

NH

Dong Wei shivered. His mouth was full of blood, so he couldn't even say a word.

They were from Lin Group?

These people were from Lin Group!

How...how dare they hit him in Xishan? Did they really think they could go around acting recklessly?

"Oh yes," Jiang Ning walked a couple of steps before turning around. It made Dong Wei's hair stand on end. "Don't you dare hit any of these ordinary folk again. If you feel the need to beat someone up, you can look for me."

"You're more than welcome to try." Jiang Ning walked away without turning back.

Dong Wei fell onto the ground. It took a long while before he recovered enough energy to stand up slowly.

He wiped the blood from the corners of his lips before spitting a few more times hard to get rid of the blood in his mouth. After spitting it all out, he was so angry that he trembled.

"Jiang Ning! Jiang Ning! I want you to die a horrible death!" Dong Wei's words came out vague as he had lost all his teeth. He couldn't even bite someone if he wanted to.

There was a threatening expression on his face. He ignored the men still stuck in the car and went to Xie Zhen immediately.

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At the same time, Xie Zhen was hurrying over to a villa.

This villa was hidden in a village, and the fresh air and peacefulness made it divine to relax here.

Xie Zhen wasn't in the mood for any of this.

He walked briskly into the tea room and sat right down. Then he gulped down an entire cup of tea without looking up.

“Where's Zhao Quan?”

Xie Zhen wiped his mouth. He raised his head to look across at the person who was drinking tea gracefully. Although Xie Zhen always felt he was a boor, this man always insisted on acting as though he were cultivated. He was too darned hypocritical.

“I haven't seen him in a few days. He must have gotten in touch with those fellows.” Gao Shou wasn't tall nor thin, even though his name sounded like it. He was instead somewhat short and fat, and his bulging belly almost touched the tea table.

He leisurely poured himself another cup of tea, then glanced at Xie Zhen with his eyes half-open, “This is an important matter. Nothing is more important than this.”

Xie Zhen's eyes lit up. He immediately moved his seat over a little and asked in a hushed voice, “What can we get?”

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He didn't make any attempt to conceal the greed in his eyes.

"I don't know yet. It still needs to be discussed," said Gao Shou, "But judging from the situation, even if those powerful families in the north want to control us, it's going to be tough."

The bargaining chip they possessed now could reap them huge profits.

It used to be something they didn't even dare to think about, let alone ask for it. But now they were fearless because the bargaining chip they held was enough for them to get what they could only covet in the past.

Their eyes were brimming with excitement and greed.

"The north is unsuitable for us," sneered Xie Zhen, "So what if we become a powerful family? If you don't become a supremely powerful family, you'd still be surrounded by danger."

"And what's the point of becoming a supremely powerful family? Even Linglong Group is gone," said Gao Shou calmly.

He poured Xie Zhen a cup of tea. Xie Zhen frowned as he glanced at it without touching it.

It was such a pain to drink it in such tiny sips.

"It's not going to be easy to deal with those people. Is Zhao Quan confident?"

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Xie Zhen poured himself a big cup instead. He looked up and glanced at Gao Shou, “Even those powerful families suffered great losses when they tried doing business with them, so I’m not sure what’s going to happen to the few of us.”

“Don’t worry. They won’t reject us since we have this bargaining chip,” said Gao Shou. “Let’s not talk about this anymore. Zhao Quan is dealing with it, so there’s nothing to worry about. Why did you come looking for me?”

“You’re in charge of the company now, so the two of us won’t interfere.”

As long as they could settle this matter successfully, losing the entire Black Star Mining didn’t matter to them at all.

The three of them never considered going up north to serve a powerful family. They were more suited for laying roots in the northwest and control the place instead.

It was good enough for them to be able to control a territory that was too far from their bosses.

“I told you over the phone that Lin Group has sent people here.” Xie Zhen narrowed his eyes and said unhappily, “They’re bad news.”



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Gao Shou laughed, "They are here to take what belongs to them. How can it be considered bad news?"

"You're willing to give it to them?"

"You mean you think you could hold onto it?"

Xie Zhen was a little annoyed.

"I'm serious here. Don't crack jokes with me at a time like this. Of course I don't want to hand it over. We fought for this territory, so why should we give it up to someone else?" he sneered unhappily.

Although their starting capital came from those powerful families, they were the ones who ran it all these years.

They suffered so much, withstood immense pressure, and almost died so many times. How could they hand over something they fought tooth and nail for?

No one would be happy about giving it away or even willing to do such a thing.

"Xie, we can't do things like we used to and rely only on violence," Gao Shou smiled. "Our status is different now. We're no longer people in the illegal circle who can't do anything else but fight for survival. If you can't change your mindset, it's hard to broaden your view on the state of affairs, understand?"

He often used the three words 'state of affairs'.

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Xie Zhen was sick of hearing it.

What could he do with knowledge of the situation?

All he wanted was money!

He wanted women!

He wanted status!

He didn't care about the situation since he could neither put it in his mouth nor have fun with it. Xie Zhen felt it was completely meaningless.

"Just tell me straight. How do you want to deal with this situation?"

"From the legal perspective, Black Star Mining belongs to Lin Group. We can't stop them from taking it back." Xie Zhen's expression darkened after just a few words from Gao Shou. "Don't get anxious. Hear me out."

"It's only right for them to take it back, so we have to cooperate. This is the law, so we must abide by it."

"But in reality, it's not that easy for them to take it from us. Would they be capable of controlling it even if we agreed to hand it over?"

Gao Shou smiled with a meaningful look on his face, "We ran Xishan for so many years. Don't you know that the company isn't the only thing we run?"

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“Even if Lin Group takes it back, they won’t be able to take it when problems start to surface. Would they dare to spend a lot of resources in this place? It would pull Lin Group under!”

Xie Zhen’s eyes gleamed. “You’re going to make them give it up?”

Gao Shou smiled without speaking and nodded gently.

“But now the workers listen to everything they say and even set up a labor union. Things will get tricky.”

“Hoho, you’re overthinking it,” said Gao Shou calmly, “I heard that Lin Yuzhen from Lin Group is a very naïve and kind woman. She helped those workers because she found them pitiful, and was even willing to sacrifice profit to help them. I’m really quite impressed by her, but from the business perspective, she’s very dumb.”

Any company was set up for profit. Why should they care about how the workers at the lowest levels are doing? Feeding them was already kindness on their part.

They found Lin Yuzhen’s actions hilarious even.

It was alright to be kind in life, but one couldn’t afford to be kind when running a business.

Gao Shou scoffed gently and said gleefully, “She might not understand that pitiful people must have done something to deserve it!”