xiaosheng turned to the others with a smile. "Did we just learn another lesson?"

Su Lingyu silently nodded.

Jiang Yue suddenly had a look of realization, making Bai Xiaosheng turn to look at her.

"Lingyu, I think you better not let this guy stay, look how strong and capable he is, he could fight off several; what if he's a thief, what if he's a bad guy? Wouldn't that put your uncle and aunt in danger? Let him sleep on the streets instead," Jiang Yue said seriously.

Bai Xiaosheng's smile stiffened.

According to his own logic, it seemed quite plausible...

"I'm not a bad guy; I really am a good person," Bai Xiaosheng explained feebly.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's expression, Jiang Yue burst out laughing.

"Oh, relax, she's just joking with you," Su Lingyu couldn't help but chuckle.

Bai Xiaosheng shrugged in resignation.

The three of them took their things and headed straight into the housing complex.

This complex was considered upscale, with tight security, controlled access, and spacious, clean roads flanked by lush vegetation.

Each residential building was only six stories high.

A genuine low-density housing area.

"This place is quite nice," Bai Xiaosheng remarked as he looked around.

"Hmph, naturally, our complex is one of the top low-density areas in Linzhou City," Jiang Yue said with some pride. "My place is a bit smaller, just 140 square meters, but Lingyu's place is big, a 200-square-meter duplex! Uncle Su is quite something, almost getting promoted to vice president, isn't he? And the boyfriend he introduced to our Lingyu, his son, comes from an even wealthier family, so don't you dare think about her, got it!"

Jiang Yue was repeating the old spiel.

"Jiang Yue!" Su Lingyu couldn't help but give her a look.

Her best friend was getting more and more talkative.

She had told her countless times not to bring up that so-called blind date; it wasn't even certain yet.

"I'm just warning him not to think he can aim too high," Jiang Yue muttered.

"I'm not talking to you anymore," Su Lingyu said, annoyed, and called Bai Xiaosheng to follow her.

"I shouldn't chase dreams beyond my reach, so maybe I should chase you instead; we'd be a good match," Bai Xiaosheng gave Jiang Yue a smile but followed Su Lingyu.

"Chasing me won't be that easy!" Jiang Yue's cheeks turned slightly red, she muttered.

Then, realizing something, she yelled in that direction, "Jerk, you were insulting me, weren't you!"

Chapter 837: Good-for-nothing Youngster

Su Lingyu led the way, with Bai Xiaosheng following behind as they took the elevator up.

Upon reaching the door, Su Lingyu fished out the keys to unlock it.

"Come in," Su Lingyu entered first, smiling at Bai Xiaosheng, and then helped him find slippers.

"Thank you," Bai Xiaosheng said politely, smiling as he changed shoes in the entryway.

"Xiaoyu, you're back, why so late? Fortunately, I stewed ribs today, and dinner was late too. Your arrival now is just in time for eating..." a gentle voice rang out.

Immediately afterward, Bai Xiaosheng saw a woman wearing an apron, walking out with a smile, her eyes and eyebrows full of affection. Listening to Su Lingyu, her mother was forty-five, but to Bai Xiaosheng, she didn't look it at all.

She kept herself in good shape, her hair thick and black, her skin fair. If someone said she wasn't even forty, people would believe it.

The moment she saw Bai Xiaosheng, the woman was taken aback.

"Hello, Aunt Yan," Bai Xiaosheng greeted with a slight smile, maintaining politeness.

Yan Xuefei, Su Lingyu's mother.

On the road, Bai Xiaosheng had heard Jiang Yue referring to her as "Aunt Yan" and "Aunt Xuefei," how he learned her name.

Similarly, he also learned of Su Lingyu's father, named Su Dazhong.

"Hello," Yan Xuefei smiled and nodded at Bai Xiaosheng, then gave Su Lingyu a deep look.

"Just put your things here, come on in," Su Lingyu was very enthusiastic toward the young man.

This girl had never brought any men home before.

Besides, the smile at the corners of Su Lingyu's eyes had a different meaning to it.

Seeing her mother's playful gaze, Su Lingyu quickly glanced at Bai Xiaosheng and quickly explained, "He, he's just an ordinary friend."

Yan Xuefei smiled meaningfully.

She hadn't asked a word, yet her daughter was already hastening to explain.

"Wash your hands, let's eat," Yan Xuefei said gently to both of them, then returned to the kitchen.

Her daughter wasn't getting any younger, and they always worried about her major life events, yet she never seemed in a rush.

Now, finally bringing a man home, Yan Xuefei, in perfect tacit understanding, did not ask an extra word.

Bai Xiaosheng was led by Su Lingyu to the living room.

The Su family's home was a two-story duplex, simply and elegantly decorated, looking incredibly comfortable.

All the furniture appeared tasteful, everything was well-cleaned.

What a home is like depends largely on the woman of the house.

It was clear that Yan Xuefei was a woman with a good sense of lifestyle.

Moreover, this taste deeply influenced Su Lingyu.

"Make yourself comfortable, no need to be shy. What would you like to drink?" Su Lingyu asked with a smile.

Before Bai Xiaosheng could respond, a rich, magnetic voice came from a room downstairs, "I say, girl, why are you back so late today? Today is your mother's birthday!"

Accompanying these words, the door of that room opened, and a middle-aged man came out stretching, rubbing his eyes.

That room was the study, and this man was supposedly Su Lingyu's father, Su Dazhong.

Dropping his hands, Su Dazhong suddenly noticed a young man standing next to his daughter and was momentarily stunned.

"Hello, Uncle Su," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"Oh, oh, hello!" Su Dazhong looked slightly serious, sizing up Bai Xiaosheng, his eyes filled with scrutiny.

It is said that the first time a father hears about his daughter having a boyfriend feels like a farmer who painstakingly grew cabbages only for them to be uprooted by a boar.

Su Lingyu never really had male friends, much less brought one home.

Bai Xiaosheng's sudden arrival inevitably made her father see him in the role of a boyfriend.

"Looking at how Xiaoyu looks at him... this isn't like just ordinary friends!" Su Dazhong thought to himself.

Unbeknownst to him, Bai Xiaosheng had indeed dazzled Su Lingyu that day, and he had even saved her.

Every girl dreams of meeting a hero who will rescue her.

Bai Xiaosheng had indeed touched her heartstrings, how could she not be moved?

"Tea or coffee? Our Tieguanyin is not bad, let me make some for you to try." Su Lingyu didn't notice her father's expression and hurried off to make tea as soon as Bai Xiaosheng agreed.

Su Dazhong walked over, his gaze fixed on Bai Xiaosheng.

"Come, have a seat," Su Dazhong said, "Do you smoke?"

"No, thank you, Uncle Su," Bai Xiaosheng smiled and sat down comfortably.

Su Dazhong looked at Bai Xiaosheng's composure and couldn't help nodding to himself, "This young man has an impressive demeanor. He doesn't show any signs of nervousness or unfamiliarity."

If Bai Xiaosheng had heard this, he wouldn't have known whether to laugh or cry.

He had been calm and amiable in conversations with mayors, ministers, Master Song Kai, and presidents of the Greater China Region; how could he possibly be nervous around Su Dazhong?

Of course, since the Micro Expression Analysis System wasn't activated, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't possibly know what Su Dazhong was thinking.

"Where is your family from?" Su Dazhong began to inquire.

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback.

But thinking it might be because his daughter was bringing someone home, and being a father, he was concerned, he didn't think too much about it.

Even someone as perceptive as Bai Xiaosheng failed to realize that the following conversation was essentially a father-in-law vetting his prospective son-in-law.

"My family is from Zhongjing City, Anjiang Province. I wonder if Uncle Su has heard of it," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"Oh, I've heard of it. Zhongjing, that's the capital city of the province, right?" Su Dazhong frowned slightly.

Anjiang, that's really far!

Having just one daughter at home, how could he bear to let her go so far away!

"So what does your family do?" Su Dazhong asked.

If the family background was good, it could still be considered.

However, Su Dazhong still favored the son of their company's deputy general manager, as both families lived closer to each other, and the other family lived in a villa, wealthy for generations, truly possessing vast wealth.

"Our family?" Bai Xiaosheng was a bit puzzled but simply smiled, "Just ordinary salaried workers."

The parents and uncles of Bai Xiaosheng indeed belonged to the salaried class.

Su Dazhong's brows knitted tightly, and he fell silent. The more he looked at Bai Xiaosheng, the less satisfied he became, his expression growing colder.

"Have you bought a house?"

"No."

"Have you bought a car?"

"No."

"In the company, are you a junior leader?"

"No..."

...

After such a routine conversation, Su Dazhong's attitude towards Bai Xiaosheng noticeably cooled, "Young man, you need to work hard to build happiness. Look at me, my achievements today, living in this kind of house, all came from hard work. You need to keep striving!"

Bai Xiaosheng, a man with a hundred million, was being lectured...

Afterward, Su Dazhong pulled out a book, lazily flipping through it on his own.

Bai Xiaosheng understood a bit then.

Could Su Dazhong be mistaking him for someone connected to Su Lingyu!

It seemed that Uncle Su was quite dissatisfied with him!

Bai Xiaosheng wasn't offended. Instead, he smiled and found it quite amusing, "Well, I'll be leaving tomorrow anyway."

"Tea is ready!" Su Lingyu called out cheerily, bringing over the tea.

"Dinner is served!" Yan Xuefei smiled, bringing over a dish of fragrant sweet and sour ribs.

Bai Xiaosheng stood up to welcome the two women.

However, Su Dazhong glared coldly at Bai Xiaosheng's departing figure, thinking, "No money, no career, yet knows how to please women, really disgraceful! Such a person, if mixed in the workplace, would be a low-level employee all his life!"

Chapter 838 "One of Us"?

Yan Xuefei had prepared an incredibly lavish dinner: sweet and sour ribs, steamed bass, vegetarian "Luohan," and lotus pond stir-fry...

In the end, there was also a radish and rib soup.

"It took me two hours to make this rib soup, and I was thinking, 'Oh no, it's going to be too late for dinner.' I didn't expect you to come back so late," Yan Xuefei said with a smile to Su Lingyu.

She served the soup for everyone, first handing a bowl to Bai Xiaosheng, saying, "Here you go."

"Thank you, Aunt Yan." Bai Xiaosheng smiled, accepting it with both hands.

The soup was light and not greasy, not too thick or too strong, yet it was fragrant and tantalizing, a real appetite stimulator.

"Xiaoyu, how should I address your friend?" Yan Xuefei asked with a smile.

"My name is Bai Xiaosheng, you can just call me Sheng," Bai Xiaosheng volunteered.

"Alright, Sheng, don't be formal here, make yourself at home," Yan Xuefei said gently.

"Ah." Bai Xiaosheng smiled and nodded, feeling a warmth in his heart.

This Aunt Yan was truly nice.

Next to him sat Su Dazhong, calm and silent.

He did not show much enthusiasm towards Bai Xiaosheng.

Yan Xuefei glanced at him with a peculiar look but did not ask anything.

Su Lingyu was also curious, but she did not say anything either.

"Where's Nanny Zhang?" Su Lingyu looked toward the kitchen to change the topic.

Nanny Zhang was their housekeeper.

"Your Nanny Zhang's son came home today, so she rushed back. That's why I gave her the day off. The heart of a parent, I worry about you whenever you're away for a few days," Yan Xuefei laughed, "By the way, where is Jiang Yue? I also made food for her."

"She'll be here in a bit. She said she needed to stop by her place first to check in and drop off her stuff, then she'll come over for your birthday," Su Lingyu replied.

"By the way, did you buy the birthday cake?" Su Dazhong, who had been quiet all along, suddenly asked, then added curiously, "In previous years, didn't your close girlfriends always come to celebrate your birthday? Why didn't anyone come this time? Are you planning some kind of party at home later?"

While speaking, Su Dazhong couldn't help but glance at Bai Xiaosheng.

If there was a party, how would he introduce this young man publicly, as his daughter's boyfriend?

Without a house or a car, and with a worthless job?

Su Dazhong was worried.

This simply was an embarrassment for him and his wife!

"What are you talking about?" Yan Xuefei was startled, then scolded the father and daughter, "Who told you today is my birthday?!"

"Isn't it?!"

Su Lingyu and Su Dazhong both exclaimed in unison, astonished.

"It's tomorrow," Yan Xuefei scolded them.

"But I remembered it was today!" Su Dazhong exclaimed.

"I said it's tomorrow, but my dad called me twice, emphasizing it was today!" Su Lingyu was even more shocked.

Suddenly realizing the mistake, Su Dazhong's face turned awkward.

"Oh, Old Su, you forgot my birthday, didn't you!" Yan Xuefei asked with a smile.

Her delicate face, supposed to have a refined smile, yet it carried a hint of a threat.

"I'm sorry, I've been busy with work, I got confused," Su Dazhong quickly apologized.

"Merely apologizing doesn't seem sincere enough," Su Lingyu not only didn't soothe the situation but also fanned the flames.

This made Su Dazhong apologize even more earnestly.

Bai Xiaosheng, with a smile at the corner of his mouth, continued to eat without a word.

After this warm family friction, Su Lingyu turned to Bai Xiaosheng, proactively offering him some food, "Here, try my mom's sweet and sour ribs and steamed bass, they're the best in our house!"

"Thank you," Bai Xiaosheng smiled back at her.

Next to them, Yan Xuefei also smiled, watching the two kids.

Seeing her daughter so enthusiastic about a boy, it seemed she truly liked him.

Yan Xuefei felt happy in her heart!

For a mother like her, who doesn't seek wealth or family background but only wishes for her daughter's happiness, she was indeed rare these days.

Su Dazhong couldn't help but glance at Bai Xiaosheng, his eyebrows furrowed. He really didn't want his daughter to become deeply involved with such a person.

"Vice President Han's son, Han Chen, in terms of appearance, family background, and ability, is several times better than this kid. He is truly a good match for Xiaoyu," was all that Su Dazhong could think about.

Bai Xiaosheng was eating when his phone suddenly rang.

"Excuse me, Aunt Yan, Uncle Su, I need to take this call," Bai Xiaosheng apologized.

He took out his phone and quickly glanced at it.

It was from Lin Weiwei.

After discovering his ID card and bank cards were missing, Bai Xiaosheng had contacted Weiwei, who said she was going to get off at the next station and buy a ticket back to Linzhou.

"Don't tell me she's already there!" Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

That was too fast. Was he really about to leave after just having a meal at the Su family's house?

Bai Xiaosheng walked to the entranceway and finally answered the call.

"Hello, Xiaosheng? It's Lin Weiwei's anxious voice on the phone.

Bai Xiaosheng could tell immediately that something was wrong!

"What's the matter, Weiwei?" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help being a bit worried. "Did something happen?"

"I'm still on the train with Lei Ying and Ake. There's been a landslide here, and our train has been stuck on the tracks and can't move at all!" Lin Weiwei's voice was uneasy. "What about you? You don't have any money or your ID. What are you going to do?"

It turned out it was just a delay on the train, nothing serious.

Bai Xiaosheng breathed a sigh of relief.

"I'm fine over here, don't worry. I'm staying at a friend's house. Yeah, a new friend, right, we're having dinner," Bai Xiaosheng said. "Don't worry, is there a place to eat on the train? Take care of yourself. Once you safely reach the next station, give me a call."

After calming Weiwei down and giving some instructions, Bai Xiaosheng then hung up the phone.

Listening to Weiwei's situation, it seemed she might not be able to get here tomorrow or even the day after.

"It looks like I'll have to mooch meals here a bit longer," Bai Xiaosheng muttered to himself.

However, he felt rather embarrassed to keep staying there.

"Otherwise, find a local corporate group to mooch off," Bai Xiaosheng sighed softly to himself.

No sooner had he had this thought than Red Lotus searched and output several large enterprises in Linzhou.

The largest one was a real estate company—Liucheng Real Estate.

"If push comes to shove, I'll freeload off them," Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

When he returned to the dining table, the Su family seemed to have finished discussing something.

Even a hint of pleasure was visible on Su Dazhong's face.

Yan Xuefei looked at Bai Xiaosheng and said, "Xiaosheng, I heard from Xiaoyu that you're leaving tomorrow? Is there something urgent?"

"Nothing urgent," Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

"Then stay one more day. Tomorrow is my birthday, and there will be a party in the evening. Having you here will make it more lively, and Xiaoyu will be happy," Yan Xuefei couldn't help but smile as she glanced at her daughter.

Su Lingyu's cheeks turned slightly red, and she focused on her food.

Su Dazhong's smile stiffened, and he could not help but look at Yan Xuefei.

He did not want Bai Xiaosheng to stay.

"Well, okay," said Bai Xiaosheng, holding up his phone with a wry smile. "The call I just got was from a friend coming to pick me up, but there's been some trouble on the road, and he might not be able to get here for a while."

"Really?" Su Lingyu couldn't help saying.

For a moment, she even felt a little happy; when Bai Xiaosheng looked her way, her face immediately turned red.

"You guys eat, I need to work on a proposal," Su Dazhong put down his utensils, his face expressionless, and he rose and left the room.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but watch him go.

"Don't mind him. Your uncle is about to be promoted to vice president; he's busy trying to show off," Yan Xuefei laughed. "It's a real estate company; inevitably, work always comes first with them. His company is quite well-known too; it's called Liucheng Real Estate. Xiaosheng, have you heard of it?"

When Bai Xiaosheng heard that name, he was suddenly stunned.

Liucheng Real Estate? Wasn't that the group enterprise he had just looked up!

Su Dazhong was actually "one of their own"!

So, staying at his house... could that be considered mooching?

Chapter 839: Being Rich is Happiness

Halfway through dinner, the Su family's doorbell rang, and Su Lingyu got up to answer the door.

Bai Xiaosheng heard a stretch of conversation.

"Xiaoyu, where's your mom? Isn't today her birthday? Why did I think it was tomorrow?"

A voice came through—similar in tone and speed to Jiang Yue's but more mature.

"Auntie Jiang, it's not today, it's tomorrow, Dad and I got it wrong," Su Lingyu explained.

As they talked, two people entered with Su Lingyu; one was a woman in her forties, dressed in bright and striking clothes with delicate makeup and thin lips—definitely the chatty type.

Behind her followed Jiang Yue.

Jiang Yue glanced around, caught sight of Bai Xiaosheng, and quietly glared at him.

After all, he had just "scolded" her a moment ago.

Bai Xiaosheng pretended not to notice.

"Jiang Lu, you're here, look at my husband and dear daughter, both managed to get my birthday wrong." Yan Xuefei said with a laugh as she rose to meet them, and Su Dazhong also stood up smiling.

Bai Xiaosheng felt it was only appropriate for him, too, to stand.

"Did you really expect men and young people to remember our birthdays?" Jiang Lu curled her lip, glancing at Su Dazhong, "Dazhong remembering the approximate day is already good! My husband wouldn't remember at all if I didn't remind him three times over!"

"Men, they only remember things related to play or work! Wives and children don't make the list," Jiang Lu concluded.

"That's too much to say, too much," Su Dazhong chuckled, not taking offense.

Yan Xuefei pursed her lips in a smile, giving her husband a reproachful look.

It was clear the two families were close, Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

"Aunt Yan, here are the gifts we prepared for you. We won't wait till tomorrow. I brought them over now," Jiang Yue said, lifting two bags in her hands.

Yan Xuefei smiled as she took them, thanking Jiang Yue and her mom.

"Have you eaten yet? Come, join us. I had even prepared Yue's share, not expecting her to head home first," Yan Xuefei invited with a smile.

"I'd better not, I still have to take our family's old fellow to a movie soon. Yue, I had her come over to your place to mooch off your dinner since I didn't prepare anything tonight." Jiang Lu stuck out her tongue.

Jiang Yue, standing behind her, wore a helpless expression.

That's definitely her real mom, Bai Xiaosheng mused.

Jiang Lu's gaze swept the room and landed on Bai Xiaosheng with curiosity. "Who is this young man?"

"He is..."

"He's just a friend of Xiaoyu's, from out of town, staying at our place," Su Lingyu started to answer, but Su Dazhong interjected.

Su Dazhong emphasized the words "just a friend" strongly.

Su Lingyu couldn't help but frown.

"Hello, Auntie Jiang," Bai Xiaosheng greeted politely, emphasizing that he had no relationship with her daughter, not minding at all since Su Dazhong was only stating the facts.

"Hello," Jiang Lu nodded, unable to resist glancing at Su Lingyu.

Then, Jiang Lu smiled at everyone, "I should get going, Dazhong, you all continue eating. Xue Fei, come with me a moment, I have something to say to you."

Yan Xuefei nodded and followed Jiang Lu out.

Su Dazhong and Su Lingyu invited Jiang Yue to sit down, and Jiang Yue did not stand on ceremony, filling a bowl of rice and sitting opposite Bai Xiaosheng, not forgetting to glare fiercely at him.

Outside the door.

Jiang Lu, pulling Yan Xuefei, lowered her voice and said, "What's going on, Xiaoyu brought a boy home. Does this young man's family have money, can they compare to the Han Family?"

Yan Xuefei looked helpless and whispered, "Did you ask me to drive you here just to ask that?"

"Yes, this concerns Xiaoyu's lifelong happiness, aren't you concerned? I saw that boy doesn't have a proud look, no necklace around his neck, no luxury watch on his wrist, doesn't look like he's from a wealthy family! Also, Old Su said he's from out of town! If he really gets together with Xiaoyu, you absolutely must not agree!" Jiang Lu said earnestly.

Yan Xuefei looked at her speechlessly.

"Enough said, I should go, remember, a poor lad should not be married, it will cause suffering for our daughter." Jiang Lu said, then hurried away.

Yan Xuefei watched her friend leave and sighed softly before turning back.

Su Dazhong had already returned to his study, leaving the three children eating. Su Lingyu enthusiastically served Bai Xiaosheng vegetables, which annoyed Jiang Yue repeatedly.

Yan Xuefei scrutinized Bai Xiaosheng and felt that this boy was decent, very polite, and even managed to gracefully diffuse Jiang Yue's teasing.

After dinner, Su Lingyu busied herself arranging a guest room for Bai Xiaosheng.

Jiang Yue followed and caused mischief.

That night, Jiang Yue didn't leave either, staying in the same room as Su Lingyu.

Bai Xiaosheng also went back to his room to rest early.

It was not until ten o'clock that Su Dazhong returned from his study to the bedroom.

Yan Xuefei warmed a cup of milk for him; she saw that her husband had been very busy recently and felt deeply concerned.

"Recently, why have you been so busy?" Yan Xuefei asked while massaging her husband's shoulders.

"They're discussing the Vice President's position," Su Dazhong sighed, "Our company belongs to the Zhenbei Group, which you know."

Mentioning the group's name, a fervent look appeared in Su Dazhong's eyes.

It truly was a colossal entity, with endless opportunities, where one could go farther and stand higher if they had the capability. Above the company, there were also provincial industry leaders and regional heads.

Those positions made him look up in awe.

"Our general manager's term is up, after a successful five-year assessment, he is going to the Greater China Region's affairs department as an assistant. Vice President Han is to be promoted to general manager, and this opens up the vice president's position for competition including me; several people are competing. Thus, I need to outperform them, especially during this period; I need to show results to speak with authority."

Yan Xuefei nodded.

She also admired and supported her husband's ambition.

"Vice President Han's son has taken a liking to our daughter; you must support this!" Su Dazhong changed the topic, "I'm telling you, it's not that I just want to climb up using this connection, my daughter's rise... Of course, having Vice President Han's support would be great!"

Yan Xuefei paused her hands.

Su Dazhong turned to look at her seriously, "I've told you about Vice President Han's family, very wealthy, and he has an only son. If our daughter really marries into their family, she will definitely be a wealthy lady of leisure! Wealth is happiness! You've seen Han Chen, the boy has the looks, and good family conditions, for our daughter, we must..."

"Dazhong," Yan Xuefei walked up to her husband, cupped his face, and looked into his eyes, "Because you think it's good, should we force our child into what you call a wealthy family?"

"Then, have you considered how our daughter feels?!" Yan Xuefei released her hands and stepped back, gazing at her husband.

"Xuefei, we are experienced; our daughter is still young and believes in love, but it will be too late once she regrets!"

Su Dazhong's expression was resolute, "Anyway, that Bai, he's not suitable!"

Chapter 840: Before the Party

Bai Xiaosheng had a good night's sleep at the Su family home, and got up early the next morning. After all, as a guest, it wasn't good to sleep in.

Yan Xuefei and Su Lingyu were already preparing breakfast.

When Bai Xiaosheng went to the restroom, he ran into Jiang Yue.

Jiang Yue was in her pajamas with her hair all messy, scratching her chest by reaching inside her neckline. When she looked up and saw Bai Xiaosheng, then looked down and saw her own neckline pulled open to reveal half of her bosom, her "face" turned bright red, and she screamed and ran back.

This was really embarrassing.

"What happened?" Su Lingyu hurried out of the kitchen to ask.

"Uh, just now, Jiang Yue saw me, then she yelled, and then she ran off," Bai Xiaosheng said awkwardly.

Jiang Yue must have been groggy from sleep, embarrassed to be seen like that going to the restroom.

Su Lingyu blinked, then understanding, she smiled and went back to the kitchen.

For breakfast, only four people ate, since Su Dazhong had gone off to the company early.

Throughout the breakfast, Jiang Yue kept her head down and finished her meal.

Only after it ended without anyone teasing her did she start to act normal, but she still continued to glare at Bai Xiaosheng.

In her eyes, all the blame was definitely on Bai Xiaosheng!

Bai Xiaosheng ignored her and did not argue.

After breakfast, Yan Xuefei left for a yoga class.

Jiang Yue suggested going out, which Su Lingyu agreed to.

"Let's take you around Linzhou," Su Lingyu said to Bai Xiaosheng with a smile. "We can eat out at noon, and tonight is my mother's birthday party which you promised to attend, right?"

Bai Xiaosheng nodded with a smile.

"Hmph, happy to freeload, aren't you!" Jiang Yue muttered.

Bai Xiaosheng just laughed it off, then turned to Su Lingyu and said, "What does Aunt Yan like? I want to buy her a gift too."

"Do you have money? Let me tell you, don't think about making me pay again, I've already paid off what I owed you!" Jiang Yue immediately said.

"No need for that," Su Lingyu also said.

"It's alright, I can still pay with my phone," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Last night, Lin Weiwei had transferred twenty thousand to him for emergencies.

This morning, Bai Xiaosheng had inquired about the situation over there, and everything was fine, although they were still blocked on the road. However, the authorities were working on resolving it, and there were no problems with food services.

"Alright, just don't be too stingy!" Jiang Yue snapped coldly.

This girl was always picking on Bai Xiaosheng. Su Lingyu could only smile helplessly.

After that, the trio left the house and spent the whole day enjoying themselves in Linzhou City.

Shopping and eating delicious food, they were returning home in the afternoon when Bai Xiaosheng insisted that they buy a scarf as a gift, to which Su Lingyu agreed.

Jiang Yue led Bai Xiaosheng straight into a high-end brand shop.

Seeing a scarf for six thousand, Su Lingyu was startled.

"This one is suitable, let's take it!" Bai Xiaosheng remembered Yan Xuefei's taste in clothes and picked it out without hesitation.

When paying, he didn't even blink an eye.

Jiang Yue was somewhat amazed and called Bai Xiaosheng a "hidden tycoon"!

The three hurried back to start decorating for the party, and Su Dazhong came home early as well.

From six in the evening onwards, guests arrived continuously, with four groups arriving within an hour. It was clear that Yan Xuefei was well-liked.

The guests included not only the friends of Yan Xuefei and Su Dazhong but also their children, who were about the same age as Su Lingyu.

Such visits also allowed the children to build friendships.

If they could bring them together, the parents would be happy to see it happen.

While Su Dazhong was chatting with the guests, he received a phone call.

After hanging up the phone, his eyes shone brightly and he was full of vigor as he announced to Yan Xuefei, "Vice President Han Xuancheng from our company called to wish you a happy birthday. He also said he would send his son Han Chen over."

"Hmm," Yan Xuefei's eyes flickered slightly as she nodded.

"This Vice President Han of our company is something else, very wealthy. He owns a villa in Nanhua District and has a Mercedes-Benz S-Class and a BMW 7 Series at home!" Su Dazhong couldn't help but tell the guests.

"A villa in Nanhua District? Impressive, it must be worth tens of millions!"

"And two luxury cars at home, not simple! We only drive cars worth three to five hundred thousand, can't compare to him at all!"

"With such a friend, Old Su, you should invite him over. Let everyone get to know him!"

Everyone talked all at once.

With a face full of smiles, Su Dazhong said, "This Vice President Han has an only son, Han Chen. The young man is handsome! Moreover, he fell in love with our Su Lingyu at first sight and is currently chasing Xiaoyu. He'll be here in a while, so everyone, please keep an eye out."

Su Dazhong's words made the crowd even more eager.

"Impressive, such a great family, an only son, and he's taken a liking to our Lingyu, what luck!"

"Yeah, he's a great match. That villa and that car, soon they'll be Lingyu's!"

"Oh Su, you've made an amazing match there. Do you still have any other resources, say a word for us, too. My daughter is also looking for such a good match!"

The crowd didn't skimp on their praise.

Especially Jiang Lu, who praised him vigorously.

Su Dazhong was glowing with pride, but Yan Xuefei quietly furrowed her brows.

In the kitchen helping out, Su Lingyu was surrounded by several young ladies.

"Lingyu sister, are you going to marry into a wealthy family?!"

"Lingyu sister, is that brother-in-law from the Han family handsome?"

"Lingyu sister, I want to be a bridesmaid at your wedding!"

Upon hearing this, Su Lingyu was stunned, realizing that it was her dad in the living room promoting her, which immediately infuriated her.

"Xiaoyu, stay calm. Hey, you guys, get out, stop bothering her!"

Jiang Yue quickly shooed those young ladies out.

"Why is my dad like this!" Su Lingyu was extremely infuriated.

Yet Jiang Yue smiled mischievously, "What's wrong with this? It proves you're outstanding. Someone as outstanding as Xiaoyu naturally should marry into a wealthy family."

"You go out too!"

Su Lingyu didn't want to speak to her best friend any longer.

In the living room, Bai Xiaosheng came out of the bathroom and quietly stayed in the corner.

He hadn't heard the earlier conversation. He just felt that the atmosphere was very lively, but since he wasn't the center of attention at this kind of event, he kept a low profile, slowly sipping a cocktail in the corner.

Right now, at the entrance of Su Lingyu's residential area, a BMW 7 Series was entering.

Inside the car sat a young, handsome man dressed in incredibly fashionable attire, his eyes revealing a wild and untamed look.

He was Han Chen, the one Su Dazhong had mentioned from the Han family.

Han Chen's driver was a peer of his named Zou Guangxin.

Zou Guangxin's father worked for Han Chen's father, so naturally, he was also Han Chen's underling.

"Look Boss, it's just a girl. Is she really worth you making a special trip to attend her mom's birthday and curry favor?" Zou Guangxin spoke while driving.

"You don't understand!" Han Chen scoffed, a gleam in his eye, "This girl is a college graduate from a prestigious university—a true talented woman. My desire to conquer her is really high! I hear she's still a virgin. To win her over, to be the first, that's an achievement!"

"Boss has taste!" Zou Guangxin nodded vigorously, chuckling.

"Besides, her dad really supports us getting together!" a cold smirk flashed in Han Chen's deep gaze.

He remembered his father's words—"That stupid Su, wants to climb the ladder without offering anything? Heh! But for now, since we rely on him, we have to humor him. Let him dream a little longer!"

"The Su family, all a bunch of fools!" Han Chen thought to himself.