

Chapter 591: Taught a Lesson

Thanks to the spring water, Xiao Lingyu had very sensitive hearing.

Therefore, before she reached the dorm, she heard the noises. She stopped and paused. She wondered if she could come back. After all, she was an outsider. It wouldn't be right for her to interrupt them.

But as she turned around, she heard her name. They seemed to be arguing about her.

Therefore, she quietly listened outside for a while. However, when she heard Ye Feifei's words, a fierce light flashed across her eyes. It was really hard to judge a book by its cover.

Ye Feifei looked fair and clean. Why was her heart so black?

How could she make such a baseless accusation against someone she had only known for a few days? As they say, you would see others as a reflection of yourself. Therefore, if you had a rotten heart, even if Mother Theresa were standing before you, you'd think she was taking advantage of you.

However, An Xiaohui was a good person. She was upright and could distinguish right from wrong. She was not like Ye Feifei, who would randomly judge someone she did not know. In the eyes of outsiders, she and Ye Feifei were more like friends than companions. However, she would not abide by her friends unreasonably.

Xiao Lingyu thought for a moment and walked straight in.

She smiled and asked, "I heard someone mention Boss Xiao. Are you talking about me?"

Everyone was stunned when they heard Xiao Lingyu. Ye Feifei's expression changed the most, and a guilty look flashed across her face.

She had never expected that she would be caught speaking ill of others behind their backs. Her body froze, and her expression became awkward.

Xiao Lingyu did not hear a reply. She revealed a meaningful smile, and she said, "What is that expression on your face? I heard you mention Boss Xiao, so I came in to look." At this point, she paused for a moment, then changed the topic and said, "However, looking at the slightly shocked expression on your faces at my sudden appearance, I think you should be talking about me."

Everyone immediately felt their heart pulse. 'Why is Boss Xiao's aura so strong? She only said a few words, and she could make our hearts palpitate. But why would we feel guilty and nervous?'

An Xiaohui was the first to react. She walked out of the crowd and asked with a smile, "Boss Xiao, are you here to look for me?" She went to look for Boss Xiao in the afternoon, but only Grandma Xiao was there. Grandma Xiao told her that she'd get Boss Xiao to find her when she returned.

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, "That's right. I'm here to look for you."

An Xiaohui said, "Then boss Xiao, let's talk outside."

Xiao Lingyu shook her head and said, "Before that, I would like her to leave this place first." Xiao Lingyu pointed at Ye Feifei without hesitation.

Everyone's expression changed slightly. From the looks of it, boss Xiao had heard the contents of their quarrel.

Ye Feifei's face was red and white, and she seemed a little angry. She asked angrily, "Why should I leave?"

Boss Xiao said very seriously, "Because this is my dormitory. I was kind enough to provide you with a place to stay, but you have been saying horrible things behind my back. Do you still have the face to stay here?"

Ye Feifei was so angry that her face was red and white. She said angrily to Xiao Lingyu, "Fine. Do you think we want to stay here? Who would want to live in this lousy place? Plus, you aren't so kind either. You're only letting us stay here to earn money by selling us food."

Everyone, "... " This woman was really a typical ungrateful type.

She was the one who asked for a place to stay, and she was the one who asked Boss Xiao to prepare the food. But in the end, this was Boss Xiao's fault. It was funny.

Boss Xiao had assets of over ten million. Why would she waste so much time over a few hundred RMB?

At that moment, many people planned to part ways with Ye Feifei after they left. She was too arrogant, too black-hearted, and liked to stab people in the back. It would be too dangerous to travel with her.

An Xiaohui heard Ye Feifei's words and frowned. Her face was full of unhappiness. She shouted angrily, "Ye Feifei, you're really too much. You were the one who asked boss Xiao to find a place for us to stay. You were also the one who asked boss Xiao to provide us with food. But now, you're claiming that Boss Xiao is trying to scam us?"

"Plus, how much did the food cost? Did Boss Xiao even earn much from them? You really think too highly of yourself."

In the past, she thought that Ye Feifei only had a big temper and was a little arrogant, but her nature wasn't bad.

But because she wanted to stay and she couldn't take care of her anymore, Ye Feifei revealed her true nature. It was impossible for An Xiaohui to befriend such a person.

Since they had already fallen out, An Xiaohui didn't feel the need to give her face anymore.

Ye Feifei's face turned livid. She angrily pointed at An Xiaohui. "Shut up! Who Do you think you are? What right do you have to criticize me? Do you also think that you are noble and great?"

"Every time, you waited on me like a nanny. Don't think I don't know what you're after. You're after my background and my family's wealth! To put it bluntly, you're just a dog by my side."

When everyone heard Ye Feifei, their faces were filled with disbelief. How could this person think of An Xiaohui as a dog?

An Xiaohui took care of Ye Feifei because she empathized with Ye Feifei, who was ostracized. But Ye Feifei didn't appreciate it but saw her like a dog. Did she think she was the only one with money and power in the world?

There were young masters and young misses in this group who were richer than Ye Feifei, but they didn't have a temper or personality as worse as her.

This woman... was a typical ingrate.

Thus, some people could not stand it and spoke up for An Xiaohui, "Xiaohui, back then, we advised you to ignore Ye Feifei. However, you said she is too lonely, so you wanted to accompany her.

"It looks like Ye Feifei doesn't even appreciate it. In fact, in her eyes, you're only her dog. This is ridiculous."

"Xiaohui, this person really tramples on your kindness."

"Ye Feifei, you are too much. All this while, Xiaohui was kind enough to take care of you, but you look down on her and think she is only after your family's wealth. What a typical ungrateful wretch!"

Everyone stood up for An Xiaohui. They also berated Ye Feifei.

Xiao Lingyu stood to the side.

This woman really needed to be taught a lesson!

Chapter 592: An Xiaohui Joins

Ye Feifei calling An Xiaohui her dog had angered everyone.

Xiao Lingyu did not have a good impression of such an ungrateful ingrate. That afternoon, she chased her out.

The backpackers originally planned to stay with An Xiaohui for one more night and had her percolate on her decision before leaving. However, Ye Feifei had completely offended their hostess. Furthermore, her character was already despised by everyone, so no one spoke up for her when she was chased away. Similarly, no one was willing to leave with her. It was still afternoon, so she had plenty of time to get to the county town to find a place to stay. Therefore, there was no need to worry about her safety on the road.

An Xiaohui was angry when Ye Feifei left, but she was still worried. She looked at Xiao Lingyu and asked, "Boss Xiao, is it really okay for Ye Feifei to leave alone? It's going to be dark soon."

Someone beside her said disapprovingly, "Xiaohui, you're too kind. Ye Feifei treats you like this, yet you're still worried about her?"

"That's right. Xiaohui, you don't have to worry about that. Ye Feifei is a backpacker too. She will be prepared."

An Xiaohui shook her head and said, "I'm not worried about Ye Feifei. But if something happens to Ye Feifei, will boss Xiao be in trouble?" An Xiaohui turned her gaze to Xiao Lingyu.

Xiao Lingyu frowned and said, "As long as she doesn't purposely find trouble, nothing will happen to her."

Ye Feifei came from a rich family. She might be a backpacker, but she was beautiful and fair. An Xiaohui was worried that she might run into a pervert.

She said to her companions, "I've already thought it through. I'll stay and work. Why don't you all leave with Feifei?"

"Even though Ye Feifei isn't a good person, we came with her. We can't just abandon her. If something happened to her, we wouldn't feel good."

Li Jian thought for a moment and said, "Alright, let's leave now. Since we came together, let's leave together. We can't just let Ye Feifei leave alone. As Xiaohui said, if something happens to her, our conscience will be unsettled."

However, some people were unwilling.

"Xiaohui, Li Jian, I don't want to travel with someone like Ye Feifei. I feel uncomfortable when I see her."

"Same here. If something really happens to her, it's none of our business. Why should our conscience be uneasy?"

They split into two sides.

Some people really couldn't stand Ye Feifei's bad behavior, so they didn't care about her.

However, some people were still worried. If something happened to Ye Feifei, they would be uneasy.

Xiao Lingyu looked at them but did not say anything.

Li Jian and the rest split into two groups. One group left to catch up with Ye Feifei. Once they sent her to a safe space, they would go their separate ways. As for what happened to Ye Feifei after that, it was none of their business.

Although it was a little dangerous for a girl to go out alone, Ye Feifei was a backpacker. She had to be responsible for her own safety and not rely on others. In addition, Ye Feifei's family was rich. When she was tired, she could call her family to come and pick her up.

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When Ye Feifei saw the people who caught up with her, her face immediately revealed a smug look.

'Hmph, An Xiaohui, who do you think you are? See how many people have abandoned you and chosen me?' She thus felt confident in herself.

However, she did not realize that these people were either following her from afar, or they were ahead of her by a large margin. They did not pay any attention to her at all.

When Ye Feifei saw the backpackers riding past her and didn't even give her a glance, a hint of anger appeared on her face.

She gritted her teeth and shouted angrily, "Li Jian, what is the meaning of this? Why are you treating me like I don't exist?"

Li Jian said coldly, "Ye Feifei, what more do you want from us?" With that, he sped up and quickly left Ye Feifei.

Ye Feifei's face was pale. She was angry and helpless, but she felt more or less safe in her heart.

When she came out of Taoyuan Village in a huff and saw how alone she was, she felt goosebumps all over her body.

She was scared. However, she was too arrogant to turn back. Turning back would be to admit defeat. Why should she admit defeat?

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The rest did stay behind to accompany An Xiaohui. However, instead of discussing An Xiaohui's decision, they talked about Ye Feifei's character.

"Tsk tsk, we've been traveling with Ye Feifei for so long. We thought she merely had a princess temper. We have no idea she is such an awful person."

"Exactly. All this while, Xiaohui has been treating her like a sister, but in her eyes, Xiaohui is just a free nanny. How shameless Ye Feifei must be!"

"Xiaohui is too kind. Even though they just had a falling out, she's still worried about Ye Feifei's safety."

"Xiao Hui is just soft-hearted!"

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On the other side, Xiao Lingyu brought An Xiaohui to the company's meeting room. She asked directly, "I heard from my grandmother that you want to stay and work here, right?"

An Xiaohui nodded and said, "Yes."

"May I know why?" Xiao Lingyu asked, "You have to know that my company currently doesn't have many employees. It's empty. Plus, my company is built in a rural village. For many university graduates, there is no future here."

"I heard from my grandmother that you graduated from South University and studied human resources management. It shouldn't be hard for you to find a job in a big city, right?"

An Xiaohui asked, "Boss Xiao, I heard that you graduated from Nan University too?"

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, "That's right."

"In that case, you are my senior!" An Xiaohui said excitedly.

Xiao Lingyu was stunned for a moment before nodding and agreeing, "Yes, you're right." Back then, Xiao Lingyu was admitted to South University as the top scorer in the county. However, her results were average when compared to the whole nation. Therefore, Xiao Lingyu wasn't really that famous at South University. She was just an average student.

“Boss Xiao, the reason I chose to stay is that I think the company has a bright future,” said An Xiaohui. “Boss Xiao’s company business direction is very clear. You also have a detailed future plan and a clear strategic plan. Taoyuan Village has beautiful mountains and rivers. With some publicity, I believe that many people will yearn to come to this paradise.”

Xiao Lingyu smiled and said, “From what you said, I can hear that you think highly of the company’s future development.” Then, she looked at An Xiaohui.

An Xiaohui asked with some doubt, “Boss Xiao, what’s wrong? Don’t you trust me?”

Xiao Lingyu shook his head and said, “No, it’s not that I don’t trust you. It’s just that I think you’re too soft-hearted.”

An Xiaohui was a little dumbfounded and didn’t understand why.

“Too soft-hearted?”

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, “Yes. People who are too soft-hearted will be affected by the external world and their subjective thoughts. And many times, they can’t give a clear judgment.

“This is a big weakness for people in HR. To a company, human resource is very important. A wrong judgment can easily cause the company’s loss.”

“Ah?” An Xiaohui was suddenly a little surprised.

This made her think of the reason why she failed when she applied for a job at a big company in the past. Every examiner had told her that she was not suitable for this job. But no one had explained to her why. With the analysis from Xiao Lingyu, she understood the crux of her problem.

An Xiaohui said with some difficulty, “But boss Xiao, I really like my major. I also want to find a job that suits my major.”

Xiao Lingyu shook her head and said, “Listen to me. It’s not that you’re not suitable for human resources. It’s just that you have to overcome this weakness.

“Of course, this doesn’t mean that I want you to forgo your kindness.

“We have to answer to our conscience, and when our conscience is silent, we’re being kind. However, being servile to someone unconditionally is not being kind. Don’t you agree?” Xiao Lingyu paused for a moment and comforted her, “However, this is because you have just graduated and have yet to experience the world. In the future, you will have a better judgment.”

An Xiaohui immediately understood. She nodded and said, “Yes, boss Xiao, I understand. In the future, I will definitely improve and work hard.”

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, “Yes, that’s good!”

An Xiaohui’s eyes lit up, and she said emotionally, “Boss Xiao, do that mean I can stay and work with you?”

Xiao Lingyu smiled and said, “Of course. But...” Xiao Lingyu said seriously, “You will have a three-month probation period.”

“I will not let you down!” An Xiaohui said confidently.

Chapter 593: High Salary!

Xiao Lingyu accepted An Xiaohui, and she was temporarily in charge of personnel recruitment. Every department needed to be filled, and it was An Xiaohui’s job to find these talents.

An Xiaohui was still young. She had just graduated from university and was inexperienced. Therefore, it might be difficult for her to recruit talents, especially since Xiao Lingyu had given her such a heavy burden.

After Xiao Lingyu gave her all the information about the company and the requirements for the recruitment, she no longer cared about this matter.

As for whether or not she could recruit people and who she would recruit, that was up to An Xiaohui.

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Xiao Lingyu went to her supermarket in City Z again.

The business of the supermarket was getting better and better. However, the supermarket had limited stock. Therefore, there were people calling to make bookings and long lines at the store every day.

The employees also didn’t expect that a vegetable supermarket would have such a good business.

Apart from the first three days of opening, the supermarket also had many promotions during holidays to reward new and old customers.

The employees were very energetic. Other than their basic wages, they also had commissions. In a month, their wages could reach four to five thousand RMB, which was much higher than the average wage in City Z. For example, the monthly wages for employees in National Union Supermarket were only 2,500 RMB.

Therefore, most of the employees were glad that they had chosen this supermarket to work. Of course, they were also attracted by the benefits offered, and most of them couldn’t find other suitable jobs. They planned to work there temporarily to earn some money before switching to a better job. Who would have thought that most of them would stay for so long?

The work there was tiring because the business was so good. However, the vegetables were normally sold out in the morning, or sometimes even earlier.

After that, they only needed to tidy up and clean up a little before they could get off work.

There was no two-shift and three-shift working schedule at all.

However, all the employees were required to wake up early. They had to be at the supermarket around 6.30 am because that was when the goods arrived. They had to be there to arrange the goods on the shelves. The supermarket opened at 7.30 am.

Once the door opened, the business would come. Then, they’d be very busy. At around 10 am, the crowd would subside cause the goods were sold out already. Then, things would be easier. Then, they could get off work at noon. Then, they had the afternoon to themselves. They basically worked six to

seven hours per day. They worked half a day and had time to shop in the afternoon. It was a perfect life. Plus, the salary was high. Who wanted to leave?

The friends of the employees were very jealous.

Now, their friends and acquaintances around them were extremely envious. They reminded the employees often that when the supermarket admin had another recruitment drive, they wanted to know immediately.

The supermarket would have another recruitment drive. The employees knew that there were three floors to the supermarket, but currently, only two floors were in use. The management office was on the second floor, and the third floor was still empty. The employees heard that the third floor would be used to sell fruits.

The fruits were not available for harvest yet, so they needed to wait. When the fruits arrived, they would need more people. The employees would definitely remind their friends and families when that time came!

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“Haha, this month’s salary is 4,800!” Zhang Li counted the salary that she had just received and shouted happily, “I’ll save 2,000 RMB and send 2,000 back home. I can buy clothes and cosmetics with the remaining 800.”

When the girls had their salary, all they could think about was clothes, jewelry, bags, and cosmetics.

Green Fresh didn’t provide food, but they did provide a monthly subsidy for food. Therefore, other than spending on cigarettes and alcohol as well as cosmetics and clothes, the employees could save a lot. Unless, of course, they were quick spenders.

“Zhang Li, why do you always send so much money back?” Someone asked doubtfully. “For me, I keep some money for myself, and then I save the rest.

“My mom said that I should save some money to get the down payment for a house. When I get married, this will be my pre-marital property. In the future, at least I have security.”

After a woman got married, she would become a guest in her mother’s family and an outsider in her mother-in-law’s family.

If the couple got a divorce, then the house she bought before marriage would come in handy. After a divorce, a woman couldn’t stay with her in-laws. She couldn’t stay with her parents for too long, or people would start talking.

Zhang Li was silent after she heard You You. Then she said, I have four siblings in my family. I am the eldest. My parents are old, but my younger siblings are still in school. I have to take on the responsibility of being the eldest so that my younger siblings can go to school.”

You You was shocked. “So, are you the only one supporting your entire family?”

Zhang Li nodded and said, “There’s no other way. My parents are old. Other than planting some land, they can’t do any other work. Naturally, they can’t earn much money.

“My younger siblings can’t delay their studies either. Their studies are very good. They have a high chance of getting into university!” She felt very motivated when she said that. As long as her younger siblings got into university, the entire family would have hope.

You You didn’t know what to say. Was she to persuade Zhang Li from sending money home? It was impossible.

You You quickly changed the topic.

She looked around and then asked softly, “Zhang Li, do you know where Xiaomei has gone? I haven’t seen her for the past two days.”

Zhang Li frowned, shook her head, and said, “I don’t know.”

Actually, she did not know when her relationship with Li Xiaomei had become so distant.

Perhaps it was after she realized that Li Xiaomei was a two-faced person. Therefore, she didn’t notice that Li Xiaomei suddenly did not show up for work.

You You said, “I heard that two days ago, Zhou Xiaolu scolded Li Xiaomei at work. Li Xiaomei was so angry that she threw away the responsibility on the spot and left.”

When Zhang Li heard that, she said calmly, “Oh, is that so?”

Chapter 594: You’re Lying!

In the general manager’s office, Zeng Yaozu was shocked to hear Xiao Lingyu.

Then he suggested, “If you want to turn Taoyuan Village into a farm resort, you should apply for it as soon as possible. Otherwise, it will be very troublesome if someone else does it before you.”

Xiao Lingyu frowned and said, “It’s unlikely that someone else will do that, right?” The investment for a project like this was high. It was not like anyone could just apply to develop Taoyuan Village. Xiao Lingyu was a local, and she had the funds needed. So she had the advantage. It was impossible for others to get ahead of her.

Zeng Yaozu said, “You may not know this, but the more vegetables we sell in our supermarket, the more the merchants pay attention to us. The investors have their eyes set on the entire Taoyuan Village.

“Once they do their investigation, they’ll be able to find the business opportunities in the Taoyuan Village. How many people do you think are willing to give up this opportunity to make money?”

Xiao Lingyu really began to think seriously. Then, she nodded and said, “Yes, you are right. I have to apply as soon as possible to prevent accidents.”

Zeng Yaozu was about to bring up another matter when someone knocked on the door.

“Come in!” Zeng Yaozu shouted.

Unexpectedly, the person who came in was Li Xiaomei.

Today, Li Xiaomei was dressed unusually fashionably. She exposed some skin and looked very nice.

She didn't seem to notice Xiao Lingyu. She said to Zeng Yaozu in a coquettish voice, "General manager, I clearly asked for three days of leave. Why did my salary decrease so much?"

Zeng Yaozu rolled his eyes and said coldly, "Three days' leave? Who did you ask for the leave from? The Human Resources Department or me?"

Li Xiaomei choked and then said immediately, "I... I asked for leave from team leader Zhou!" At this point, she became indignant and said, "Didn't she report to you?"

Zeng Yaozu said seriously, "No matter what, I need to see a leave request slip. Without the slip, it's considered that you've skipped work. You've missed work for three days. According to our supermarket's rules and regulations, such an employee will be fired. Please go to the finance department to get your salary and find another job."

When Li Xiaomei heard this, her face turned red and slightly pale.

She had never thought that her momentary impulse would lead to her losing her job. The treatment at the supermarket was so good, and the salary was high. She would never leave. Once she left, where would she find a better job than this?

Li Xiaomei bit her lip and explained excitedly, "Manager Zeng, I was wrong. But I did really ask for leave from team leader Zhou."

"That day... that day... Oh, my brother was hit by a car. I was in a hurry and only told team leader Zhou before I left."

"Oh, really?" Zeng Yaozu curled his lips and looked at Li Xiaomei with a faint smile. Li Xiaomei's heart tightened. She didn't know what the general manager meant.

"Yes, it's true, general manager!" Li Xiaomei could only double down.

Zeng Yaozu nodded and then made a call. "Team leader Zhou, please come to the office!" He couldn't determine if Li Xiaomei's brother had gotten into a car accident, but he needed to find out if she had asked Zhou Xiaolu for leave.

Li Xiaomei could not help but shake her hand. She was a little nervous. But she didn't show it on her face.

A moment later, Zhou Xiaolu came to the general manager's office.

As soon as she entered the office, she saw boss Xiao sitting opposite the general manager. She greeted Xiao Lingyu first, "Boss!" Then, she looked at Zeng Yaozu and asked, "General manager, are you looking for me?"

Of course, she noticed Li Xiaomei standing in the office, but there was no need to greet her now.

Zeng Yaozu pointed at Li Xiaomei and said, "Li Xiaomei has missed work for three days. According to the rules and regulations of the supermarket, if there is no legitimate reason, she will be automatically dismissed. However, Li Xiaomei said that she had asked for leave from you. Is there such a thing?"

Zhou Xiaomei immediately shook her head and denied, "No!"

Li Xiaomei's eyes suddenly widened, and she shouted, "Zhou Xiaomei, you are lying! I clearly asked for leave from you. Why don't you admit it now?" Then, she turned to Zeng Yaozu and said, "General manager, I asked for leave from Zhou Xiaolu. I don't know why she's lying now."

Zhou Xiaolu said frankly, "Li Xiaomei, you've said it yourself. Why would I lie for no reason?"

Li Xiaomei's breath stopped for a moment. Then, she came back to her senses and pointed at Zhou Xiaolu angrily. She said loudly, "I know! You hate me, right? So you're taking revenge on me!" Then, she turned to Zeng Yaozu and said, "General manager, a few days ago, Zhou Xiaolu and I had a dispute about work. So, she hates me and won't give me leave."

Everyone, "... " What does this woman think work is like?

Zhou Xiaolu's face turned dark as she said, "Li Xiaomei, even if I had some disputes with you at work, I won't bring it into my work. You didn't ask for leave from me, so please don't slander my character."

"Humph, Zhou Xiaolu, I clearly asked for leave from you." Li Xiaomei said sharply, "But since you're the team leader, you have the final say."

Zhou Xiaolu, "... "

Xiao Lingyu, who was listening at the side, frowned slightly.

She didn't want to waste time on such trivial matters.

There was something wrong with Li Xiaomei's character. She wanted to fire her a long time ago.

However, Li Xiaomei had been quite well-behaved these days, and they could not find any excuses. They couldn't fire her for no reason. But now, Li Xiaomei had presented them with the best excuse.

Then, Xiao Lingyu suddenly asked, "Li Xiaomei, you said that your brother had a car accident. Is it serious?"

When Li Xiaomei heard Xiao Lingyu's voice, she was stunned. It was as if she had just seen Xiao Lingyu. She answered in panic, "His head was injured, and his leg was crushed. I have been taking care of him these days." She made the injuries sound very serious so that she could earn sympathy points.

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, "Yes. As the older sister, you should take care of your brother, who has suffered such a serious injury. Oh, right, after you received the call from the hospital, did you directly ask team leader Zhou for a leave of absence?"

Li Xiaomei did not know what Xiao Lingyu meant by this question, but she still nodded and said, "Yes."

Xiao Lingyu looked at Zhou Xiaolu and berated her with a serious and slightly serious tone, "Team leader Zhou, this is your fault.

"Li Xiaomei has a family crisis, so she didn't have the time to write a request slip. But she did tell you verbally. You should have reported this immediately. How can you hide it because of your selfishness?"

When she heard Xiao Lingyu's words, Li Xiaomei's eyes lit up, and her face jumped with excitement.

The boss was on her side. In that case, she would not only get her salary back but Zhou Xiaolu might also be kicked out as well.

At that time, the position of team leader would be vacant. Then, she might be able to fight for the position of team leader, right?

Then, Li Xiaomei looked at Zhou Xiaolu with a proud and boastful expression.

When Zhou Xiaolu received her gaze, she felt suffocated and even aggrieved.

She defended herself, "Boss, I didn't."

"You didn't?" Xiao Lingyu's expression changed as if she was very dissatisfied with her. "Li Xiaomei, team leader Zhou is unwilling to confess.

"So, Xiaomei, please tell us when and where did you ask for leave from team leader Zhou? As long as you explain clearly, I will definitely help you.

"Not only will I ask the finance department to make up for your lost salary, but I will also give the position of team leader Zhou Xiaolu to you."

Zhou Xiaolu, "... What kind of Boss is this? She only listens to one side of the story. To think I used to believe she's a good boss.

Li Xiaomei was so happy that she wanted to jump up. If she had known that Xiao Lingyu was an idiot who was so easy to fool, she would have done this a long time ago.

Li Xiaomei suppressed the excitement and happiness on her face and very naturally told them the time and place of her quarrel with Zhou Xiaolu, "I told him four days ago when I was sorting out the goods on the second floor at seven o'clock in the morning."

Xiao Lingyu raised his eyebrows. "Four days ago, on the second floor at seven o'clock in the morning, are you sure?"

"I'm sure!" Li Xiaomei confirmed without hesitation.

Xiao Lingyu nodded and then said to Zeng Yaozu, "Yaozu, pull up the surveillance footage to confirm it!"

Li Xiaomei's expression instantly froze.

How could she have forgotten that there were surveillance cameras installed in every corner of the supermarket except for the more private places?

Zhou Xiaolu, "... Why didn't she think of that?

Zeng Yaozu quickly called the security room and asked someone to transfer the video over.

After watching the video, Zeng Yaozu said coldly to Li Xiaomei, "Do you still have anything to say? In the video, it is shown clearly that you and team leader Zhou were arguing because you didn't agree with the arrangements of the goods. You even scolded team leader Zhou. Then you disappeared from your post. You never did ask for any leave."

After this lie was exposed, Li Xiaomei's expression was flustered.

She immediately defended herself, "General manager, it's my fault that I didn't ask for leave. But after I quarreled with team leader Zhou that day, I received a call from my family saying that my brother had been in a car accident.

"I didn't have time to ask for leave at all. My brother was seriously injured, and my parents were devastated. I had to comfort my parents while taking care of my brother. I couldn't spare any time and forgot to ask for leave."

She felt that this was a very good reason.

This was an accident. No one could have predicted it, right?

Unexpectedly, as soon as she finished speaking, Xiao Lingyu immediately pointed out and said, "You're lying!"

Chapter 595: Expulsion!

Xiao Lingyu's statement made Li Xiaomei's heart skip a beat.

She forced herself to remain calm, but with a panicked smile, she stammered, "Boss... boss, what... What do you mean?"

Xiao Lingyu sneered, "Are you sure you don't know what I mean? Either your brother's car accident is fake, or your brother's car accident is not as serious as you said."

Li Xiaomei was shocked and said, "Boss, why would I lie about something like that?"

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, "Then, I believe the car accident is real, but the injuries caused by the car accident must be much lighter."

Li Xiaomei's pupils suddenly contracted. She looked at Xiao Lingyu in surprise. She opened her mouth and wanted to ask something but felt that it was too stupid to ask.

Xiao Lingyu looked her up and down and said with a faint smile, "You want to ask me how I know, right?"

Li Xiaomei pursed her lips tightly. She tacitly agreed.

Xiao Lingyu said, "I asked you before. How is your brother's injury? You said that his head was injured and his leg was broken. During the few days that you were absent from work, you were busy taking care of your brother.

"Logically speaking, taking care of patients should be very tiring. If someone else took care of patients for a few days, they would definitely look more haggard.

"But look at you. You're dressed fashionably and look very good. You don't look like you've been tired, taking care of someone at the hospital.

"So, in both cases, you're lying."

Xiao Lingyu said with a serious and serious expression, "I'm sorry. You are better suited at another workplace. Our supermarket is too small for a big character like you who think they can come and go as

they please!” Then, she turned to Zeng Yaozu and said, “Yaozu, our supermarket doesn’t need dishonest employees. In a while, get the human resources department to do the automatic resignation process and let the financial department settle her salary!”

Zeng Yaozu nodded and said, “Okay!”

As soon as Xiao Lingyu finished speaking, Li Xiaomei’s face turned green and red. She was both angry and embarrassed. Earlier, she thought she could get back all her salary and possibly become the team leader, but the next moment, she was fired by the boss.

Li Xiaomei didn’t know how to defend herself after the boss exposed her lie.

Just as Xiao Lingyu said, the surveillance video could tell if she had asked Zhou Xiaolu for a leave of absence. As for her brother’s car accident, Xiao Lingyu was 100 percent correct.

Her brother’s injury was not serious. It was just a scratch on his wrist. He did not even need to go to the hospital. He just needed to buy a bottle of iodophor to disinfect it.

Then, she indulged herself in the past few days. She spent her time shopping and buying things.

After working in the supermarket for two months, she had some money on hand, so she was pampering herself.

She did not come to work for three days, and she didn’t call the human resource department. That was because she had already decided to use this opportunity to take revenge on Zhou Xiaolu. However, she had forgotten about the surveillance cameras in the supermarket.

No, that was not true. She was trapped by the offer given by Xiao Lingyu. She was careless. She had stated the time she argued with Zhou Xiaolu as the time she asked Zhou Xiaolu for the emergency leave.

If she had not been tempted by Xiao Lingyu, she wouldn’t have acted so foolishly. She would come up with a better excuse. But it was too late for regret now.

However, she didn’t want to lose this job.

Li Xiaomei immediately lowered her head to admit her mistake and said, “Boss, general manager, I know I’m wrong. Please give me another chance, okay?”

She was begging Xiao Lingyu now but when she entered the office earlier, she had completely ignored her.

Everyone in the supermarket knew her thoughts and motives.

It was work time but she was dressing up like a slut. She was trying to attract Zeng Yaozu’s attention.

Xiao Lingyu said firmly, “If you had told me the reason why you were absent from work from the beginning, I might have given you a chance to stay.

“But you have lied time and time again. You only admit your mistake after I exposed you. Li Xiaomei, do you take me as a fool?”

“The rules and regulations are clear. Do you think I can bend them specifically for you? In that case, everyone else will follow your bad example! Today you’ll skip work for three days, and tomorrow, someone else will skip work for three days. Then, why do I need to hire anyone?”

Li Xiaomei had to leave that day. Xiao Lingyu was the boss. She had the final say.

Li Xiaomei knew that Xiao Lingyu could not be persuaded. She looked at Zeng Yaozu with a beautiful and pitiful expression. She said with an aggrieved and slightly sobbing tone, “General manager, I know I’m wrong. Next time, I won’t dare to miss work for no reason. Can you help me plead with the Boss?”

Zhou Xiaolu and Xiao Lingyu could not help but twitch their lips. Then, they looked at Zeng Yaozu as if they were watching a good show. ‘The beauty has pleaded with you. Will you show mercy?’

Zeng Yaozu saw the teasing expressions of the two women, and the corner of his mouth twitched.

He had a girlfriend and he was loyal to her. In fact, even if he didn’t have a girlfriend, he wouldn’t be interested in this two-faced woman.

Zeng Yaozu coughed twice and then said in a cold and official manner, “Li Xiaomei, the boss has already said that you can’t stay. I will listen to her instructions.

“I have already informed the human resources department. You can go to the human resources department to do the resignation procedures now. Then, you can go to the finance department to get your salary. Then, you can leave.”

Li Xiaomei’s expression froze. She seemed to be very surprised and shouted, “General manager!” Her expression and her shout seemed to indicate that she had an unspeakable relationship with the general manager.

Zeng Yaozu’s face turned black, and then he said coldly, “Okay, our company doesn’t need employees who skip work for no reason. You’d better leave as soon as possible.”

Zeng Yaozu sneered in his heart, ‘Li Xiaomei, you have no idea that the boss has long held a grudge against you. How will she keep you around? You better leave quietly.’

Seeing that there was no turning back, Li Xiaomei immediately showed anger on her face. She said loudly, “Hmph, you will definitely regret it!”

With that, she stepped on her high heels and left.

After Li Xiaomei left, Zhou Xiaolu also left to go back to work.

When no one was around, Zeng Yaozu said, “Does this Li Xiaomei think she descends from heaven and can seduce any man she wants?” He already had a fairy-like girlfriend!

Xiao Lingyu said with a smile, “It’s good that Li Xiaomei is gone now!”

Chapter 596: Village Meeting

Except for Zhang Li, who was a little disappointed, the others did not feel much about Li Xiaomei’s dismissal.

They were only surprised to hear that Li Xiaomei was personally fired by the boss. The employees knew that their boss normally didn't handle these things. The person in charge was Zeng Yaozu, the general manager.

They did not expect that the boss would personally intervene in the dismissal of a small employee.

Li Xiaomei was really bold and unlucky.

The boss personally caught her skipping work for no reason. Who would like such a worker? Plus, this was the perfect opportunity for the boss to make an example out of Li Xiaomei. One shouldn't skip work and expect to be forgiven.

However, Li Xiaomei was really pushing her luck. She could have asked for leave. It was not that hard!

One didn't even need to do it in person. Communication was much more convenient now. She could simply call or send a message to ask for a leave of absence.

Yet, she directly skipped work. Did she think she owned the supermarket? Could she come and go as she pleased?

Of course, Li Xiaomei did intend to be the wife of this supermarket's general manager.

Anyone with eyes could notice it.

Whenever general manager Zeng appeared, Li Xiaomei would use all kinds of methods to attract the general manager's attention.

However, every time, the general manager would perfectly step aside and refuse. That was really obvious.

For example, one time, when she saw general manager Zeng standing somewhere, Li Xiaomei deliberately passed by. Then, she pretended to sprain her ankle and fall into general manager Zeng's arms.

However, perhaps general manager Zeng was very guarded, so he immediately turned around and left.

Li Xiaomei directly fell to the ground. Another time, she benefitted a male colleague because she fell into his arms when Zeng Yaozu avoided her.

It was a joke.

Li Xiaomei was thick-skinned enough to pretend that none of this had happened and continued her acting.

Even the naive Zhang Li realized that something was wrong with Li Xiaomei.

This made Zhang Li ask her, "Xiaomei, do you like general manager Zeng?"

Li Xiaomei did not say anything.

Zhang Li continued, "You can't do that. General manager Zeng already has a girlfriend. She has been here before. They are such a happy couple. Xiaomei, you can't ruin that."

Li Xiaomei's face turned black. She said angrily, "They aren't married yet, are they? So how can I ruin anything? As long as they are not married, I have the right to pursue him."

Those words sounded very familiar. It was the same words Li Xiaomei told Zhang Li when she tried to persuade her to go after General Manager Zeng.

Zhang Li was naive but not stupid.

Did Li Xiaomei like general manager Zeng? Yes, but she probably liked Zeng Yaozu's handsomeness and money more.

Zhang Li saw how persistent Li Xiaomei was and didn't try to persuade her. However, from then on, she became estranged from Li Xiaomei.

Therefore, when Li Xiaomei was fired, Zhang Li felt it was within her expectations.

General manager Zeng obviously did not like Li Xiaomei. Now that he finally had a reason, of course, he had to make good use of it. Out of sight, out of mind, right?

Li Xiaomei's dismissal did not affect anyone.

However, it did make the employees more active in their work. If they had to leave, they would definitely ask for leave at the first moment.

They didn't want to be the second Li Xiaomei, and they didn't want to lose such a well-paid job.

Zeng Yaozu saw the change.

He reported the situation to Xiao Lingyu.

Xiao Lingyu said with a smile, "This lets them know that their work is not irreplaceable. Therefore, everyone must work hard."

...

After the discussion with the village elders and chief, Taoyuan Village had another village meeting. Many villagers heard the news, so they attached great importance to this meeting.

"I heard that Xiao Lingyu is going to turn our entire village into a tourist destination."

"I heard the same thing. If she can do that, that will be great."

"Does that mean Xiao Lingyu is going to contract the entire village?" Someone suddenly exclaimed.

"Ah, is that so?"

"Of course. Have you not seen it on Tv? Apart from the staff, no normal villagers are living in the tourist destinations."

"So, do we need to move from Taoyuan Village?"

"No, I heard from the village chief that we'll keep on living here. We're renting the whole village to Xiao Lingyu."

“The entire village?”

“I think so.”

“The village is huge! When Xiao Lingyu rented the mountain, she spent more than five million. The rental will be higher for the entire Taoyuan Village. Is Xiao Lingyu that rich?”

“Of course, she’s rich. Even if she doesn’t have money, her in-laws are rich. Have you forgotten that she married a rich man? Back then, her in-laws gave her a betrothal gift of several million RMB, and that was after Xiao Zhengyang rejected most of them. I heard that the original betrothal gift was more than a hundred million.”

“That’s really rich. Why is Xiao Lingyu’s life so good?”

“Is it really good? Haven’t you heard that Xiao Lingyu’s husband is in a vegetative state because of the car accident?”

“Sigh, that’s quite pitiful.”

“Is it though? This means that Xiao Lingyu will have all the money that belongs to her in-laws. With that, she could have easily bought out the entire Taoyuan Village. However, if we are required to move, there has to be a compensation fee.”

“No, I heard that Xiao Lingyu is still renting. However, the rent is definitely much higher than when she contracted the mountain.”

“The village chief told me that this time, Xiao Lingyu is planning to let the villagers invest in the development of Taoyuan Village.”

“Ah, what does that mean?”

“I don’t understand either!”

“The meeting today will talk about it. Let’s see what the village chief and the others have to say first.”

Chapter 597: The Meeting Continues!

“Lingyu, what do you mean by investing in the shares in the form of rent?” After hearing the contents of the meeting, someone asked curiously.

Xiao Lingyu replied very seriously, “If I were to develop Taoyuan Village into a tourist destination by myself, then I would naturally have to rent out all the land in the village.

“However, there is another way, and that is to involve the entire village. The biggest investment in the development of tourist destinations are fees for the land lease, house demolition, various equipment, labor costs, and other expenses.

“But if the entire village participates in the investment, there will be no demolition, so we can skip the demolition cost.

"I can bear all the expenses needed for the development of tourist destinations, or I can take your money to invest. I will decide the proportion of your shares according to the proportion you've invested. When Taoyuan Village makes money, we can directly distribute the dividends over the years."

"Lingyu, we still don't quite understand what you're saying. Can you give us a specific example?" A villager asked.

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, "For example, the investment for this project is a total of one million, and if you take out ten thousand to invest, then you will take up one percent of the shares. Then, if the total net income from this project is also one million at the end of the year, then your dividend income will also be 10,000!"

"Is that 10,000 every year?" Someone said quickly, "Lingyu, does this mean that we can get 10,000 in total?"

Xiao Lingyu shook her head and said, "No!"

The villagers were disappointed.

Someone said unhappily, "We can only get 10,000 RMB in total. What's the point?"

"That's right. I would rather keep my money in the bank and get interest."

"Yeah, that makes sense. Instead of investing in such a risky business, I might as well keep my money in the bank to generate more money. It's safer."

"I agree. It's safer and more assured!"

Xiao Lingyu waved her hand and immediately quieted everyone down.

She said, "You've all misunderstood. What I mean is that after you invest 10,000, you can receive a dividend every year based on 1% of the shares."

"Every year?" The villager said in surprise, "Lingyu, you're not lying to us, right? Can we really receive a dividend every year?"

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, "As long as we make money every year, you can get dividends every year. As long as Taoyuan Village continues to make money, your children and grandchildren can continue to get dividends."

"Our children and grandchildren will continue to receive the dividends?!" Most of the villagers found it unbelievable.

"Lingyu, you mean we only need to invest once, and we can get money every year?" A villager asked.

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, "That's right!" At this point, she changed the topic and said, "So, if everyone is willing, you can use your land lease to buy shares, participate in the investment, and then we will calculate the shares for you according to the ratio."

"Land lease?" Many of the villagers' eyes lit up, and then they asked, "Lingyu, how much can each family get from the lease this time? Is it more than when you contracted the mountain?"

“That’s right. How much will each family get from the land rent this time?”

“Lingyu, can we use other things like the mountain rent to invest in the development?”

The villagers asked the questions that they were most concerned about. Land lease and investment.

The land lease was related to the monetary interests of each family, and investment was a major matter for the future generations of the family.

The village chief immediately waved his hand, signaling for everyone to be quiet.

The village chief said, “Everyone, be quiet. Let’s go through these questions one by one. With all of you talking at once, how is Lingyu going to answer all of you?”

A villager immediately smiled and said, “We’re just anxious to know the answer.”

The village chief said, “But you’re only talking over each other now.”

The villager said, “Alright, we’ll ask the questions one by one.”

The village chief said, “You guys can discuss it among yourselves and find a representative to ask the question. I think everyone’s concerns should be about the same.”

The villagers did not have any objections.

Then, a villager who had been selected stepped forward and asked, “Lingyu, how much will we get for the land lease? Will it be calculated by the head or by household?”

Xiao Lingyu answered, “That is not up to me. I can say for now that while I’m not sure how much the land lease is going to be, it is going to be higher than the mountain contract. As for the exact amount, it still needs some time to be calculated.”

“Okay.”

“Lingyu, how is the share increase related to the investment? I remember you pay the mountain rent every three years, and the rent is raised every three years.”

Xiao Lingyu thought for a moment and said, “You will only need to invest your first rental payment. As for the future rental, I’ll pay you with the dividends.”

Of course, she would not let them use all the rent to invest in the shares. After all, the land lease over 30 years would be in the hundreds of millions. That was too much.

After hearing Xiao Lingyu, most of the villagers were happy.

Xiao Lingyu meant that they only needed to use the first payment of the rent as an investment and would get the dividends every year in the future. Then, they could continue to earn the rent every three years on top of that. It was worth it, no matter how they thought about it.

Of course, there were also some people who were more negative.

He asked, “Lingyu, it’s not that I don’t have faith in you. But what if tourism development doesn’t take flight? What about our investment? Will it be lost?”

This was a serious problem.

Xiao Lingyu asked very seriously, "Actually, if the investment fails, you guys won't lose anything, right?"

"The land will still be your family's. If we really want to talk about it, if the investment fails, the only one who will lose is me."

The entire village fell silent.

It was true. If this project succeeded, the whole village would benefit from it.

But if it failed, they would not suffer any losses. They would still have their houses and lands. There was no change at all.

If it failed, the one who suffered the greatest loss would be Xiao Lingyu. Whether it was manpower, financial resources, or material resources, they were all managed by Xiao Lingyu.

Of course, if they succeeded, Xiao Lingyu would also benefit the most.

After everyone had thought through this problem, they couldn't help but feel a little uncomfortable. However, most people were still more excited.

The meeting continued!

Chapter 598: Approval

"Little Master, do you think Master can turn Taoyuan Village into a tourist destination and make it a success?" Xiao Ling asked curiously in the space.

Xiao Tong said very proudly, "It must be a success!"

In his previous life, he had heard from his grandparents that his mother worked in a big company in a big city and had become an executive. She had a lot of things to do every day, so she had no time to come back and visit him.

But in fact, Xiao Tong knew very well in his heart that it was not that his mother did not have time to come back and visit him, but that she did not want to see him at all, so she avoided him whenever she could.

Although his mother did not like him in his previous life, he now knew that his mother in that life was probably a strong woman, which was why her career was very successful, and she was able to become an executive in a big company.

She was now very successful in planting vegetables. As for the fruits, she would only be able to harvest them in the second half of the year.

With his mother's ability, how could this latest project fail?

The most important aspect was money.

But didn't he have the richest father in the world?

Although his father was unconscious now, he still had a healthy great-grandfather. His great-grandfather liked his mother and great-grandson.

With a lift from his finger, his mother would have enough to invest in several Taoyuan Villages.

Of course, his mother was a woman of integrity. Unless it was absolutely necessary, she would definitely not use the Gong Family's money.

Xiao Ling did not know where the little master's confidence came from, but he was a little disappointed because he wanted to go out and play.

He didn't want to follow little master in the space every day. His little master's soul was too strong, and he was under a lot of pressure.

Besides, Little Master didn't come to play with him when he entered the space, but to cultivate. After seeing the bustle outside, Xiao Ling wanted to go out and play. But master seemed to have forgotten about his existence.

Every day, she threw little master into the space, and then she started to work.

"Xiao Ling, what's wrong?" Xiao Tong saw Xiao Ling's slightly depressed mood and asked curiously.

Xiao Ling thought for a moment and said truthfully, "Little Master, have Master forgotten about me? Previously, master had promised me that as long as there was a chance, she would let me go out and play. But I've been here for so long, and Master hasn't let me go out to play again."

Xiao Tong held his chin and waved his hand, then said, "It's not that mom has forgotten about you, but she's been busy recently. In addition, your appearance is hard to explain. It would be shocking and very unsafe. Therefore, mom must still be looking for an opportunity to let you appear in front of people openly and play."

Xiao Ling still didn't understand.

When Xiao Tong saw Xiao Ling's unhappy look, he could only comfort her, "Be good. You have to believe in your master. My mom definitely didn't forget the promise she made to you. It's just that she doesn't have the opportunity now."

Xiao Ling said reluctantly, "Alright." At this point, he suddenly thought of something, and his eyes sparkled. He said, "Little Master, can you help me ask Master something?"

"..." Xiao Tong spread his hands and said helplessly, "Have you forgotten that I'm only seven months old now? I don't know how to talk. If I don't know how to talk, how can I help you ask? I suggest you ask mother yourself."

Xiao Ling's eyes darkened, and he nodded. "Okay!"

...

Recently, Xiao Lingyu had been very busy. Developing Taoyuan Village was something that took up a lot of time. The village belonged to many different families.

Therefore, the development of this piece of land had to be approved by the entire village. It also had to be approved by the town, the county, and even the city.

During this approval process, as long as there was one party who didn't agree, it meant that all of the previous efforts had been in vain.

Therefore, these days, Xiao Lingyu and the village were busy, going back and forth between the county and the city.

Things at Xing An Town were okay. When the people in the town center saw Xiao Lingyu's proposal, they were very optimistic. Over the past year, Taoyuan Village leaped from the poorest village to the richest village. Naturally, the town council paid a lot of attention to this.

Now, Taoyuan Village was starting a new project, and the initiator of the project was Xiao Lingyu. Xiao Lingyu was a famous university student who had helped the entire village become rich. Her name had been recorded in the minds of the town leaders a long time ago.

Therefore, when they saw her application and carefully read it, they were really surprised.

If Taoyuan Village was turned into a farm and a tourist base, it would not only bring about the prosperity of the entire village but also the economic development of the entire town and even the entire county.

Xiao Lingyu's plan wouldn't occupy a single piece of existing farmland. On the contrary, she planned to use this farmland to create tourist attractions like vegetable fields, flower fields, terraced fields, and so on.

On top of that, the investment didn't involve any outside investors. It was purely Xiao Lingyu and the villagers. This was to preserve the original style and customs of Taoyuan Village to the greatest extent, and it also protected the interests of the villagers.

....

"This Xiao Lingyu is really a talent." The town leader held the proposal and clicked his tongue in praise.

"Xiao Lingyu graduated from a famous university. She must have some talent and ability." The subordinate immediately echoed, "Well, she has turned the poorest village in the county into the richest village in the county in just over a year since she returned from the big city. Her ability is not to be underestimated."

"Now she wants to change the whole Taoyuan Village. Such confidence!"

The Taoyuan Village project was nominally invested by Xiao Lingyu and the entire village. However, Xiao Lingyu was the only one who paid for it. The villagers were just taking advantage of the situation.

The amount of money required for this project was huge. Xiao Lingyu must be really rich to take on this project alone.

When the subordinate heard the leader's words, he leaned over and whispered, "Leader, can this Xiao Lingyu really take on such a huge project? Should we pull in some investors to prevent failure?"

“What nonsense!” The leader heard his subordinate’s suggestion and said with a very serious expression, “Xiao Lingyu would have stated in the proposal if she needed outside investors. Since she didn’t, it meant that she could handle everything on her own. If a random investor were brought in, would Taoyuan Village still retain its current state?”

The subordinate said with some grievance, “But leader, does Xiao Lingyu really has that much money? What if the project runs out of money halfway through development. Then what should we do?”

“We should look for investors now. If the project halted, then we could still rescue it with outside investment. If the project failed, then our town council would be a huge laughing stock.”

Basically, the subordinate was only looking out for his boss.

When the town leader heard this, his eyes narrowed slightly as if he was thinking. Then, he waved his hand and said, “We don’t need to worry about this now!” At worst, the town council would directly take over this project in the future.

The subordinate was stunned. “...” If they didn’t need to worry about this now, when should they worry about it? When the project was about to fail?

This subordinate was a little confused.

This subordinate didn’t know the whole picture because he wasn’t here a year ago. Someone from outside wanted to take over Taoyuan Village, but the company went bankrupt, and the organization of the different government councils changed drastically.

Town leaders had news channels. They knew that the cause of the bankruptcy and everything else was Xiao Lingyu. This went to show how powerful she was. The power behind her was big.

Since Xiao Lingyu had the confidence to hand in this proposal, it meant that she had the money and confidence.

Therefore, as for whether the investment failed or not, it was not something they needed to worry about.

Regarding this proposal, after the town leader held a decision meeting with the others, he signed it and gave his seal of approval. Then the proposal was submitted to Xing Yin County Council.

The County Council’s leader was Qian Yifan’s father, who was somewhat familiar with Xiao Lingyu.

Back then, when Xiao Lingye held the university banquet, he had attended it. Even though he left in a hurry, it showed his respect for Xiao Lingye and Xiao Lingyu.

When he saw Xiao Lingyu’s proposal, he thought it was pretty good. The proposal went through smoothly after a meeting with the county authorities.

Of course, when Xiao Lingyu received this news, she was very excited and happy.

She never expected that the approval from Xing An Town and Xing Yin County would pass so quickly. This was even faster than when she applied to contract the mountains.

The proposal was at the city council. She wondered how it would go.

Although she had worked in City Z for a few years and knew a few people, she did not know a single person from City Z's city council.

Therefore, she could only wait for news.

While she was waiting, Xiao Lingyu and the villagers were calculating the land rent and the matter of the rental shares.

Just as Xiao Lingyu had expected, some villagers only wanted to take the money and were not willing to invest.

Their potential shares were bought by Xiao Lingyu or other villagers. Of course, most of it was bought by Xiao Lingyu. Normal villagers weren't that rich or that into risk-taking.

Chapter 599: Rejected

"What, blocked? Why?" Xiao Lingyu was puzzled when she received the notification that her approval application had been blocked.

Her proposal passed smoothly through Xing An Town and Xing Yin County, so why did it get stuck at City Z?

"Is there a reason?" Xiao Lingyu asked Qian Yifan.

The application was stuck in City Z. As the head of Xing Yi County, Qian Guoxin naturally had his own information channels. However, due to his identity, he could not tell Xiao Lingyu directly, so he informed Xiao Lingyu through his son.

Qian Yifan shook his head and said, "My dad doesn't know the specific reason either. But I heard from my dad that the crux is the city council leader. I heard that this new leader was only appointed a year ago."

Xiao Lingyu frowned. This meant that Qian Yifan's dad did not know the reason either. This was a little unexpected and troublesome.

However, she would not stop working on the funding.

She would have to go to City Z herself to understand the real reason.

However, other than Yan Siming, she didn't have any real connection in City Z. While she used to work there, she only had colleagues and no friends. Plus, no one would want to befriend her back then anyway.

If there was no other way, she could only ask Yan Siming for help or use the power of the Gong family.

However, Gong Tianhao was in a coma. The news of him being seriously injured in the hospital had spread among the upper-class society. If she used Gong Tianhao's power, she worried that it would attract the attention of some unsightly characters. Therefore, this was her last resort. It was to protect their son.

Xiao Lingyu put down the phone and sighed, "Tianhao, how are you healing? I miss you. Do you know that our son is almost seven months?"

Her eyes were filled with endless longing!

In the past few months, she had secretly visited Gong Tianhao under Situ Xing's arrangements. However, she really wanted him to open his eyes and talk to her.

Xiao Ling said that it would take at least two to three years for Gong Tianhao's brain to recover.

Only a few months had passed, but it felt like torture. She could only use her busy work to forget about him. However, in the dead of the night, she fell asleep with tears in her eyes.

Xiao Ling also said that Gong Tianhao's brain had been reorganized. Even if he woke up, he might lose his memory. As for when he could remember the past, it was hard to say.

"Gong Tianhao, you can't forget me. If you forget me, my son and I will definitely not forgive you." Xiao Lingyu lowered her eyes and muttered to herself.

...

In City Z's admin building...

"Leader, the majority of the officials believe that the project for Taoyuan Village to be made into a farming tourism center is not bad. Why..." didn't you approve it? The leader's secretary asked with some double. The secretary didn't understand the rejection given by his boss.

Any discerning person could tell that if this project succeeded, it would benefit the villagers, the town, the county, and even the city. However, the city leader had to block it and the reason was very strange. It was because the project would occupy farmland and a lack of funds.

Everyone was confused.

It was written clearly in the proposal that no farmland would be occupied. At least some additional security measures would be added.

As for the second reason, it was even more confusing. The proposal provided the budgets and the funding sources for everything.

Therefore, it felt purposeful that the city leader had blocked this proposal. However, this was their leader so what could the officials beneath him say anything?

Unless someone even higher on the ladder came to say something.

The secretary said carefully, "Leader, are we going to send the proposal back to Xing Yin County for another approval?"

The leader frowned and thought for a moment. Then, he said, "Let's keep it here first!" He rejected the approval because someone told him to. He wanted to observe. Mainly, how did Xiao Lingyu manage to offend this person? It was unbelievable that a country woman could offend a powerful family in City Z.

However, at the same time, it also showed that this woman was capable.

The secretary was doubtful after she heard her leader but she still replied respectfully, "Yes!"

...

Xiao Lingyu came to city Z. She approached Zeng Yaozu to see if he had any connections.

“I have a university classmate who is now a civil servant. He is in the City Z admin. How about I make an appointment with this old classmate?”

After Zeng Yaozu heard the reason why Xiao Lingyu came to city Z, he thought about his network in City Z.

Xiao Lingyu said, “How is your relationship with that classmate? Will it be troublesome? If it’s too difficult, then forget it. I’ll think of another way.”

Zeng Yaozu said with a smile, “Don’t worry. I have a good relationship with him. We have always kept in touched. We have even gone out for dinner a few times. How about it? I’ll ask to see if he’s free today. How about a dinner together?”

Xiao Lingyu thought for a while and said, “Sure!”

Then, Zeng Yaozu made a phone call to his old classmate in front of Xiao Lingyu.

“Xuefeng, how about dinner tonight?”

“However, I need a favor from you. Of course, I won’t make things difficult for you.”

“Okay, it’s a deal then! Let’s meet at our usual place!”

After Zeng Yaozu hung up the phone, he smiled and said to Xiao Lingyu, “Let’s meet at the Four Seasons Green Food Stall Tonight!”

“Four Seasons Green Food Stall?” Xiao Lingyu raised her eyebrows.

This was not a very high-class place.

Zeng Yaozu said, “When we were in university, we loved places like that the most. The food is delicious, and the price is cheap. When we were students, we didn’t have much money.” Even young masters had to learn how to budget when they were in university.

Although they had decent family conditions, their living expenses were restricted. They couldn’t afford to go to high-class restaurants often. So sometimes, they would frequent food stalls.

The habit stuck even after they graduated. They still chose to go to the big food stalls when they had a meal together.

...

When Li Xuefeng received a call from Zeng Yaozu, he wondered what kind of favor he needed this time. For a moment, he was in a difficult position.

As a civil servant working in the government, he had to be careful with his every move.

He knew that Zeng Yaozu was the general manager of the famous fruit and vegetable supermarket in City Z. Even though the price was high, they were still being snatched up daily.

When they met up, Zeng Yaozu often brought some fresh vegetables from the supermarket to him.

The taste of the vegetables was really superb. No wonder people were willing to fight for them in spite of the high price.

He didn't reject Zeng Yaozu outright. He wasn't in a hurry to refuse. He wanted to meet him first and see what the situation was like first.

What if it was really a small favor? He didn't want to hurt the feeling of his friend for many years.

With this thought in mind, Li Xuefeng stayed until he got off work.

Then, he drove straight to the Four Seasons Green Food Stall.

When he arrived at the private booth, he pushed open the door. His pupils suddenly shrank, and then his eyes lit up.

Could it be that his old classmate wanted to match make?

After all, he was still single.

He was a civil servant. Many girls with good conditions were willing to marry him. However, many people who knew Li Xuefeng were not willing to marry their daughter or their friends to Li Xuefeng.

The main reason was that Li Xuefeng was a mommy's boy, and his mother liked to intervene in his life.

Therefore, Li Xuefeng went on hundreds of blind dates, but whenever it seemed like he was going to succeed, the next day, his mother would tell him to reject the girls.

Li Xuefeng was also annoyed, but it was impossible for him to completely ignore his mother's opinion.

Therefore, Li Xuefeng was still a bachelor.

When he saw the girl in the booth, he naturally assumed that his old classmate had set up a blind date for him.

Chapter 600: Please Ask Around

"Xuefeng!" Zeng Yaozu greeted Li Xuefeng with a smile when he saw him enter the room.

Li Xuefeng sat at the side with a black briefcase and said with a smile, "Yaozu, if I knew you would bring a beautiful woman here, I would definitely go home and change before coming."

Zeng Yaozu introduced, "Come, let me make some introduction. Lingyu, this is my old classmate, Li Xuefeng. He's currently working in the city council. He is the section chief of the construction department."

Xiao Lingyu greeted him politely, "Section chief Li!"

When Li Xuefeng heard Zeng Yaozu's introduction, his heart was filled with pride. He was only twenty-five years old, but he was already a section chief. In the eyes of others, he was a typical example of a successful man. Of course, his parents had pulled some strings behind the scene.

Li Xuefeng said humbly, "Yaozu, I am just the deputy section chief."

Zeng Yaozu had been in society for so many years, so he had naturally become more tactful.

He smiled and said, "Whether it's the chief or the deputy section chief, they are all section chiefs."

Li Xuefeng did not explain further. However, he looked at Xiao Lingyu with a burning gaze and asked with some doubt, "The lady is..."

The girl was really beautiful. She was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. Even some of the celebrities he had seen were not as beautiful as her. He was moved.

He thought his old classmate was setting him up on a blind date. But at the same time, he felt that his old classmate had a big favor to ask, or else he wouldn't have given him this beauty. Therefore, he was thinking about whether he should accept or not.

It was really hard for men to refuse beautiful women. Li Xuefeng had been introduced to countless beauties due to his career. He would pick them. Naturally, he wouldn't reject the beauties.

Of course, his wife candidate had to be from a matching background as his.

However, Li Xuefeng's mother was always in the way. No matter how poor the girl's family background was, they were unwilling to send their daughters to be tortured by Li Xuefeng's mother. However, Li Xuefeng had learned to be carefree and enjoy the company of beauties without attachment.

While Li Xuefeng was thinking, Zeng Yaozu introduced him, "Xuefeng, this is my boss, Xiao Lingyu. She owns Taoyuan Village's Green Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Supermarket."

When Li Xuefeng heard that he was stunned and said in disbelief, "Yaozu, what did you say? She's the boss of Taoyuan Village's Green Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Supermarket, which has been very popular in our city recently?"

Zeng Yaozu was confused when he saw his old classmate's expression change, but he nodded without changing his expression. "Yes, she's my boss."

Li Xuefeng felt a little disappointed. This woman was the supermarket boss. It seemed like it was not Zeng Yaozu who needed the favor from him but this supermarket boss. With Zeng Yaozu's family background, his boss must be quite powerful.

Zeng Yaozu smiled and said, "Xuefeng, I've already ordered a few of your favorite dishes and drinks. Do you want to order anything else? Don't worry. I'll treat you this time!"

One could tell that the two of them had a good relationship.

Li Xuefeng smiled and said, "Alright, I'll not waste this opportunity. I want to have some seafood."

Zeng Yaozu smiled and said, "I've ordered them all."

As soon as Zeng Yaozu said that, the waiter came over and asked, "Mr. Zeng, shall we serve the dishes now?"

Zeng Yaozu nodded. "Yes."

A moment later, the seafood, the signature dishes of the restaurant, and the water, wine, and drinks were served.

“Come, Xuefeng, let’s drink!” Zeng Yaozu raised his glass.

Li Xuefeng picked up his glass, but his eyes were looking at Xiao Lingyu. It was an invitation for her to drink too. Since she needed a favor, drinking was compulsory.

Zeng Yaozu said with a smile, “My boss doesn’t know how to drink. It’ll be just the two of us!”

Li Xuefeng said with a faint smile, “Yaozu, I remember that you have a girlfriend. Won’t your girlfriend be jealous when she finds out how protective you are of your boss?”

Li Xuefeng knew that Zeng Yaozu had a girlfriend. Zeng Yaozu had talked about her during their dinners together. Li Xuefeng was sometimes envious and annoyed.

Zeng Yaozu laughed and said, “Let me tell you, my girlfriend will not be jealous. Xiao Lingyu is both my girlfriend’s sister and boss.”

Li Xuefeng raised his eyebrows and said with some interest, “Oh, I see.”

Then, Li Xuefeng asked, “Miss Xiao, do you really not know how to drink?” He was still interested in Xiao Lingyu.

Zeng Yaozu frowned and thought to himself, ‘Oh no, Li Xuefeng is not interested in Xiao Lingyu, is he?’

He considered it. ‘It makes sense. A beauty like Xiao Lingyu will attract men’s attention wherever she goes.’ If he didn’t fall in love with Xiao Xinxin, he might be interested in Xiao Lingyu too. After all, what men didn’t like beautiful women?

Zeng Yaozu was about to explain when Xiao Lingyu stood up and said with a smile, “How could I not give you face, section chief Li?” Then, she poured herself a glass of white wine and raised it. She glanced at the white wine, which was as clean as water, and continued with a smile, “I used to drink, but after I had a baby, my family doesn’t allow me to drink because I have to breastfeed.”

Li Xuefeng was stunned and asked incredulously, “Miss Xiao, you have a child?”

Zeng Yaozu smiled and said, “I say, Xuefeng. What’s so shocking about that? Isn’t it normal for a woman to get married and have children?” Then, Zeng Yaozu seemed to have thought of something. He looked at Xiao Lingyu and said very seriously, “Sister, your child is only seven months old and is still breastfeeding. You can’t drink alcohol yet.”

Then, he turned to Li Xuefeng and said, “My girlfriend told me every day to keep an eye on her sister. I can’t let her drink any alcohol!”

Xiao Lingyu insisted, “The child is slowly weaning. I can drink some.”

“No!” Zeng Yaozu was very insistent. Then, he said to Li Xuefeng, “Come, Xuefeng, we’ll drink among ourselves!”

Zeng Yaozu and Xiao Lingyu were making a show. How could Li Xuefeng not understand what they meant?

They were telling him that Xiao Lingyu was already married and had a son. He had to get rid of any inappropriate thoughts as soon as possible.

Li Xuefeng was disappointed. Thankfully, he hadn't said anything dumb.

Seeing how Zeng Yaozu was so protective of Xiao Lingyu, Li Xuefeng was a sensible person. He didn't pursue this topic any further for the sake of his old classmate.

He picked up the wine glass and echoed, "Yes, mothers who are breastfeeding should not drink!"

Then, he toasted with Zeng Yaozu. However, the wine that entered his mouth was no longer as mellow as before. Instead, it was slightly bitter.

Halfway through the meal, Zeng Yaozu told Li Xuefeng his purpose for asking him out.

He said, "Xuefeng, actually, I asked you out this time to ask for your help."

Li Xuefeng asked curiously, "Oh, what help? If I can help, I will definitely help!" At least, that was what he should say.

Zeng Yaozu and Xiao Lingyu looked at each other, and Xiao Lingyu said, "It's like this, section chief Li! I submitted a project about developing Taoyuan Village into a farming tourism base, but my application was blocked by the city council. However, the specific reason is unclear, so I want to find out more."

Li Xuefeng was shocked. He asked in surprise, "You're the applicant for that project?!"

Xiao Lingyu raised her eyebrows and asked curiously, "Oh, section chief Li knows about this project application?"

Li Xuefeng nodded and said, "I've heard of it!"

Basically, all the officials approved of this proposal but it got stuck at the top leader's place. No one understood why. People at his level weren't given a clear reason either. However, since this didn't have anything to do with him, he didn't ask.

Who would have thought that someone would come looking for him because of this?

Li Xuefeng looked at Xiao Lingyu with mixed feelings.

At first, he thought that this beauty was just a vase.

He didn't expect her to be the boss of his old classmate, Zeng Yaozu.

In his eyes, this boss was just an ordinary boss. However, she was actually someone who was worth more than ten million!

The investment and budget for the proposal was more than ten million RMB, and she was the sole investor. She was someone who could take out tens of millions for investment. She wasn't someone to be looked down upon.

After all, even a large company would have a problem gathering ten million in funding all of a sudden. This was because all the funds would be in company operation.

Thinking of this, Li Xuefeng had a new impression of Xiao Lingyu.

A capable beauty was always appreciated.

Since the topic had been brought up, Zeng Yaozu took over and said, "Yes, this project was initiated by Xiao Lingyu. The approval of this project passed smoothly in the town and county. However, it was stuck here. We have some questions to ask."

Li Xuefeng said seriously, "I've heard about this project, and I've also heard that this project was blocked. As for the reason, I'm just a small deputy leader, so I'm also not sure."

Zeng Yaozu smiled and said, "I need you to inquire about it."

After a moment of silence, Li Xuefeng said, "Okay. If it's possible, I'll help you inquire about it!"

"Thank you so much, old classmate!" Zeng Yaozu said happily.

Xiao Lingyu also smiled and said, "Thank you, section chief Li!"

However, Li Xuefeng said seriously, "I'll say it first. I don't know if I can find out more about this matter, but I'll try my best!"

Xiao Lingyu smiled and said, "No matter what the result is, I still have to thank you, section chief Li." At this point, she took out two jars and said, "I heard from Yaozu that Auntie's health is not very good. These two bottles of fruit wine are health wine. She can drink a small glass before going to bed every night. I guarantee that she'll sleep well. She'll wake up energized the next morning. In the long run, the health will improve."

Initially, Li Xuefeng was a little disdainful of the two wine jars that Xiao Lingyu took out. However, when he heard that Xiao Lingyu's fruit wine could help to improve one's health, he was moved.

After a moment of silence, he asked, "Can these fruit wines really help to improve one's health?"

At this moment, Zeng Yaozu said, "Xuefeng, I can guarantee this. My grandfather drinks this fruit wine every day. His body is getting better and better!" He pushed the wine to Li Xuefeng and said, "Xuefeng, we have been classmates for many years. I won't lie to you.

"Besides, you can take it temporarily and let aunt and uncle try it, right? If it doesn't work, you can come to complain to me directly!"

Li Xuefeng nodded and said, "Then I'll take these two bottles of wine!"

However, the wine jars looked very ordinary. He didn't know whether his mother would be down to drink them or not. Therefore, he was wondering if he should swap them into high-end packaging.

He was still hesitating when he carried the wine jar to the door of his house.

Xiao Lingyu and Zeng Yaozu knew that Li Xuefeng would help after he saw the effects of the wines.

However, based on Zeng Yaozu's understanding, Li Xuefeng's mother was a vain woman. Would she be interested in the wine stored in these two common wine jars?