

Sweet Love 3981

Chapter 3981: A Perfect Match (177)

"I remember when I accompanied Qin Zhou to Fashion Week last year. The Cartier brand manager gave him a pair of cufflinks that were worth a million dollars. There were also those from brand names Bulgari, Hermès... and Qin Zhou preferred those from Bulgari and Versace. Most of his cufflinks are from these two fashion houses."

Liang Yin was already dizzy from listening. She now felt that the million yuan she had was not worth mentioning in the context of these two brands.

The wicked capitalist! Wasn't such a wealth disparity simply too great?

When she'd finished trying on her makeup, Liang Yin took a cab to the department store. She stood at the Bulgari counter, her head spinning.

Should she buy it?

What excuse would she give to Qin Zhou for giving him something like that?

Liang Yin thought hard and finally found an excuse. "Just to say thank you for that Michelin dinner he bought me! Mmm! That settles it."

She put her hand in her pocket and gripped her bank card tightly. Because she had been holding it, the cold bank card warmed up.

Terrified, Liang walked up to the Bulgari counter. The reason why she was trembling with fear was entirely because the posh facade of Bulgari dazzled her somewhat. Even the staff at these counters were dressed exquisitely and were very good-looking.

She decided to walk around inside first! It was better to be familiar with the price range, in case she asked and would be told an item was either hundreds of thousands or millions. She couldn't afford that. What would she do at that point? That would be awkward.

It felt like such a shop wasn't the place for her. She wandered around the counter as if no one else was there. The shop assistants in the shop sized her up and left her alone. No one went forward to offer assistance.

Those who worked in such counters were the cream of the crop, and every one of them had an extremely sharp eye. Just one glance at the person and they could tell the brand of clothes this person was wearing.

The clothes Liang Yin was wearing were all bought online. They were clothes that cost at most a few hundred yuan. People who visited these counters were wealthy ladies in mink fur coats or successful men accompanied by beautiful women. They thought Liang Yin was probably a poor girl who stepped into Bulgari out of curiosity!

Seriously. Why would the poor come shopping for Bulgari?

However, seeing that she hung around for a long time despite the fact that no one came up to assist her, and still she showed no intention of leaving, the shop assistants gathered together, looking disgusted.

“Who’s going to ask her to leave? I don’t think she has any intention of leaving after wandering around for so long! Don’t tell me she’s a thief who has come to the counter to steal something?”

“Doesn’t look like it. She’s alone.”

“Then why hover around for so long? Look at her poor appearance, how could she be here to buy something! Can such a commoner afford the things here?”

“She doesn’t look like a thief to me.”

“Who knows? Is the word ‘thief’ etched across a thief’s face?”

The store manager grew impatient and spoke. “There are only so many items displayed in the counters. Go and check that nothing’s missing!”

The shop assistants immediately nodded and pretended to patrol the area, acting nonchalant and trying to ascertain if anything was missing from the counter display.

Another clerk stepped forward and asked, “Hello, Miss, how do you do? I see you’ve been looking around for some time. Is there anything in particular you’re looking for?”

Liang Yin looked up, a little flustered.

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Having browsed around a bit, Liang Yin noticed that although some of the styles were indeed cheaper, they still cost tens of thousands. And they weren’t exactly pretty. Even a layman like her didn’t think they were, not to mention Qin Zhou.

Most of the attractive pieces were in the five to six-figure range. Some didn’t have a visible price tag, and she didn’t dare ask. She was afraid that she wouldn’t be able to afford it after the price was told to her.

Actually, Liang Yin was very sensitive. From the moment she walked into this counter, she could sense that the people at the counter did not seem very friendly to her.

For example, before entering this counter, she saw the shop assistant sending off a well-heeled lady with a bow and an obsequious smile. However, when this assistant turned around and saw Liang Yin walking in, the enthusiasm on her face quickly cooled and her expression changed faster than one could flip a book.

Liang Yin felt that she was being despised, so she decided to browse by herself and not trouble others.

When the shop assistant saw her, she took the initiative to ask. However, her tone was flat, as though she did not have the intention of serving this customer. In fact, she seemed keen for her to leave.

Liang Yin did not feel good. However, on second thought, at the very least, she had a decent amount of money with her.

No matter what, Hua Jin had given her a million yuan. Surely she could afford a pair of cufflinks here!

She felt bold again at this thought. "I wish to buy a pair of cufflinks."

The clerk was surprised when she spoke.

She'd thought that by coming forward, the girl would hurry away before she made a fool of herself. She certainly hadn't expected Liang Yin to say she wanted to buy cufflinks.

'And who are you buying it for?'

"Uh..." Liang Yin pondered for a moment, then said, "It's for my boyfriend."

"I see..."

The shop assistant gave a fake smile and suddenly reminded her dryly, "The things we have here are not cheap. The cost of a pair of cufflinks starts from five figures. Are you sure... you want to buy them?"

The fact that she asked so tactfully was nothing more than an oblique way of reminding Liang Yin that the things here were steeply-priced and she had to consider carefully. She hoped that after putting in the effort to introduce the pieces, this customer would not walk away empty-handed. If so, she would have wasted her breath.

It was not that they were too snobbish. Indeed, sometimes, for all the things they did to welcome a guest, the guest was only there to "look around". They just wanted to experience luxury goods. In fact, they had no intention of buying anything. But customers who entered the shop had to be entertained.

Usually, such customers would act serious and walk around. When the shop assistant introduced the individual items, it would become obvious that they couldn't afford it. Some would go as far as to say in a dignified manner before walking out, "Not to my liking". And in the meantime, the truly high-quality clients would have been intercepted and snatched up by other colleagues.

Superficially, the shop assistants at these counters got along well. In fact, they were all very knowledgeable and especially shrewd. But why would one compromise one's own performance? Therefore, the staff would try to push such customers to the new staff.

Liang Yin was a little unhappy to hear her say that.

Why are you looking at it if you can't afford it? Outwardly, the shop assistant smiled, but in her heart, she would be cursing. She'd heard this excuse so many times. Often, some gaudy aunty would pretend to be a noblewoman and come to shop at the counter, but in the end, she wouldn't buy.

"Sure. Take a look and see if there's anything that catches your eye?"

Liang Yin took another look and felt that there didn't seem to be any particularly good-looking designs on the counter.

"Are all the designs here?"

“No.”

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“Of course not. We display the more affordable pieces in our store. The really expensive and good ones are put away because many customers touch them with their hands. If we get sweat stains on the gems and diamonds, it will affect their radiance.”

“Oh...” When Liang Yin heard this, her expression darkened.

The displayed designs looked so mediocre and yet they were priced at tens of thousands. Wouldn't the expensive ones cost hundreds of thousands then?

She felt quite torn. Or perhaps, she was feeling a little upset that her rather full purse was about to be emptied.

Forget it!

She decided to take a look first. In any case, it didn't cost anything to browse.

“None of these styles look good. Could you show me the nicer ones!”

The shop assistant muttered to herself, but had no grounds to refuse. “Wait here for me!” she instructed. With that, she turned and headed for the vault.

At this point,, another shop assistant came over, looking nervous. “Did you see the individual sapphire ring displayed in cabinet A?”

“What's the matter?” The shop assistant was also wary. “Don't tell me... that woman really is a thief?”

“The sapphire ring is missing.”

The two of them walked to cabinet A. As expected, the sapphire ring that had been displayed in it was gone.

They were both dumbfounded.

“No way! I had my eyes on her the whole time. She walked past Cabinet A, but I didn't see her touch it!”

“What do you know? Some thieves are top-notch. They can get away with it without anyone noticing! Don't let her go, we have to clarify the situation. I'll check with the manager again. In case it's been put away.”

“Okay.”

The shop assistant turned around and walked up to Liang Yin. Seeing that she had returned empty-handed, Liang Yin was puzzled. “Eh? Didn't you go to get the cufflinks?”

“The vault isn't open. Perhaps you could take a look at these other items.”

When Liang Yin heard this, she could only assume that this shop assistant thought she couldn't afford it and was just patronizing her. Her anger boiled over and she finally said impatiently, "Forget it! I'm not buying it!"

She thought she'd go take a look at other counters!

Didn't Qin Zhou like Versace too?

She did notice a lit Versace logo as she passed. On the way here, she had searched online and learned about the brand's logo. She did her homework.

Seeing that Liang Yin was about to leave, the staff stopped her! "You can't leave!"

In her excitement, the staff grabbed Liang's wrist.

Liang Yin struggled and grimaced. "What are you doing? Why aren't you letting me leave?"

"Didn't you say you wish to buy cufflinks for your boyfriend?"

"Yes. But you're not going to show me the good stuff. None of the ones on display look good."

"Don't go yet." That was all the staff said. She even looked around at her colleagues. "What now?"

A moment later, the manager and his colleague hurried over, looking flustered. "The sapphire ring is gone."

"It's really gone!?"

The shop assistant was furious the moment she heard that, and gave Liang Yin a hard shove. "Return the ring!"

Liang Yin was confused. After being pushed, she stumbled a few steps back and almost fell.

She was furious too, and shouted, "What are you doing?!"

The shop assistant was belligerent. "A sapphire ring is missing from our counter. Did you steal it?"

"Ha!" Liang Yin smiled. So she was being treated as a thief?! "Do you have proof? Without proof, aren't you simply slandering people?"

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The shop assistant was self-righteous and said accusingly, "No outsider has been in the store since then except you. If you didn't steal it, who did?"

Liang Yin was beside herself with anger! She had always been of the view that thieves were like street rats. Anyone would be furious if they were treated as thieves for no reason! She trembled with anger, but tried her best to maintain her composure. She kept her poise and asked, "Do you have any evidence then? Without evidence, this is slander!"

"We'll do a body search and find out!" said the shop assistant.

“Body search!?” When Liang Yin heard this, she laughed in anger. “Do you know the law?! What right do you have to search me? You’re not the police. What right do you have to carry out a body search on me?”

When she said this, the shop assistant felt that she was objecting because she was guilty!

“Feeling guilty, are you?! The mention of a body search scares you, doesn’t it?”

“What’s there to be scared of?! I didn’t steal, but you don’t have the right to search me! Besides, you have surveillance cameras, don’t you?! All you have to do is look at the surveillance footage!”

“The surveillance system belongs to the mall. We have no right to access it without police approval.” After a pause, the staff continued, “Let me give you a piece of advice. You’d better return what you stole immediately. Otherwise, if we call the police and they’re able to prove that you’ve stolen, you’ll have a criminal record. Understand?”

“...”

Liang Yin shook with anger. She felt humiliated!

She maintained firmly, “Anyway, I didn’t take it, and you have no right to detain me! Go ahead and call the police!”

Having said this, she started walking out.

Seeing that she was about to leave, the service staff was even more certain that she was guilty. It seemed she wanted to leave quickly and transfer the stolen goods out of the venue, so she immediately stopped Liang Yin.

“Someone, help! There’s a thief!” one of the shop assistants shouted. The other shop assistants at the counter happened to be idle. When they heard the shout, they immediately gathered around.

Soon a small crowd had formed at the Bulgari counter. Some of them were shoppers passing by. Some were the shop assistants from the neighboring counters. As soon as they heard that someone had stolen something, they immediately rushed over to watch the commotion.

In the presence of this crowd, Liang Yin looked around and saw many people glaring at her and pointing at her. Her pride and dignity started to erode under the looks of disgust that these people cast on her!

Tears welled up in her eyes! She was a headstrong person and never shed tears easily. However, to be treated as a thief and surrounded by so many people made her feel terribly shamed!

Even though she felt angry and humiliated, she straightened her back and wiped her tears away fiercely. She said in an icy tone, “Please call the police now! I’m not afraid as I didn’t do anything wrong. It doesn’t make a difference even if the police came!”

“Alright! You’re stubborn, aren’t you! Since you suggest calling the police and aren’t afraid of making a fool of yourself, what are we afraid of?! Anyway, if we lose something, we’ll definitely call the police. Just be prepared for a criminal record!”

The shop assistant went to the side and made the call. The other staff members looked at each other, impatience written all over their faces.

If she had stolen something, couldn't she simply return it?

She had been caught, what more did she want?'

Although the store manager had observed all this and quite despised the girl, she nevertheless told Liang Yin patiently, "There's still a chance now. We don't want to escalate things unnecessarily. We'll give you face and hope that you'll give us some face too. If something doesn't belong to you, you'd have to live with your guilty conscience to keep it, right? If you return it now, we'll overlook this incident!"

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The store manager looked like she was easy to talk to.

The other staff at the counter stepped forward and gave their views.

"Previously, a thief came to our shop to steal jewelry. We caught him on the spot and called the police. Because the amount involved was huge, he was sentenced to seven years. Bulgari's items are not cheap!"

The store manager quickly added, "This sapphire ring is worth more than 900,000. The amount involved is huge, so you have to consider carefully!"

Liang Yin showed no fear. "I didn't take it. Just call the police. If they find out that you're the ones who slandered me, I will go through legal procedures and sue you for violating my rights and interests!"

When the staff who had served her earlier heard this, she was furious and blurted out, "Heh, who are you trying to scare?! Are you saying we wronged you?! Don't be calling too big a bluff!"

One of the staff from Chanel next door came over and tugged at her sleeve. "She doesn't look the least bit guilty to me. Could you be wrongfully accusing someone?"

"Not guilty? It's all an act! You didn't see her earlier on. If we hadn't stopped her, she'd have walked away! If it wasn't guilt, what was it?"

"Uh..."

"Besides, you didn't see the way she shook when she heard we were going to conduct a body search. If that wasn't guilt, what was?"

A moment later the police arrived. There would usually be police stationed next to a mall. Five minutes after calling the police, they arrived. Upon seeing the officers, the shop assistants immediately went up to them and gave a concise account of the situation.

"She stole a gemstone ring from our counter."

Liang Yin was furious. "I did not!"

There were two officers who had arrived at the scene, one was responsible for videotaping the scene; the other one was responsible for taking statements.

The police officer came over and pointed the video device at her. The other one demanded, "They say you stole something?"

"Are you going to tell me you need to search me?"

The officer smiled, still relatively friendly. "No we won't do that! We don't have a search warrant with us. We're not entitled to carry out a body search."

Liang pursed her lips at that. "Thank you!"

The shop staff protested when they heard this, "She's been the only customer in the shop, Officer. There's no one else. She must have stolen it!"

"I saw the sapphire ring before she got here. But now, it's gone."

"Don't the police have the right to call for the surveillance footage?"

Liang Yin paused and asked, "There must be a surveillance camera at this counter, right? We'll find out the truth if we go through the footage?"

The store staff started to get anxious. "You're just too guilty to let us carry out a search!"

Liang Yin said loudly, "Get this straight. It's not that I feel guilty, rather, the fact is that you don't have the right to do so!"

"All right! Stop arguing!" The policeman saw that they were getting heated up. He asked the shop staff, "Have you checked carefully? Could it have been put away or something? Most people wouldn't dare reach out for something so expensive!"

"We checked. The item is gone."

"Alright, we'll go to the surveillance room and retrieve the video then!"

None of the store staff or manager had any objections. So the policemen led the store manager and Liang Yin to the surveillance room in the mall. They entered the room and showed their police IDs. The policemen then instructed security to provide the surveillance footage from the Bulgari counter and set the time to when Liang entered the counter. They looked at it frame by frame.

Five minutes after Liang Yin entered the counter, she walked over to cabinet A, opened it, and carefully put on a velvet glove. She picked up the sapphire ring and looked at it.

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Because the angle of the camera only caught her from her side, all they could see was that she made a move to raise her hand. Then she glanced at the price tag and quickly made a move to put the ring back in place. However, because of the angle, it was impossible to see clearly if she had put it back. The store manager saw this and began to make a big deal of it.

“So you did touch this ring.”

Naturally, Liang Yin was honest in her reply. “I did, because I thought it was beautiful. But when I saw the price, I thought it was too expensive. I was afraid I’d break it, so I put it back.”

The store manager was obviously convinced of her “stealing”.

“From this angle, who can tell if you actually put it back in place!? We only saw you pick it up. We didn’t see you put it back. Look—” The store manager pointed at the screen. “You’re obviously bluffing. Actually, you didn’t put it back, did you? The item is actually still with you!”

Liang was furious. “How would I know where the surveillance cameras are positioned?”

“Perhaps you had already surveyed the store?”

“Don’t be unreasonable. You obviously want to search me, don’t you?” Liang Yin was clearly indignant. “Let me tell you, I will not allow you to search me!”

The store manager was furious when she heard this. She pointed at Liang Yin accusingly and told the policeman. “Officer, look, look! What kind of attitude is this? She’s not cooperating with the investigation at all!”

Liang Yin retorted, “Am I an offender? Why should I cooperate with your investigation?!”

The policeman scolded them. “Stop arguing, both of you. Calm down! You can’t judge this matter based on a few actions! Trying to convict someone based on this is pushing it too far.”

With that, the policeman turned around and said to Liang Yin, “Miss, I think you’ve seen the recording. Indeed, from this angle it’s not clear that you’ve put the item back. Of course, we have no right to perform a search, but if you’re willing to cooperate with us, you can prove your innocence. Why not? Let us check the items you have on you. If the missing item is indeed not on you, you can just cooperate with us and take a statement. Then you can go home. Nothing will happen.”

Liang Yin insisted, “I will only follow the rules. If you have a search warrant, I guarantee that I will cooperate with you and allow a search. If not, no one has the right. This is also my right! You have no right to violate it!”

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The store manager got anxious. “Stop pretending! Don’t you know if you took it or not? Hurry up and return it!”

Although this sapphire ring was not the most expensive item in the store, it was still worth hundreds of thousands. If it were to go missing for no reason, the manager would lose her job! Of course she was anxious. She might even have to compensate out of her own pocket! How could she afford something that cost hundreds of thousands?!

Thus, she got agitated.

However, Liang Yin was determined. "Give up! Do you think I'm the kind of person who will humiliate myself?! I'm clearly innocent, so why should I let you search me?! Only criminals will be searched, right?!"

The store manager also clamored, "If you're innocent, then why are you looking so guilty!? You can just show us everything you have. If you really don't have it, who would want to waste their time on you?!"

Liang Yin seethed with anger.

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Liang Yin seethed with anger. She pursed her lips. Although she was on the verge of tears, she held it in and swallowed her grievance. It would be the greatest humiliation if she showed weakness in front of such a person!

The two of them just sat there as the police officers watched the surveillance footage. Apart from that unclear segment, they didn't find anything else that was wrong. They were at their wits' end.

"Could the item have fallen off the display somehow?" The policemen suggested such an idea.

The store manager immediately said, "Impossible. There can't be a blind spot."

Liang Yin retorted, "Who knows if it's been stolen by one of your own people?"

The store manager choked with anger at her remark. "Watch your filthy mouth!"

Liang ignored her and sat down in a chair with her back to the woman. She said nothing. No matter how the store manager deliberately angered and humiliated her, she tried her best to appear indifferent.

Soon, the regional manager of the store arrived. When he heard that a ring had gone missing, he seemed rather anxious and immediately reprimanded the manager.

"Why has a ring suddenly gone missing? What's going on?"

The store manager pursed her lips and gestured to Liang Yin, who was sitting at the table. "I suspect she stole it!" she said sarcastically.

The area manager looked at Liang Yin and threw a question at the store manager. "Do you have proof?"

"No..."

"If there's no proof then what you're saying is just as good as hot air!" The regional manager said fiercely, "If we can't locate this ring, be prepared to pack up and get lost! I can't protect you anymore!"

The manager bit her lip and watched the manager leave. Then she looked at Liang Yin again, her eyes filled with resentment!

"It's all your fault!" Without warning, she suddenly pounced on Liang Yin and slapped her twice. "You must have stolen it!"

Liang Yin was also unwilling to suffer a loss. Not to be outdone, she slapped her back. “Don’t be unreasonable!”

The store manager was obviously worried about losing her job. She grabbed Liang Yin’s shirt, obviously trying to force her to hand over the ring.

“You refuse to let us carry out a search because you are guilty! You refuse, right?! This matter is not up to you!” With that, she reached for Liang Yin’s pocket.

The two women started to fight.

However, the store manager was clearly anxious. After a while, Liang Yin was at a disadvantage and was pushed to the ground. Her hair was messy and she was in a sorry state. She covered her burning face, but she was stubborn and refused to shed a single tear!

The policemen hurried forward to stop them. When they finally managed to separate the two of them, the store manager clamored, “Comrade policeman, she’s a thief. Take her back to the police station for an investigation. Search her. I’m sure you’ll find the item!”

Liang Yin glared at her with reddened eyes and explained again in a hoarse voice, “I didn’t!” Then she trembled with anger.

At this point, her cell phone suddenly rang.

When Liang Yin heard the ringing coming from her bag, she took out her phone and saw the name “Qin Zhou”. At that moment, for some reason, her tears fell helplessly.

“Cry! You dare cry! What right do you have to cry!?”

Liang Yin ignored her. She hadn’t wanted to answer Qin Zhou’s call. After all, she didn’t want him to find her in such a sorry state. Except that Qin Zhou called again. Liang Yin guessed that something was up, so she answered.

As soon as she took the call, Qin Zhou’s steady voice came through, “Liang Yin, are you free tonight?”

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Liang Yin held her breath but did not speak. However, her slightly heavy breathing made Qin Zhou sense that something was amiss.

“What’s wrong? Are you crying?”

Liang Yin knew that she could not hide it anymore. She covered her mouth and sobbed, “I’m fine.”

She was crying, he was sure of it. He knew she must have had a bad time, and remained calm. “What happened?” he asked gently. “Tell me about it.”

Liang Yin didn’t want to say. However, Qin Zhou was capable. His tone was gentle and extremely patient. Soon, Liang Yin’s psychological defense was completely shattered.

“I ... I didn’t steal anything ...” She choked back a sob. “I really didn’t... Why don’t they believe me!?”

Finally, Qin Zhou showed a hint of anxiousness.

“Where are you? I’ll be right there!”

“I’m at...”

The store manager saw that she was stammering. Without thinking, she stepped forward, snatched the phone out of her hand and spoke into the receiver, “Hello, this is the store manager of the Bulgari counter. How are you related to her?”

Liang Yin panicked and nervously reached out to snatch the phone back. However, in the next second, she heard the store manager express suspicion. “Her boyfriend?”

Boom!

It was as if something had exploded in her head! Her eyes widened in great surprise.

Qin Zhou... said what? Calling himself her boyfriend?!

She was incredulous.

“Anyway, come over here! Your girlfriend is suspected of stealing jewelry and she’s now in police custody!” The store manager gave him the address.

Twenty minutes later, Qin Zhou arrived. In fact, he was driving past the department store and had wanted to ask Hua Jin and Liang Yin out to discuss the contract over dinner. After the call with Liang Yin and upon learning of the incident, he immediately turned the car around.

Qin Zhou pushed open the door of the office and saw the scene before him.

The police officer was standing next to the surveillance desk. The store manager had her arms folded across her chest, looking pompous. Liang Yin had fallen onto the seat of a chair. Her disheveled hair fell all around her face, making it impossible to see her expression. However, she was curled up, looking especially lonely, like a frightened little rabbit.

The store manager was startled when she saw Qin Zhou. The man was in a suit, and anyone with a discerning eye could tell that he was an elite. He was handsome, tall, and had an air of authority about him.

For some reason, his appearance made the manager feel a little guilty! Was this her boyfriend?! He looked like a rich and powerful man. With such a boyfriend, the likelihood of her stealing something was indeed not high.

But, there were also rich people who stole things. Perhaps this woman had some special fetish?! With that thought, she forced herself to calm down.

Qin Zhou walked over to Liang Yin without looking at the others. He placed his hand gently on her shoulder. Her shoulders flinched slightly. She finally looked up at Qin Zhou. Tears welled in her eyes, but she refused to let them fall. She didn’t dare look at him for long, for fear he’d see how wretched she looked.

Qin Zhou looked up, finally giving the others a quick glance. He snorted and said, "Can someone explain?"

The policeman was about to say something, but the store manager spoke first and clarified what had gone on.

After hearing the explanation, Qin Zhou let out an icy laugh, clearly dismissive. "Stealing? So, you guys were just being suspicious, shirking your responsibilities, and you want to perform a body search, right?"

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The store manager fell silent.

"Very good." Qin Zhou said politely, "Please call for your manager!"

"Our manager!?" The store manager replied, "Our regional manager had only just walked out."

"I didn't mean the regional manager." Qin Zhou clarified, "Call for your mall's general manager."

"..."

The store manager said tactfully, "We don't have that authority."

Qin Zhou smirked. "Oh, I see."

He immediately sent out a message on his cell phone. About ten minutes later, the general manager of the mall rushed over!

"Good grief, look at who we have here. CEO Qin! What brings CEO Qin to our mall?"

The store manager and the police officers were completely dumbfounded. Especially the store manager. Her mouth fell open so wide that it could undoubtedly fit an entire egg!

The big shot who in the past seemed so high and mighty in high level meetings, was actually bowing and scraping before this man? Who exactly was he?!

Qin Zhou was a man of few words. He only said, "My girlfriend was arrested as a thief when she was shopping at your mall. Now, your counter manager has requested a body search. What do you think?"

The general manager turned a little pale at that. He turned around and confronted the store manager. "What's going on!?"

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The store manager said obsequiously, "I suspect she stole an item and she's got it on her. So I wanted to check her belongings..."

"She stole something?!" The general manager was dumbfounded. "Do you know who she is? She's CEO Qin's girlfriend. Does she need to steal? You're kidding me!"

"But the sapphire ring disappeared after she touched it. It's only natural for me to be suspicious!"

The store manager tried to excuse herself.

Qin Zhou appeared intrigued. "Well, isn't she just being so human." He then said leisurely, "It's not that you can't search her. If my girlfriend is a suspect, then she somehow has to prove her innocence. If it turns out that she did steal, I'll take the responsibility and bear all the consequences, but if it turns out otherwise, the mall has to also give a reasonable explanation and compensation! Furthermore, you..." The man's gaze fell on the store manager as he continued, "... you should get the hell out of my sight."

His tone was flat, but there was an air of dignity about it. The store manager was nervous but unhappy to hear this. No matter how powerful he was, he was not the management staff of this mall. What right did he have to tell her to get lost!?

The general manager of the mall, however, knew that a ruthless person like Qin Zhou could not be offended. Hence, he quickly smiled and said, "Why would there be a need to search her? That's making a mountain out of a molehill!"

"We're not the ones making a big deal out of nothing." Qin Zhou naturally was on the same side as Liang Yin.

Liang Yin remained silent. However, with Qin Zhou around, she felt inexplicably at ease! Even with Qin Zhou backing her up, she was compelled to explain, "I came to the counter with the sincere intention of buying some jewelry, but the service staff at the counter was obviously unwilling to serve me. I was about to leave when I was stopped. She said she suspected me of stealing. But I said I didn't, and meant it. If I had really stolen, I ultimately won't be able to get away with it. If something's not mine, I shouldn't take it. Even a child understands that." After a pause, she continued, "Similarly, respecting another person's character and dignity is a basic principle. Don't you have that basic principle in your mall?"

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Although Qin Zhou had verbally expressed that he would allow a body search, the question was, did he dare request it!?

Qin Zhou's gaze was icy. The expression on his face was, like they say, stormy and frighteningly ominous. It was a coldness Liang Yin had never seen before.

When the man said that they would cooperate with the body search, she actually did not feel sad because she understood that Qin Zhou would definitely not let her be disadvantaged! At that point, if they really were to proceed with a body search, not only would the store manager be fired, the general manager could very well lose his high up position!

If nothing else, even if this woman had stolen hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of jewelry, he wouldn't dare search her! If he were to find the item on her, he would only offend Qin Zhou even more. Therefore, the manager naturally wanted to turn the situation around.

"CEO Qin, this matter is our fault. I'm sorry that this lady has had such a bad shopping experience! We will definitely improve the level of service in the future. At the same time, we absolutely believe that this lady is innocent. We will certainly not do a body search! Don't worry!"

The store manager hesitated. "But... General Manager..."

"Shut up!" The general manager turned around and shouted at her angrily, "You're from the Bulgari counter, right?! As the store manager, don't you understand the aim of customer service? That's to respect the client! How did someone like you become a store manager?! From today onwards, you're no longer the store manager of the Bulgari counter. Pack up your bags and get lost!"

"The store..."

"Shut up!" The general manager was afraid that if she were to speak another word, she would offend Qin Zhou. He didn't give her a chance to speak.

The store manager had some foresight. Seeing the general manager's fiery gaze, she immediately understood that even if the woman before her really did steal the jewelry, there was nothing she could do.

At that moment, the store manager's cell phone rang. Puzzled, she picked up the call. When she saw it was the store assistant, she stepped to the side and quietly took the call. She then heard the employees chattering ecstatically at the other end.

"Manager, we found the ring!"

"Huh?!" The manager did not react for a moment!

What was going on?! Hadn't the ring gone missing? Why had it been found? What was going on? Her entire mind went blank, as if she'd been blown up by an atomic bomb.

"Oh, it was Lin Lin's error. The ring wasn't gripped firmly. It fell into the gap in the ring holder. She searched for it for a long time but didn't pull the ring holder apart! It's here, it's here!"

This was great.

The store manager's face turned pale! This ring... had been found?! So they really had blamed the wrong person and wrongfully accused someone? This was a disaster...

The general manager had also heard a little of what was happening and quickly shot a look at the store manager, warning her not to say it. The store manager understood and kept quiet.

However, Qin Zhou's ears were sharp and he caught a hint of what was going on.

"Oh, you found the ring?"

"Found... found it... no, we didn't find it..." The store manager fumbled as she tried to get herself out of the situation.

Qin Zhou pressed further. "Did you find it, or didn't you find it? Make it snappy."

"I..." The store manager was frantic, not knowing how to respond.