

Weak B 301

Chapter 301 Inquiry

Her little brother's job definitely has some backing, it's not something the director at North City Petrochemical can just dismiss whenever he wants to.

"Little brother believes you."

Like Kang Li, Kang Guoan was clear about how he got his job; in other words, as long as he performed well at work, nobody in their unit would even think to find some pretext to fire him!

After chatting casually for about half an hour, Kang Li stood up, "Little brother, you have to work this afternoon, so I won't stay any longer."

Kang Guoan nodded, "Okay, little brother will see you out."

...

When she returned to the compound, life went on as usual.

"Mommy, starting tomorrow we don't have to go to kindergarten anymore, right mommy?"

A month had gone by since Kang Li went to North City Petrochemical to fend off the unwanted suitors for Kang Guoan. That day, after picking up the three kids from kindergarten, Milk Bun Ming Han was so excited about the upcoming winter vacation that he ran several circles in the living room. However, he was worried he might not have heard clearly from the teacher, so he couldn't resist asking his mommy for confirmation.

Kang Li shook her head, amused, "Right!"

Xiao Ming Wei: "Mommy mommy, does that mean we're just waiting to celebrate the New Year now?"

"Hmm."

Kang Li nodded with a smile.

Xiao Ming Wei clapped her hands, "Celebrating the New Year means new clothes and setting off firecrackers. Vivi is so excited just thinking about it!"

"Mommy, will daddy come back to celebrate the New Year with us?"

Milk Bun Ming Han asked his mommy at this point; he missed daddy and really hoped daddy could come back to spend the New Year with him, mommy, and his siblings.

“Well... Mommy isn’t sure, but I think your daddy will probably come back.”

It’s no surprise that scientific researchers are often “workaholics,” rarely taking a break. That’s because once they enter the lab, they’d rather live there, if only to reach a breakthrough sooner and contribute more to the country.

It’s safe to say that their brains seldom have a real chance to rest.

Take, for example, Professor Luo’s case when he fell ill previously. Even though he was already in bed for the night, he didn’t stop pondering the problems encountered in his experiment until, suddenly, a stroke of inspiration hit him, and he ran off to the lab despite the rain...

Remembering this, Kang Li couldn’t be certain whether that person would come home for the Spring Festival.

As for what she told the three kids, it was just a temporary reassurance. Whether they would see that person at home or have a complete family reunion for the New Year would only be known right before New Year’s Eve.

Because currently there was no such thing as a Spring Festival holiday.

Nonetheless, as New Year’s Eve approached, Kang Li still called Kang Guoan and asked him to come home for the Reunion Dinner after work on that day.

After all, in North City, Kang Guoan, as her brother from her maternal family, was Kang Li's closest relative.

She couldn't just let her little brother spend New Year's Eve alone in his cold, stark dormitory.

As the New Year's atmosphere grew stronger, Kang Li prepared the New Year goods and took Xiao Ming Rui and the other two to the Song Family's home that day.

"Auntie (Grandma)."

Upon entering the living room and seeing Mrs. Qi, all four of them called out in unison; then, Xiao Ming Rui and the other two toddled over to Song Xuan, "Brother Xuan Xuan."

Song Xuan's eyes were soft as he looked at the three little ones, gently touching their heads and revealing a smile, "Come on, to my room." This simple sentence, for Song Xuan now, was quite fluent.

The three little ones nodded their little heads and followed Song Xuan out of the living room.

Because it was cold outside and snow was falling, Kang Li had dressed the three of them very warmly; from behind, they looked like three little rolling balls, very cute to watch.

Mrs. Qi asked, "Are all the New Year's goods prepared?"

“Everything that needed to be prepared is ready.”

Chapter 302: Accident

Kang Li nodded and asked Mrs. Qi, “Godmother... I came over to ask you, since Chinese New Year is around the corner, did my godfather mention whether the station would grant a day or two off?”

“No, your godfather hasn’t called home recently. Going by the usual practice during the Spring Festival in previous years, the station generally operates as usual, though they will have a dinner together on New Year’s Eve.”

Mrs. Qi said, noticing Kang Li’s slightly stunned expression, she couldn’t help but add, “If you’re missing Yanqing, you could actually go to the station and see him.”

Upon hearing this, Kang Li’s beautiful face almost instantly flushed with color, “Godmother, are you teasing me?!”

Mrs. Qi smiled without answering and said, “Young people, Godmother understands.”

Kang Li felt even more heat on her face, “It’s not that I’m missing Luo Yanqing. It’s Ruirui and the others who miss their father. Just now at home, they were all asking if their dad would be able to come back and celebrate the Spring Festival with them, so I brought the kids over to ask you. Now that I know Luo Yanqing is likely unable to come back due to work, I’ll have a clear explanation for the kids on New Year’s Eve.”

"Marrying a man like Yanqing, sometimes I think about it, Godmother feels it's really hard on you!" A young girl who just came of age, married and became a stepmother to three children, and with a husband who can't be by her side often, having to shoulder all big or small matters at home by herself. As her godmother, seeing this really pains my heart.

But what can be done?

After all, everyone in this big courtyard knows that their loved ones are working hard for the nation's growth, so it has become normal to not see them for a short period like a month or two, or even as long as half a year to a year, since very early on.

Kang Li smiled wryly and shook her head, "I don't think it's anything. Luo Yanqing isn't out there fooling around; he just can't come home. If other families in this courtyard can get used to it, of course, I won't become the odd one out."

"Yes, getting used to it is good," Mrs. Qi sighed softly and then said, "I plan to take Xuan Xuan to the Martyrs' Cemetery the day after tomorrow morning to visit my son and daughter-in-law. Would you like to bring Ruirui and the others along to pay tribute to Yanqing's father?"

"..." Hearing this, Kang Li paused for a moment, then smiled and nodded, "Alright."

Mrs. Qi's expression turned slightly wistful, "In past years, if Yanqing had the time, he would go to pay his respects in person. If not, he would ask me or your godfather to help visit his father and tell him everything is fine."

“From this year on, I will take Ruirui and the others to visit my father-in-law.” A martyr’s name lives forever, and Luo Yanqing’s father, her father-in-law, was not only a martyr but also her family. As his daughter-in-law, it was indeed her duty to clean his tomb and offer tribute.

Besides, if Luo Yanqing, his own son, didn’t have the time, it was all the more necessary for her to go. It would also allow her father-in-law, who sacrificed his life young on the battlefield, to rest in peace with a smile.

The landline suddenly rang.

“Hello, may I ask who you are looking for?”

Kang Li was sitting right by the landline, she picked up the receiver, politely greeted the caller, and the next moment, she heard Feng Yi’s voice tinged with a sob.

Seeing Kang Li frown slightly, Mrs. Qi couldn’t help but ask, “Is it someone you know?”

Kang Li nodded slightly, “It’s Feng Yi.” Saying this, Kang Li turned her attention back to the call with Feng Yi, “Don’t panic, just tell me exactly what happened...”

“Sister! Sister Kang Li, I trust Brother Yan, I’m certain he would never take a guest’s belongings. Plus, Brother Yan said that apart from going out to eat and taking a break in the lounge when there were no guests, he didn’t enter the guests’ changing room at all.”

Chapter 303 Both Sides Have No Evidence

“Alright, I got it. Just wait at the police station, I’ll be there soon.”

After calming Feng Yi’s emotions, Kang Li put the handset back on the cradle, and said to Mrs. Qi, “Feng Yi called and said that Mo Yan was falsely accused by a customer of stealing his money,

and he’s been taken to the nearby police station. Feng Yi got scared and called my house, hoping I could talk about it and see if I could help Mo Yan. Since I wasn’t home, he called you. Godmother, should I go have a look?”

Half a month earlier, Mo Yan had taken a temporary job at a public bathhouse close to his home, introduced through an acquaintance.

Back scrubbing, that’s right, scrubbing customers’ backs, with a monthly salary of 18, not including food and accommodation.

Thinking having a job wasn’t easy and he was young and strong, Mo Yan promptly started working.

But who could have expected that, despite everything going well these days, an incident would happen today.

He was accused by a customer of stealing five yuan from his trouser pocket.

Mo Yan explained he didn't take it but the customer insisted it was him and would not let it go. He called the police, and just like that, Mo Yan was taken from his post by comrades from the nearby police station in front of many customers and colleagues more than ten minutes ago.

Five yuan wasn't much, but at the time it amounted to about one-fifth to one-quarter of an ordinary worker's monthly wage.

The situation could be serious or trivial.

If the money were returned to the customer and he chose not to pursue the matter, then all would be well. Otherwise, Mo Yan might be locked up for a while and would carry the stigma of being a thief.

However, these outcomes presupposed that Mo Yan indeed took the money. The problem was, Mo Yan hadn't done such a thing. At the time the customer lost his money, Mo Yan was resting in the break room and there was no one to prove that he hadn't left the room during that period.

After listening to Kang Li, Mrs. Qi didn't hesitate, "Go on, I'll take care of Ruirui and the others, nothing will happen." In Mrs. Qi's heart, though Kang Li was young, she was steady and responsible, so Mrs. Qi felt assured about Kang Li going to the police station to clear things up for Mo Yan.

...

"If you didn't take the money, naturally you can't admit to it. Don't worry, I'll talk to the comrades at the police station and the person who lost the money." At the police station, after getting permission from the police, Kang Li met with Mo Yan in an office with Feng Yi. Upon hearing the full story from Mo Yan,

Kang Li gave the young man a reassuring look. Then she greeted an office worker and went to find the police officer in charge of Mo Yan's case.

"You are...?"

Wang Xiaobo had just started working at the police station and couldn't believe that within a week, he'd get to handle a minor case all by himself. When he first saw Kang Li, a fleeting flash of amazement passed through his eyes.

"I'm Mo Yan's sister. I've heard the details from Mo Yan and I believe my brother would never commit such a petty theft," Kang Li stated her position clearly and calmly the moment she spoke. Just as her voice fell, a middle-aged man in his forties, slightly overweight, burst out, "Young lady, you mean to say your brother didn't steal my money?! Where's your evidence? Show me the evidence!"

Kang Li: "And what evidence do you have to prove that it was my brother who took your money?" With serenity evident in her beautiful, fox-like eyes, Kang Li gazed at him and said, "According to the time you mentioned, nobody can prove that my brother stayed in the break room,

but neither can anyone prove that he went to the customers' changing room, and certainly no one saw him open the locker where you kept your clothes,"

Chapter 304: Resolution

"Moreover, the lock on your wardrobe was locked by your own hands, and during your shower, the keyring was always on your wrist. Afterwards, when you went to the changing room, your locker was securely locked..."

The middle-aged man interrupted Kang Li, "Girl, I don't want to hear about this, I just want my money back now!"

Kang Li, "Why should we give you money for something my brother didn't do? Comrade, don't forget, you discovered your money was missing after you opened the locker and got dressed. From this, I have three deductions: one is that you lost the money at some unknown time;

another is that your money was stolen while you were on your way to the public bathhouse when someone brushed past you; and lastly, ask your family members, see if someone needed the five dollars urgently and took it without telling you."

Upon hearing this, the middle-aged man paused for a long moment, not looking at Kang Li, and he stammered to Wang Xiaobo, "Officer... Comrade police officer, you are a people's officer, you have to help me retrieve those five dollars. Although I don't have evidence to prove that the kid did take my money, I know about him, an orphan who has no parents and lives meal to meal. He definitely has a motive to commit the crime."

Kang Li, "Having no parents and living meal to meal doesn't mean one has a vile character, does it? Comrade, you wouldn't be discriminating against orphans, would you? Besides, my brother has me, his sister. How could he be an orphan?"

The middle-aged man, "That kid doesn't have a sister at all!"

Kang Li, "I am Mo Yan's distant relative's sister. Over a month ago, my brother and I recognized each other. What else do you have to say, comrade?"

The middle-aged man was momentarily speechless.

Wang Xiaobo, "Let's start by asking your family members." Saying this, Wang Xiaobo asked a colleague for help, to ride to the middle-aged man's house for a visit.

About twenty minutes later, the police officer returned to the station, followed by the middle-aged man's wife.

"Old Li, what are you doing causing trouble at the station? It was just five dollars missing from your pocket, I took it..." It turned out that the middle-aged man's widowed sister-in-law, who had come to her parental home yesterday afternoon to borrow money, said she urgently needed at least fifteen dollars. At the time, the middle-aged man wasn't home, and his wife could only put together ten dollars. She asked her sister-in-law to return to the house the next afternoon, which was today, to try to scrape together another five dollars.

The wife didn't inform her husband about it, and last night before going to bed, she casually went through her husband's pockets and finding five dollars, she took it. She was too busy this morning to inform her husband about the five dollars before he went to the public bath to shower.

Thus, a misunderstanding arose, making the middle-aged man believe his five dollars had been stolen.

"Hurry up and apologize to the young man. Honestly, I'm fed up with you. Without any evidence, how could you just report it and have the young man arrested?"

The woman slapped her husband's arm, feeling utterly embarrassed.

“Comrade, you also need to go with this officer to my brother’s workplace to explain the situation clearly to his leaders and colleagues; this concerns my brother’s reputation. I hope, comrade, you won’t shirk your responsibility!” Kang Li said, looking directly at the middle-aged man.

Before the man could respond, his wife, smiling apologetically, said, “Of course, of course, don’t worry, young lady. I will accompany my husband, and we will clarify everything and restore your brother’s good name.”

Wang Xiaobo, “Good, I’ll accompany you on the trip.”

Chapter 305: No One Clashes with Money

Huimin Public Bathhouse.

At the moment Mo Yan was taken away by the police from the police station, although the management and other staff of the bathhouse were not as accusatory as the customers who gathered to watch the excitement, they more or less harbored prejudices against Mo Yan.

Unexpectedly, the whole affair turned out to be a misunderstanding.

For a time, the customers who had just come out of their baths and enjoyed the spectacle, along with the management and employees of the public bathhouse, all felt embarrassed.

"I did say it, look at that young man's eyes. They're clear and penetrating, plus he looks spirited with an air of integrity in his brow. How could he possibly engage in stealing customer's belongings like that?"

"This makes sense. I felt it at the time; that young man was being wronged."

"It turns out we all thought alike and didn't consider the young man a thief."

"It's good that things got cleared up and the young man's innocence was restored."

...

"Xiao Mo, it's good you're fine. You were scared today, so just go home early to rest and return to work normally tomorrow."

The person who spoke was a leader at the Huimin Public Bathhouse. Upon hearing this, Mo Yan, without a moment's hesitation, said, "I'm sorry, Director Pang, I've decided to resign."

"This..."

Pang Mingfa, referred to as Director Pang by Mo Yan, was a short, thin middle-aged man. He tugged at the corner of his mouth and tried to persuade kindly, "Xiao Mo, you know how hard it is to find jobs these days. Uncle sees you're a down to earth person, so I'll be blunt. Don't talk rashly about resigning."

Patting Mo Yan on the shoulder, Director Pang said, "Alright, go home and think it over. Give uncle your answer tomorrow."

Mo Yan's lips were tightly pursed, he stayed silent for a long while and finally said nothing more.

Watching his retreating figure, several employees standing behind Director Pang, as well as some customers who were a bit further away, started to whispered about Mo Yan.

"Xiao Mo isn't upset with us, is he?"

"Why would he be?"

"Yes, why should Xiao Mo be mad at us?"

"It's clear, isn't it? When he was taken away by the police, none of us stepped forward to speak on his behalf."

"... Surely not! Can you blame us? Given the situation then... We weren't aware of the truth. If we had spoken out rashly, that would be falsifying testimony. We might have ended up taken away by the police too. That would have been too embarrassing!"

This was the voice of a female employee responsible for trimming customer's nails.

"Alright, no more gossip. Go busy yourselves with your own tasks. Anyone who talks more will have half of this month's bonus deducted."

The bonus was just two yuan, but for the ordinary employees working at the Huimin Public Bathhouse, being able to earn an extra two yuan on top of their basic pay was a joyful matter.

After all, the value of those two yuan was not low.

For instance, it could buy almost three kilos of pork.

Or in winter, it could buy at least two hundred kilos of cabbage. This isn't nonsense. Based on current prices, winter storage cabbage costs between .05 to .1 yuan per kilo.

So, buying two hundred kilos of cabbage with two yuan was not talking through one's hat.

Of course, with the purchasing power of two yuan, you could similarly buy many other things.

Thus, as soon as Director Pang's words fell, the few employees standing behind him scattered like birds and beasts.

Everyone has their own measure in mind; no one is foolish enough to fight over money!

Hearing the footsteps behind him gradually fade away, Director Pang sighed inwardly. Actually, even back when the police had come to take someone away,

Chapter 306 Consolation

He didn't speak up for Mo Yan, not because he didn't want to, but because his mind was in the same place as everyone else's—the fear of bringing trouble upon himself.

But clearly, the young man wanted to resign, and these people had at least something to do with it. But had the foolish boy ever considered that this is just how society is, everyone keeping themselves safe—what was wrong with that?

It was certainly better than being stabbed in the back by someone close to you when something goes wrong, wasn't it?!

"Everything has been resolved, and with Officer Wang stepping in, no one will suspect you of anything anymore." Seeing Mo Yan come out of the Huimin Public Bathhouse, Kang Li revealed a slight smile. When he stopped a few steps away from her, she spoke gently and deliberately.

However, Mo Yan didn't respond and his spirits were not high.

Kang Li: "But your mood is still very low. Tell me, what's on your mind?"

His lips moved slightly, and Mo Yan said, "Sister Kang Li, I... I don't want to work at the Huimin Bathhouse anymore."

Kang Li: "Why is that?"

Mo Yan: "I don't want to lie to you. I... feel disheartened. When that customer falsely accused me, none of them... none of them stood up to speak for me. Sister Kang Li, I've been working with them for nearly half a month, seeing they are older than me, I respected them all, but they..."

Wang Xiaobo hadn't left yet; he and Feng Yi were standing together. Hearing what Mo Yan said to Kang Li, he came over: "Young man, you just haven't seen much of the world yet! You have to think like this: if you spend your whole life worrying about others' looks and talk, wouldn't that be a tasteless and exceedingly tiring way to live? We should live a life we're proud of, without guilt towards the heavens, the earth, other people, or our own conscience!"

"...How many people can truly ignore the odd looks and various criticisms from others?" Mo Yan's mood was still downcast, but looking at him, Kang Li said, "I have always believed that if you are upright, you need not worry about your shadow. How others see me, how they talk about me, I don't care because I know I live with a clear conscience—I haven't wronged anyone, and that's enough."

Mo Yan: "Sister Kang Li..." A hint of hesitation flickered in his eyes.

Seeing the change in the young man's expression, Kang Li smiled and said, "However, if you really aren't happy with that job, then it's fine not to continue. After all, there isn't just one job opportunity out there, and who knows, maybe without this job you might find a better one in the future."

Feng Yi: "Brother Yan, whatever decision you make, I support you!"

Wang Xiaobo: "Little brother, your sister is right, work is not just about making a living, you also have to enjoy it. That way, we can have more motivation while working. So, why don't you listen to your sister? There's no need to hesitate."

I wonder if the little brother's sister has a partner—if not, could he perhaps have a chance to pursue her?

"Wait for me a moment."

Saying this, Mo Yan turned around and went back into the Huimin Public Bathhouse.

About four or five minutes later, Mo Yan came out: "I've resigned from my job. I heard this morning that there's a temporary job available at the coal yard, so I'm going to check it out."

Director Pang tried repeatedly to retain him, but to no avail—Mo Yan had made up his mind. In the end, Director Pang paid Mo Yan for the half month he'd worked.

Feng Yi: "Brother Yan, are you talking about that coal delivery job?"

Mo Yan: "Yes. I have plenty of strength, and if I really get hired by the coal yard, I think I can do the coal delivery job well."

Spending days in the bathhouse, surrounded by nothing but a sea of flesh, honestly,

Chapter 307 I Have a Lover

If it weren't for the fact that there was a salary and a two-dollar bonus per month, he would never have come to work at Huimin Public Bathhouse.

"Alright, as long as you have a plan, that's fine,"

Kang Li smiled and said no more.

At this moment, Wang Xiaobo mustered the courage to ask Kang Li, "Comrade Kang, do you...do you have a partner?" He didn't want to miss such a good opportunity. If she had no partner and didn't dislike him, he would definitely try to pursue her.

Speaking of which, Wang Xiaobo was tall and handsome, definitely a looker.

It was just too bad that his budding feelings were destined to be quickly uprooted.

Kang Li said, "I have a loved one." She had no partner but had a loved one, which wasn't a contradiction.

"...Ah?"

Wang Xiaobo was stunned. After a while, he came around, feeling embarrassed, but he still had some control over his emotions. He forced a smile and said, "I see, I'm sorry if I offended you just now, Comrade Kang. Please forgive me."

Kang Li shook her head, "It's nothing."

Wang Xiaobo said, "You guys continue chatting, I'll head back to the station first." Leaving that remark, he nodded to the three people, then turned and walked to his bicycle parked nearby, and soon pedaled away.

"Sister, that Officer Wang definitely fancied you, but his heart must be crying a river by now," Feng Yi said as he rubbed his chin, watching the back of Officer Wang as he cycled away.

Mo Yan glanced at Feng Yi, "You always talk too much."

Feng Yi pouted, "I see it very clearly, Officer Wang indeed developed feelings for Sister Kang Li!"

Mo Yan shot back, "Are you still talking?!" Like Sister Kang Li, a woman so talented, gentle, and graceful shines wherever she goes, naturally attracting attention. It's not at all surprising that Officer Wang instantly felt a flutter in his heart for Kang Li.

Thinking this, Mo Yan's eyelids drooped slightly, and a shadow flickered through her eyes.

"Feng Yi, it's good that Officer Wang has already left; otherwise your words just now would have embarrassed him," said Kang Li calmly, shaking her head. Then, looking at Mo Yan, she asked the two, "The New Year's Eve is in three days; have you two prepared your goods for the festival?"

Seeing that Feng Yi was about to speak, Mo Yan quickly said, "All prepared."

Feng Yi rolled his eyes secretly: Prepared my foot! At home, aside from some grains, oil, and seasonings, there were just a few cabbages and four or five kilos of potatoes. They lacked any other ingredients.

Kang Li smiled, "I was thinking if you hadn't prepared, you could come over to my place for the New Year's Eve dinner."

Mo Yan shook her head, "Thank you, Sister Kang Li. Although the goods Feng Yi and I prepared aren't lavish, we have everything necessary. I've planned it already; on the afternoon of New Year's Eve, I will start making cabbage and pork dumplings with Feng Yi."

Kang Li replied, "Alright then. If you do decide to come over to my place, remember to give me a call in advance. I will wait for you at the main gate of the courtyard at the time we agree on."

Mo Yan responded, "Okay."

"Here, take these three pounds of meat coupons," seemingly pulling them out from her pocket, but in reality, Kang Li had gotten them through Dwen Dwen.

The meat coupons were from a reward for a task.

"I can't accept this."

Mo Yan refused to take them.

Kang Li countered, "Meat coupons aren't easy to come by, especially around New Year's. Do you think I'd be this generous if I didn't have extras?" Glaring, she stuffed the meat coupons into Mo Yan's hand, then said, "It's terribly cold, I need to get back. You two should head home soon too."

Mo Yan and Feng Yi spoke in unison, "We'll walk you out."

Chapter 308: Black Heart

"No, I just need to cross the street, and there's the bus stop sign."

Kang Li waved her hand and stepped up, following a few pedestrians passing by toward the opposite side of the street.

“When did we prepare for the New Year goods? How come I didn’t know about it?” Watching Kang Li cross the street, Feng Yi glanced sideways at Mo Yan, “If it weren’t for the three pounds of meat coupons Sister Kang Li gave us, we would have nothing for the New Year but munch on cabbage and potatoes.”

“Having something to eat is already very good, and you’re still picky? Must be dreaming!”

Mo Yan hummed, seeing no sign of Kang Li across the street and knowing she must have boarded the bus. He withdrew his gaze and walked along the curb toward the nearby bus stop sign, “You can’t be heartless. You need to know that Sister Kang Li actually has no obligation to us, and so far, we owe her quite a lot. Don’t take all this for granted.”

“I said I would pay Sister Kang Li back.”

Feng Yi closely followed behind Mo Yan, “Don’t imagine me as someone who enjoys taking advantage of others shamelessly.”

Mo Yan, “It’s not about what I think, it’s about what you do.”

“Are you blaming me for calling Sister Kang Li today, asking her to help you at the police station?” If that’s what he really thought, then to hell with him!

Feng Yi quickened his steps and came up side by side with Mo Yan, narrowing his eyes and staring at him.

“Thanks!” The moment he was taken away by the comrades at the police station, he was actually very panicked inside. Even though he knew he was innocent, there was no one to prove that he never left the lounge; in other words, he couldn’t find evidence to prove his innocence and would have to bear the stigma of stealing other people’s property.

With such a burden, not even his mother could rest peacefully underground.

“If we’re brothers, don’t mention it,” Feng Yi said casually. Just then, a familiar yet strange female voice drifted into Feng Yi’s ears.

“Feng Yi, why aren’t you going home? Do you know Feng Xiao has been looking for you?”

Turning toward the voice, Feng Yi saw a face he immensely disliked appearing before him.

He Xue!

The girlfriend of his stepbrother Feng Xiao, his highschool classmate, one of the people who persecuted him over six months ago!

Clenching his fists tightly by his side, Feng Yi stopped in his tracks and glared at the girl walking toward him from a jeep.

She wasn't much older than him.

To be specific, this He Xue was two years older, allegedly having started school late, hence she was still in the first year of high school at eighteen and became his classmate.

Originally, they were just ordinary classmates, but because He Xue was infatuated with his stepbrother, Feng Xiao, she was always trying to get close to him.

Just to inquire from him about Feng Xiao's preferences.

That wasn't much of an issue; after all, he was like air at home, knew little about his stepbrother Feng Xiao, and after hitting a wall a few times with him, she naturally didn't come to him anymore.

But he could never have imagined that the seemingly gentle and weak girl had such a black heart.

— Not only was she a masochist, but she was also trying to hurt him!

Indeed, He Xue was like a masochist. Knowing that Feng Xiao was just toying with her and had no real feelings for her, and that his fiery temper would result in a slap whenever it flared up, yet despite this, He Xue still fancied Feng Xiao.

It's like, "The scumbag abuses me a thousand times, yet I treat the scumbag like first love."

To give an example.

The reason Feng Yi had previously been sent to a reform farm stemmed from He Xue and Feng Xiao having a conflict and her incessantly crying with "whimpering" sounds. Feng Xiao, annoyed and unable to control his temper, slapped He Xue right on her face.

By an unlucky coincidence, this act was witnessed by He Xue's younger brother, who of course could not sit back without standing up for his sister.

Chapter 309 Stupid and Toxic

Thus, he went up and started fighting with Feng Xiao.

Unexpectedly, being the inferior fighter, he broke his arm.

The He family, unable to contain their anger, decisively chose to call the police.

Worried about Feng Xiao getting into trouble, He Xue wept and begged her brother to help, to avoid saying his arm was broken by Feng Xiao, and surreptitiously decided to make Feng Yi the scapegoat.

To ensure her scheme was foolproof, He Xue again cried and pleaded in front of Fang Su, asking her to help Feng Xiao. In this way, the two women conspired to deceive Feng Yi into taking the blame.

As a result, Feng Yi, unable to defend himself, had no choice but to take the blame for his elder brother Feng Xiao and accept a six-month probation period.

At this moment, watching the woman he deeply despised appear before him, Feng Yi gritted his teeth in secret, no longer holding back or suppressing his temper, letting this woman continue her act in front of him.

“Did you not hear me when I asked you a question?”

He Xue’s brow furrowed as she stopped a few steps away from Feng Yi.

It came to be that she glanced out of the car window by chance and unexpectedly saw Feng Yi talking with a man, a woman, and a police officer outside the Huimin Public Bathhouse. Without thinking much, she instructed the driver to turn around, determined to bring Feng Yi back to the Feng family no matter what.

Feng Yi’s voice was cold and devoid of any warmth, “Did you even say anything?”

“Pretending not to hear, don’t you think that’s very nonsense?!” He Xue’s face turned sour as she said, “Even if you left home out of anger with Aunt Fang, there should be a limit. How can you just leave and not return for over a month?”

“What right do you have to speak to me like that?”

Feng Yi’s tone carried anger, “If it weren’t for you, would I have gone to the farm? Do you realize? In my heart, you are both foolish and venomous. Knowing well that Feng Xiao doesn’t like you, you still desperately cling to him, even happily accepting the slaps from Feng Xiao every now and then!

You are so foolishly naive, not to mention, calling you a pig would be an insult to pigs. You’re actually worse than a pig! Talking about how venomous you are, it was clearly Feng Xiao who broke your brother’s arm, and it was clearly your brother getting hurt defending you, and yet you did not seek justice from Feng Xiao for your brother,

instead, you dragged an innocent person down with you. He Xue, women like you don’t deserve Feng Xiao’s affection, and it’s his good fortune! After all, no man would want a venomous woman as their partner, fearing the day when they might get stabbed in their sleep.”

He Xue stared at Feng Yi incredulously, tears swirling in her eyes, “Feng Yi, you’ve gone too far! How can you talk about me like that? My liking for Feng Xiao is my own business, and him hitting me is just him losing control in anger. What’s wrong with him, and what’s wrong with me? How can you call me foolish?

As for you calling me venomous, don’t you think about how heartbroken I’d be if Feng Xiao ended up in the farm? Do you really want to watch as Feng Xiao and I are separated, watching our love die under the wrath of my parents? Feng Yi, I’ve always thought you understood and supported my relationship with Feng Xiao,

so, I was compelled... I had to think of such a method. If you're going to hate me because of this, I accept it.

But you must know, without Aunt Fang's cooperation, would my scheme have succeeded? And since Aunt Fang is your mother and she agreed to help Feng Xiao, how can you blame everything on me?"

At that moment, Mo Yan said to Feng Yi, "Let's go. There's no point wasting words on someone with a troubled mind like her."

Chapter 310 What Are You?

"Who are you? I'm talking to Feng Yi, what does it concern you?" He Xue glared at Mo Yan, and then she asked Feng Yi, "Feng Yi, I even saw you with another woman earlier, who is she? And that police officer..."

He Xue had just gotten out of a jeep on the side of the road; she had been visiting relatives for the past few days and, with New Year's Eve approaching, had called home to arrange a ride back.

Unexpectedly, while glancing outside the car window, she spotted Feng Yi standing by the roadside. Without any hesitation, she had the driver stop, determined to take Feng Yi back no matter what, not wanting to see the person she liked frowning every day in search of his brother.

"Does your family live by the sea?"

Disgust was apparent in Feng Yi's eyes.

"I... I care about you. Don't you recognize good intentions! And putting aside that Feng Xiao's girlfriend is your future sister-in-law, the mere fact that we are classmates means I cannot ignore your affairs!"

He Xue spoke with righteous indignation, "Look at this person, he's dressed only a bit better than a beggar, and he doesn't seem to have a proper job. Hanging out with him, it won't be long before you get led astray..."

"Shut your mouth!"

Feng Yi scolded her angrily, "This is my friend, and more importantly, someone I recognize as an elder brother. Who are you, an outsider, to gossip like this?"

With a sneer, Feng Yi continued, "Yes, we're not dressed as well as you, but how have we bothered you? He Xue, I already told you that you're both stupid and poisonous, and it seems that wasn't enough. You, in fact, are nothing but a lamentably pathetic, despicable fool! Feng Xiao has never acknowledged you as his girlfriend, yet you assume the role for yourself, boasting shamelessly about becoming my sister-in-law. Pah! The only brother I acknowledge is right here by my side. What makes you think you are worthy of him? You say Brother Yan will lead me astray; who the hell do you think you are? Get out of here right now, and don't forget to take a good look at yourself in the mirror!"

"Feng Yi! Don't go too far!"

She was furious! She had only wanted to kindly persuade him to return to the Feng family. What ill intent did she have?

To be scorned like this in front of others, with no regard for her dignity!

Feng Yi, that damned cur, just wait until she married into the Feng family, then she'd see how she'd make Feng Xiao deal with this ignorant younger brother!

Seeing He Xue not moving, Feng Yi had no intention of sparing her any dignity: "If you don't leave now, don't blame me for getting physical!"

"I bet you've been seduced by that wild woman, which is why you refuse to go home. Moreover, that wild woman must be a perfect match for that beggar with you. You brought trouble with the police because of fighting over this wild woman, didn't you, Feng Yi? Am I right?"

Possibly driven to extreme irritation, He Xue was completely speaking without a filter.

"Slap!"

A crisp sound rang out!

Feng Yi slapped He Xue out of impulse, fury blazing in his eyes, his voice cold as ice, "Go to hell!" Feng Yi cursed bluntly, "You shameless idiot, do you think everyone is like you?!"

"Xiao Xue, Xiao Xue, are you alright?"

Fan Hui, seeing He Xue slapped by Feng Yi, hesitated for a moment before opening the door on the driver's side and getting out to approach her.

This was Father He's driver, about thirty years old, with an ordinary appearance, around 175 cm tall and slightly skinny. If not for the need to provide for his family, he would have been very reluctant to drive for Father He.

None of the He family members had ever made a good impression on him, especially He Xue, who always acted high and mighty before him, as if he was their servant, destined to be ordered around by their family.