

Chapter 171: Xia Xibei Feels Wronged

Li Lixin's words made people's expressions change a bit.

While they knew she was the stepmom and not the biological mom, she couldn't be this heartless, could she?

Meanwhile, when they looked at Xia Xibei, they saw that her eyes were already moist. ”

I... I just thought that since June 1st, International Children's Day, is coming soon, I would...”

As she talked, her voice started to choke up.

Seeing her pitiful appearance, everyone gathered couldn't help but feel sorry for her.

How could such a good girl be so disliked?

Her own father didn't even say a word. He was simply standing by his wife's side.

This girl was so pitiful.

“Ugh! Don’t lie to me!” Liu Lixin was furious. “You don’t have any good intentions! You just want revenge against me!”

“Revenge?” Xia Xibei looked bewildered. “Why would I want revenge on you?”

“Because...”

Liu Lixin almost blurted it out, but fortunately, she was cut off when Xia Shaihai pinched her.

She massaged her stinging flesh and snorted, “You just can’t stand the happiness we have with our family!”

As soon as she said this, Xia Xibei’s tears suddenly came out. She quickly lowered her head, then wiped the tears away with the back of her hand.

“I... I know we are not a family, but I really didn’t do anything!”

People felt even worse for her.

Someone couldn’t hold it back anymore, demanding, “Is there something wrong with you?!”

Liu Lixin stared at the person immediately, but he didn’t seem fazed, continuing, “If your child was a student at Dongyan Elementary School, then you should be thanking her! If it weren’t for her, your child might have been hurt now!”

“Exactly! If it weren’t for this girl, who knows how many children would have been hurt now?!”

Other people spoke up in support of her too.

“Exactly, it’s like the saying, ‘the most poisonous is the stepmother’s heart.’ She’s too vicious! I’ve never seen this before!”

“This girl is so sweet. You don’t have to love her, but there’s no need to slander her!”

“Your evidence is really ridiculous. Are you sure those letters are really from this girl?”

Xia Xibei couldn’t help but look at everyone gratefully as she listened to their defense of her.

People felt their hearts become soft as they watched a pretty girl like her react like this.

“What nonsense are you talking about!” Liu Lixin looked at the man who spoke first. “Do you have something going on with her? Is that why you are helping her like this?!”

“Pfft!” The man’s expression suddenly changed. “Watch your mouth! What do you mean?! Be careful, or I will sue you for slander!”

“Oh my god, how shameless is this woman! She just opened her mouth to slander the girl!”

“It’s outrageous!”

Other people became angry as well. They came over to be witnesses.

Naturally, they knew that Xia Xibei did not know anyone present.

Yet Liu Lixin spoke so casually, assuming that their relationship was sordid. This was causing a public outcry!

“Shut up!”

The police officers on the side didn’t expect an argument to erupt again so quickly, hurrying out to stop them.

“Police officers, they ganged up to bully us!” Liu Lixin made the accusations first.

However, the police officers only glared at her fiercely.

“Do you think we are not here?! You think we can’t see who is right and who is wrong?!”

Liu Lixin’s neck shrank back with the force of the glare. She didn’t dare be so loud anymore.

Meanwhile, Xia Xibei just continued crying silently. She looked at the others apologetically, silently saying sorry.

Why would anyone blame her?

Everything was the the d*mn stepmom and dad's fault!

"Okay, everyone who's not involved has to leave. We will take care of this matter."

Although everyone was unwilling, they still dispersed. However, they did not leave completely. They just waited not too far away.

"Bring over the threatening letters."

Chapter 172: She Didn't Do It

The cops took over the threatening letters, turning their heads to look at Xia Xibei when they saw the writing on them.

"Did you write these?"

“No!” Xia Xibei shook her head immediately. “How could I write such things?!”

The cops nodded, believing in Xia Xibei’s innocence.

“It sure was her!” Liu Lixin stomped her feet in rage.

“Please keep quiet, we know what to do!” The cop shot her a glare.

“In order to prove my innocence, I could write it out for you!” Xia Xibei suggested.

The cops exchanged glances, then nodded.

It was great that she was taking the initiative to help them with the investigation.

“Come on then.”

Xia Xibei took a pen, ducked her head, and began writing down those words.

Upon finishing, the people quickly gathered around her, managing to draw a conclusion in no time.

“It wasn’t her.”

The handwritings were completely different.

“She might have written it with her left hand!” Liu Lixin refuted right away.

Xia Xibei kept quiet, switching to the other hand.

The words that she wrote looked totally different from the writing in the letters.

“I’m actually thinking... If I really wanted to threaten you without being found out, I should have printed the letters, shouldn’t I?” Xia Xibei spoke up gingerly.

The people nodded in agreement, “That’s reasonable!”

Who would be so foolish as to use their own writing? That was like inviting trouble towards oneself, wasn’t it?

“These letters weren’t written by her indeed,” the cop spoke up for Xia Xibei.

“Impossible!” Liu Lixin panicked. “I’m certain it was her! It was her who wanted to harm my children! She came all the way here to assault them!”

The cops couldn’t help but laugh. “You’re mistaken! She’s a hero who saved lives.”

“A hero?”

Liu Lixin was stunned, then exchanged a glance with Xia Shai as an ominous feeling crept into her heart.

“If not for her, your children might have suffered injuries too.”

“What? So she’s not here because you arrested her?”

The two of them exchanged a look, utterly perplexed.

“Hahaha!”

The people burst into laughter.

“It was someone else who hurt the children. She was the brave soul who saved them!”

One of the cops turned the screen around and opened up a clip.

It was clear in the clip that a man was trying to hurt the students with a knife he had in his hand but was soon tackled by Xia Xibei.

After watching the scene, the two of them were stupefied.

“So really, you’re falsely accusing her!”

The station chief stood up and looked to them with a solemn expression. “As parents, not only did you not take proper care of your child, you even accused her of something she didn’t do. That’s totally appalling!”

The rest of them nodded in unison.

“Right! That could add up to blackmailing and assault! Even if you dislike the girl, you shouldn’t simply accuse her either!”

“So it’s true that your father will turn into a stepfather once he gets you a stepmother!”

“The girl is only seventeen, so she’s still not an adult yet. They can’t even play their part and raise her well, but now they’re talking nonsense!”

“How are they so heartless?”

Xia Xibei hung her head low as she listened to their comments, looking aggrieved.

This action pained their hearts even more.

Why did a great young lady like her have such cruel parents?

“I know you don’t want me to disturb your life, so you cut off all ties with me. I understood your reasoning too, so I never disturbed you. But I never thought you would think of me that way!”

She bit her lip and her voice shook with sorrow, as though she had gone through a great deal of suffering.

The people’s hearts couldn’t help but reach out to her, all of them shooting reproachful looks at the couple.

“Cut off all ties? Goodness! Parents like that are truly disgusting, aren’t they!”

“The girl isn’t even an adult yet!”

“Don’t you dare play the victim now!” Liu Lixin was extremely furious. “It must be you!”

“I know why you hate me so much. It’s because of the house, isn’t it?”

Xia Xibei’s words struck down like a bolt of lightning right out of the blue!

Chapter 173: We're No Longer Related

House?

Everyone pricked up their ears to listen.

“What nonsense are you talking about?!” Liu Lixin cursed with guilt. “Don’t try to change the subject!”

Xia Xibei chortled bitterly, “I’m not changing the subject. You know it best.”

She looked toward Xia Shahai. “Dad, I know, you have your own children and family, and I no longer matter to you now, so I’ve decided not to disturb you as well...”

“How nice to hear!” Liu Lixin hit the roof. “But if you really were gonna leave us alone, why are you even here right now?”

“I was just passing by, so I thought of visiting them.” Xia Xibei smiled bitterly. “Don’t worry, I will not go near them. After all, I’ve signed the relation-severance letter with my father...”

“Relation-severance letter?!”

The people were shocked. It sounded like a scary thing.

Liu Lixin was equally stunned, clasping Xia Shahai's arm. "When did you sign such a thing?"

Xia Shahai shrugged her hand off, muttering, "I'll tell you when we get home."

The looks of disdain from the people were almost drowning him already. How could he disclose it all right here?

"We signed it earlier last month," Xia Xibei answered instead, her eyes glistening with tears. "He transferred the house under my name, then we signed the relation-severance letter. We're no longer related from that moment on."

The people inhaled a sharp breath. What kind of father was this?!

Liu Lixin finally understood why Xia Shahai had been elusive earlier on. So that was the hidden side of the story!

"But no one had thought that my area was going to be relocated soon," Xia Xibei shook her head sadly. "An old house, worth just a hundred thousand earlier, was now rapidly increasing in price, so I understand why you couldn't accept it."

"What are you talking about!" Liu Lixin went ballistic. "Who- Who wants the house now?!"

“Don’t you?” Xia Xibei seemed confused. “But I heard from someone today that the bad guys who showed up near my house these past two days had come for the sake of the house. They even confessed that they had come... Under your instruction.”

“Bullshit!” Liu Lixin’s face fell theatrically as she screamed in anger, “You’re slandering me!”

“We can find out if she’s slandering you,” one of the cops at the side spoke up out of nowhere, dialing the number of another station.

There was only one area under relocation right now, so they knew where to call without having to ask much.

Looking at the cop, Liu Lixin and Xia Shaihan panicked.

She wanted to pounce forward and snatch the phone, but she didn’t dare to do it.

Very soon, the young cop hung up the call, all eyes pinned on him.

“It’s true, they caught several men there a few days ago, and they were there for the house indeed.”

Liu Lixin and Xia Shaihan’s faces turned ashen gray!

The people who stood in the distance gradually came closer again, almost blowing their tops after hearing what the cop had to say.

How could such insane, malevolent parents even exist?!

“People like them should be struck by lightning!”

“Yes! Arrest them as soon as you can!”

“They hired hitmen to kill her!”

“Shut your mouths!” Liu Lixin became frenzied, holding back the urge to hit those people.

Xia Shahai was also at a loss.

“There... There must be some misunderstanding here!”

“Misunderstanding?”

Xia Xibei’s smile was forlorn, “I wish it was all a misunderstanding too, and I wish we could have talked it out. But I hadn’t expected you to accuse me of trying to harm my brother and sister right as you got here. It looks like you’re guilty now, aren’t you?”

“Who’s guilty now!” Liu Lixin countered, her neck stiff. “We did not do anything! If we really did it, why didn’t the cops come and find us?”

Right as she finished talking, the police station's phone rang.

After hearing what the caller had to say, the cop had a bizarre look on his face.

"Are you Liu Lixin and Xia Shahai?" he asked them.

Chapter 174: Go Your Own Way, When Disasters Strike

Liu Lixin and Xia Shahai nodded hesitantly when their names were called out, "Yes, we are..."

"The timing is perfect then. Our partner station just called to inform us that those people have confessed. Therefore, you are now required to help with the investigation. Since you happen to be here, we won't have to make another trip."

Both of their faces turned deathly pale at his words.

"What do you mean by helping with the investigation?"

"It means that those guys have divulged your involvement. Therefore, as the masterminds, you can't run away from it!" Someone gloated from the side, helping the cop by translating his word.

“No way! No!” Xia Shahai exclaimed. “This has nothing to do with me at all!”

Mastermind——that was a big crime!

There was no way he could bear the charge!

“It was her! She did it all by herself!” Xia Shahai quickly shoved Liu Lixin forward.

“Xia Shahai!” Liu Lixin turned pale from the shock. She never would have thought that this goddamn man could be so irresponsible. The matter hadn’t even been sorted out yet, but he pushed her forth right away!

All of the surrounding people’s faces were full of contempt as well.

Everyone had heard of the popular saying, “husband and wife are like birds in a grove; when disasters strike nonetheless, they fly their own ways.” However, this was the very first time they had witnessed the act of “flying their own ways” in person.

The catastrophe hadn’t even arrived, yet he hadn’t waited before pushing his wife forth to bear the accusation. How callous!

“Alright, don’t panic.” The cop at the side smiled, his smile extremely sarcastic. “It’s our job to find out what really happened. No one will be falsely accused.”

“Xia Xibei!” Xia Shahai looked toward Xia Xibei immediately. “Xibei, beibei. Tell them, tell them I didn’t do anything!”

“What can I tell them?” Xia Xibei shook her head, looking helpless. “The police will definitely find out what happened. Don’t worry, they won’t treat you unjustly!”

“She’s right! As a big man, you aren’t nearly half as sensible as the little girl!” The others supported her with their voices.

“Scumbag fathers like him are so disgusting! Does he not remember what he did to the daughter? And now he just turned around and cried for help? How weak!”

They were very contemptuous towards Xia Shahai and his wife.

Previously, they chose to break relations with the child so that she wouldn’t be a burden on them.

In order to sever the ties, he had even transferred the house to her. When the price of the house rose, however, they showed up once again.

When they couldn’t get the house back, they began accusing the little girl of blackmailing and threatening them...

With all these different matters combined, everyone was flabbergasted by their shamelessness!

“It just occurred to me... Do you think they had come to file the report because they wanted to seize the chance and get the house back?”

Someone thought of this possibility out of nowhere, whispering to the person beside them.

“It can’t be... God damn it! It’s actually quite likely!” After giving it some thought, the person was stunned.

If their report was valid, Xia Xibei would definitely be affected.

Then they could pretend to be generous and forgive Xia Xibei, reasonably erasing the fact that they had previously severed their relationship with her.

Since they had recovered their father-daughter relationship and the child was underage, the house would naturally fall under the father’s possession.

After completing the story in their heads, they couldn’t help but inhale a sharp breath.

Goodness! These two were total lunatics!

They shared their reasoning with the others, and eventually, all of them were staring at Xia Shai and his wife with fury.

They pitied Xia Xibei even more now. Why was she so unfortunate, to have such a father?

“Alright, let’s end all that talk right here. You two, come with me,” one of the cops ordered the couple.

As for Xia Xibei, she would have to wait outside for now, as she was a litigant of the previous incident after all.

Chapter 175: Weeping over Fate

Liu Lixin and Xia Shahui were taken inside to be interrogated, whereas Xia Xibei was left outside to wait.

The rest of the people gathered around her. Being both concerned and nosy, they started asking her about her life experiences throughout the years.

There was even a reporter among them who had come over in a hurry.

After ascertaining that Xia Xibei was the life-saving hero, the reporter got closer to her, a recording pen ready.

People no longer enjoyed learning about the murderer’s story these days; they loved watching heroic deeds!

This girl was beautiful and courageous, so she would definitely attract a great deal of attention!

Having thought of that, he adjusted his posture to appear more serious.

Xia Xibei flashed a rather bashful smile in front of the concerned crowd and began recounting what she had been through all these years.

Several people gathered around Xia Xibei, exclaiming from time to time as she explained things to them.

After getting to know the whole story, they couldn't help but shake their heads, their hearts aching for her even more.

Before she turned eight, the little girl wasn't loved by her parents. After she turned eight, her parents divorced, and she had no choice but to live with her grandmother.

While she was in her teens, her grandmother passed away. Her parents only gave her a few hundred yuan in pocket money each month, so she had to work every day.

Last month, her parents felt that she was too much of a burden on them, so they chose to break relations with her.

Now, they came to make a scene because of the house...

"They are totally heartless!" the people announced in unison.

“Actually... I don’t blame them,” Xia Xibei bit her lip, her eyes red. “They have their own families, I shouldn’t disturb...”

“What are you talking about!” a middle-aged woman cut her off in rage. “If they chose to have you in the first place, they have the obligation to raise you well! Putting aside raising you until you’re in your twenties, they should at least take care of you until you turn into an adult!”

“Right! What can you even buy with a few hundred yuan a month?” a youngster in his twenties demanded, equally enraged.

“Correct! They are downright heartless; you don’t have to bother them!” another youngster stated in a serious manner. “Don’t ever give them the house!”

“Isn’t that... A little too much?” Xia Xibei seemed to be in a difficult position. “They are my parents, after all...”

“Screw that!” the youngster interrupted her with agitation, “You regard them as parents, but do they treat you as their child? They even severed relations with you! Since you’re no longer related, why should you care if they are dead or alive!”

“Yes! You treated them with mercy, but they hired people to hurt you!”

Those were several big guys! If someone hadn’t come to her rescue, who knew what kind of suffering she would have had to endure?

Much more dreadful things could have happened!

“They have lost their conscience, so don’t you keep being foolish!”

“Yes! It’s alright to be kind, but don’t overdo it! Kind people often get bullied!”

People were actively offering her their advice.

Warm tears of gratitude welled up in Xia Xibei’s eyes as she listened to their kind words.

“Thank you so much, all of you!” She smiled through her tears, putting up a tough front. “Don’t worry about me. I finally get it now, and I won’t be so foolish anymore!”

“That’s right!”

“That’s the way you should be!”

The people were glad upon seeing how resilient Xia Xibei was.

They couldn’t put their satisfaction into words as they saw how the blindly filial child wasn’t kind at her own expense anymore.

The reporter was happy yet furious at the same time.

It was quite a miracle that such a great little girl, who hadn't received love from her family since a young age, did not turn into a scumbag who sought revenge on society. She chose to offer a helping hand to others instead!

This story deserved proper attention!

Very soon, some unusual content began to appear on the internet.

Chapter 176: Do You Want to Be a Star?

When news came out of someone trying to retaliate against society at the Dongyan Elementary School, the story received a lot of attention.

Children were the treasure of every family. If something were to happen to a child, the parents and other family members would suffer so much pain!

There had been vicious incidents like this before, which was why many schools had increased their security measures.

However, no matter how hard they tried, they could not stop these evil people from committing such horrific acts.

Before clicking on the news, everyone was worried that they were about to see dead or injured children.

However, everyone breathed a sigh of relief after reading the whole story.

Because someone had been a good samaritan and subdued the killer, no students were hurt!

“Great! No kids were hurt! No families had to go through any heartbreak.”

“Although the story was very simple, the situation must have been so dangerous! This kind of scum deserves the death penalty!”

“Another unemployed vagrant, a loser who only dared to hurt minors! Why don’t these people find a place to commit suicide?!”

“A hero rescued them! I don’t know which young man it is, but I am so impressed!”

“To the poster above me: it’s not a young man, it’s a young woman in her teens. She’s really pretty too!”

“Can you not fantasize in these kinds of serious posts? It’s not a beauty competition. Where did you get the information that she’s pretty?!”

“I was there, okay? She really is beautiful, and super fierce too! She kicked the scumbag to the ground in just one move! She looked amazing! Before we even knew what had happened, the killer was down.”

“Please, you’re bragging. Are you making a show?”

Since the children were fine, after everyone had condemned the evil man, their attention turned to the beautiful young lady.

The pictures in the news only showed the entrance of the school, and no pictures of the murderer and Xia Xibei were given, so everyone was left guessing which hero had actually helped.

As everyone continued excitedly discussing the story, another news article popped up.

“The Hero of Dongyan School: A Girl Worth Our Pity and Respect!”

When people clicked on the article, the first thing they saw was a beautiful young woman.

She was a teenager with exquisite features: big eyes, a straight, pretty nose, pink lips, soft, pale skin full of collagen... She made one’s eyes light up!

There were still tears in the corners of her eyes, which happened to be red at the moment, but there was a smile of relief on her mouth.

The contrast between the tears and her smile hit everyone’s hearts like a boulder.

There were obviously other people around, but she was the only one that everyone saw at first sight.

“This girl is stunning! Is she a celebrity?”

People scrolled down on the news article and learned the rest.

She was the hero!

“She’s so beautiful! Are they sure? Can such a beautiful girl throw down a big man? I think my arms are thicker than her thighs.”

“So pretty! She’s prettier than those celebrity starlets! Does she want to be a star? I can be her first fan!”

“This girl really is beautiful, both inside and out. She dared to help in the face of such danger. I really admire her! If it were me, I would have run off.”

“However, her life story is too sad! Why do such insane parents exist?!”

“Is this still society news? This is as dramatic as entertainment news!”

“What’s dramatic? Is it so hard admitting someone is brilliant?!”

The comments under the story began to take on many views, but most of them complimented Xia Xibei’s courage.

Xia Xibei didn’t know about the development occurring online at the time. She had to take care of this incident first.

Chapter 177: The End of the Father-daughter Relationship

Very soon, Liu Lixin and Xia Shahui walked out of the room, their faces ashen and defeated.

This whole time, Liu Lixin had been glad that the other party didn’t blow the whistle on her. Even if Xia Xibei wanted to do them dirty, her claims wouldn’t hold up without evidence!

But who would have expected those people to spill the beans at this point in time?!

How did all of it happen so coincidentally?!

The police walked over and told Xia Xibei, “Rest assured, they have confessed to their deeds.”

The consequences would have been much worse if they dared to not confess!

Before Xia Xibei could get out a word, the rest of the people voiced their righteous anger first.

“Scumbag parents like them are totally appalling!”

“I absolutely agree! They should be locked up in prison!”

Xia Xibei’s expression was rather somber as she asked, “They did it for real?”

“Yes,” the police nodded. “Don’t worry, they will be punished severely for what they did.”

The rest of the group was instantly delighted, wishing they could celebrate with high-fives.

Who wouldn’t be delighted to see scumbags paying for the sins they had committed?

“!...” Xia Xibei bit her lip, looking rather hesitant. “What kind of punishment are they going to receive?”

“Bei, don’t be silly!” The people became anxious right away. “Don’t forget what they did to you!”

“Right! They don’t deserve your sympathy!”

Looking at how everyone was worrying about her, Xia Xibei flashed them a bashful smile. "I... I won't be soft-hearted towards them."

"Yes! That's how you should be!" Everyone nodded in approval.

Xia Shahaí's heart turned cold as he watched the nosy crowd enjoying the commotion.

He had no idea what Xia Xibei had told them to draw all of them to her side!

He was frustrated deep inside. Since when did this girl change? She had always obeyed them and kept a low profile.

However, she had turned into a whole different person after what happened the last time!

More to his distaste, these days, she had even learnt to act pathetic and aggrieved in front of people!

He almost threw up blood when he saw Xia Xibei's reddened eyes!

He had tried to think of the different methods Xia Xibei would use to tackle them, but this was something he had never thought of!

She had the upper hand of morality right now!

Even more tragically, he would be overwhelmed by curses from the people if he even spoke a word right now! These people had been utterly brainwashed by Xia Xibei!

Xia Shahai had internally admitted defeat, but Liu Lixin was extremely resentful. She continued to stare at Xia Xibei with poisonous eyes.

The others couldn't help but snort coldly when they saw the look in her eyes, "If not for Bei, her children would have been in trouble by now!"

"Yes! People like her are totally cold-blooded!"

Their words made Liu Lixin choke on her own anger, to the point where it almost almost suffocated her.

"Father... This is the last time I'm calling you father." Xia Xibei took a deep breath and flashed a tenacious smile. "Even when you broke relations with me first, I did not blame you..."

"I did it first?!"

At that moment, Xia Shahai who had decided to keep his mouth shut and admit defeat, couldn't hold it in anymore.

Who the hell broke relations with her first? And gave her a house and 200,000 yuan?!

Xia Xibei remained unruffled despite his outburst, carrying on, “In fact, if you had told me that you wanted the house, I would have given it to you, although it was left to me by grandmother...”

Xia Shahui almost threw up a mouthful of blood!

Did he not say it before?! How could she be so shameless as to say such words?!

Xia Xibei inhaled deeply, “However, what you have done to me is too much now! Therefore, from now on, let us not remain in touch anymore! Let this be the end of our father-daughter relationship!”

Only after saying this out loud did she heave a sigh of relief.

“Bravo!” someone cheered from the distance.

Chapter 178: CEO Qiao is Here

Everyone turned their heads to look, becoming dumbfounded.

Several people came in through the door, but the first person everyone saw was the tall, hunky man being escorted in the center.

The man had a slender build and a handsome face. He was wearing a cold, grim expression, and there was an outstanding aura about him.

There were a few people who lagged a step behind him, most likely his assistants.

He just walked in like that, making people's eyes glitter, but no one dared look him directly in the eye.

Xia Xibei raised her brows in surprise.

Qiao Yanjue? Why was he here?

Xia Shahai didn't know Qiao Yanjue either, but he recognized the middle-aged man behind Qiao Yanjue.

"Boss Peng? Why are you here?"

Boss Peng carried a potbelly, his expression disgruntled. "Xia, if not for the call we received, you would still be keeping this in the dark, wouldn't you?"

Xia Shahai panicked, stammering, "Boss Peng... What- What do you mean?"

"What do I mean?" Boss Peng snorted. "You should know what you did best!"

He shot a glance at Xia Shahai and Liu Lixin, then turned around to look at Qiao Yanjue, his attitude very respectful. "CEO Qiao, you think..."

CEO Qiao?

Xia Shahaï drew in a sharp breath.

Xia Shahaï knew that their company was one of Qiao Enterprise's sub-companies.

It was called Qiao Enterprise, so of course the Qiao family was in charge of it.

Therefore, this CEO Qiao had to be one of the important figures within the Qiao family!

This thought made chills run down his spine. What had brought CEO Qiao here?

All the people were staring at Qiao Yanjue in surprise as well.

No wonder the way he dressed and presented himself was different from the rest of them. His status itself was different!

Sure enough, being so young, he must be the son of a wealthy man.

Regardless of the generation, however, he was simply outstanding!

Luckily, apart from Xia Xibei, there weren't any young girls around. There were either women in their forties or men, so there wasn't too much of a commotion.

With eyes as cold as ice, Qiao Yanjue looked down at Xia Shahui in a condescending manner, his voice scornful as he asked, "So you're Xia Shahui?"

"Yes, yes!" Xia Shahui nodded rather gingerly, at a loss for what to do.

He had never thought of meeting Qiao Yanjue in person before. Moreover, this was such an awkward situation to meet in!

"So we have found the right guy."

Qiao Yanjue turned to look at a middle-aged man in a tidy suit, who seemed distinguished from the others, and said something to him. The man stepped forward and started to converse with the police.

Very soon, he nodded, "Let us talk in the conference room."

The others became curious right away. What were they going to talk about in the conference room?

Nonetheless, despite their curiosity, they dared not speak a word. After all, Qiao Yanjue's manners and status were extraordinary.

“Come inside,” Qiao Yanjue told Xia Xibei, who was silently standing at the side.

At first, Xia Xibei was surprised. Then she nodded and followed them inside.

Once they got into the conference room, their positions in this situation were clearly discernible.

Qiao Yanjue and his crew were standing on one side of the room, with Xia Shahai and Liu Lixin on the other.

As for Xia Xibei, she was standing in the middle.

Xia Xibei was looking at Qiao Yanjue doubtfully, unsure of what he was trying to do.

After seating themselves properly, Qiao Yanjue gestured for Boss Peng to speak.

“Xia, you’ve served the company for many years and put in conscientious effort despite having made just minor contributions...”

His words made Xia Shahai shudder. He had a feeling that this conversation wasn’t going in a good direction.

Just as expected, Boss Peng immediately put on a pained, grieving look. “However, I never would have thought you would commit such acts!”

Xia Shahai's heart skipped a beat, his face turning deathly pale.

"Xia, we've been colleagues for a good while. Now, you need to decide what you are going to do," Boss Peng remarked with a sigh.

"I-"

"Why waste time on him? Call the cops right away! We're in a police station anyway, so it's convenient."

Xia Shahai almost passed out upon hearing Qiao Yanjue's words!

Chapter 179: The Actor and Actress Are Here

"CEO Q- Qiao..."

Xia Shahai was frightened, as he knew what he had done. If he called the police, who knew how many years he would be sentenced to?!

As a manager of a company, it was very simple to do something.

If no one cared, it was fine. But if the top boss wanted to investigate anything, it would be a crime!

Boss Peng stuck out his big belly with a serious face.

“Old Xia, you are a veteran employee of our company, and you have brought a lot of benefits to us. But how can you embezzle public funds to harm the company’s interests? Alas!”

Finally, he sighed, angry and helpless.

“Boss Peng, I- I have already made up all the money!” Xia Shaihai rushed to explain. “This...”

“Even if you made up for it, can you treat the matter as if it didn’t happen?” Qiao Yanjue looked serious and majestic. “If we don’t deal with these things seriously, wouldn’t others behave like this too? What kind of company would we have if we didn’t handle situations like this?”

“CEO Qiao!” Xia Shaihai’s face was pale, almost kneeling down.

“Moreover, what you did today has reflected badly on the company!” Qiao Yanjue’s face was grim.

What they did today?!

Xia Shaihai and Liu Lixin looked at each other, at a loss for words.

What did they do?

They didn't know that there was an uproar on the Internet at the moment, everyone sympathizing with Xia Xibei.

If they did, they would really spit out the blood in their hearts.

"So, this matter must be handled seriously!" Qiao Yanjue said in a loud voice.

Xia Shahai and Liu Lixin took a breath, their faces pale.

"CEO Qiao." Boss Peng felt soft and tried to persuade him, "CEO Qiao, don't be angry! Old Xia made a big mistake, but he is an old employee of the company. He deserves some credit for his work..."

"Don't talk nonsense with me!" Qiao Yanjue coldly interrupted his attempts at persuasion. "A country has laws and a family has rules, so we can deal with him as we should!"

As he talked, he took out his phone and tapped on the screen.

No one dared to look at his phone, thinking he was still busy with business, so no one noticed that Xia Xibei's phone vibrated at that exact moment.

Xia Xibei clicked on the message, which was from Qiao Yanjue and simply said, "It's your turn."

Xia Xibei was speechless.

“CEO Qiao, I’m begging you...”

Xia Shahui was so anxious, he couldn’t even talk clearly. He knew that if Qiao Yanjue was determined to pursue the matter, he would have to stay in prison for at least a few years!

Liu Lixin was about to cry too. She did not expect all these crises to occur at the same time.

This was going to be the end of them!

As they were in a panic, Xia Xibei finally spoke up.

“Mr. Qiao, please! Have mercy on him!”

These words made everyone turn and look at her.

Boss Peng and the others were also shocked. Were they hallucinating? Otherwise, how could Xia Xibei ask for mercy on behalf of Xia Shahui?

They all had heard about what happened just now and knew that the father and daughter had severed their relationship. It was even Xia Shaha who took the initiative.

But just now... What was Xia Xibei doing?

Qiao Yanjue raised his brows, asking, "You're asking me to let him off?"

"Yes," Xia Xibei nodded with a serious look. "Although we have severed our relationship, he is still the man who raised me. And they have young children too. If they are not taken care of by their father, they will be as pitiful as I was as a child."

Her eyes became more and more red as she spoke.

Xia Shaha looked at Xia Xibei in shock, thinking that he was hallucinating.

What the- What was this girl doing?!

Why was she being so nice?!

Chapter 180: Pleading for Xia Shaha

Xia Shaha knew what Xia Xibei was really like, but the others didn't!

Everybody felt that Xia Xibei was too kind!

Despite how Xia Shahui had treated her, she was still pleading for mercy on his behalf!

“Xia Xibei, although you did save my life, you can’t waste my gratitude like this, right?”

Qiao Yanjue’s words silenced everyone.

Xia Xibei was his savior?!

Everyone finally understood how this matter had caught the attention of Qiao Yanjue.

The Qiao Family Group had so many subsidiaries, and this company wasn’t very large, so the problem wasn’t worthy of him coming in person to deal with it.

It was because Xia Xibei had saved him that he was supporting her!

“I know,” Xia Xibei sighed. “I didn’t want you to repay me, but he did give me life, after all...”

“Don’t forget, what he has committed is not trivial!” Qiao Yanjue interrupted her. “Murder for hire, embezzling public funds... Even if we don’t sue him, he won’t be fine.”

Other people couldn't help but nod.

Xia Shahai had made a lot of mistakes this time!

"I didn't hire someone to kill her!" Xia Shahai shouted anxiously.

If his company didn't sue him, the murder-for-hire was all done by Liu Lixin! It had nothing to do with him!

At best, he simply didn't report it, and that held a much lighter sentence than actually committing the crime itself.

Liu Lixin looked at him incredulously. How could he be so heartless?

Xia Shahai whispered, "If both of us end up in jail, what will happen to our kids?!"

Speaking of their children, Liu Lixin's heart suddenly sank.

Yes, how sad would their children be if both of their parents ended up in jail?

They would be looked down by people.

With that thought in mind, Liu Lixin made a decision.

“I did what I did before, and he didn’t know about it. After he found out, it was all done.”

“Okay, you can tell the police about that.” Qiao Yanjue glanced at them impatiently. “I’m not done talking yet.”

Then, he looked at Xia Xibei again with a serious face.

“Do you really want to plead mercy for him?”

“Yes,” Xia Xibei nodded. “After all, he did give me a lot. This is how I plan to pay him back!”

“This...” Qiao Yanjue pondered over it for a moment before finally nodding, “Fine, I will give you this favor. I will not pursue the previous matter.”

Xia Shahai was overjoyed. As long as it wasn’t pursued, he would be fine.

“But...” Qiao Yanjue hadn’t finished speaking. “The company can’t tolerate you anymore.”

Xia Shahai’s face became pale.

He was in his 40's, and his family had a mortgage and car loan. If he didn't have this well-paying job, his family would starve!

Qiao Yanjue's cold gaze stopped him from making any reply.

Instead, he reacted very quickly.

He was already very fortunate that Qiao Yanjue didn't care about the previous matter, so how could he be so greedy and ask for more?!

"Mr. Qiao, thank you for your generosity and understanding!" Xia Xibei stood up and thanked him earnestly.

"Old Xia, your daughter is such a good kid! But you..." Boss Peng sighed and shook his head.

Other people also scolded Xia Shahui with their gazes.

How could a scumbag like him raise such a kind daughter!

"Little Bei, I..." Xia Shahui wanted to say something but was interrupted by Xia Xibei.

"Well, this is the last thing I can do for you," she said with a slight smile. "From now on, we're done!"

Xia Shahaï's eyes widened, and before he could say anything, Qiao Yanjue spoke up once again.

"There is another thing..."