

Two Trillion 91

Chapter 91 Tearing Off the Mask_1

All over Tiannan, how many people are there as crazy and daring as He Yanbing!

He only needed to reach a preliminary agreement with Century Construction. This preliminary agreement does not have the same legal effect as a formal agreement or contract.

Just to sign such a thing, he dared to apply for large mortgage loans from banks on one hand, and borrow high-interest loans temporarily to balance his accounts on the other, hoping to repay the high-interest loans once the bank released the funds.

It's an incredibly rash gamble, like walking a tightrope over a cliff, dancing ballet on the edge of a knife!

But He Yanbing did just that!

Bai Xiaosheng felt a mix of emotions inside.

From their college days to now, He Yanbing had always been like this, harsh on others but even harsher on himself, always seeking fortune in the face of danger.

Now, his audacity is truly greater than ever!

...

"Mr. He's achievements, none of you here can compare, right!" Han Dongxu was as though drunk, his face glowing red, looking around at everyone and practically bowing down to He Yanbing, "Even if we here were all added up, we wouldn't amount to a fraction of Mr. He, he is our pride!"

Han Dongxu became more and more excited as he spoke.

"Don't be like that, Dongxu, modesty, modesty is key. Actually, there are many talented people among us," said He Yanbing with a beaming smile, casually pointing at Bai Xiaosheng across from him, "Like our classmate Bai Xiaosheng here, he was quite impressive back then, it's just a pity he made one wrong step..."

He Yanbing shook his head with regret.

Han Dongxu immediately understood that this was a jab at Bai Xiaosheng!

The two began their coordinated attack on Bai Xiaosheng.

He Yanbing couldn't forget the humiliation of that kneel from the past, and Han Dongxu was adding the disgrace at the door.

Now that the subject had been brought up, they might as well strip Bai Xiaosheng of his dignity first.

People need their face like trees need their bark!

So, first take Bai Xiaosheng's face!

Han Dongxu pointed to Bai Xiaosheng and laughed loudly, "Our Mr. He is humorous, and cherishes old school ties. This Bai Xiaosheng, classmate Bai, was a big name, well-known in our year! For a mere trifle of student council contingency funds, he dared to act shamelessly, I admire it, truly admire it! That bit of money, I wonder if it's enough for one meal Mr. He is treating us to today."

The crowd burst into laughter, looking at Bai Xiaosheng with mockery and ridicule.

Zhengdong Province and Lu Nan were instantly furious.

"Han Dongxu, watch your words!" Lu Nan barked.

"Bastard, dare to spout more crap!" Zhengdong Province roared, grabbing a table knife.

"Oh, are you getting mad!"

Han Dongxu spat towards Zhengdong Province.

"You low-life scum, who harasses women in dormitories, you've got no right to shout here. You think you're doing well now, can show off with Bai Xiaosheng and regain some face? Frankly, you're far from it, far from it! Do you know how much this private room costs? Eating here would cost you an entire year's living! Even after ten or twenty years, you'll still be unworthy to carry Mr. He's shoes!"

Han Dongxu insulted them without restraint.

Those around them looked at Zhengdong Province and Bai Xiaosheng with contempt, as if looking at two piles of trash.

"I fuck your grandpa!" Zhengdong Province could no longer contain his rage and burst out, charging toward Han Dongxu.

It was about time.

Bai Xiaosheng checked his phone and didn't stop the big guy.

Might as well let him cause a scene!

Han Dongxu, seeing Zhengdong Province charging over wildly, was frightened and started running while screaming, "We're all civilized people, don't come here, don't get violent!"

The two ran around the table, one chasing, one fleeing.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you hurry up and stop Zhengdong Province, what kind of place do you think this is, allowing you to create a commotion!" He Yanbing slammed the table and commanded.

Bai Xiaosheng simply ignored him.

After a few rounds, Han Dongxu ran towards the door.

At that moment, the doors of the private room swung open.

A dining cart was wheeled in, with the chef pushing it himself, a smile plastered on his face, as he called out the names of the dishes to the guests in the private room.

"Here we come, Western Australian Rock Lobster, Charcoal-Grilled Kobe Beef Fillet..."

These were all top-tier ingredients and dishes transferred from the larger private rooms, something they needed to make the customers aware of.

Behind the chef, four or five other cooks followed since some dishes still required on-the-spot slicing and further processing.

The dining cart had just rolled in.

Suddenly, a person charged in like a fired cannonball, crashing into the dining cart.

The chef's smile persisted as he watched those extravagantly expensive delicacies take flight.

The smile remained on the chef's face, but he felt like crying.

How expensive these dishes were!

How much effort I put into them!

How could you do this...

The chef's face turned green, grabbing a boning knife straight away. If it weren't for the two quick-reacting cooks holding him back, he probably would've joined the fray.

Chaos, complete chaos.

He Yanbing couldn't stay put any longer, signaling a group to step in and forcibly separate Zhengdong Province from Han Dongxu.

"You motherfucker, don't run, you lapdog, I'll cripple you!" Zhengdong Province cursed out loud.

"What's with the arrogance, kid? Let's see how long you can keep it up!"

With people holding him back, Han Dongxu was not to be outdone, sneering with scorn, "Don't think just because you drove a beat-up car here that you're actually rich, that you can sit with us. Don't think I don't know you can't even scrape together three million. Your financial chain is going to snap. Soon, you won't even afford to eat shit, yet you still back up Bai Xiaosheng, haha!"

Han Dongxu laughed uncontrollably.

The crowd turned their gaze towards Zhengdong Province.

Zhengdong Province felt as if struck by lightning, standing there stunned.

He had only ever discussed this with Song Yiping. How could Han Dongxu know?

Zhengdong Province turned around, seeking Song Yiping, his eyes bloodshot.

"Song Yiping!" Zhengdong Province yelled furiously, "You betrayed me!"

The scene Bai Xiaosheng had held up was collapsing; Zhengdong Province couldn't take it!

The betrayal by someone trusted turned the hefty man manic!

Song Yiping had already run behind Mr. He.

He coldly laughed at the once-helpful and so-called 'brother' from their college days.

He had been sitting the entire time, but beneath the table, messages were sent secretly to Han Dongxu.

"The world is very realistic, Zhengdong Province. It's all about the money. Without it, who cares about friendship? Don't think you're some big shot just because you helped me a couple of times! Expecting me to be your lackey forever, psh. A bookworm? I don't think your brain even matches up to that."

Song Yiping mocked mercilessly, his words venomous, "Look at reality, Mr. He's family is wealthy, while you two might as well go begging!"

These words were too insulting!

Lu Nan couldn't help but pick up a chair, ready to join in.

"Clap, clap, clap."

Suddenly, a round of applause started.

Everyone was taken aback, looking over.

The one clapping was Bai Xiaosheng, who was standing up with a smile.

"What a splendid gathering of monsters and demons," Bai Xiaosheng remarked.

"Since we're done with pretenses, I won't hold back either. But before we begin, I'd like to tell you a story first!"

Chapter 92 I Want You to Kneel Down for Him!_1

Bai Xiaosheng opened his mouth, and Zhengdong Province fell silent.

He didn't rush towards Han Dongxu, so naturally, nobody was grabbing him anymore.

"Bai Xiaosheng, what kind of status do you have to make us listen to you, waste our time, are you even worthy!" Han Dongxu scoffed.

Now that the masks were torn off, there was no need for pretense.

The usual smile on Han Dongxu's face had also vanished.

Once a top student, now the most destitute, Bai Xiaosheng in his street stall clothing made the others seated there secretly curl their lips, feeling that Han Dongxu was right.

Scattered discussions rose and fell, not providing Bai Xiaosheng with an environment to speak.

"Ah, what are you doing with my knife!" Suddenly, a chef exclaimed in alarm.

Chop!

Right next to Bai Xiaosheng's seat, a kitchen knife slammed onto the tabletop.

Zhengdong Province stepped on a nearby chair, his plump face full of menace, one hand gripping the knife handle, the other tearing open his tie and shirt buttons.

"Now, Bai is going to speak!" Zhengdong said, his face stern, sweeping his gaze around and finally settling on Han Dongxu's face, "If any of you dare utter a single word, try me!"

This was completely the behavior of bullies, ruffians, hooligans!

But it worked, and suddenly no one dared to make a peep.

Just a joke, with the glaring kitchen knife pointing there, who would like to give it a try?

The fat man had faced significant provocation today, and in the heat of the moment, his mind wasn't governed by reason. Arguing with him now, forcing him to splatter blood in five steps? Nobody was that foolish.

Even Han Dongxu just opened his mouth and didn't dare let out a sound.

Song Yiping was frightened enough to squat down, wishing he could turn invisible and not be noticed by Zhengdong.

"Bai, you speak!" Zhengdong Province gestured broadly with his hand.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the fat man and smiled.

You damn fatso, acting on impulse whenever things happen, and keeping your troubles to yourself without telling me, isn't it just a mere three million? Once the matter is settled, I'll solve it for you! Bai Xiaosheng thought.

He had a total of six million in his account, and he had the authority to overdraft five million with Red Lotus, so three million was a trivial matter.

Bai Xiaosheng stood up and smiled as he looked around at everyone.

"Today I'm going to tell you all a story, which you must be familiar with, because you have witnessed the tragedy of two of its characters with your own eyes."

He Yanbing frowned. He guessed what Bai Xiaosheng was about to say.

Yet, he let out a silent, cold laugh.

He believed the story told by Bai Xiaosheng would eventually remain just a story.

To those present, those stale and moldy bits of news were nothing but old tales of no consequence. Moreover, their impressions had already taken precedence. Whether Bai Xiaosheng could change their minds was one thing; even if he really managed to, what could it amount to!

At the moment, the disparity in their statuses was vast. Whether they believed it or not, who would dare to stand up and "uphold justice."

He Yanbing was confidently contemptuous, smiling coldly as he watched.

"At Tiannan University, there were two good friends: one a carefree fat man, and the other a self-proclaimed smart fool," recounted Bai Xiaosheng with a chuckle, "Both were innocent and naïve, and each had his own pursuits and aspirations, striving every day towards a future they longed for."

Zhengdong and Lu Nan silently watched Bai Xiaosheng.

"The self-proclaimed smart fool was serving as the vice-president of the student council. The president at that time was really something, capable and charismatic, highly favored by women, and he liked women too."

Bai Xiaosheng glanced at He Yanbing.

He Yanbing smiled smugly.

The crowd fell silent. It was clear whom Bai Xiaosheng was talking about.

"Originally, the student council president's indulgent private life was his own business, but he hurt a girl, seducing her and then abandoning her, which infuriated the fat man!"

Zhengdong Province glared at He Yanbing with a cold and fierce look in his eyes.

"That kindhearted fat man found a self-proclaimed clever fool and intervened in an injustice. They easily found evidence of the Student Union president embezzling public funds, forced him to sign a letter of guarantee, and just let him go."

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Zhengdong Province and asked with a smile, "You think that's foolish or not?"

"Foolishly laughable!" Zhengdong Province burst out laughing.

"Then came a series of nightmares. That self-proclaimed clever fool became the target of the embezzlement charges, and that innocent fat man was branded as a perverted shameless rogue. They even faced the harshest punishment from the school. You tell me, isn't that laughable?"

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but burst into hearty laughter himself.

Lu Nan looked sorrowful.

Zhengdong Province sneered at himself with scorn.

Those present fell silent, some surprised, some unconcerned.

Whether what Bai Xiaosheng said was true or false, so many years have passed, it's all just a story.

What could be done about it?

He Yanbing laughed openly, so did Han Dongxu, and even Song Yiping sneered secretly.

At the entrance to Qingyun Pavilion's private room, Chen Ming stood quietly. He had been there for a while, listening to a lot.

A look of no expression was on Chen Ming's face.

Compared to District Chief Wu Qibing's honesty and benevolence, he was more like a cunning hero who only recognized victory or defeat. If Bai Xiaosheng had come today just to make a scene and demand the truth, Chen Ming felt very disappointed.

A real man should relish fulfilling vendettas and gratitudes!

For now, out of respect for Master Song Kai, Chen Ming was willing to listen and had instructed the hotel staff not to disturb them.

Otherwise, just for Zhengdong Province pulling out a knife, the special security would have rushed in long ago.

"Do you know how stupid that self-proclaimed clever fool is?" Bai Xiaosheng said this laughing, not to He Yanbing or Han Dongxu, but to Zhengdong Province.

Zhengdong Province suddenly saw that Bai Xiaosheng's smile was sorrowful, and he was taken aback.

"He only found out today from the mouth of that Student Union president that it was the dead fat man who lost both his diploma and degree certificate, the dead fat man who gave up an entire industry for him. And that self-proclaimed clever big fool knew all along, yet for so many years, he thought he was the one who suffered the most," said Bai Xiaosheng, laughing while his eyes grew moist, and he asked Zhengdong Province, "Tell me, is he stupid or not?"

Zhengdong Province's eyes reddened slightly, and he turned his head away, unwilling to look at Bai Xiaosheng.

What's this about being stupid or not? Between friends, what does it matter if one is foolish or not?

Everyone watched in a quietude, and Lu Nan couldn't help but wipe his eyes and take a deep breath.

Applause.

Suddenly, there was a round of applause. He Yanbing clapped his hands.

"What a splendid story, truly touching. But in the end, the fool is just a fool. Going to all this trouble, at any cost, just to make this story clear to everyone?"

He Yanbing laughed heartily, "Do you want justice or just an apology? This 'sorry' —"

"You want to hear it?" He Yanbing pointed at Han Dongxu, who let out a snort of derision towards Bai Xiaosheng.

"Or do you want to hear it?" He Yanbing patted Song Yiping's face, and Song Yiping quickly shook his head with a sycophantic smile on his face.

Everyone present was silent.

Indeed, no one wanted to hear it.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

"Justice, apologies, what you're talking about, I don't want any of it. In fact, I don't care at all how all of you sitting here see this matter."

"So what do you want?" He Yanbing asked with a smile.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at him calmly, "Originally, it was about settling debts, with interest. Now, there's one more thing I want. Back then, that dead fat man knelt before you, He Yanbing, on their behalf, for my sake, and now—"

"I want you, in front of everyone, to kneel to that dead fat man!"

Chapter 93 You're Fired!_1

Bai Xiaosheng's last sentence was emphatic and powerful.

The entire private room fell into a chilling silence.

Everyone couldn't help but turn to look at He Yanbing. He Yanbing glanced at Zhengdong Province who was holding a knife and suddenly burst into laughter.

He had already noticed the special service security guards appearing at the entrance of the private room.

The security at Mingzhu Tower was of two types, one was like those who stopped Bai Xiaosheng and Zhengdong Province at the door, responsible for guarding and patrolling, and the other was the quite famous emergency response team, composed of ex-special police and military personnel wearing stab vests, stab-resistant gloves, and equipped with stun guns and batons to deal with situations like this. They were well-known throughout Tiannan and had been frequently mentioned in newspapers.

The angle between He Yanbing and Zhengdong Province was almost one hundred and twenty degrees. With such a large table and so many people in between, even if Zhengdong Province charged over, it would take time, and He Yanbing would have enough time to run behind the special service security guards.

To him, Zhengdong Province now posed no threat at all!

"Bai Xiaosheng, have you gone mad, asking me to kneel to this dead fatty? You really are an idiot!"

He Yanbing laughed heartily, slamming the table and pointing directly at Bai Xiaosheng, "Why bother telling stories, it's such a hassle. I might as well tell you, and them. Yes! The things that happened back then, I did them! I framed you, and I framed that dead fatty!"

"What can you do to me!"

"Call the police to arrest me, or sue me in court? Or perhaps go find the school authorities and reveal my schemes in front of the senior officials to see if they are willing to slap their own faces for you?"

He Yanbing was reckless, "Now, I am richer than you, I have a higher status, what makes you think you can command me to kneel to this dead fatty!"

The expressions on the faces of those present started to turn ugly.

Unspoken words don't break peace.

The truth was that the incidents of those days would not stand up to scrutiny. But speaking them out loud was a different matter.

He Yanbing, unashamed and blatant about his wealth and power, had the audacity to act without any fear.

Such behavior also sent a chill through those around him.

He Yanbing was like a ravenous wolf, cruel and ruthless, terrifying to behold.

The gazes of those present were complex. Those who had previously wanted to get close to He Yanbing instinctively felt some fear now, and the women no longer looked at him with affection.

Suddenly, the entire private room went silent.

Bai Xiaosheng, watching He Yanbing's proud and wild face, smiled, lifted his cell phone, and gently sent out a pre-drafted message.

"Indeed, what right do I have?" Bai Xiaosheng said softly.

This peculiar action made He Yanbing somewhat surprised and left the others somewhat confused and bewildered.

Could it be that Bai Xiaosheng recorded the conversation to use as evidence? But what good would that do!

Less than ten seconds after Bai Xiaosheng sent the message, the quiet room was suddenly filled with the sound of a ringing phone.

To He Yanbing's astonishment, it was his cell phone that was ringing.

The caller ID displayed Mr. Ai of Ai's Group.

He Yanbing shot a wary glance at Zhengdong Province, then glanced at Bai Xiaosheng and sneered as he pressed the speakerphone button. This way, he wouldn't be distracted and possibly taken by surprise by Zhengdong Province, and he could also let everyone listen to his conversation with someone of significant stature.

"Mr. Ai, can I do something for you? I'll invite you for tea," He Yanbing said enthusiastically.

A cold voice suddenly came through the phone.

"I don't think that will be necessary, He Yanbing!"

The voice was indifferent, and the address was direct.

He Yanbing was startled, sensing that something was amiss.

"I, Ai Shili, have informed the other companies, and we have terminated contracts with your company. If your boss has any objections, he can come see me," Ai Shili's voice carried an irrational arrogance, "However, I think he won't, because he wouldn't dare!"

Ai Shili, leading a breach of contract?

"Mr. Ai, why would you do this?" He Yanbing could hardly believe it.

A 20 million mega-deal, has it just vanished into thin air?

This was He Yanbing's most proud achievement, not to mention a hefty sum of money!

But facing Ai Shili's obstruction, He Yanbing didn't dare to rage, or even raise his voice. Ai Shili was a dominant power in the Tiannan business circle; offending him meant that other companies wouldn't dare to cooperate with you!

Now, He Yanbing was eager to find out where the issue lay—was it the enemy companies, or the contract itself?

Or maybe, someone from their company had offended Ai Shili?

The last possibility was the least likely. After all, for the sake of some personal grudge, to ignore the lure of clear profit wasn't something a mature businessman would do, especially Ai Shili, who was known in the Tiannan business circles for being fixated on profit.

"Why?" said Ai Shili with a cold laugh, "Because of you!"

Because of me?! He Yanbing's face changed color.

How could that be possible! He hadn't offended this significant figure, always acting respectfully and cautiously, considering himself a junior.

"I believe your company's head will soon be calling you. As for your position as vice president, I doubt he would dare keep you. No one in the entire Tiannan would dare to hire you!" Ai Shili's voice was stern.

He Yanbing's face turned pale.

Ai Shili was declaring war on him? But why!

"Mr. Ai, could there be some misunderstanding between us?" He Yanbing said nervously.

Ai Shili was someone he absolutely couldn't afford to offend!

People around looked at He Yanbing, at his somewhat disheveled appearance, suddenly feeling that He Yanbing was nothing special after all.

Many had this thought suddenly sprout in their minds.

Han Dongxu's smile had long vanished, his face one of shock, staring blankly as his pillar of support crumbled.

Song Yiping looked incredulous, as his eyes behind the gold-rimmed glasses darted about uncertainly.

"Of course, you didn't offend me; the one you offended... is someone you should not have crossed!" Ai Shili emphasized heavily.

Afterwards, the busy tone beeped.

Ai Shili had hung up the call.

He Yanbing was dumbfounded. Just as he thought to call back, another call came in, displaying the name of his boss!

He Yanbing's eyelid twitched; he remembered Ai Shili's words.

As if possessed, He Yanbing hit the speaker button. He was in complete turmoil, no longer able to care about how many people were around, how many complex gazes there were; he urgently needed to know, the reason for all this, the person Ai Shili said he shouldn't have crossed, who exactly was that!

Someone who could move Ai Shili was definitely a big shot!

The thought alone made He Yanbing shudder involuntarily.

"Mr. Liu..." He barely got two words out when the call connected before he was hit by a storm.

"He Yanbing, Mr. He! If you want to die, don't drag me, Liu, along, don't drag my company into it! Do you know who Ai Shili is, that you've offended him so severely? Do you know how many company heads called me just now? Six, each wealthier and more powerful than me, Liu. They all terminated our contracts, and made it quite clear to me—"

"If you want to stay in Tiannan, you must get the hell out!"

Mr. He Yanbing's boss's voice was hoarse, his throat nearly rupturing from the shouting, yet he howled on.

"He Yanbing, you're fired!"

Chapter 94: I Give You Two Seconds_1

He Yanbing's eyes were chaotic, his expression a mix of disbelief and panic.

As a deputy general manager, he had been fired by his boss with a single sentence. How could this be possible!

The key issue was the attitude of Ai Shili and those several companies. They had made it clear that they didn't want He Yanbing to survive in Tiannan. But his years of foundation and the roots of his career were all in Tiannan.

Leaving Tiannan, he would have nothing!

Years of effort, to suddenly return to square one?

This, he could not accept!

He Yanbing lifted his head in a daze and saw Bai Xiaosheng looking at him with a smile that wasn't quite a smile.

His head buzzed, and as he looked around, he found that his old classmates, who had been endlessly flattering and almost attaching themselves to him, were now giving him distant looks.

Those expressions were more than He Yanbing's pride could bear!

Want to see me as a joke?

Don't even think about it, none of you!

He Yanbing clenched his teeth, his face twisted with anger.

Then, he saw Bai Xiaosheng shaking his mobile phone, smiling at him, and giving a tap.

After a few seconds, He Yanbing's mobile phone rang again, as if remote-controlled.

He Yanbing glanced at the caller's name, his eyes narrowing.

"President of Tiannan City Bank, Ouyang Fu."

He Yanbing picked up the phone, turned off the speaker, and put it to his ear.

"Hello, President Ouyang?"

He Yanbing took a deep breath, slowly exhaled, and steadied his emotions.

Yes, he was experiencing an inexplicable blow, but there must be a misunderstanding, which would be clarified. Not being a deputy general manager for the time being was no problem, he still had a foundation—his own privately founded company!

As long as the cooperation with Century Construction was secured, he, He Yanbing, would be a partner of Century Construction.

Ai Shili indeed had status and means in Tiannan's business world, but he couldn't touch Century Construction; he didn't have the power!

He Yanbing calmed down.

The key now was not to seek Ai Shili for clarification, nor to discuss reinstatement with the boss, but to ensure that the bank loan was approved. Only in this way could he quickly plug the gap of high-interest loans and ensure the whole thing was a success!

Once this was accomplished, within ten years, he, He Yanbing, would be the rising star of Tiannan's business world, and even Ai Shili would have to bow down to him!

He Yanbing's eyes, once ashen, were bright once again.

"Bingyan Group, Mr. He?" President Ouyang's voice came through, warm and hearty.

The Bingyan Group was nothing more than a limited liability company. Calling it a group was simply He Yanbing declaring his ambition.

From the president's tone, it didn't sound like there was any problem.

That's right, no matter how powerful Ai Shili was, he couldn't influence the banking system, especially not in front of President Ouyang; he had to play nice!

"This is He. You're personally calling... is it about the loan?" He Yanbing lowered his tone, respectfully asking.

"It's about the loan. All your procedures are compliant, there is absolutely no problem," President Ouyang said amiably.

To He Yanbing, these words were like a spring breeze!

His lips curled into a smug smile again, and his eyes looked down with arrogance.

"However, Tiannan City Bank will not lend you a penny. Because the previous call was to my personal mobile phone, it was entirely a private conversation, which doesn't count," President Ouyang said amiably, in the most serious tone he could muster.

All expressions on He Yanbing's face froze in an instant.

He was joking... right?!

A bank president joking about a loan of tens of millions!

He Yanbing's head buzzed, nearly bursting with blood.

"President Ouyang, you you, don't joke with me, please repeat that!" He Yanbing's voice started stammering, but in the end, he shouted.

The people around him had strange looks on their faces. They had not heard what the president of Tiannan City Bank had said, but they saw He Yanbing's expression, as though he had heard something extremely terrifying.

"Haha, those few sentences I just said were indeed a joke. Don't take it to heart, Mr. He," Ouyang Fu followed up quickly.

He Yanbing's rigid body suddenly slumped into the seat.

Like a drowning man who had just clambered onto a boat's gunwale.

This old bastard almost scared me to death!

He Yanbing secretly cursed in his heart, and in just two seconds he was drenched in sweat.

"However, the review period for this fund might be a bit long," President Ouyang said earnestly.

"No hurry, no hurry," He Yanbing quickly asked, "How long will it be?"

"Three to five years, you just wait patiently," President Ouyang's amiable voice came through.

The expression on He Yanbing's face, which had just relaxed, froze solid again.

Review for three to five years?

Are you motherfucking reviewing, or are you planning to give birth to Nezha!

Can I, He Yanbing, wait, but can the loan sharks wait?

I've signed a "contract" with the loan sharks on all my properties, my entire fortunes!

If those people don't get their money, they will gnaw me down to nothing!

"President Ouyang, you, you can't be joking with me like this," He Yanbing stammered, his voice trembling.

"Xiao He, I actually really want to help you, but unfortunately... you've offended someone you shouldn't have!" The always gentle voice of President Ouyang turned exceptionally cold on that last sentence.

Then, the call was abruptly disconnected.

The busy tone, going beep beep, caused He Yanbing to stand still as a statue, frozen in place.

It's that person again, the one I shouldn't have offended!

Who the hell is he?

From the bottom of his heart, He Yanbing felt terror.

That person made swindlers abandon their profits and bankers act vilely — just who is that untouchable god?

How could I have possibly offended such a high-profile powerful figure!

He Yanbing looked up in utter bewilderment, and suddenly saw Bai Xiaosheng's smile and the mobile phone in his hand being raised.

His heart skipped a beat in that instant.

"It can't be, it can't possibly be you, no way!" He Yanbing screamed, his eyes bulging out, pointing straight at Bai Xiaosheng like he'd seen a ghost.

Bai Xiaosheng had sent messages twice, twice heralding doom for him, He Yanbing.

The fool could see it.

Bai Xiaosheng was orchestrating everything!

But how could it be, how could this person be that major figure, how could he possibly command Ai Shili, Ouyang Fu!

In Zhengdong Province, Lu Nan, Han Dongxu, Song Yiping, and everyone else wore looks of shock -- they had also figured out the signs, that everything seemed to be Bai Xiaosheng's doing!

Everybody looked at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief.

Dressed in the cheapest street stall clothes, using the most ordinary of cellphones, Bai Xiaosheng, with a calm and modest smile, was terrifyingly inscrutable!

Outside the private room.

Chen Ming, who had told the special service security to "stand down," had his eyes sparkling with excitement.

All this, he had observed intently; the person his teacher favored was truly extraordinary, casually stirring up the storm, composed and unruffled.

The grandeur of a great general!

Even Chen Ming held Bai Xiaosheng in high regard.

"He Yanbing, I've told you, I didn't come here to argue about the rights and wrongs of the past, nor do I care about justice or public opinion. I came here to reclaim the principal and interest for my friend and the fat man. Now, I'll give you two seconds to kneel down to the fat man!" Bai Xiaosheng said indifferently.

He Yanbing was still stunned; by the time he realized what was happening.

Bai Xiaosheng had already uttered the second sentence.

"Sorry, two seconds are up!"

Chapter 95 Good Luck_1

When He Yanbing's phone rang again, he threw it onto the table, stood up in a panic, and backed away as if he were avoiding some plague or demon.

"Whether you answer this call or not, the outcome will be the same," Bai Xiaosheng said calmly as he glanced at He Yanbing.

Under the awe-struck gazes of everyone, the ordinary Bai Xiaosheng, like a sovereign, was delivering the final judgment to He Yanbing.

"Why can you..." He Yanbing shrank back like an old man in his twilight years, his eyes filled with fear and dissolution.

He glanced at the last phone call from afar, then shut his eyes tightly.

Shang Wenshu!

Even Mr. Shang of Century Construction was driven by Bai Xiaosheng!

He had lost, completely lost, his fortune and his life! The last bit of He Yanbing's strength was shattered by the caller's name.

The phone still rang persistently, but He Yanbing dared not answer.

"Thump!" In full view of everyone, He Yanbing shocked, he knelt down towards Bai Xiaosheng.

At that moment, the whole private room was silent as a graveyard!

Except for Bai Xiaosheng, everyone present found it hard to believe.

He Yanbing actually knelt down; just minutes before, he was arrogant and unbridled, and minutes later, he cringed like a dog.

He Yanbing bowed his head low, it was less of a kneel and more of a prostration on the ground.

His image had completely collapsed.

This scene would likely be imprinted in everyone's minds, unforgettable for a lifetime.

Han Dongxu and Song Yiping stood there, dazed and at a loss.

After a long while.

"You knelt towards the wrong direction, and you knelt to the wrong person," Bai Xiaosheng said indifferently, in a cold voice.

He Yanbing quickly lifted his head and then moved his knees, the expensive trousers rubbing against the floor as he turned towards Zhengdong Province.

With one foot still on the chair, Zhengdong Province looked down at He Yanbing, who had lost his dignity and was trembling like a dog, this man who had betrayed him and Bai for years, this man who had always been so high and mighty!

"You too, have your day!"

Zhengdong Province laughed out loud, grabbed a bottle of liquor from the table, and poured it down his throat.

"Exhilarating!" Zhengdong Province roared, his pent-up frustration of many years swept away in an instant!

He Yanbing's phone was still ringing persistently.

It seemed as if nobody answered, it would keep ringing on and on.

Bai Xiaosheng reached out for He Yanbing's phone, and immediately someone handed the phone over; the person next to him hurriedly passed it on, and so it was passed from one to another, until it finally reached Bai Xiaosheng's hand.

Everyone looked at him with awe.

That person, whom they had most looked down upon, even slightly despised, was the real king today!

"Hello, Mr. Shang? It's me," Bai Xiaosheng said calmly as he answered the phone.

His tone was neither humble nor overly polite, speaking on an equal footing.

Kneeling on the ground, He Yanbing trembled, unable to speak a word; indeed, it was Shang Wenshu, indeed, the one person not to be trifled with was Bai Xiaosheng!

Underneath the fear, He Yanbing bit his lower lip viciously, almost drawing blood.

Why, why does Bai Xiaosheng have such power? Why can he do it, and I can't?

I can't accept this!

He Yanbing's eyes, still chaotic, held a hint of madness and reluctance.

"Everything here is nearly settled, no need for Mr. Shang to step in," Bai Xiaosheng said with a glance and a smile at the kneeling He Yanbing.

"What a pity!" On the other end of the line, Shang Wenshu sounded somewhat disappointed.

Given Bai Xiaosheng's status, Shang Wenshu had long wanted to get on good terms with him, and because of Master Song Kai's ribbon-cutting incident, he still owed Bai Xiaosheng a huge favor. Now, there was finally a chance for him to help, and he was going to miss it, Shang Wenshu also felt reluctant.

Bai Xiaosheng heard it, smiled, and looked up at Lu Nan.

"Mr. Shang, actually, there's another favor I need from you."

"Oh, tell me!" Shang Wenshu immediately perked up.

"I have a friend named Lu Nan. His company does decorations and needs your care." Bai Xiaosheng smiled, then turned on the speakerphone for Lu Nan to hear.

"No problem! From now on, your friend, Lu Nan, is also my friend, Shang Wenshu!"

The voice on the other end of the phone surprised and envied everyone who heard it.

Just with these words, Lu Nan was set to establish himself in the Tiannan business community!

Lu Nan was also speechless with surprise; he remembered the words Bai Xiaosheng had repeatedly told him and laughed.

Those so-called "troubles" of his really weren't worth mentioning now.

Han Dongxu swallowed hard, and Song Yiping's face was full of regret; they had picked the wrong side!

Bai Xiaosheng switched back to handset mode, exchanged a few polite words with Shang Wenshu, and hung up.

"And you, fretting over a mere three million, hiding it away to be ridiculed, I'll invest five million back in. Will that be enough?" Bai Xiaosheng tossed He Yanbing's phone back to her and glared at the still-standing people of Zhengdong Province, cursing.

A few minutes earlier, nobody would have believed Bai Xiaosheng if he said that, but now, no one doubted him.

With a hey and a smile, the man from Zhengdong Province put his foot down, patted the seat, and sat down.

He wore a proud expression.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Han Dongxu and Song Yiping; the two of them anxiously watched him.

They weren't as loyal to He Yanbing as others had described; at the very least, they didn't want to go down with him once He Yanbing was finished.

"Han Dongxu, you were the first one to frame me and play dirty tricks on Old Zheng," Bai Xiaosheng said coldly. "Tell me, what should I do with you?"

Without another word, Han Dongxu knelt down.

If He Yanbing could kneel, what was he to do!

"I was just an accomplice, please let me go," Han Dongxu begged.

He now understood that the reason He Yanbing ended up like this was all because Bai Xiaosheng had set a trap.

Just thinking about He Yanbing's fate, especially the high-interest loan sharks chasing him, made Han Dongxu shiver in fear.

Bai Xiaosheng was the cruelest one of all!

"Go home, take out half of your family property, and donate it to the nursing home; I'll do you a good deed," Bai Xiaosheng said.

"Understood, understood!" Han Dongxu was overjoyed. He nodded frantically, got up, and ran off. "I'll do it right now."

He really didn't want to stay here a moment longer.

Song Yiping's expression was a mix of crying and laughing. His face was full of ingratiating smiles. "Brother Bai, I was compelled."

"I know. You can go now," Bai Xiaosheng waved his hand, too lazy to speak to Song Yiping.

"Ah, Brother Bai, your generosity, remembering old times!" Song Yiping slapped on a couple of compliments before scampering away in panic.

"You're just letting him go?!" Zhengdong Province clenched his teeth.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled at him and showed him the message from Ouyang Fu.

"Song Yiping has been abusing his authority. I will demote him. During my tenure, he will never be promoted."

"That office director has another decade or so in his term, right?" Zhengdong Province laughed heartily.

He deserves it!

"Bai Xiaosheng, Bai, I'm kneeling before you now. I admit defeat; I admit my fault; I'm less than human. I beg you to let me go!" He Yanbing was crying out and begging, even starting to slap his own face.

But in his heart, he bitterly thought, "Bai Xiaosheng, thirty years in Hedong, thirty years in Hexi, what you said, I will eventually have to pay it back one day!"

Bai Xiaosheng looked at him and laughed.

"You've already knelt; I can't really kill you. Go on, get out of here."

He Yanbing looked up in surprise. "You're letting me go."

"Yes, I'm letting you go, but I am not sure about those loan sharks," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.
"Good luck, Mr. He!"

Chapter 96 Dismissal and Departure_1

It's all over! Bai Xiaosheng's last sentence reminded He Yanbing, causing him to despairingly collapse to the ground.

What comeback, what thirty years in Hedong, thirty years in Hexi, what revenge—all became empty words, bullshit.

To do those things, you need a basic premise—that is, you have to be alive!

Even if Bai Xiaosheng lets him off, would those high-interest lenders?

No!

He Yanbing had borrowed too much money, so much that when the banks gave out loans, he had to add a big chunk of his own funds to pay the interest. Now, without bank loans, his entire fortune couldn't satisfy those high-interest lenders.

Unless Bai Xiaosheng was willing to help him get a loan, unless Bai Xiaosheng was willing to help him continue the partnership with Century Construction.

Would Bai Xiaosheng?

He Yanbing hadn't truly gone mad, nor was he delusional enough to think that Bai Xiaosheng would help him, overlooking previous grievances.

One could say that Bai Xiaosheng "letting him off" simply meant leaving him to struggle powerlessly, slowly sinking into the quicksand of despair.

He Yanbing was completely ruined, fear and hopelessness were gradually consuming him.

In the private room, silence ensued.

Many people looked at He Yanbing with sympathy. How was this different from a condemned prisoner waiting for the gunshot?

Not at all!

The reunion had reached this point without anyone having eaten or drunk, but nobody cared.

Everyone present was watching Bai Xiaosheng, their looks filled with more or less reverence, as they all started to reacquaint themselves with the peerless genius of their college days.

After many years, Bai Xiaosheng was still the peerless genius, unmatched by anyone!

And they had failed to recognize the gem before them.

Many who had thought to join He Yanbing in stepping on Bai Xiaosheng now broke out in cold sweat, immensely relieved that they hadn't taken that dangerous step.

Lu Nan's phone rang.

After he answered, his eyes lit up with excitement.

In just over ten seconds, Lu Nan hung up the phone, grinning at Bai Xiaosheng, "I have to head back right now. Mr. Shang has given us a huge project—my guys are so happy they don't know what to do with themselves! These folks who haven't seen much of the world are really hopeless!"

Lu Nan was extremely happy; all his problems and troubles would be solved.

"Eat before you go, what's the rush in the middle of the day? That job is yours, it won't run away," Zhengdong Province teased with a laugh.

Lu Nan was too impatient and waved his hand dismissively.

"Next time, I'll treat you and Bai separately, I'm not eating this time!"

"Then take care," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, understanding Lu Nan's current mood.

Lu Nan smiled gratefully, refraining from any further redundant words, and hurried off.

"Then, let's go too," Bai Xiaosheng said as he stood up and spoke to Zhengdong Province, glancing at everyone seated with a faint smile, "Eat well and drink up, we'll be leaving first."

While Zhengdong had been advising Lu Nan moments ago, now he didn't hesitate to get up and follow Bai Xiaosheng out.

"Why are you leaving?"

"Yeah, Brother Bai, stay for a meal."

"Right, we haven't seen each other for so long, let's catch up," some people eagerly tried to keep him.

Bai Xiaosheng was a big deal now; getting on his good side could bring tremendous benefits!

Bai Xiaosheng smiled without saying a word, waved his hand and left the private room with Zhengdong.

The special security at the door opened a path for the two of them in tacit agreement, then they swarmed up to block the others from following.

"Bai Xiaosheng, don't leave!"

The kneeling, ashen-faced He Yanbing suddenly let out a piercing scream.

He stood up and frantically lunged toward the door.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't leave; he was the only one who could save himself! Fear consumed him, leaving this absurd thought as the only thing in He Yanbing's mind.

Even if it meant serving Bai Xiaosheng like an ox or a horse, he was willing to do so, just to stay alive!

Those who once addressed He Yanbing as "Brother He", "Brother He" were squeezed so much that they could hardly stand steady. Annoyed, many intentionally didn't make way and instead squeezed back against him.

He Yanbing, like a madman, swung his arms, hitting those who were in his way.

A few special security guards charged over, executed a neat takedown, and flipped He Yanbing onto the ground.

In the midst of the chaos, someone stuffed something hard and rigid into He Yanbing's hand.

The deranged He Yanbing, oblivious, began to wildly wave the object in his hand.

Suddenly, there was an outcry:

"Ah, he's holding a knife!"

"He Yanbing has gone mad—he's going to kill someone!"

"Ah, catch him!"

The surroundings erupted into disarray.

It was then that He Yanbing realized he was brandishing a boning knife used in kitchens.

Another shout of alarm went up.

One of the special security guards had an arm covered in bright red, looking like blood—it seemed he was injured by He Yanbing while trying to subdue him.

Deliberately injuring someone—that changes the nature of the situation!

He Yanbing was pinned to the ground by a dozen hands, as immobile as a dead dog, unable even to open his mouth.

Bai Xiaosheng and Zhengdong Province had not witnessed this scene, as they had just left the private room. They only sensed some commotion behind them but paid no mind, let alone looked back.

No sooner had they emerged from the crowd than an older man with graying hair came up to them, all smiles.

It was Chen Ming.

"Elder Brother Chen," greeted Bai Xiaosheng with a smile, a tinge of apology on his face. "I'm really sorry for causing a bit of trouble in your place."

Chen Ming waved it off, laughing heartily. "Such a trifle, and you're making it formal with me? My old master would scold me to death. Don't worry, I still have some clout here. In this place, you're Sun Wukong—you could smash the Heavenly Gates to bits, and I'd still smooth things over for you!"

Chen Ming's words carried a sense of bravado, yet they were heartfelt. He was becoming fond of this young man.

"You don't need to worry about that little incident in the private room," said Chen Ming with a pause and a sly smile. "Speaking of which, I added a little something to the mix... Heh, never mind, let's not talk about it. If you watch the news, you might see it."

Bai Xiaosheng was curious about Chen Ming's words, but since he was reluctant to elaborate, Sheng didn't press further.

The two continued on, chatting and laughing.

Chen Ming insisted on treating Bai Xiaosheng to a meal, and, unable to refuse, Sheng could only agree.

Zhengdong Province followed behind, burning with curiosity.

Initially, downstairs, he thought the man was Bai's friend, but now it seemed like he might be the brains behind Mingzhu Tower.

"What's the story with this big brother?" Zhengdong Province found an opportunity to ask Bai Xiaosheng quietly.

Before Bai Xiaosheng could answer, Chen Ming had already heard.

"This is my business card. You're a friend of Bai Xiaosheng, right? Then you're my friend too. Come and visit sometime," said Chen Ming with a smile, handing over his card.

Zhengdong Province took a look and was instantly startled.

General Manager of Mingzhu Tower, Vice President of the development company—Chen Ming!

No wonder he said he could handle making a mess here; it wasn't just hot air!

Zhengdong Province was taken aback, carefully putting away the business card.

The three of them continued walking.

As they passed by a private room, someone suddenly burst out of it.

The person, with a look of terror, grabbed onto Bai Xiaosheng.

"The interpreter, where's the interpreter? This is bad, someone's life is at stake!"

Bai Xiaosheng, Chen Ming, and the third party were all taken aback.

This guy must have a screw loose!

If someone's life is at stake, what does that have to do with finding an interpreter?

Chapter 97: Saving Lives through Translation_1

The person in front of him was around thirty years old, dressed appropriately, and exuded an air of bookishness as if he were a secretary or something of the sort.

"What exactly is going on? Explain it to me clearly! Why are you looking for a translator when there's a life at stake?!"

Chen Ming furrowed his brows, pressing for answers repeatedly.

Human life is paramount, especially inside Mingzhu Tower, and Chen Ming naturally took it seriously.

Seeing that he was being questioned by Chen Ming, the man became both anxious and angry.

"Who are you, from the hotel? Then go find me a translator right away, if not, get lost! Lives are at stake!"

The man screamed at Chen Ming, raising his voice.

A chill flashed in Chen Ming's eyes.

In Mingzhu Tower, no one had ever dared to speak to him like that.

Just as he was about to blow up in anger, Bai Xiaosheng quickly stepped in to separate the two.

"This is Mr. Chen Ming, the general manager of Mingzhu Tower! Brother, don't be so anxious, you need a translator, right? I am it! Come on, lead us inside to have a look!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

Mingzhu Tower, in Tiannan, is a landmark building, and Chen Ming is definitely a high-profile figure.

Upon hearing this name, the man was also startled.

Overcome by his anxiousness just now, he hadn't taken a clear look, but now seeing more closely, it was indeed Chen Ming who frequently appeared in the media, with his distinctive "granny grey" hair contrasting with a face that looked particularly young.

"I apologize, I was too anxious earlier and did not recognize Mr. Chen." Though saying this, there wasn't the slightest hint of panic on the man's face, just urgency, "My name is Zhao Cheng, you can call me Cheng, and I really need a translator, a German translator!"

Knowing he was facing Chen Ming, he still remained calm.

This man's identity was no simple matter!

"Cheng, what's the situation inside?"

What Bai Xiaosheng could discern, Chen Ming had certainly noticed. At the moment, he was eager to find out what had happened and did not care about these details.

"Do you speak German?"

Cheng turned to ask Bai Xiaosheng, hoping yet fearing that Bai Xiaosheng would shake his head.

"I do!" Bai Xiaosheng nodded decisively.

"Then follow me quickly!" Cheng took the lead, running towards the private room.

Bai Xiaosheng and Chen Ming exchanged a glance, then swiftly followed, with Zhengdong Province trailing behind them.

The private room they entered was half the size of Qingyun Pavilion, but Bai Xiaosheng immediately noticed that this room was likely the real deal for aristocrats.

The several crystal chandeliers hanging overhead, Bai Xiaosheng had Red Lotus search it up, were worth around a million each, just these few lights alone amounted to tens of millions – truly extravagant!

The calligraphy and paintings on the walls, as well as the exquisitely crafted furniture filling the room, were also likely very valuable.

The world of the wealthy!

While reflecting, Bai Xiaosheng noticed that a banquet was being laid out in the private room, with waves of delicious food aromas tantalizing the senses, and the scent of wine filled the air.

However, the dining table was empty, with everyone gathered in the lounge area, surrounding a massive sofa.

Looking over, there were about a dozen men and women.

In the crowd, a woman's voice could be heard, loud and quarrelsome, speaking rapidly and with agitated emotion, but it was clearly not Mandarin.

German, perhaps?

A thought crossed Bai Xiaosheng's mind.

"Host's need detected, activating the second auxiliary function—language conversion."

"Language detected, German, Bavarian dialect..."

As Red Lotus's voice reached him, the German Bai Xiaosheng was hearing instantly transformed into pure Mandarin.

"You, get away from me, I don't trust you! If you come any closer, don't blame me for being rude! I'm a former member of GSG-9, I could take you down with my bare hands!" a fierce female voice.

GSG-9, Germany's ninth border guard, is one of the world's most famous special forces.

Bai Xiaosheng was startled too.

In the famous first-person shooter game, CS, which he played, the police characters were modeled after GSG-9.

Now, he was seeing a real one, and a woman at that!

Bai Xiaosheng was quite curious.

"Bai, do you really understand German?" Chen Ming pulled Bai Xiaosheng aside and asked softly.

He worried that Bai Xiaosheng was only trying to pacify Cheng by going in to see what was happening.

"I truly understand German." Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

Chen Ming felt a bit surprised, but also very pleased.

"Make way, make way, the translator is here!" Cheng hurried over, shouting.

The people crowding around quickly stepped aside, looking over curiously.

Bai Xiaosheng quickened his pace, only to find that the doctor had already arrived but looked helpless to push through.

A woman with golden hair, brown eyes, and delicate cheeks was blocking the way, looking highly alert. Her figure was perfect, and she exuded a powerful aura.

She was like a fierce little leopardess, coiled and ready to spring into attack at any moment.

"Doctor Zhao, what's going on here?"

Chen Ming saw the doctor, who was the on-call physician at Mingzhu Tower.

Behind that foreign woman, there was someone lying down.

"It was they who called for a doctor. I want to examine the patient, but this woman..." Doctor Zhao spread his hands with a sense of helplessness.

"I suspect someone has poisoned the food to harm Mr. Lu! This person has nefarious intentions!"

The woman, sensing that Chen Ming was the person in charge, shouted harshly.

Unfortunately, Chen Ming couldn't understand her.

"Your suspicion is useless. Because of your suspicion, you prevent the doctor from getting close. What if the patient's life is endangered?" Bai Xiaosheng stepped forward and questioned sharply.

His authentic and fluent German made the people around them light up.

Zhengdong Province looked on, eyes wide with disbelief, at Bai.

The woman was startled, then delighted.

"You speak German?"

"Does it sound like I'm speaking French?"

Bai Xiaosheng joked, nodding towards the person behind her with a serious face, "Are you sure you're protecting him and not trying to kill him?"

"What nonsense are you talking about? Why would I harm my own employer!" The woman snapped back.

"By blocking the doctor, you clearly want him to die. I am very suspicious that it was you who poisoned him," Bai Xiaosheng pointed directly at the woman.

Her face changed, she became full of rage and made a move to pounce towards Bai Xiaosheng.

"What grounds do you have to suspect a doctor? If you can't give a reason, it shows that you are the one who's guilty." Bai Xiaosheng said calmly.

Even if this woman didn't understand Chinese, surely she ought to recognize the symbols on the doctor's clothing and on the medical kit, right? How could there still be a misunderstanding.

Bai Xiaosheng was also puzzled.

"I saw him take out a lot of needles..." the woman glared fiercely at Doctor Zhao.

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback for a moment and turned to Doctor Zhao, asking in Chinese, "Are you a practitioner of Chinese medicine?"

"I am well versed in all types, but I am most proficient in Chinese medicine," Doctor Zhao answered.

Understood! This woman had mistaken acupuncture needles for weapons.

Bai Xiaosheng explained to the woman, feeling both exasperated and amused.

Still unconvinced, the woman held onto the typical German stubbornness.

Bai Xiaosheng had to negotiate, allowing the doctor to use only the stethoscope and blood pressure monitor for the exam.

This time, the woman agreed.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help wiping off a sweat.

Cultural differences truly could be fatal.

Despite the rapid spread of Chinese medicine in recent years, there were still many foreigners who did not accept or understand it.

Chen Ming watched as Bai Xiaosheng sorted things out with the woman, resolving the issue, and he was extremely joyful, giving Bai Xiaosheng a thumbs up.

Doctor Zhao was about to step forward.

Suddenly, a voice screamed.

"Lola, stop him!"

Chapter 98 The Stubborn Woman_1

The German woman named Lola took a step forward, blocking Doctor Zhao, and assumed a fighting stance.

Although she didn't understand the Chinese spoken, the tone was fierce and the voice familiar, which made her react instinctively.

But then, Lola's expression became somewhat of an amused frustration.

Not just her, but everyone around had similarly bemused looks on their faces.

Bai Xiaosheng watched dumbfounded as a grey shadow struggled to flutter into the air and landed on Lola's shoulder.

It was a parrot, grey all over except for its brightly red tail feathers, as red as blood.

"What kind of bird is this, a parrot?" Bai Xiaosheng was intensely curious.

The sound from just before likely came from it.

Normally aren't parrots only able to say "hello, thank you, nice weather" and the like? At first listen, it really seemed like a person was talking.

"Search complete: African Grey Parrot, extremely talented in language, very intelligent. With training, can reach the intellectual level of a five to six-year-old child. Known for mimicking human speech, it can also imitate sounds from other birds and mammals and has a lifespan of up to 50 years when in captivity." Red Lotus informed Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng was astonished.

This wasn't just a bird, it was practically a bird person, a bug in the world of birds.

"Polly, stop making trouble!" Lola reached out and swiftly, yet gently, grabbed the parrot and held it in her arms.

"Be gentle, you're hurting me!" The parrot squawked, clearly displeased.

This Polly parrot was really something.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but touch his nose.

Lola, holding the parrot, stepped aside, and Doctor Zhao was able to advance.

Bai Xiaosheng also took a couple steps closer.

Lying on the spacious sofa was a man in his fifties, with a square face, striking features, and very well-maintained skin.

However, his complexion was pale at the moment, his eyes tightly shut, brows trembling slightly, and there were fine beads of sweat on his forehead.

Chen Ming studied the man's face and his eyes suddenly narrowed; he recognized who it was!

If something happened to this person in Mingzhu Tower, it would be no small trouble!

After examining the man, Doctor Zhao turned to Chen Ming and said with utmost certainty, "Anaphylactic shock!"

Anaphylactic shock caused by an allergy?

Realizing it wasn't some kind of food poisoning, Chen Ming let out a sigh of relief and ordered, "Hurry up and save him!"

Then, he turned to a staff member and said, "Have you called for an ambulance? Let the paramedics use the VIP express elevator!"

The staff member nodded and hurried off.

Bai Xiaosheng watched Chen Ming's slightly anxious face and had a thought.

It seemed the man lying there was indeed no ordinary person!

Just as this thought crossed his mind.

Doctor Zhao suddenly cried out in pain.

Bai Xiaosheng quickly looked over to see Doctor Zhao grimacing in agony, holding a syringe, with his wrist caught by Lola.

The woman's face was filled with lethal intent.

"You lied to me, what is he doing, what is he injecting!" Lola demanded furiously, addressing Bai Xiaosheng.

"This is epinephrine hydrochloride, it's for the emergency treatment of anaphylactic shock," Doctor Zhao explained to Bai Xiaosheng while gasping in pain.

Even without understanding German, he could guess what Lola was asking.

Bai Xiaosheng hastily explained, but Lola insisted that Doctor Zhao inject himself first.

"Are you joking!"

Bai Xiaosheng was both angry and amused.

It seemed Western bodyguards shouldn't be hired, having faced too many dangers they were overly cautious, seeing threats everywhere.

Despite Bai Xiaosheng's arguments, Lola wouldn't agree.

Bai Xiaosheng also became angry, "Lives are at stake! You need to agree whether you want to or not!"

Lola and Bai Xiaosheng glared at each other, neither willing to back down.

"Dad!"

Suddenly, an urgent call came from the direction of the door.

Bai Xiaosheng turned to see a girl slightly younger than himself, a bit chubby with baby fat yet quite cute, running over.

"Miss!" Lola cried out in surprise, pushing Doctor Zhao away.

"You wait a moment!"

Bai Xiaosheng stepped forward, intercepted the girl, and quickly explained the situation to her.

The girl steadied her emotions, nodded at Bai Xiaosheng with a look of gratitude, glanced at Doctor Zhao, and began to explain to Lola in German. Although her German was not as good as Bai Xiaosheng's, it was fluent enough.

With her speaking up, Lola then stepped back.

Beside him, Bai Xiaosheng let out a sigh of relief.

The girl once again nodded at Bai Xiaosheng gratefully and then ran to her father.

Such refined manners and upbringing!

Bai Xiaosheng felt a wave of emotion.

Turning his head, Bai Xiaosheng was startled to see Zhengdong Province beside him staring intently at the girl, his chubby face flushed and tiny beads of sweat on his forehead.

"You're having an allergic reaction too?!" Bai Xiaosheng exclaimed in shock.

"I-I..." Zhengdong Province stuttered, looking at Bai, "Bai, my spring has come!"

Ah?

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback.

Then, he saw Zhengdong Province rush over to the girl's side, offering comfort and consolations, while not so subtly claiming that it was he and his friends who had gallantly come to the rescue.

Bai Xiaosheng was astounded at this display of self-promotion and flattery.

There was a commotion at the entrance.

Bai Xiaosheng saw a group of paramedics hurrying in with a stretcher.

Zhengdong Province greeted them effusively, acting as if he were already acquainted with them.

Bai Xiaosheng was at a loss for words, yet filled with admiration.

Most people fall in love at first sight and get a bit bashful, or at least a bit shy.

Yet with this chubby guy, it's almost as if he has no shame at all.

The paramedics swiftly attended to the patient again, and after whispering with Doctor Zhao, one of them raised his voice, "What exactly is the gentleman allergic to? We need to know so we can take the allergen back with us!"

An allergen?

"It's food, Mr. Lu showed symptoms while he was eating!" someone immediately responded.

Instantly, a crowd surrounded the dining table.

However, no one knew which dish had caused the allergy.

Taking all the dishes for testing would take too much time; they needed to identify the most likely one or two.

The guests were abuzz with discussion.

Time was limited; the patient would be taken away soon after treatment, and they had to find the allergen quickly!

Bai Xiaosheng stood outside the crowd, when suddenly he heard a strange and unique call.

"Host requirement detected, activating second auxiliary function—language conversion."

"Bird language detected, African Grey Parrot, initiating conversion."

Bai Xiaosheng heard the parrot Polly exclaim, "It's round and shell-like, I saw it on the old man's shoulder, that thing he only ate once, then he collapsed."

Round and shell-like, what could it be?

Bai Xiaosheng looked over, and there was a dish of escargot on the table.

He understood.

Mr. Lu probably wasn't allergic to snails, or else he wouldn't have ordered this dish, but the preparation of escargot varies from restaurant to restaurant. Typically, the snail meat is mixed with other ingredients, minced, and returned to the shell for steaming. The auxiliary ingredients used can differ, and it's quite possible one of these ingredients triggered Mr. Lu's allergic reaction.

"Listen to me, everyone, most of these dishes' ingredients can be discerned. It's definitely some indiscernible ingredient in a dish that has caused the allergic reaction; the escargot is the most likely!" Bai Xiaosheng shouted.

Actually, even if a person is commonly allergic to certain foods, they would inform the kitchen, and the kitchen would be cautious about such things. This time, it's very likely an ingredient that even the patient himself didn't know about.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't exactly tell everyone that it was a parrot who had informed him.

The crowd had a moment of realization and looked at Bai Xiaosheng with admiration.

This young man was composed, unflappable, with excellent German skills, and quick thinking—a true talent!

Chen Ming's eyes shimmered.

Only now did he understand why the master favored Bai Xiaosheng so much and repeatedly made a special point of telling him to make his acquaintance!

A rare talent indeed!

"Bai, I need to go with them to the hospital, so I won't be able to stay with you," Zhengdong Province ran over, quickly greeted him, and then ran back.

Bai Xiaosheng vaguely heard the chubby guy excitedly muttering.

"Lu Wenqian, what a good name! She is my goddess!"

Chapter 99 Extraordinary Identity_1

The scene was chaotic, everyone busy helping the paramedics lift the patient and packing up the dish of baked snails that was suspected to be the allergen.

Those who couldn't lend a hand were packing up the entire table of dishes, just to be on the safe side.

Lola held the African grey parrot, Polly, and followed close by the stretcher. As she walked ahead, she gave Bai Xiaosheng a deep look.

The African grey parrot Polly even tossed out a "goodbye" to Bai Xiaosheng—this time in English. Who knew if the bird could speak German, too.

Chen Ming rushed over from the crowd, his forehead already glossy with a fine layer of sweat.

"I'm sorry, Sheng, but I have to follow them! I can't stay with you today. I'll treat you another day, I promise," Chen Ming said apologetically.

"It's okay, important matters come first. Go ahead, Elder Chen. If you need anything from me, just say the word," Bai Xiaosheng said with a sincere smile.

Chen Ming patted Bai Xiaosheng on the shoulder meaningfully and said with a touch of emotion, "You're a lucky charm! Wherever you go, you manage to form good relationships. The help you gave today was no small thing! I believe one day you will benefit greatly from it!"

Without any further words, Chen Ming hurried away.

Even he has to go personally—is that person with the allergy shock...

Bai Xiaosheng recalled the face with the strong square features, feeling it was very familiar, as if the name was on the tip of his tongue, yet he couldn't recall it.

When Bai Xiaosheng was at Tian Hai Media, he worked overtime every day. Whenever he got time, he wished for nothing more than sleep. After moving to the Teles Square project, he was also very busy with little time to go online to read the news. Even so, he felt that he knew that person—the man must be someone with high media exposure.

Unfortunately, Red Lotus did not have a facial recognition function. Without a name or information, there was no way to start a search.

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head with a laugh. Since he couldn't figure it out, he decided not to dwell on it.

After all, Zhengdong Province followed to flatter; when he got back, he's bound to know everything.

The private room suddenly became quiet. Without Chen Ming and Zhengdong Province around, Bai Xiaosheng had no reason to stay.

In the middle of the day, with an empty stomach, Bai Xiaosheng left Mingzhu Tower alone.

When he arrived, he still had company and a car to ride in, but now he had to leave by taxi.

It was only in front of his own apartment that Bai Xiaosheng found a small shop to hastily have a meal.

Compared to the graceful comings and goings in Qingyun Pavilion of Mingzhu Tower, where he could crush business upstarts, Bai Xiaosheng now felt rather pitiful, but he didn't mind.

Grudges of years past were cleared in an instant.

Now unburdened, Bai Xiaosheng felt comfortable all over and satisfied with whatever he ate.

Returning to the boarding house, Bai Xiaosheng crashed into bed, sleeping until after five in the afternoon before lazing around on the sofa watching TV.

"In a special report, the Public Security Department has confirmed that Tiannan's business star, Bingyan Group's Chairman He Yanbing, attempted to harm someone with a weapon in Mingzhu Tower due to personal grievances but was stopped. As no injuries resulted, the Public Security department has sentenced him to fifteen days of detention and a fine of five thousand yuan."

"In this incident, the Mingzhu Tower security force achieved new honors. Only one person suffered minor injuries. Here's the detailed report..."

The scene switched to a security operative being interviewed by several reporters, and in the corner of the screen, there was a picture-in-picture of He Yanbing being arrested.

He Yanbing attempted to harm someone with a weapon?

Bai Xiaosheng was stunned, then remembered what Chen Ming had said to him.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but laugh and cry—Elder Chen, from his high position, was capable of using such underhanded tactics.

Chen Ming's kick to a man when he was down was ruthless. He Yanbing might have had the slightest chance to seek a way out, to borrow money for a life-saving deal, or to flee, but now he didn't even have the time.

And he had been used by Chen Ming to give Mingzhu Tower's security a free advertisement.

Bai Xiaosheng just laughed it off.

He felt no sympathy for He Yanbing whatsoever.

Bai Xiaosheng flipped through a few channels, then suddenly stopped, his eyes lighting up.

On the TV, he finally saw the face with the rugged cheeks and sharp, eagle-like eyes—full of presence.

Bai Xiaosheng read the subtitle introduction:

The founder of Tengyun Group, the controlling chairman and CEO – Lu Yun!

It's him!

Bai Xiaosheng drew in a gasp of cold air.

Tengyun Group, a leading private enterprise in domestic social networking and communication, dominates with its portal websites, social platforms, online games, and video streaming services in China.

In recent years, it has consistently ranked in the top ten of the world's Hundred Most Valuable Brands list compiled by international organizations.

Bai Xiaosheng had Red Lotus perform a quick search, and the list of honors was so long it dazzled him.

Impressive!

No wonder even Chen Ming would run to and fro for him!

"I saved a big shot's life, too bad I didn't leave a name or anything. Otherwise, it would have been nice to get a lifetime membership or something," Bai Xiaosheng joked to himself.

Of course, he was joking.

Bai Xiaosheng's net worth wasn't low, with six million in his bank account and an overdraft of five million from Red Lotus, he had surpassed ten million.

Originally, he promised Zhengdong Province to invest five million. But since Fatty hadn't returned, there was nowhere to transfer the money.

"That damn Fatty, not in a hurry to use money, huh!"

Bai Xiaosheng recalled the scene of Zhengdong Province's attentive running around.

He wondered what Fatty would think if he knew that chubby girl was the big shot's daughter.

Given Zhengdong Province's emotional intelligence, he couldn't keep things to himself and would definitely have called back.

"Now there's not even a message, could it be he doesn't know yet?!" Bai Xiaosheng scratched his face.

Whenever this Fatty's emotional intelligence occupied the high ground, his IQ wasn't sufficient.

As he was thinking, there came a series of knocks at the door.

Bai Xiaosheng, still in his slippers, went to open the door, and to his surprise, standing there was Wei Xuelian.

In her hands, Wei Xuelian carried a huge purple solid wood food container, extremely exquisite.

"Could it be that my treatment has improved, not only breakfast but also dinner is served!"

Bai Xiaosheng was a bit surprised but also very happy as he took the food container.

"You think you can eat all this by yourself, not going to invite me to join?" Wei Xuelian said with a smile.

"Welcome very much!"

Not just the fine food, but also a beauty for company, Bai Xiaosheng was grinning from ear to ear.

He let Wei Xuelian in and headed straight for the dining table. Bai Xiaosheng opened the food container and the waves of aroma were so tempting that he couldn't help but swallow his saliva.

The dishes were simply too good!

The ingredients ranged from delicacies of mountains and seas, from lion's mane mushrooms to lobsters and scallops, and the knife work was exquisite.

Bai Xiaosheng even spotted a dish of snowflake beef, so thin it was like cicada wings, clearly of exceptional quality.

At the bottom of the food container, there was even a bottle of wine, which explained why it was so heavy.

Bai Xiaosheng had Red Lotus look it up, and the wine turned out to be Romanee-Conti with a special vintage, valuable indeed.

"Where did you get all this from!" Bai Xiaosheng was astonished in front of a table full of exquisite delicacies.

"Of course it wasn't my money, how much can a little trainer have," Wei Xuelian smiled, "I'm thanking you on behalf of my sister."

"Your sister?" Bai Xiaosheng asked doubtfully.

"Lu Wenqian!"

Chapter 100: Dinner for Two_1

"Lu Wenqian is your sister!" Bai Xiaosheng was startled and looked at Wei Xuelian in surprise, "Then isn't Lu Yun your..."

Wait, Lu Wenqian and Lu Yun's last name is Lu, while Wei Xuelian's is Wei.

Bai Xiaosheng's gaze at Wei Xuelian became curious.

"What are you thinking!" Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's hesitant, flickering eyes, Wei Xuelian knew he was getting the wrong idea and scolded him with a laugh, "Don't overthink it, we have no blood relation!"

Bai Xiaosheng "oh"ed, but immediately his eyes turned suspicious as he sized up Wei Xuelian again, "Still, it doesn't add up."

"You know what they say, prominent families always look for a match of equal status. If you can call Lu Wenqian your sister, then your family background must be extraordinary too! So, Miss from a prominent family, how come you ended up as a training instructor?"

Wei Xuelian chuckled and gave Bai Xiaosheng a look, "You really have a lively and expansive mind. And what's this about equal status—we two women don't care about that."

Did he use the wrong words? Bai Xiaosheng also smirked awkwardly.

Wei Xuelian explained, "Lu's family wasn't always this wealthy. Uncle Lu has only acquired his fortune in the last decade or so. Couldn't he have had some ordinary friends before then?"

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, he actually had Red Lotus look into it, and it turned out Lu Yun was indeed a legendary figure. In just over ten years, he built a super-impressive business empire from scratch, an extraordinary success that had caused many students from poor families and ordinary young people to idolize him as a role model!

Right, in the future, I will be a trillionaire, the helm of a world financial consortium, and these friends around me now will, of course, still be my friends then.

But I wonder if there will be a legend about Bai Xiaosheng among the next generation.

Bai Xiaosheng scratched his face, thinking this way, he actually felt quite eager and a little vain.

"Truthfully, Wenqian and I have spent so many years together without ever delving into our family backgrounds. We have many ways to address each other, and sometimes she even joins my cousin in calling me 'cousin.' According to your way of thinking, wouldn't that make Uncle Lu my uncle by marriage?"

Wei Xuelian laughed, "Alright, enough. Save your imaginative brain, or these dishes will go cold and won't taste as good."

Bai Xiaosheng also smiled and got up to find the bottle opener.

Holding that tool that cost just over ten yuan, Bai Xiaosheng felt sentimental— isn't it surprising that one day, it would open such an expensive bottle of wine.

"I did good deeds without leaving my name. Did you hear about it in Zhengdong Province? Did he tell you? That kid must have really talked me up."

Bai Xiaosheng looked around and found two glass cups.

There were no wine glasses, so these had to suffice.

"Not just him. Chen Ming from Mingzhu Tower, Uncle Lu's bodyguard Lola, they all speak highly of you. Your name is already well known."

Wei Xuelian took the glass of red wine passed by Bai Xiaosheng and smiled sweetly.

She held the cup's rim gently with her fingers, which were as fair and slender as green onions, swirled the cup to admire the wine's color, then sniffed it gently before taking a small sip. She savored the taste as the wine met her palate, relishing the aftertaste in silence.

Bai Xiaosheng wasn't as particular; he just took a sip. To be honest, he couldn't tell how good the wine really was.

Right now, he was more interested in the food.

Inside the food box were two pairs of beautifully carved bamboo chopsticks, perfect, one pair for each.

The two of them chatted while they ate.

Bai Xiaosheng suddenly thought, if only they could turn off the lights and light some candles, wouldn't it be a romantic candlelit dinner.

Of course, that was just a thought; he didn't have any candles on hand.

They finished one cup and poured another, drinking again.

Bai Xiaosheng noticed the delicate blush on Wei Xuelian's cheeks, stunningly beautiful.

Maybe it was the effect of the wine, but Bai Xiaosheng's heart rate felt a bit fast. Being with the girl he admired, he actually felt shy.

Unconsciously, they both fell silent, and the atmosphere turned subtle.

Bai Xiaosheng wanted to say something to break the silence, but opened his mouth without making a sound.

He used to be commanding, unflappable.

Yet, Bai Xiaosheng found himself, at a loss for words.

Even that fatso from Zhengdong Province could let go when he met a girl he fancied, so why can't I let go?

Bai Xiaosheng was annoyed.

"Is that fat guy still around?"

Bai Xiaosheng tried to find a topic to talk about, but felt somewhat deflated as he opened his mouth.

In an instant, the atmosphere was ruined.

"Ah, he's been running around busily with Wenqian; I thought they knew each other from way back."

Wei Xuelian took a deep breath, slightly parted her red lips, and laughed.

"Oh, right. Lu mentioned that when he's better, he wants to meet you to express his gratitude in person. He said if it weren't for you, he would have been in real danger," Wei Xuelian said with a smile.

"That female bodyguard is really something, so serious and stubborn, you have no idea..."

Bai Xiaosheng recounted everything that had happened in Mingzhu Tower.

Wei Xuelian's face was full of surprise, blinking her beautiful eyes, sometimes laughing, sometimes tense. There was a hint of admiration in her gaze, which made Bai Xiaosheng feel proud and satisfied.

The two chatted for a long time and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

After learning about Bai Xiaosheng's proficiency in German, Wei Xuelian tried to recruit him as a trainer again.

"I'm about to invest a large sum of money in your training school," Bai Xiaosheng said earnestly, "Given fatty's personality, he will surely give me shares, and then, I will be your boss!"

"Let's talk when you really become a shareholder, Mr. Bai!" Wei Xuelian giggled.

It was late when Wei Xuelian left.

Between them, there was a warm, reluctant-to-part kind of feeling.

After closing the door, Bai Xiaosheng savored the moment.

Outside, after her laughter, Wei Xuelian felt somewhat wistful.

Her gaze was distant, as if there was a faint sorrow in her heart.

"A match of equal social status, right?"

Wei Xuelian bit her lower lip and murmured these words to herself. This was what Bai Xiaosheng had joked when guessing her relationship with the Lu Family.

Wei Xuelian left in silence.

In the room, Bai Xiaosheng sat at the dining table, smiling as he looked at the glass cup on the table, which still had some leftover red wine. He reached for the bottle, poured himself some more, held the rim of the cup between two fingers, lifted it, and swirled it gently, watching the dreamy color swirl around. He sniffed the aroma of the wine and took a light sip.

He was imitating Wei Xuelian.

Some details naturally showed through, impossible to hide.

"I like you, no matter your background. If we need to be equal in social standing, then so be it!" Bai Xiaosheng laughed to himself.

The night passed without incident.

The next day, Bai Xiaosheng got up early, as usual, to go to the project. As soon as he entered the sales center, the chatting and idle employees immediately perked up at the sight of him.

"Good morning, Manager Bai!"

"Good morning, Mr. Bai!"

With each greeting, Bai Xiaosheng remembered that he was no longer just a supervisor but a bona fide project manager!

He halted as he was about to go to the marketing department. His office was no longer there – he now had a dedicated manager's office.

Bai Xiaosheng turned and went to his own office.

The moment Bai Xiaosheng arrived at the project, a phrase quickly spread among the employees and supervisors.

"The Ravenous, Crazy Demon Bai Xiaosheng has arrived! Everybody, be extremely careful!"