

## The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 36

The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 36 Accident? Or

From our prior interactions, I already knew that this Hong couldn't possibly be some minor character, but I didn't know that she'd be this important in Jianghu either.

"Only a brief and chanced meeting." Finishing off, I suddenly found a lot of people squatting beside us and listening to our chats. They probably got tired of beating up Liu Hu already.

Speaking of which, I turned to look at how he was. His face was a complete swollen mess, and was lying on the ground clutching his knees in a fetal position, crying for his mother.

I only glanced at him, and he became so afraid that he scurried into the corner furthest away from me, tucking in and making himself look as small as possible.

I continued with Chou, "So, Big Chou, you Red Lanterns have beef with the Black Dragons?"

"Oh we have beef with them alright, no, more than that, we have hell with them! See here, we used to be good between us, the Red Lanterns and Black Dragons. At least, not always fighting like now. Then suddenly, some genius Black Dragon decided to start picking fights on our ground. Our Red Lanterns brothers tried reasoning with them, trying to find out why, but they said nothing and just ganged up and beat our brother to a pulp, many times and at many places!"

I don't know much of the histories between the two gangs. I asked only because I knew that Liu Hu belongs to the Black Dragon, and finding out that all others here were Red Lanterns seemed to set him on edge more than anything else.

As expected, when I turned around to look at him, Liu Hu's face was already white with terror. Maybe the people in here never really talked about who they were outside, so they never knew that Liu Hu was a part of their rival gang and vice versa. Big Chou was in here because of the Black Dragons. If he had known that Liu Hu was a Black Dragon, then he'll definitely fix him up good.

Liu Hu's lips trembled, fearful of when I would expose his identity. Knowing what he was worried about, I would never give him the satisfaction. Beating him around has lost its charm for me already. I found, that it was much better to keep him in this constant state of fear, letting him feel the sharpness of the guillotine blade always looming over the back of his neck, never really coming down but always keeping him on edge. This would definitely drive him crazy.

I knew that it was sickening of me to even have that kind of thought, but to which I could only say that, I'm sorry. To me, no punishment to Liu Hu could ever be too severe, since he ruined my entire life.

As expected, as I talked about Black Dragon with Big Chou, every time I mentioned Black Dragon, I shot a glance at Liu Hu. By now, Liu Hu had fully realized my intention, and had long since began preparing and anticipating for his ultimatum, but I won't give it to him that easily.

Then someone sighed, and said something that immediately caught my attention, "Here's a bad news for all of us. That bastard Jiang, they're all saying out there that he's finally back, after all these years."

Though I managed to keep my face plain, but my heart and my mind already kicked themselves into top gear. This Jiang that Big Chou was talking about, could he possibly have meant Jiang Ming?

Big Chou said, "I heard about that too, and I think it's true. Last time when I met that weasel Jin, he said it right in the open in front of everyone that their big bro Jiang Ming was finally going to come back. He was a real tough one. Looks like Tong City won't be getting any rest time anytime soon."

I could hardly control myself, though I tried to maintain a neutral face nonetheless, "Just who is this Jiang Ming?"

"Chao, you didn't know, but that's to be expected, since it's probably before your time. Jiang Ming, back then, he was the one in control of everything in Tong City. I guess you could say that he was a Loyalist. Back then, there was only one major gang in Tong City. But one day, something happened and the people split into two. And you guessed it, the Red Lanterns and the Black Dragons. The Black Dragons were mainly the same group of people that ran the Tong City before the split. And us Red Lanterns, back then, we were only a bunch of nobodies, but we were united in one common belief, and that is we had enough of Black Dragon's elitism and dictatorship. Of course, we clashed a few times, and by the end of it, some important people in the jianghu mediated between us and negotiated a truce between us Red Lanterns and the Black Dragon. And the peace was kept for many years, until a rumor began circulating this year, saying that Jiang Ming is coming back to the Tong City, and that he would once again seize control of it again. Well I know what to say to them exactly, leave the dream talk until you sleep!"

All the others joked and laughed, except for Liu Hu. He kept his eyes averted, not daring to make a sound.

I nodded, outwardly, but inside, I don't really buy what Big Chou said. Either the Red Lanterns, or the Black Dragons, it makes little difference as far as I'm really concerned.

Both of them were gangsters believing themselves to be above the jurisdiction of the laws.

But that part about Jiang Ming was probably true. Both the Red Lanterns and Black Dragons agree over this. Jiang Ming's identity must be true.

If Jiang Ming was still such an influential dictator to be able to call and stop bloodshed in Tong City even now, he must be even more powerful back in his time. And, if a person as powerful as Jiang Ming had a personal grudge against my parents, would he have simply left my parents be? I doubted it. Taking Chen Yuzhou as an example, he was ready to stoop to as low as to the point of murder and rape just because he had been jealous of me. What if it had been Jiang Ming? Would Jiang Ming be able to let it go because he has seen more and was more powerful than Chen Yuzhou? Or would Jiang Ming be even worse than Chen Yuzhou?

And then, a matter that I had long since grew resolved to simply accept it as fact, popped up again.

Was what happened to my parents truly an untimely accident? Or... was there someone behind it after all?

"This Jiang Ming character, why did he leave Tong City all those years ago?" I asked.

Big Chou shook his big head, "Nobody knew for real. Suddenly, he was just gone. Rumor has it that he got himself into trouble with his old man, so his old man sent him far away."

"When did he leave Tong City?" I asked.

"It was all those years ago, I really couldn't remember it clearly. Besides, Jiang Ming had always been more of a secretive character, and I was... ah... I wasn't quite a somebody yet back then."

Big Chou stammered, and couldn't answer any more clearer. From how he sounded, it was probably because he wasn't quite important enough as a character to be able to come into contact with someone as famous as Jiang Ming to know more about him. But he couldn't quite say that straight as it, since he was a Red Lantern and Jiang Ming was a Black Dragon, and he'll die before admitting that a Black Dragon stood a world above him in rank, even if that Black Dragon is the famous Jiang Ming.

Since for people who walk the jianghu, they cared about their respect and dignity more than anything else in the world, I stopped chasing up to Big Chou about Jiang Ming and quickly changed the topic to talk about something else.

But this time, Big Chou chased me up instead, "So, Little Chao, my brother, what are you in here for? And why all this interest about this Jiang Ming?"

I cursed at my own indiscretion just then. I've dug too hard at that particular topic that even Big Chou noticed it. I knew that news of this kind tend to spread like wildfire within the jianghu, and I didn't want him to know that I was interested in him, not yet, not before I was prepared.

But then as I looked at Big Chou's face, the way he looked at me was hard to describe, as if he was a little afraid and a little nervous at the same time, and immediately I understood. He didn't catch on to what I was afraid that he might have, but that he thought that perhaps I was one of the Black Dragons because I had kept asking about Jiang Ming.

I stretched and yawned, "Well, like I said before, I was framed. One day, I saw a human trash doing an atrocious act to another person, so I beat him to a pulp. Trouble is, this human trash has a name called Chen Yuzhou, and he has a rather power daddy, and the rest is history."

Hearing what I was in here for, Big Chou's eyes reddened with wrath, and began cursing in a long rant that the law is dead. Then, after a while, he switched to how inhuman those rich bastards are, and then he sighed, "Here in Tong City we have a saying, in Tong City, if a devil and a Chen both offer their hand to you, you take the hand of that devil and you run the hell away from that Chen. This Chen Yuzhou you were talking about, his father was called Chen Ruhai. Craftier than the devil and more venomous than the serpent. He loved that spoilt bastard that he call son more than anything else in the world. You know that? This Chen Yuzhou, even the lowliest of us lowlives felt disgusted at what he did, and how frequently he does these things!"

Looks like Chen Yuzhou's infamy has spread far and wide, even in places that I didn't know about. A few of the others even began saying that they also knew of other acts that he has committed.

"Just what happened?" I asked them.

They looked at each other, suddenly looking afraid. But after a while, Big Chou spat on the ground and declared boldly, "I am a Red Lantern, and I ain't afraid of some lowlives even lowlier than the lowest of the lowlives!"

He continued, "I won't bore you with the usual story of beating up the poor guys and sleeping their girls. Already he has ruined more girls' lives than I have fingers and toes. Of course, this little bastard would then say something like everyone has the freedom to love, the women enjoyed it, it wasn't his fault and so and so and so. But, Little Chao, last year, Chen Yuzhou drug raped a girl, but that girl became pregnant with Chen Yuzhou's child. That girl reported to the police, and got lawyers to sue him on charges of drug dealership and rape. You know what little bastard said?"

I shook my head. I had no interest in playing the guessing game with something as sickening as this. Whatever it was, I knew it couldn't be anything worth my time trying to guess it.

Before Big Chou opened his mouth to say it, another person as skinny as a monkey couldn't keep his anger in check anymore, and yelled, "You won't guess it! No one who still has a touch of humanity left in them can! That little bastard Chen Yuzhou said that poor little girl was a prostitute! That his friend bought her service and did her and that he had nothing to do with her! And what's even more sickening is that all the evidence that they gave the police just simply vanished into thin air! They made it that even if the poor girl was drugged and raped and abused half dead, they could never convict that little bastard with any of the crimes he committed!"

This was a surprise to me, "He can erase even the evidence that has been handed to the police?"

## **The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 37**

The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 37 I Was Wrong

"That's right! The Chen's, here in Ton City, they can do anything!"

I expected that there must be more that the Chen's can do, but I didn't know that they were this capable. If I had known, I would have told Chu Xiaoxiao to remember to not to let the police know the video recording so soon, but it was already too late now.

Big Chou continued, "And that's not the end of it just yet. That girl, she had guts, and she insisted that she would bear with it and give birth to the child she was pregnant with, so she can run DNA tests later to prove that the child is indeed Chen Yuzhou's!"

"This is not worth it. And even if Chen Yuzhou really got convicted, it'd be at most five years for him, but she'll have to live with it for the rest of her life. Not to mention that, the Chen's would find every opportunity to harass her at every turn,"

And since, Chen Yuzhou was still frolicking out and about all these years, that mustn't have worked either. I sighed.

Big Chou said, "You got that right, they did. They got to her, and her poor child too. That girl and her child, they died. On the birthbed, on the hospital operation bed."

I gasped, shocked and horrified at the turn of events, "Chen Yuzhou again!?"

Big Chou spat in disgust, "Heh, a medical negligence, they called it. Stillborn."

“Just how...”

“I know, that a woman giving birth is no different than taking a walk at the border between life and death. But, it was no accident. The name of the doctor who operated on her is Chen Mengyun. They called it negligence, but I call it murder.”

I opened my mouth, wanting to say something, but it was as though an invisible hand had choked at my throat. No words came, and I felt my stomach stirred and almost vomited on the spot.

I’ve been on the battlefield. Guns and knives and bombs, in its full glorious goriness. I thought I had seen hell already, but this was more horrifying than anything that I knew.

The corruptness in a human heart was more terrifying than anything I’ve experienced on the battlefield.

“They murdered them, the girl and the child in her. The girl’s folks were from another city. They heard about this, but when they came, they... they took the poor girl and her baby’s corpse away from the morgue and cremated them straight away and just went back as if nothing had happened. Rumor has it that they... received a large sum of money from the Chen’s right before they came... Boys! Listen up! My brother Chao here, he’s a real man. If any of you still call me Boss, you respect my brother like he was me! From today, he is my number two man! Brother, you just chill with us. Chen Ruhai also had the courage of a dead chicken, so he probably won’t resort to killing you unless he was left with no other choice. Especially if you have someone to back you up, like us Red Lanterns!”

His words were all over the place, and sometimes made no sense, but somehow, something in my heart seemed to echo and resonate with the rise and fall of his tone. Perhaps, this is the heart of jianghu that every man has inside of them!

The skinny man that had that outburst of anger earlier said, squatting down beside us, “Bro, what are you going to do now that you’ve crossed the Chen’s? If you want, why don’t you look up Hong and let her think of something for you? Our vice knows a lot of people!”

I said, “Brothers, don’t worry about me. I got this. For now, let’s rest first. It’s already late into the night already. Just you see, the Chen’s will let me out in just a few days later.”

I don’t even need to look at their faces to know that none of them even believed a word of what I just said. But, what happened now had been exactly as how I had planned, and I’ll have Chen Ruhai and Chen Yuzhou come here and personally beg me to go out.

Leaving the rest of their heads in the clouds, I lied down and closed my eyes to rest.

As I did, the thoughts in my head wandered. If even a little rich bastard like Chen Yuzhou would do something as sickening as raping and murdering, if it had been Jiang Ming, the literal underground emperor of Tong City, if he had a grudge against my parents, would he have simply left it like that?

Slowly, my mind grew dimmer as sleep came over me. I didn't know how much time had passed when I began to slowly becoming aware of a certain presence standing over me beside my head, looking down at me.

My mind focused as I waited. Someone placed a pillow gently over my face, with trembling hands, and then he put his entire weight onto it.

"You... die you... no, shush, shush... don't make a sound, but die... die quietly... and quickly..."

Without even having to look, I reached and grabbed the two arms on the pillow over my face, and pulled downward towards my feet hard. Sliding my face out from underneath the pillow, I breathed in and pulled my feet in before my chest, and then stamped both of my feet upward, into my assailant's face.

A voice yelped, Liu Hu's voice, the force of the kick sent him staggering backward a few steps. By now, all the movements and noise had woken up the others around us, and they stirred and opened their eyes to ask what had happened.

Rolling and stretching my neck, I said, "This guys, he wanted to strangle me with a pillow."

Taking off his shirt, Big Chou twisted it into a cloth rope. Gripping both ends and pulling it tight between his hands, he cursed in anger, "You sly bastard. You'll pay for that, with your life!"

Liu Hu cowered and slumped to the ground. His face was already swollen to twice its size, with bruises around his eyes and blood dripping from his nostrils and a corner of his mouth.

Liu Hu knew that Big Chou was serious this time!

"I was wrong... I was wrong, bro... boss...! Zhang Chao, help me out here, we... we used to go to school together!"

Big Chou stopped for a second, "So the two of you knew each other? Even before you came in here?"

Liu Hu wanted to change the topic so desperately that he simply blabbed whatever that came to his mind, "Yes... yes, yes! That's right, Big Chou, this is only between me and

Zhang Chao. We had some... histories between us back in our high school days. Zhang Chao, come on, you don't want me to tell these bros what you used to do right?"

I wasn't planning to kill him. I really wasn't. A tooth for a tooth, an eye for an eye, and a life for a life. If I killed him, I would have to pay the consequences for taking his life.

But what he just said pushed me over the edge.

I snorted, "No need, I can tell them myself. My parents died early, and I lived with my aunt. She mistreated me and almost drowned me in the toilet. Somehow, people knew about it, and you and some others changed the story and started telling others that I liked drinking toilet water. When I was in high school, I talked to Lin Fang once, and Chen Yuzhou got jealous and got you and some others and cornered me in the toilet. The lot of you beat the living hell out of me, and then pressed my face into the urinal and told me to start drinking piss. Oh, I must have been so funny back then, so much that you still remember even now."

The more I said it, the more the coldness in my eyes grew. I felt an urge rising with me, telling me that he deserves to die, and that I need to kill him. I'll kill him. I must kill him!

I lunged and grabbed him by the skull, and pressed his face to the dirty toilet bowl shared between dozens of prisoners in the cell. It probably had never been cleaned since the day the prison was built, with grimes and slimes of all colors and shades all over.

Liu Hu screamed and resisted with all his strength, but I overpowered him and slammed his face into it.

"Liu Hu, you used to be a bully to me. I can forgive you for that. I had already. We were all young and immature back then. But even after all these years, you still used it to humiliate me, even now. You think I'm afraid of letting others know? You think it'll make me afraid of you? No. True, I don't like being reminded of what happened back then. But the reason why I never brought it up to you isn't because I was afraid of you, or because I felt humiliated. I'm simply giving you a chance to repent, and giving myself an excuse to not murder you."

Liu Hu struggled and pushed with his arms and neck with all his strength, all the while keeping mumbling with his mouth in terror, "No... don't...no! I was wrong! I'm sorry! I'm so...!"

I pronounced his ultimatum, "But I guess I was wrong."

Then I dunked his head into the toilet by sheer force, and held his face in the toilet water, while Liu Hu spasmed about and struggled for his life.

## **The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 38**



## The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 38 Apologizing

Blood gushed to my head and redness began clouding my vision as anger raged inside my heart. Fragments of my traumatic past began flashing across my eyes, reminding me of the days that I would give anything to be able to forget...

'Aunt! Please, no!'

'Die, die! Die, you inbred swine, die! It's your fault, it's all your fault!'

'.....ghrruaaarughh...! .....! Aunt, I'm sorry, I'm so sorry, I'll mop up everything tomorrow, I'll mop up everything now! I'll... I'll only eat a little from now on, I won't give aunt any more trouble... just don't kill me, please don't kill me...'

'Zhang Jun, you ruined me! You think I can't do anything to you now that you're dead!? I have your son, I have your son! I say he die then he dies, and I say he live then he lives! Zhagn Jun, Ji Yanran, I have your son! Look as closely as you can from up there or whichever bloody part of hell your blasted and miserable souls are!'

"..... go."

"... et go!"

"I said let go! You're going to kill him!"

Big Chou and a few others dragged me off of Liu Hu, and someone pulled Liu Hu's head out of the toilet bowl. Hands and elbows came all around me and pinned me against one side of the cell wall, and Big Chou stood right before me. Unable to think or realize what was happening, I stared blankly back at him with my empty eyes, and then the next thing I remember was a huge hand magnifying and coming towards my face... and then I came to, feeling both sides of my cheeks burning with pain, and seeing Big Chou's worried expression.

Coming to, my eyes focused on Big Chou's worried face, and I saw him shudder and flinch as he took a step backward in fear from the residual anger and rage.

"Big Chou, it's alright now. You can tell your people to let go of me now."

"Alright but... you just, stay there... breathe, chill, and don't move for a while."

I knew that he was still afraid that I would hit him. I inhaled and breathed out like he said, and then reassured him with a smile, "Alright, I'm fine now, you can relax now, Big Chou. I won't hit anyone now. And, I need to thank you too, for stopping me. I almost got myself into a big trouble."

Then suddenly, a coughing sound came from below and I looked downward at it. Liu Hu knelt on all fours on the ground, and coughed, and then escalated into a vomit. His hair was drenched with the contents that were in the toilet bowl, and it dripped down the side of his face and onto the floor as he collapsed into the ground.

Big Chou sighed, "You're a little too impulsive with him. Well, I guess it was understandable, with what happened between you and him. Bullying and humiliating and destroying someone like that, and while he was so young in school too... even we won't do something like that. Don't worry, killing him just like that is being too nice to him. Let him live, and we'll teach him hell."

Liu Hu's face was deathly white, as if he had lost the will to live. Hearing what Big Chou said, his body spasmed one more time. The corner of his mouth twitched in bitterness, though I couldn't say if that had come from regretting about the things that he had done.

I shook my head. With people like him, if he ever comes to regret anything that happened just then, it would be regretting that he had made too much noise and woke the others up, or that he hadn't put enough strength into strangling me. He'd never regret about what he had done in high school.

Well, it wasn't as if I was God, nor was I obligated to forgive him or straighten him up. Well, Big Chou just offered, so I'll leave the educating part to him.

Liu Hu has given up and stopped struggling already. From the look in my eyes, he already knew that I won't ever forgive him for what he has done.

But Liu Hu still couldn't understand why I still haven't told Big Chou that he was one of the Black Dragons. If I had, he wouldn't be able to live long enough to see the sunrise in a couple of hours time.

I gave him a smile, but somehow that seemed to have triggered something inside of him. Liu Hu suddenly sat up, gritted his teeth and said, "Zhang Chao, just you wait. You touched Chen Yuzhou's taboo, you went after Lin Fang. Chen Yuzhou loved Lin Fang more than anything else in the world. He'll never let this slide!"

"Oh, so he expresses his love for the woman he loved the most by kidnapping her and drugging her and raping her. Heh, I guess normal common folks like us will never be able to understand him."

Liu Hu said, suddenly raising his voice, "What do you even know about them anyway!? Lin Fang was his... no, anyway, he'll never be able to stand losing Lin Fang!"

He seemed to want to say something more, but for some reason he swallowed what he was going to say back down.

I didn't know if this had only been a slip of the tongue, or perhaps he was hoping to trigger me into saying something else. I kept my silence.

But Big Chou obviously doesn't have the patience for it. Taking off a shoe and slapping Liu Hu over the head with it, he said, "For God's sake just out with it already!"

Though Big Chou urged him on, I simply sat and looked at him with a blank expression on my face, in complete disinterest.

Seeing that I remained unmoved at what he said, he continued worriedly, "Don't you even want to know? Not even a little bit!? You liked Lin Fang right? You didn't want to know what happened between her and Chen Yuzhou at all!?"

"I don't, not from you. No truths had ever come out of your mouth anyway. Besides, I don't care what they used to be in the past. The only thing that I cared about is if I can be with Lin Fang. Now, and for the days to come."

Big Chou motioned with his eyes at his people, "You finally done talking nonsense? Alright boys, smash his face in, it's about time he shut up."

"Alright boss!"

Liu Hu was terrified. He may get sick from what got into his mouth from the toilet bowl, and he may be bruised all over, but he'll eventually recover from these things. But his teeth, the set he got now will have to last him for the rest of his life.

"Zhang Chao, Zhang Chao! Please forgive me, please tell them to stop!" He begged for my forgiveness, this time finally for real.

I kept my silence still. I've already made up my mind that I won't forgive him. It was long past the time of forgiveness. He had his chances, and he simply didn't take them. Opportunities in life aren't the same as public transport, always waiting for you at the same time everyday.

Liu Hu crawled over to me on all fours, and tugged desperately at my feet, "Zhang Chao, forgive me. Forgive me just this once, and... and I'll... and I'll let you in on a huge secret. It'll save your life! Believe me! If this goes on, Chen Yuzhou will kill you, he'll never let you off, you'll die!"

Looking down at Liu Hu, grovelling at my feet and begging like some miserable stray dog, I felt not even a sliver of sympathy for him. Everything that happened to him, he has only himself to blame.

I said, "Well, let me let you in on two things, they'll save your life as well, for real too. First, stop drinking your booze with sleeping pills. Who knows, you just might never wake up from your next dream."

Laughter roared all around.

“You caught all that? You remember our brother’s words of wisdom now! Do you really think that you’d have anything useful to our brother in that little head of yours? Stop dreaming.”

“Zhang Chao, just give me a chance to tell you. Please just give me a chance! This is very important to you. If you don’t, you’ll die in Chen Yuzhou’s hands. Do you know how Lin Fang and Chen Yuzhou are related!? This is very important!”

I ignored him and continued, “Which brings me to my second point. The Chen’s can’t touch me. And, they’ll act as nice as they can towards me and personally come here to ask me to go out of here.”

Just as I finished my words, the lights came on and a few sets of footsteps came. A while later, the door of the cell opened and three men wearing police uniforms came inside. One important looking officer took the lead, with Xia Genghuai and Zhou Xiaoqiang following behind him. Completely unlike the air of superiority he had about him before, Zhou Xiaoqiang kept his head low, afraid to even look at me in the eyes.

The officer in the lead was a man probably in his mid forties. He asked, “Which one of you is Zhang Chao?”

“I am.” I stood up, and this middle aged officer eyed me up and down. Returning his stare, I eyed him up as well. He had a rather square face, and judging by the stripes on his shoulder, he was at least the Deputy Commissioner of the Tong City Police Department. The features on his face were rounded, like giant bread dough, with an easy going expression on his face. But when our eyes met, a vicious light flashed across behind his eyes, but an instant later it was gone.

“You’re free to go. Come sign the paperwork.”

I could hear gasps all around and behind me. They were amazed, every single one of them, that Chen Yuzhou would let me off like this.

Xia Genghuai shot a happy glance at me, but I only looked at him in the eyes and remained perfectly still in place.

Xia Genghuai was confused, “Zhang Chao, come out. What’re you doing just standing around for?”

Instead of stepping forward towards them, I even backed off a few steps. Everyone was startled. Big Chou even tried to shove me forward, “Are you nuts? What’re you playing around for? You think this place is a five star hotel or something?”

I refused to go out, and immediately that middle aged deputy commissioner's face darkened. The corner of his lips twitched in annoyance.

I said, "Commissioner Xu, I was arrested on charges of battery and assault. So tell me, what's the reason for my release?"

"Umm, yes. Upon investigation, it was all a misunderstanding. My boy Zhou over here made a little mistake. Regarding this matter, on behalf of my boy Zhou here, please allow me to apologize to you on behalf of him."

Big Chou and his people were so shocked that their wide gaping mouths opened to the size of their fists. They've never seen anything like this before. A high ranking police officer, the Deputy Commissioner of the Tong City Police Department, personally apologizing to a prisoner!

## **The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 39**

The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 39 Satisfying

I said, "The doctors said that the man that I battered last night had a ruptured kidney. What mistakes could Officer Zhou possibly have made?"

Now Big Chou was getting really worried. He slapped me across the back of my head, "You knocked your head wrong somewhere in there? They're letting you out right now, and you're laying even more charges upon yourself? Are you mad!?"

I gave him a little laugh. Though Big Chou just slapped my head, it didn't make me angry at all. I never expected to be able to make friends with such a caring bunch of buddies even here in the heart of the Tong City Prison.

Out of all of them, the one that was frightened the most must be Liu Hu. Only then, he was yelling that Chen Yuzhou will take me apart pieces by pieces. But now, seeing how the events unfolded right in front of his eyes, even someone as dumb as he is would have to start wondering about just what kind of background I have.

I guess that today was probably the first time this Deputy Commissioner Xu experienced being talked down to by a prisoner, but he had no choice but to lower his head to my insults and ridicules. Someone even higher in the chain of hierarchy has demanded that he was to get me out of this place as soon as possible.

I said, "Deputy Commissioner Xu, why don't we talk about it openly? What you're trying to do right now is nothing but an attempt to cover things up and pretending that none of this ever happened. And let me tell you, you won't be getting rid of me that easily. Last night you received orders from Chen Ruhai to put me in a small brig with some tough

cellmates and got them to roughen me up for him, and now you suddenly had a change of heart? No, I think not. Rather, I think you must be panicking now that my friend has sent in her proof of Chen Yuzhou's attempted rape, right?"

I think, with Chu Xiaoxiao being Chu Xiaoxiao, there was no possible way that what happened could sit well with her. She must have worked tirelessly over this from the moment we left the hospital, and her video recording proof must have reached the police.

If possible at all, I wanted her to hold on to that video recording for just a little longer. I still have a few businesses to take care of while I could still be here. But now that she has alerted Chen Ruhai to the fact that she has materialistic evidence, he'll definitely take actions to destroy or compromise that evidence.

Which means, that I probably couldn't quite hammer in the nails on Chen Yuzhou's coffin this time round. A shame, a real shame.

But, what I said seemed to have dropped a bomb on them. Blood gushed to his face as rage exploded on Deputy Commissioner Xu's face, "That girl is famous now. She uploaded it onto the clouds and it was all over the internet now."

I couldn't tell if Xia Genghuai really was that oblivious to the deputy commissioner's face, or if he had been doing it on purpose, but he said to me in a light hearted tone with obvious joy, "See Zhang Chao, you're all good now. Everyone knows that you acted out of justice, and there's proof everywhere. All charges on your name have been cleared, so what are you still waiting around for?"

I said, "I'm not leaving. If he wants me to leave, tell Chen Ruhai to come here in person."

"What!?" Deputy Commissioner Xu burst into anger.

I need to see just what this Chen Ruhai looks like. Up until this point, he had always been hiding behind everything and controlling everyone to come at me while he remained hidden in the dark. Now that I finally got the excuse to see his face, I won't let this opportunity go to waste.

Deputy Commissioner Xu said stiffly, "Impossible, don't be ridiculous."

I said, "Look, I'm offering you a way out, commissioner. I never thought that my friend would be daring enough to publicize it on the internet. Look at the time, it was still early in the morning. How long do you think it'll take for our friendly neighborhood media throughout the city to discover that they now have a little vigilante that saved a woman from falling prey to rape being jailed up in the prison that you're responsible? How much longer do you think you'll still be able to wear that uniform after the media caught wind and flocked to your door? You think Chen Ruhai can save you from that? Here I'm

simply extending a helping hand to you, making you an offer so that you'll be able to work things out with me. Now, tell me again, am I being ridiculous? Or do you perhaps think that Chen Yuzhou should come and have a little chat with me?"

Deputy Commissioner Xu could say nothing in return, and kept his silence as anger seethed through his whitened face. Evidently, this was the one thing that he worried mostly about.

"Zhou, we're leaving! We're going to Chen Ruhai!"

Then I turned around and smiled to Big Chou and his people, "I said it before, I'll have the Chen's come and beg me to go out."

Big Chou gave me a thumbs up and kept talking about how he had never seen anything like it before. Liu Hu on the other hand, kept his head down and simply stared at the ground like he has lost the will to live.

As expected of Chu Xiaoxiao, what she did was completely unexpected. But though it helped me, it also gave me a huge headache. The one thing that I wanted least right now, was becoming famous.

It might have been the first time that this bunch from Red Lanterns had seen a high ranking police officer being talked down by an inmate, and that officer could do nothing but hang his head in silent humiliation, not even being able to talk back. They crowded around me, and almost worshiped me like I was some sort of divine deity.

I waited, resting for a while with my eyes closed, and soon after, my ears caught the sound of an unfamiliar set of footsteps. It was light, but brisk.

I flipped myself back onto my feet on the ground. Then, a short and shriveled man in his 70's appeared at the door of the jail cell. The way he held himself reminded me of a fox, always alert and forever scheming his next plot. Behind him, a cowered and hunched Chen Yuzhou followed closely.

If it wasn't for that, I would never believe that this shriveled up old man is Chen Ruhai, Chen Yuzhou's father.

As soon as Chen Yuzhou came in, he looked at me with so much intensity and hatred that it would have burned a hole through my skull if his eyes had been lasers.

But I shrugged and ignored him, and focused my attention on Chen Ruhai. So this man that stood before me now was Chen Ruhai, the brain behind Chen Yuzhou. Truthfully, he was much more difficult to deal with than Chen Yuzhou.

Chen Ruhai and I sized each other up like what hunters would do to their preys, and then I broke off the silent staring contest and turned to smile at Chen Yuzhou, "So you came too. Feeling better now?"

I taunted at him, and Chen Yuzhou became immediately filled with anger and humiliation. If it weren't for all the onlookers that surrounded us, he would have burst into anger and outrage.

But before he opened his mouth to talk back, Chen Ruhai cut in before him with his coarse voice, "Zhang, my boy, you slept well last night? The bedding wasn't too hard on your back?"

Deputy Commissioner Xu tapped Chen Ruhai's shoulder lightly, and whispered awkwardly, "Come on, you should know how it is. I asked my people to arrange a 'welcoming party' for him last night, and made certain that they are to 'take good care of him'. They must have roughed him up, brother, don't ask the obvious."

My hearing was trained to be more sensitive than most. They thought they kept their voices soft enough to avoid being overheard by me, but I heard everything.

So this was why. Deputy Commissioner Xu was Chen Ruhai's brother in law. No wonder that the Chen's could afford to be so arrogant in Tong City. With this connection in the Tong City Police Department, they could silence anyone they want and make anything disappear at will, as long as it was in the law system. But then, only if it was submitted into the law system. There was nothing they could do about what Chu Xiaoxiao had done, since she uploaded the evidence onto the internet for the entire world to see. It'd be a dangerous move in most cases, but this time, it happened to be the best way she could protect herself.

But Chen Ruhai only laughed, in a peculiar way, as if a weasel was sneezing.

"I think not, Deputy Commissioner Xu. Would you believe me if I tell you right now that there's not even a single scratch on our boy Zhang over here?"

Zhou Xiaoqiang's head whipped upward to look at me, and subconsciously exclaimed, "That's impossible! I told..."

Chen Ruhai raised a hand and silenced him. He smiled, "Extraordinary people do extraordinary things. You thought it impossible, but he does it as naturally as breathing. I'd never be able to expect that such a hidden gem like you were once in such an ordinary school that my son went to. How utterly regretful and useless of him that he was unable to make a friend of you."

Then, without hesitation, he leapt up and slapped Chen Yuzhou in the face.



Chen Yuzhou was much taller than his father. So, in order to slap him, Chen Ruhai actually had to jump a little off the ground, just to slap him in the face!

Chen Yuzhou had always been someone who cared a great deal about his image in public. When his father suddenly slapped him, he froze in place in shock, "Father...?"

But before he was able to say anything else, Chen Ruhai gave him another slap. He didn't hold back at all, and the slap resounded and echoed inside the hard prison walls. Immediately, Chen Yuzhou's face swelled.

Leaving his son startling in shock, Chen Ruhai turned and looked at me, "Zhang, my boy, how was that? Was it enough to appease you?"

I shook my head, "Not even close."

Chen Yuzhou's face turned blue with anger, but he looked like he was too afraid of his father to do anything about it. Chen Ruhai was also startled, since he didn't expect that I would be so audacious as to take his formalities seriously and actually expected more from him.

## **The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 40**

The Hidden Billionaire Chapter 40 Rough

I pretended not to see his formalities for what they are. At this, Chen Ruhai had no choice but to play along if he wanted to keep up his pretense of an impartial father disciplining his child. He motioned with his hand, silently telling me to name my demands with a gesture.

Inside, I laughed and mocked at his vanity. Whatever that Chen Ruhai may do or say here, I knew very well that they were nothing but an empty show, and that he was the most cunning one among all of us present. First, they would swallow whatever my demands may be, and as soon as the prison discharged me, they would clean up and destroy whatever evidence that we had, and deal with me through some other means.

Well, since he so kindly offered, I wasn't going to disappoint and pass up the opportunity. He wanted to play the wise and impartial and just old man? I'll let him. I'll let him slap his own son silly.

I imitated his gesture, silently motioning him to do as he sees fit. Looking at my response, Chen Ruhai had no choice but to give Chen Yuzhou another slap, and then he looked at me again.

I crossed my arms, "Uncle Chen, you aren't perhaps mistaken that we're bargaining over matters of pennies and cabbages in the local market are you? If you really mean what you say, give it to me you mean it."

"Father!" Hearing what I said, Chen Yuzhou fell to his knees and crawled to his father on his knees, fearful that Chen Ruhai would really do as I suggested.

Tears gathered at Chen Ruhai's reddening eyes. Of all things in the world, he treasured his one and only son above all else. Ever since Chen Yuzhou was young, he loved him and cared for him like he was a jewel in his hands, the apple of his eye. And now, after I gave his son a beating, I also made it so that he had no choice but to give his own son another beating. With this, I may as well have physically stabbed his own heart myself.

But what else could he do? If I should refuse to accept the discharge because he refused to follow through, if the matter of my forced and ungrounded arrest caught attention from all over the media and internet, his entire family name would be soured.

And, even if he was willing to sacrifice all of it for his son, would his deputy commissioner brother in law be willing to stake his own future for him? Chen Ruhai knew the answer very well in his heart.

So he slapped, and slapped, and slapped, and...

For a while, all that could be heard inside the prison, was the sound of each of the individual slaps. Time after time, Chen Ruhai raised his hand high, and then brought it down and across Chen Yuzhou's already swollen face. By now, even I could tell that Chen Yuzhou's supposedly ruptured kidney was truly just a scam, otherwise there's no way that his father would hit him this hard, over and over this many times. But though Chen Yuzhou's kidney was completely fine, his dignity was completely shattered by his father's own hands.

Each of his slaps was solid, with the force of his entire arm. Towards the end, I even sensed a trace of resentment in them. It could either be from the fact that his son was immature enough to put him through this ordeal, or that it was an act to let me see that and perhaps I would end this sooner for him.

Big Chou was whispering beside my ears in the beginning, telling me to leave good enough as it is, but gradually, even he was shocked at what extent Chen Ruhai would go to just so he could continue keeping up his pretense.

After seeing this today, this bunch of people would definitely go spread the story far and wide in their circle of friends, and then they would tell their friends, and so on. Though of course there couldn't possibly be proof that this ever happened today, but even as gossips and rumors, what happened today was already enough to humiliate him for the rest of his life.

The two sides of Chen Yuzhou's face swell up like a pig's face, with traces of blood at the corner of his mouth and perhaps a few loose teeth. His father did a lot worse to him than even I did last night. Seeing that it was probably about time, I walked up to them and patted Chen Ruhai's shoulder and said in pretend concern, "Uncle Chen, don't you know? There are better ways to teach your kid to behave than hitting them. Violence is bad."

Chen Ruhai was so furious that he might start coughing blood. I just made him beat the living daylight out of his own son, and then lectured him about proper parenting. Heck, even I myself wondered perhaps I've gone too far... if Chen Yuzhou hadn't put me through worse in the past, that is.

With that, I waltzed out of the jail cell, with a handful of police officers following behind me, as if they were the prisoners and I was the one leading them out.

Of course, none of what happened today took place behind closed doors. Very soon, the entire Tong City would know about what just happened. Chen Ruhai knew that he lost this round to me.

Signing off, in the visitor's room, I saw Lin Fang waiting for me, with both of her eyes reddened from tears.

Looking at her obvious fatigue, I could tell that she hasn't been able to sleep at all throughout the night. I felt something in my heart twitch and twist into a painful knot from the sight. I hadn't considered how she would feel. I made her worried.

Ignoring all others in the room, I ran up to her and was just about to give her a hug, when I suddenly realized how dirty I must be right now. Instead, I cleared my throat and nodded at her.

Lin Fang said, tearfully, covering her mouth, "You... oh, thank goodness you're able to come out safely."

I just couldn't bear to see her so distraught and worried. Nodding again, I swore silently to myself that I'll never make her worry about me like this again.

I caressed over her hair lightly, "I must have made you worried. Your father's operation is just around the corner, and yet I still made you worried like this..."

Lin Fang took the hand that I touched her hair with, and held it to her chest. Immediately, I felt a gentle softness, as my head exploded into a flash of whiteness. She didn't seem to have noticed anything odd, and simply shook her head, "No, you did this for me. It's so good that you can come out. Let's go home."

“We will. Call Chu Xiaoxiao, and tell her that dinner’s on me. Let’s go somewhere to eat tonight, the three of us. Chu Xiaoxiao had a fight with her father, and she could be running out of money to spend.”

Lin Fang said hurriedly, “Her father came and took Xiaoxiao away in the morning. She left in a rush.”

I frowned. Did Chu Huaien suddenly had a change of heart? But there shouldn’t be anything odd about this. Even someone like Chu Huaien wouldn’t be as heartless as to really throw his own daughter out of his house completely.

But, still, something felt off about all of this.

Unable to place my finger on just where it felt odd, I put it away in a corner of my mind for now, and focused on comforting Lin Fang, “It’s alright, easy now. Let’s go home. See? I told you I’ll be fine right?”

Lin Fang must have been really frightened about all of this. Not even caring about how dirty I must be, she wriggled herself into my embrace like a small frightened animal. Satisfaction filled my entire heart. If I could stop time, I’d stop it right now and make it last for an eternity.

After a while, Lin Fang seemed to have realized that she was in a man’s embrace. Blushing, she pushed herself away from my chest, “Let’s go.”

Lin Fang held my arm, and we walked towards the entrance of the police station. As I pushed the door open at the entrance, I suddenly remembered what felt odd. I told Lin Fang to wait a little bit for me, and reached for my phone. Taking it out and bringing up the call history, I called Chu Xiaoxiao.

“The number you are calling is not available right now, please...”

Just as my mind raced, thinking about what might have happened, from behind us came a few loud and blaring honks. Turning my head around, it came from a Bentley, driving towards our position slowly. Stopping beside us, its window rolled down slowly with a soft electronic whirr, and Chen Ruhai’s face appeared behind it. It could be just my imagination, but I can’t help but detect a hint of shrewdness in his expression.

Chen Ruhai began, “My boy, do you perhaps need a ride?”

“What did you do to Chu Xiaoxiao?”

Chen Ruhai said, “Really, by age and life experience, you should at least call me uncle. You and Yuzhou used to be classmates. You shouldn’t have framed him like that.”

“So I was a classmate to him now?”

"I know that my dear boy was a little more arrogant than most people. He had been spoiled ever since he was born, I'll admit, I raised him like that. But lowlife like you are different. You should be more accommodating to him."

Petty words like these no longer arouse even an ounce of anger within me. I asked again, in the exact same tone, and with the exact same words, "What did you do to Chu Xiaoxiao?"

"What can I possibly do to a lying little brat?" Chen Ruhai asked in return.

"What did she lie about!?"

"She lied about my son raping her. He hadn't. He didn't even have his pants down. She told such a big lie, just so that she can have his attention. She did something wrong, so I asked her father to give her a little discipline."

Now I understood everything, "You pressured Chu Huaien in business, so he'll go make Chu Xiaoxiao change her testimony. You snake! Those videos that were floating around the internet, you'll find people to take them down too. All you needed was time, and I just gave it to you."

Chen Ruhai smiled, "Good day." The window rolled up with the same electronic whirr, and the Bentley accelerated off leaving us standing around in its dust.

I knew that this old fox would have something up his sleeves still. This was only the beginning, and things will only get rougher from now on.