

Sir, How About A Marriage? - Chapter 641

Guan Tang said, enunciating each word, "Of course, it's up to me. Your life is in my hand now, after all. How dare you try to negotiate with me."

Jiahui said nonchalantly, "Alright, then do what you want."

Jiahui's nonchalance stunned Guan Tang for a moment. When she recovered her senses, she said angrily, "Don't forget you're my prisoner now."

Jiahui knew she had misspoken again so she remained silent.

Guan Tang's expression was gloomy as she said, "I'll definitely let you see the man you love betray you with your own eyes."

Then, Guan Tang reached out and lifted Jiahui's chin as she said, "I really want you to die. However, I'm still not familiar with this city. It won't be easy to deal with you if you die now so I'll let you live for now. Moreover, I want you to witness your man's change of heart. Apart from that, I really need someone to talk to. After all, I have to face those people every day; it makes me feel like vomiting."

Jiahui was not surprised by these words. "Oh, so the death sentence has been extended, and I've been given a reprieve."

Guan Tang smiled. "Not only are you good-looking, but you're almost smart. I kind of like you. You're right. The death sentence is postponed for now. Worst comes to worst, we'll just die together in the future."

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Jiahui nodded. "Let's see how long this lasts. By the way, can you untie me? I promise I won't run. It's not like I can escape anyway."

Guan Tang stroked Jiahui's face as she said, "Just because you said you won't run, you think I'd believe you? How stupid do you think I am?"

"Fine, forget what I said," Jiahui said helplessly.

Guan Tang smiled. "Don't worry. I'll still untie you. After all, I'm not worried you'd be able to escape."

With that, Guan Tang gently loosened the knot, but she did not completely untie it.

Then, before she left, she said cheerfully, "I'm going to entertain those self-righteous people now. I doubt you'd commit suicide. If you want to escape, you can try thinking of a way. It's also a way for me to verify if the person who sold me the house is reliable or not."

Guan Tang did not even look back at Jiahui, who was struggling to untie herself, as she closed the door behind her. After closing the door, she leaned against the door. She raised her head slightly as she closed her eyes.

Life was just like a drama, and she was just an insignificant supporting character. However, no one would expect that a supporting character wanted a life of her own.

She would not be someone who waited to be called upon only when needed.

.After a moment, Guan Tang straightened her back and turned to glance at the shut door with a faint smile on her face.

...

At this time, Yin Jia and Ye Cheng were having a pleasant lunch together. The duo chatted happily. Over the past ten days, they had met a few times. From the initial chance encounter to their date now.

Yin Jia's heart was filled with happiness.

Ye Cheng thoughtfully served Yin Jia the dishes as he said, "Try this. It's the restaurant's specialty."

Yin Jia thanked him before he said, "You're a very attentive person."

Ye Cheng smiled and said, "No, I'm just attentive to you. How can I not be attentive to the girl I'm pursuing?"

Yin Jia was stunned by these words. Her face flushed red immediately. She did not expect Ye Cheng to be so direct. After a moment, she asked, "You, don't you have a girlfriend?"

Ye Cheng smiled and picked some food for her. He did not directly answer her question. Instead, he said, "My parents married for the sake of business, and they were unhappy in their marriage. I witnessed their fights and cold wars, mutually hurting each other, since I was young. Those things had traumatized me."

"Married for business? Your family..." Yin Jia quickly caught the main point.

Ye Cheng nodded slightly. "They didn't have any feelings for each other but married each other for their status. In any case, I've been avoiding them. I don't want to marry for the sake of business."

Yin Jia nodded to indicate she understood him. "However, you can still marry someone you like with equal status. Perhaps, someone like a childhood sweetheart..."

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"Childhood sweetheart?" Ye Cheng smiled bitterly. "How could there be such a romantic thing? It only exists in dramas and novels. I've never had such fantasies. Moreover, due to my job, I've never mingled in that circle. Since that's the case, I hardly have any interactions with girls of equal status," Ye Cheng said slowly. His expression was one of sadness and disappointment.

Yin Jia listened attentively as Ye Cheng spoke.

Finally, Ye Cheng asked with a smile, "Yin Jia, are you willing to be my girlfriend?"

Ye Cheng's eyes seemed to sparkle with starlight, and Yin Jia could not help but feel moved. Her face heated up as she said softly, "But you know nothing about my family background..."

Ye Cheng said sincerely, "Yin Jia, if it's you, I don't even mind marrying for the sake of business."

As he spoke, he reached across the table and held Yin Jia's hand.

Yin Jia instinctively pulled back, but Ye Cheng held it, not allowing her to pull her hand back.

Then, Ye Cheng said while holding her hand, "I want us to love each other and slowly understand each other's families. To me, love is the most important thing. As long as you feel the same way as I do, no matter what kind of background you have, it doesn't matter to me."

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Upon hearing this, tears brimmed in Yin Jia's eyes.

Ye Cheng looked at her tenderly, causing her to avert her gaze. A drop of tear rolled down her face, and she quickly pulled her hand back before bringing out a piece of tissue to wipe the drop of tear away. Then, she smiled bitterly and asked, "What if I'm like Cinderella?"

Ye Cheng seemed somewhat startled by these words.

Yin Jia continued to say, "What if I'm like Cinderella? Are you willing to be my prince and pull me out of that family?"

Ye Cheng did not hesitate as he said, "It'd be my honor!"

Upon hearing this, Yin Jia smiled as tears fell down her face. She hurriedly turned away.

She felt embarrassed that she could not stop her tears.

Ye Cheng held her hand again across the table and said, "Come with me, Cinderella. I'll personally build a kingdom for you."

Ye Cheng's affection was like water that moistened Yin Jia's dry and shriveled heart. She looked at him and said, "In fact, I'm not like Cinderella. I'm not so kind. In my heart, there lives a witch who wants to destroy everything."

Ye Cheng was briefly stunned. Then, he said with a smile, "I've said it before. The most important thing to me is love. I don't care about anything else. I don't care if you're Cinderella or a witch. My little witch, if you need help to destroy the world, I'll do my all to support you."

With this, Yin Jia's heart was completely captured by Ye Cheng. There had never been a man like Ye Cheng who ignited her fighting spirit.

...

When Yin Jia got home, Guan Tang was sitting on the couch elegantly and drinking a cup of tea.

Yin Jia was in such a good mood that her mood was not affected at all even when she saw those who were displeasing to the eyes.

When Guan Tang saw Yin Jia, she hurriedly rose to her feet. "Sister, I've already settled down. I came to ask if you have the time to visit my new place."

Guan Tang was gentle; she was neither servile nor overbearing.

Although Yin Jia knew Guan Tang was not a simple person, she simply could not find any flaws. She had always disliked Guan Tang but tolerated Guan Tang since Guan Tang could still be exploited.

When Yin Jia heard Guan Tang's words, she asked in surprise, "You've already found a place to live so quickly?"

Guan Tang smiled weakly. "It's just getting a house. It's not difficult as long as one has money."

Indeed.

"Does Dad and Mom know?" Yin Jia asked. She knew that Guan Tang was just retreating in order to advance. Yin Bin and Guan Ning naturally would not expel Guan Tang from the house so easily.

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Guan Tang smiled. “Sister, why do you always refuse to face the truth? How could Aunty and Uncle not know? The most important thing now is to get Cheng Che to return.”

Yin Jia looked at Guan Tang, who was smiling brightly, not knowing what to say. She really could not believe that Guan Tang was someone without desires. How could Guan Tang be like an angel like others like to say? However, she really could not find any flaws on Guan Tang.

Guan Tang looked at Yin Jia with a hint of anticipation as she asked, “Do you want to visit my new house?”

Yin Jia adjusted her expression and said, “Alright. Is there anything you need in your new house? We can buy them on the way. I’ll help you decorate your house.”

Guan Tang smiled sweetly. “Sure!”

Yin Yi had just returned at this time and clamored to go with them.

In the end, the trio left to visit Guan Tang’s house.

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After the trio arrived at Guan Tang’s house and put away the things they bought, Guan Tang began to wash the ingredients for the hotpot they were going to have.

Since Yin Jia and Yin Yi were not good at these things, they were of no help to Guan Tang.

Guan Tang quickly prepped the ingredients as she chatted with the two sisters.

Yin Yin looked at the house and said emotionally, “Although this place is a little small, it’s very peaceful. Cousin, I really want to move in with you so my mother won’t nag me all day.”

Guan Tang said softly as she worked, “Don’t be ignorant of your good fortune. Aunty is doing it for your good. It’s a blessing to have a mother nagging at you.”

Yin Yi stuck out her tongue. She said, unconvinced, “My mother is good to you too! She treats both of you like biological daughters. However, she treats both of you better than she does me!”

Guan Tang and Yin Jia exchanged a quick look before they looked away.

At this moment, Yin Jia suddenly said, “Guan Tang, this house seems a little strange.”

Guan Tang’s eyes followed Yin Jia’s gaze and landed on a long stretch of wall. (Search newn0vel.Org on google)Then, she said, “That’s right. It’s because the layout of the house isn’t very good so I managed to buy it at a cheap price. Even if I don’t live here in the future, I can still rent it out. After all, young people nowadays don’t pay attention to this kind of detail.”

Yin Jia nodded. "You're right. In the future, let me know if you see any paintings you like. I'll buy them for you so you can hang them on the wall. It won't look so bland that way."

Guan Tang said, "It's fine. I plan to buy a projector and use the wall as the screen."

Yin Yi said instantly, "That's a great idea!"

After a while, Guan Tang brought the dishes out and placed them on the dining table. Then, she brought out the hot pot that had been filled with soup. In just a moment, water vapor hung in the air, giving the house a warm feeling.

Guan Tang glanced at the long wall as she said with a smile, "You must be hungry. Let's eat."

When the two sisters were not looking earlier, Guan Tang had already packed a container of meatballs. She said to the two sisters, "Both of you can start eating first, I'm going to the bathroom."

When Guan Tang entered the bathroom, she opened the door of a closet in the bathroom that led to a secret room.

Jiahui sat on the chair, looking outside. The wall was in fact a one-way glass. Not only could she see everything, but she could also hear everything. No matter how hard she tried, no one could hear her.

Guan Tang placed the food container by the door and looked outside. Then, she asked calmly, "Are you hungry? Have something simple for now. After they leave, I'll give you more."

Without waiting for Jiahui's reply, Guan Tang left.

...

Yin Yi put the slices of meat into the hot pot enthusiastically. Among the trio, she was the most comfortable and carefree. She did not care about the image a young miss from a wealthy family should have. She was not like Yin Jia and Guan Tang who were trained to be elegant at all times.

Guan Tang took a sip of water from her glass before she said casually, "Now that I've left the Yin family, I believe Cheng Che will return to the family soon. The dust has finally settled."

"I really don't understand what's wrong with Elder Brother? Sister, why don't you persuade him again? If it doesn't work, then just let him marry that doctor. He has to come back quickly so Second Brother can be released," Yin Yi said to Yin Jia with a hint of pleading as she ate.

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Yin Jia glared at Yin Yi. "What do you mean by letting him marry that doctor? What about your sister, Guan Tang, then?"

Yin Yi said disapprovingly, “What the big deal? They can get a divorce later! Moreover, it’s not like Cousin is unaware of our family’s situation.”

Guan Tang smiled. “What divorce? I heard that your elder brother has a very good relationship with that female doctor. No matter who he marries, as long as he comes home, it’ll be fine.”

Yin Yi, who was still chewing her food, mumbled, “How can that be? You’re my future sister-in-law! Even our entire family thinks so! Right, Sister?”

Yin Jia remained silent.

Guan Tang smiled and said, “Alright, don’t talk when you’re eating. I’ve already said that as long as your eldest brother is willing to return, it doesn’t matter who he marries.”

Yin Yi picked up her glass and drank a big gulp of water before she said, “That won’t do! Only you can be my sister-in-law. I heard my mom speaking to my dad about this matter. Although they didn’t mention anything about you moving out, I know my mom would never let you suffer like this! We’re just doing this now as a temporary measure to make him let down his guard. After all, Second Brother will only be released once Eldest Brother returns home. At that time, our family will return to normal. At that time, even if Eldest Brother were married to that female doctor, we’ll definitely make sure they get a divorce! Cousin, you have to bear with it for now.”

Guan Tang saw that Yin Jia's expression was not too good so she hurriedly said, "Let the adults worry about this matter. If you don't want to stay at home in the future, you can come here. You'll have another place to go."

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Yin Jia was very happy when she heard these words. She nodded.

Then, Guan Tang picked some food for Yin Jia and said, "Sister, try this bamboo shoot. The shopkeeper strongly recommended them to me. They look pretty good."

Yin Yi interjected from the side, "They're very tender and delicious!"

Yin Jia picked the bamboo shoots up and said with a smile, "If Guan Tang said it's not bad, then it must not be bad. After all, you were raised by my mother."

Guan Tang's stiffened for a moment. Then, she smiled and said, "It's a pity that I'm stupid so I can't learn from Aunty."

Yin Yi said, "Both of you have learned from my mother. I'm the only one she complains about. She keeps saying I don't act like a girl. I really have to hand it to both of you for being able to meet her harsh demands."

Guan Tang and Yin Jia looked at each other again before they averted their eyes.

The trio continued to chat happily.

Guan Tang was so hospitable that Yin Yi did not even want to leave. In the end, Yin Jia had to forcefully drag Yin Yi away.

.After sending the two sisters off, Guan Tang slowly tidied up the place. Then, she put some dishes in a bowl and mixed them with sauce before she brought it to Jiahui.

Jiahui did not hesitate and began to eat.

Guan Tang pulled a chair over and sat a distance away from Jiahui before she silently watched Jiahui eat.

Jiahui did not seem bothered at all. She ate happily and began to chat with Guan Tang.

She asked, "Is that little girl Cheng Che's sister?"

Guan Tang nodded. "Yes. Her name is Yin Yi. She's Cheng Che's half-sister. Her mother is my aunt, and she has a brother called Yin Zheng. Yin Jia, as you know, is Cheng Che's biological sister. Both Yin Jia and I were raised by my aunt."

Jiahui looked at Guan Tang and said, "Yin Jia looked for me before to tell me about your existence. However, at that time, she said she had no intention of asking me to leave Cheng Che; she only wanted me to be wary of you. However, when you came with her again to see me, she seemed very protective of you. After seeing the interaction between both of you today, I feel like she doesn't like you very much. She was much nicer to your younger cousin."

Chapter 645: Status

Guan Tang said plainly, "You're quite observant."

Jiahui shrugged. "It's an occupational habit. Moreover, those two weren't aware of my presence so they were very relaxed and genuine. That makes it easier for me to observe them."

Guan Tang nodded in agreement.

After Jiahui set the bowl down, she stood up and stretched her limbs. "Alright, I've finished eating and drinking. Now, tell me what you want to do. Since you postponed my death sentence, before I find a way to leave, why don't we coexist peacefully?"

Guan Tang looked at Jiahui with a gentle gaze as though she was looking at a friend whom she liked very much. She said honestly, "If it weren't for all those things, I think I'd really like to be friends with you."

Jiahui shrugged.

Guan Tang said, unprompted, "I don't have any friends. I haven't had one since I was young. Moreover, I don't know how to make friends. Yin Jia and I... Yin Jia doesn't like me, and I don't have the right to dislike her. She's the Eldest Miss of the Yin family, and I'm just a relative living under someone's roof. Although she doesn't have a mother, she's regarded as the lucky star of the Yin family so she's always been high and mighty."

"Even my aunt, her stepmother, has to treat her well. However, I'm different; I don't have anything. My parents died early, and my inheritance is controlled by my aunt and uncle. I can only live by pleasing everyone. Under such circumstances, I learned to read people's expressions and have a good temper, manners, and grades. Even then, I could never compare to the Eldest Miss of the Yin family," Guan Tang said self-deprecatingly.

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"When my parents passed away, I was in an awkward position. I was betrothed to the Eldest Young Master of the Yin family, but the Yin family did not have an Eldest Young Master. The Yin family didn't lack daughters. At that time, Old Master Yin said there's no harm in having another young miss in the family; it would eventually come in handy. With just one sentence, he determined the trajectory of my life and my fate, which was to be used as a pawn in an alliance marriage."

"You must think that as a relative, my status should only be second to the young misses of the Yin family, right? Moreover, I also have the dowry that my parents left for me. I lived very carefully, aware of my future and what I had to do. Who knew things would suddenly change again. I was once again the fiance of the Eldest Young Master of the Yin family," Guan Tang said as she gracefully brushed a lock of her long hair back. Her movements were elegant, and even the way she spoke was elegant.

"So what is it you want? Do you want to stay in the Yin family or do you want to leave the Yin family? All I've heard so far is what people want you to do, not your own thoughts," Jiahui said with a frown.

Jiahui felt that Guan Tang and Yin Jia were rather similar. The duo did not know what they wanted, but they kept blaming others for not letting them do anything. They were showing typical signs of a narcissist.

"My own thoughts? Am I allowed to have my own thoughts?" Guan Tang smiled mockingly. She did not look at Jiahui as she continued to speak. It was as though she was talking to herself. "I carried the ridiculous and empty title of the future Young Madam of the Yin family for so many years. When I was a

teenager, Yin Jia lost her temper and called me a jinx. She said that it was my fault that her mother died and her younger brother was lost. After that, she chased me out of the house and made me kneel in the yard. I was not allowed to get up even when it rained. Then, I was made to stay in the servant's quarters. For that reason, I ran a very high fever. During the month I stayed in the servant's quarters, Yin Jia did not feel guilty at all. After her anger subsided, she pretended like nothing had happened. As for me, I had to act as though I was insensible and was caught in the rain, causing me to fall sick. When I was sick, my treatment was even worse than that of the servants. In fact, I even had to curry favor with the servants. There were so many people. Even if I had to exhaust all my energy, I tried to curry favor with as many people as I could. I used to be so desperate."

Jiahui listened very attentively. When Guan Tang stopped speaking, she asked, "What happened after that? What did you do?"

Chapter 646: Scheming

Guan Tang seemed to return to her senses at this moment. She smiled and said, "What could I do? Get rid of those who were obstacles, and replace them with those who were obedient."

Jiahui could not help but feel slightly frightened when she saw the sweet smile on Guan Tang's face when saying such words.

"During that month when I was sick, I was finally enlightened. Survival is the most important thing. There's nothing more important than living. Whoever threatens my wellbeing, I'll make them die a horrible death. I can't do anything to the masters of the house, but it wasn't difficult to deal with the servants. I wouldn't let those who bullied me have a good ending."

Guan Tang looked at Jiahui proudly and chuckled before she said, "During that period of time, there were servants who fell almost to their deaths; servants who were poisoned until they vomited and had diarrhea; servants who were inexplicably chased by fierce dogs; servants whose thievery was discovered by my aunt. I orchestrated all those things. After all, since no one would protect me, I would have to learn to protect myself."

Jiahui frowned, puzzled. "Even if you replaced them with new servants, once the new servants learned about your circumstance, wouldn't they be the same as the old servants?"

Guan Tang smiled scornfully. "Newcomers were naturally easy to manipulate. You have to set the rules from the very beginning. I only had to let them know whose words would influence my aunt. Those who were smart naturally knew what to do."

Jiahui could not help but nod. "You have a point. You're quite smart."

Guan Tang said smugly, "They were just servants; why should I be bullied by them? Growing up was difficult enough as it was with Yin Jia showing off her superiority and arrogance. If it weren't for my parents passing away, I would've also been a high and mighty young miss like her. Since she dared to flaunt her power in front of me, I'd definitely make her pay the price."

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Jiahui was slightly taken aback. "Even if she seems to dislike you, she's very protective of you."

Guan Tang looked at Jiahui as though she was looking at an idiot as she said, "Protective of me? You think she's protective of me! Ha! Someone like you wouldn't have been able to survive in the Yin family for a month." She laughed before she said with a sigh, "No, she's protective of my dowry and the Guan family behind me. She's protective of Cheng Che. However, it's all for her own sake. If Cheng Che marries me, he'll be the son-in-law of the Guan family. With our marriage, the ties between the Guan family and the Yin family will also be stronger. My dowry is quite sizable as well. Cheng Che definitely won't lose anything by marrying me. This is also why she's determined to destroy your relationship with Cheng Che. Although your family background isn't bad and you're capable, Yin Jia already has her own plans, and she won't change them easily. Moreover, she feels like she can control me while she's not confident she's able to control you."

Jiahui looked at Guan Tang with a surprised expression.

This seemed to please Guan Tang. "You think it's complicated, right? In fact, it's not that complicated. Yin Jia has always been like a mascot of the Yin family. When she was young, a fortune teller said that she was the Yin family's lucky star. The fortune teller said that with Yin Jia around, the Yin family would definitely prosper. I don't know if it was true, but the Yin family's business truly did grow over the past 30 years. For that reason, everyone, including Old Master Yin, doesn't want her to get married even if they did not explicitly say it. They were half-hearted in arranging her marriage, and my aunt had to shoulder the blame for that. Yin Jia had always been complacent and unbothered about this until she fell in love."

Guan Tang's voice suddenly turned frosty as she continued to say, "No one really liked her due to her arrogance and domineering personality. The young masters from the other wealthy families only tolerated her because of her background. In any case, she's not completely stupid so she was aware of that as well. However, who knew she would meet someone later. The two of them loved each other to death. The other party was even willing to marry into the Yin family for her sake."

Chapter 647: Psycho

Guan Tang suddenly smiled very sweetly. She tilted her head slightly as she asked Jiahui, "Do you know why or how she was separated from her lover?"

Jiahui felt a chill in her heart as she looked at Guan Tang's angelic face and eyes that shone like the devil's. "Don't tell me you had something to do with it?"

Guan Tang's expression was smug. She neither confirmed nor denied it. Instead, she sighed softly and said, "There are no loyal men in this world; all men cheat. It only depends on how big the temptation is. Her lover was truly outstanding. Even I was moved. He was also sincere to Yin Jia."

Jiahui could not help but ask curiously, "Then, why did he have a change of heart?"

Guan Tang's smile widened. "Didn't I say it? There are no loyal men in this world. Put that aside, there's nothing permanent in this world."

Guan Tang suddenly rose to her feet, and her expression turned gloomy as she said icily, "Your Cheng Che will be the same. I'll definitely show you so you can die knowing the truth. In the next life, it's best if you don't become a woman. Rather than being a woman who has no control over her life, it's better to be a cat or a tree!"

After saying that, Guan Tang turned around and left, slamming the door in her wake.

Jiahui watched with her mouth agape. Guan Tang's mood had changed so abruptly that she did not even have time to react.

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'What a psycho!'

Jiahui sighed. After thinking for a moment, she picked up the bowl of unfinished food and took a bite. She needed the energy to escape from this place. Fortunately, that madwoman decided to postpone her death sentence. She had to work hard to think of a way to escape.

She wondered if anyone had noticed she was missing and sighed.

Her parents likely thought she had gone to look for Cheng Che. After all, she often stayed at the Mu family house because of Jiang Jin. Even if her parents did not hear from her, they would not think anything was wrong.

She did not have plans to meet with Cheng Che today so Cheng Che would think that she had gone home.

With all these, it seemed like someone would only notice she was missing the next day when she did not show up for work.

Jiahui's expression was grim as she ate a beef ball. It seemed like she could only rely on herself now. However, this room was truly a masterpiece. She really wondered who designed it. When she regained her freedom, she was going to look for that person to beat him or her up.

Jiahui thought that the entire Yin family was crazy, but none of them could compare to Guan Tang who was a psychopath.

After Jiahui was full, she wandered the room, looking for a way to leave.

...

Song Ning had been feeling restless and uneasy since dinner time.

At this moment, Mu Lang ran over and shook Song Ning's hand. "Mommy, Mommy, I want to eat an apple! Apple!"

Mu Lang looked at her with his chubby cheeks puffed up.

Song Ning smiled and leaned down to pick him up. "Why do you look so angry when you want to eat an apple?"

Mu Lang hugged Song Ning's neck and said, looking aggrieved, "Yesterday, Daddy said that I'm a little fat and overweight. Then, he told Sister Nuan to control my diet! Daddy is mean!"

Song Ning could not help but laugh before she kissed her son's face. "Daddy was just joking. There's no need to control your diet; you can just exercise with Daddy, okay? Sister Nuan probably doesn't have enough strength to keep up with you so you can play with Daddy."

Mu Lang clapped his hands and nodded. "Okay, okay! How about Uncle and Auntie? I want them to accompany me!"

Upon hearing this, Song Ning said, "Alright. Mu Lang, let's call Auntie and ask if she's done with work. We'll tell her to come for dinner, okay?"

Mu Lang nodded. "Tell Auntie to buy apples for me!"

Song Ning laughed again. "We have apples at home. Why do you want Auntie to buy you apples?"

Mu Lang tilted his head and said innocently, "Uncle said that the apples that Auntie bought are sweeter!"

Song Ning could not contain her laughter when she thought about how Cheng Che was going all out to coax Jiahui. He could even say such words.

Chapter 648: Comfort

After Song Ning dialed Jiahui's number, it rang for a long time before a mechanical female voice rang from the other end of the line.

"The number you've dialed is currently unavailable. Please try again later."

Song Ning frowned. 'Where did she leave her phone?'

At this moment, Mu Lang looked Song Ning and shook her hand as he said, "Call Uncle! Call Uncle!"

Song Ning lowered her head and looked at her son; she could not help but smile. After dialing Cheng Che's number, she handed the phone to Mu Lang and asked, "Baby, do you want to talk to Uncle?"

Mu Lang put the phone against his ear, clearly familiar with the phone.

"Sister-in-law?" Cheng Che's voice rang from the other end of the line.

"Uncle, I want Auntie!" Mu Lang said with his childish voice.

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"Baby, what do you mean?" Cheng Che asked.

"Ask Auntie to buy apples for Mu Lang!" Mu Lang said.

Cheng Che smiled before he said, "Auntie isn't coming over to the house today. If you want apples, I'll bring you to buy apples later, okay? I'm already home."

Following that, the sounds of footsteps promptly rang in the air. Soon enough, Cheng Che and Mu Chen walked in.

"Daddy!"

After Song Ning put Mu Lang down, he ran over to Mu Chen with his short legs. He had completely forgotten that he had just complained to his mother about his father saying he was a little overweight.

Mu Chen picked his son up and kissed the side of his son's head. "Why do you want Auntie to buy you apples?"

Mu Lang had completely forgotten about the apples once he saw his father. Upon hearing his father's words, he looked behind Mu Chen and said, "Aunty?"

Cheng Che instinctively turned to look back as well. Then, he reached out to stroke Mu Lang's head and said, "Aunty isn't here. I thought she was here. You really scared me."

Mu Chen slapped Cheng Che's hand away playfully before he said, "Did you do something wrong? Why would you be scared if Jiahui were here?"

Cheng Che rolled his eyes and said, "Hey, hey, don't say these kinds of words! Why are you always trying to cause trouble for me?" Then, he turned to Song Ning, who was standing at the side, and said, "Sister-in-law, I really don't think he acts like my brother. Why don't you be my sister, and he'll be my brother-in-law from now on?"

Song Ning smiled. It had been a while since the brother bantered playfully like this.

Mu Chen said unhappily, "Keep dreaming! If I were your brother-in-law, I'd be bullied to death by you."

Cheng Che said righteously, "That's right! I want a brother-in-law who'd let me do whatever I want; a brother-in-law who's easy to bully. What do you think, Sister?"

Cheng Che deliberately emphasized the word 'sister'.

Mu Chen rolled his eyes as he continued walking with his son in his arms. His son had just reminded him again that he wanted to eat an apple.

Meanwhile, Song Ning asked Cheng Che, "Did Jiahui call you? I just called her, but she didn't pick up the call."

Cheng Che said, "No. She's going back to see her parents today. Maybe she was eating so she didn't hear the phone ring. It's really hard to contact her. When I call her, she hardly picks up. I can only wait for her to call me."

Cheng Che complained a little.

Song Ning smiled. "Your timing is just bad. When we're working, how can we answer calls? It's fine when we're off work."

Cheng Che said sullenly, "Sister-in-law, tell Grandma to pick another date for us. I want to get married as soon as possible."

Song Ning said with a smile, "It's only half a year away. We still have a lot of things to prepare. What's the rush?"

Cheng Che frowned. "I don't feel at ease. I just want to quickly marry her and live a happy life with her. At that time, my life will be complete."

Cheng Che was very relaxed in front of Song Ning. He always felt a sense of security when he was with her. Sometimes, he wondered if they were siblings in their previous lives.

Song Ning knew what Cheng Che was worried about so she said to comfort him, "Don't worry. Jiahui will never leave you. She's someone who's very loyal. She knows your feelings and trusts you. Otherwise, she wouldn't have agreed to be with you."

Chapter 649: Missing

Before going to bed, Song Ning was still worried. She called Jiahui again, and Jiahui still did not answer her call.

'Did she lose her phone?'

Mu Chen, who had just walked out of the bathroom and was drying his hair, asked, "It's so late now. Who were you calling?"

"Jiahui. She's not been answering her phone," Song Ning said with a frown.

At this moment, someone knocked on the door.

As soon as Mu Chen opened the door, Cheng Che barged in and asked anxiously, "Sister-in-law, when was the last time you saw Jiahui?"

Cheng Che's face was frighteningly pale at this time.

Song Ning rose to her feet immediately. Her phone was still in her hand. Her heart raced in her chest as she asked nervously, "What's wrong? I just called her, but no one picked up the call."

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Cheng Che looked at her anxiously as she continued to say, "I left the office at 2 o'clock and came home immediately."

Mu Chen asked in a deep voice, "What's wrong?"

Cheng Che's voice was trembling slightly as he said, "Brother, Jiahui is missing. She left work on time, but she didn't go home. She didn't come to our house as well. She's also not picking up her phone."

"Why would she go missing all of a sudden?" Mu Chen was puzzled.

Song Ning knew the gravity of the matter so she said, "Cheng Che, call the police. Check Jiahui's car and find out where she went."

Although Mu Chen was slightly confused, it did not take long before he understood Song Ning and Cheng Che's thoughts. Then, he said, "There's no need to call the police. We can find out on our own. Cheng Che, check the surveillance cameras at the hospital and the car park. Don't just stand here. Go now!"

Cheng Che turned around and ran to the study without saying a word.

Mu Chen and Song Ning followed after Cheng Che.

...

Song Ning's heart sank to the bottom immediately as she looked at the monitor. She said softly, "Guan Tang went to look for Jiahui."

Cheng Che frowned. "Is Jiahui angry with me after listening to her? Is that why she didn't answer our calls? Where did she go?"

Cheng Che was very angry now.

Mu Chen looked at the surveillance video a few times. Then, he switched to looking at the recordings from the other cameras.

Song Ning asked nervously, "Did you find anything?"

Mu Chen pointed at the computer and said, "The place near where Jiahui parked her car is a blind spot, and her car is no longer there."

The implication behind Mu Chen's words was clear.

Cheng Che turned around wordlessly to leave.

"Where are you going?" Mu Chen asked.

"I'm going to speak to that Guan Tang!" Cheng Che said in a tone that was a mix of anxiety and anger.

Mu Chen rose to his feet and pulled his brother back. "Calm down. You can't panic at this time. We're not sure if Jiahui's in trouble. If this has something to do with the Yin family, you can go to them now. You'll only end up alerting them and walking straight into their trap."

Song Ning hurriedly nodded. "That's right, Cheng Che. Calm down, and listen to your brother." Then, she added, "I'm going to call my seniors first to see if they know anything."

After speaking to her seniors, Song Ning discovered that no one knew where Jiahui went. Jiahui was the last to leave the office today so no one even saw Guan Tang/

"It's definitely that woman's doing!" Cheng Che said.

Mu Chen pointed at the computer and said, "However, from the video, Jiahui and Guan Tang separated near the entrance of the hospital. They were both laughing and talking. There was no sign of a conflict at all."

Cheng Che gritted his teeth. "It has to be her. Why would she look for Jiahui for no reason? Isn't she just scheming? Since she couldn't get to me, she schemed against Jiahui. I'm going to look for her now!"

Mu Chen pulled Cheng Che back again. "Don't be rash! Are you going to ask her directly? She can deny it. You have no evidence at all!"

Chapter 650: Face to Face

Song Ning continued to call her colleagues to try and find out more.

At the same time, Mu Chen finally found Jiahui's car at her house.

From the surveillance camera there, they saw the person who drove Jiahui's car was a young man.

Cheng Che, Song Ning, and Mu Chen's expressions were extremely grim at this moment.

...

Half an hour later, the young man who had driven Jiahui's car was pulled out of his bed with a confused expression on his face.

Cheng Che tossed a picture of Jiahui's car to the man and asked, "Do you remember this car?"

The man looked at the number plate and nodded fearfully. "Yes, yes. Someone asked me to drive the car away from the hospital to a designated place and to leave the keys at the front desk of the building."

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"Who was it?" Cheng Che asked, suppressing his urge to kick the man.

"It was a woman. I didn't see her; we only spoke on the phone. She paid double the usual price," the man said. He was completely awake now. He brought his phone out and showed it to Cheng Che.

Cheng Che was perplexed. The number that called the man belonged to Jiahui. With this, all their leads were gone. It was as though Jiahui had vanished into thin air.

Mu Chen, who had just got off a call, said to Cheng Che, "That woman, Guan Tang, bought out a house recently, and she had just moved in today."

Cheng Che's eyes narrowed before he turned to leave. He could not care now about alerting the enemies or not.

...

It was already 3 in the morning as he drove to the address that Mu Chen had given him.

When Guan Tang opened the door, she was in her pajamas. She looked stunned when she saw Cheng Che.

Cheng Che entered the house being invited as he said, "I'm sorry, Miss Guan. I'm looking for my fiancée, Jiahui."

Guan Tang looked at Cheng Che in a daze. She seemed to be at a loss for words. There were tears brimming in her eyes, and her mouth was slightly parted as she looked at Cheng Che. It was as though she forgot to answer Cheng Che's question or did not know how to answer his question.

At this time, Guan Tang was dressed in a set of silk pajamas, and her face was free of makeup. She continued to look at Cheng Che with her pair of big and teary eyes.

At the same time, Jiahui, who had been awakened by the knocking, saw this scene and felt her breath get stuck in her throat. She could not help but feel a stab of pain in her heart. She somewhat understood how Guan Tang managed to seduce Yin Jia's ex-boyfriend. What kind of man could resist such a beauty?

Naturally, Jiahui knew Guan Tang had done this deliberately.

Jiahui looked at the time; it was 3 in the morning. Cheng Che must have come looking for her when she did not answer his call before he went to bed. She did not expect him to find her so quickly. However, what would he do when faced with such a seductive woman?

Jiahui had never been so nervous before. She had always been confident about her relationship with Cheng Che, and she trusted Cheng Che as much as she trusted herself. However, at this moment, she could not help but feel uncertain. After all, even as a woman, she was attracted by Guan Tang's beauty at this moment, let alone a man.

Jiahui's heart continued to ache faintly.

At this time, Cheng Che looked at the woman in front of him with a frown as he asked, "Miss Guan, did you go to see my fiancée this afternoon?"

As though she did not hear the question, Guan Tang subconsciously reached out to cover herself before she lowered her gaze and said, embarrassed, "Sorry, I... I need to put on some clothes."

After that, Guan Tang hurried into her room, leaving Cheng Che behind.

Cheng Che looked impatient, but he knew he could not lose his temper now. He studied the house carefully before his gaze fell on the empty long wall.

At the same time, Jiahui looked at Cheng Che from the other side of the wall. Her face was already wet with tears. Although they were only separated by a wall, it seemed there was a world of a distance between them.

Chapter 651: Seduction

When Guan Tang came out of the room again, she was already dressed properly in a long dress; it was simple and elegant. In the middle of the night, she had no makeup on, making her look unspeakably beautiful.

Cheng Che looked away from the wall and said, "I'm sorry to disturb you at this time. I heard that you went to look for my fiancée today and that you left together. I wanted to ask you where she went after that."

Guan Tang seemed surprised by Cheng Che's words, but there was also an understanding expression on her face. She reached out to pour a glass of water for him before setting the glass down near him. Then, she asked, "Did something happen to Dr. An?"

Cheng Che said helplessly, "I can't find her so I came to ask if you know where she went."

Guan Tang shook her head with a perplexed expression. "I don't know. When I arrived at the hospital, Dr. An was about to get off work. We chatted for a while and walked out together. After we parted, she likely went to the car park. I left in the other direction, and a driver picked me up. We're not very close so I didn't ask about her schedule."

Guan Tang's words sounded reasonable.

Cheng Che took two steps forward before he asked, "Then can I ask you why you went to look for her? What did you talk to her about?"

An aggrieved expression appeared on Guan Tang's face as she looked at Cheng Che stubbornly with her big eyes. "I, I've already moved out of the Yin family house. I don't want to be an obstacle to your return to the family. I only wanted to tell Dr. An about this. I thought it'd be more credible if Dr. An heard it from me. After all, I don't think she'd believe the Yin family. Hence, I told her about my situation and how I'm indebted to the Yin family before I asked her to understand my circumstances. Between the two of you, there's no doubt I'm a third party. I told her not to worry since I have no intention of interfering in your relationship."

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Guan Tang lowered her gaze as tears fell from her eyes. She continued to say, "My parents passed away when I was young so I've been living with my aunt and my uncle. I have nothing to repay them with. If my departure can reunite your family, then it can be considered as a small form of repayment for their grace toward me."

Cheng Che pursed his lips and did not speak.

Guan Tang reached out to wipe her tears, and her actions were graceful as well. Then, she looked up at Cheng Che and said in a soft voice, "Dr. An is very lively and straightforward. She told me not to think too much and said that no one can affect the relationship between both of you. Cheng Che, I wish both of you happiness."

Looking at the pitiful face in front of him, Cheng Che's anger subsided. "Search newNovel.Org on google" He could not vent his anger, after all. In the end, he only said, "Whether or not I return to the Yin family has nothing to do with you. I'm not angry at you."

These words seemed to be very important to Guan Tang. Her face lit up immediately as she asked, "Really? Really, Cheng Che? Your refusal to return to the Yin family has nothing to do with me?"

Cheng Che nodded. For a moment, he did not notice the strangeness of those words.

Guan Tang smiled. Her smile was sweet and innocent. Her eyes shone with gratitude as she said, "Thank you, Cheng Che. Thank you."

Cheng Che was slightly in a daze.

Guan Tang looked like a mischievous little girl now. She sighed in relief before she said, "You're unaware of this, but I've been feeling anxious and sad over these past few days. I feel like I've become an unnecessary person. Not only was I unable to help you, but I even caused trouble for the Yin family. I thought about it for a long time, but I still didn't know what to do. In the end, I could only move out of the Yin family house first. Without me, I thought you'd naturally return to the Yin family. As for our... engagement, that's the previous generation's matter. Since our mothers are no longer around, it's normal to cancel our engagement."

Chapter 652: Tenderness

Guan Tang's tone was very sincere as she said, "As you know, the Yin family originally didn't intend to bring you back to the family. Hence, at that time, they didn't mention our engagement. In fact, the

engagement was not only sudden for you, but it was sudden for me as well. I felt even more uncomfortable when I learned you already have someone you love. Why would I want to be a third party in someone's relationship? It'd be awkward to be sandwiched between the both of you." Then, she tilted her head slightly and asked with a hint of teasing, "Moreover, do I look like I'd have trouble marrying? Do I look like I need you to marry me?"

Cheng Che looked at Guan Tang and felt his heart calm down. He thought that finally there was someone normal from the Yin family. With that, his expression softened as he asked, "Miss Guan, when you parted ways with Jiahui, was she agitated?"

Guan Tang stopped smiling and thought about it seriously before she gently shook her head and said, "No, her emotions were stable. I carefully apologized to her, and she was very magnanimous. She didn't care at all that I had a prior engagement with you. She trusts you very much. Your relationship must be very good for her to be so confident. You must have given her a sense of security."

Cheng Che remained silent as his eyebrows remained furrowed.

At this time, Guan Tang called out tentatively, "Cheng Che."

Cheng Che looked up. "Huh? What is it?"

Guan Tang studied his expression for a moment before she said tentatively, "Although the engagement our mothers agreed upon back then doesn't count, can we be friends?"

Cheng Che was slightly startled by these words.

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Upon seeing this, Guan Tang hastily said, "I, I mean, we can be ordinary friends. My, my parents left early. Although my aunt adopted me, and I have my cousins, I still can't forget my parents." She bit her lower lip as she looked at Cheng Che and said carefully, "In my heart, you're like the gift that my mother left me. It's fine that we don't become husband and wife. I understand that you don't like me that way. However, I can't help but feel close to you, kind of like a relative. Do you understand what I mean?"

After a brief moment, Guan Tang added timidly, "I don't have any ulterior motives..."

Cheng Che looked at Guan Tang and could not help but pity her. Hence, he said slowly, "Alright. If you have any difficulties, you can call me. I'll do my best to help since I don't want my mother to be sad either. I apologize, but I don't love you and I won't marry you. Love can't be forced, after all."

The light in Guan Tang's eyes dimmed slightly, but she still nodded. "I understand, I understand. It's just that with you around, I feel like I can feel the warmth from my mother. I don't have any extravagant desires."

Following that, Cheng Che wrote down a string of numbers on a piece of paper before he said, "If there's anything, you can call this number. It belongs to my secretary, Xiao An. It'd be easier for you to look for him than to look for me. He'll help with your problems."

Guan Tang bit her lower lip again and nodded slightly. "Alright, thank you."

Then, she looked as though she was hesitating to say something.

Cheng Che looked at her and softened his tone as he said, "Is there anything else?"

Guan Tang looked at Cheng Che and forced a smile on her face before she asked, "Can I call you to talk if I have any troubles?"

Cheng Che scratched his head and said, "This... I don't think I'd be good at it. When I find my fiancée, you can interact with her more. She's very understanding and considerate. I'm sure both of you will be good friends. At that time, it'd be more convenient for us to look after you. After all, the dust hasn't settled yet for now."

Guan Tang nodded. "Alright. This is great. I'll help you to look for Dr. An as well!"

After saying that, without giving Cheng Che a chance to refuse, she grabbed her phone and hurried away.

Chapter 653: The Past

When Guan Tang returned to see Jiahui, it was already ten in the morning. She had showered and changed her clothes before she cooked two bowls of noodles and brought them into the secret room. She looked very pleased with herself.

"Are you hungry? Sorry you had to wait. I followed them to look for you. They were so anxious to find you. They saw that I was with them the entire night so they felt sorry for me and told me to return to rest first," Guan Tang said nonchalantly as she held the bowl of noodles in her hand, waiting for it to cool down. She spoke as though the matter had nothing to do with her at all.

Jiahui waited for the bowl of noodles to cool down as well. She said, "It seems like you're having fun."

Guan Tang smiled smugly. "Don't you think it's fun?"

Jiahui took a bite from the bowl of noodles as she glared at Guan Tang.

Guan Tang smiled. "They're very interesting. They're truly anxious to find you. In the beginning, I thought it was just an act, you know? You know what humans are like. For example, Yin Zheng, my aunt's biological son and Cheng Che's half-brother. When he first got into trouble, everyone acted anxious and worried. However, apart from my aunt and uncle, I don't think anyone was sincerely worried. They were all just acting."

Guan Tang shook her head before she ate the noodles.

Jiahui asked casually, "What exactly happened to Yin Zheng?"

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Guan Tang paused and looked at Jiahui who was eating the noodles. Then, she brought a piece of tissue to wipe her mouth before she asked, "Do you want to hear a story?"

Jiahui stirred the noodles in her bowl as she sighed and said, "It's not like I have anything better to do. So, if you want an audience..."

Guan Tang seemed pleased by Jiahui's response. She smiled and leaned back comfortably like Jiahui before she said with a sigh, "It's so nice to sit like this. All of you really know how to enjoy yourself. I've never tried sitting like this before. Otherwise, I'd be scolded to death."

"How pitiful," Jiahui said as she shook her head.

"Pitiful? Let me tell you something even more pitiful. The story is a little long so I'll summarize it to satisfy your curiosity," Guan Tang said. She leaned against the chair limply, relaxed.

"Old Master Yin lost his mind in his middle age and fell in love with a washed-up female celebrity. He naturally planned to keep her outside of the family, but she wasn't easy to deal with. After she obtained his heart, she spared no efforts in officially entering the Yin family so she tried to meet Old Madam Yin, the legal Madam of the Yin family back then. She succeeded. Old Madam Yin's dowry was rather sizable when she married into the Yin family. At least half the wealth of the Yin family belonged to her. It was said that she and Old Master Yin promised to be together for a lifetime. Clearly, she would not tolerate being betrayed," Guan Tang said. After a brief pause, she said, "Look, that's another person who believes in love. No matter the era, there's no shortage of foolish women like you."

Jiahui did not say anything and waited for Guan Tang to continue.

Guan Tang, who had never had an audience before, was rather excited. She began to talk non-stop.

"Old Madam Yin questioned her husband directly. Alas, her husband no longer loved her as he did back then. He made up all kinds of excuses and said a lot of things. Basically, he wanted to have his cake and eat it too. Unfortunately, his two women were not simple, and they clashed like fire and water. The mistress had many underhanded tricks. How could the Old Madam, who had been raised in the lap of luxury all her life, endure it? In a fit of anger, she ran away from home. This was naturally what the mistress wanted. Not long after, the mistress even brought her son and daughter into the Yin family."

"Old Madam Yin's daughter-in-law was an orphan whom she personally raised. She was the child of Old Madam Yin's friends. Come to think of it, she was a little like me. It's just that she had no blood relations with Old Madam Yin. Anyway, she left to look for Old Madam Yin when Old Madam Yin left, hoping she'd be able to persuade Old Madam Yin to return. Who knew that after she left, she would never return."

Chapter 654: Eldest Grandson

"You know who I'm talking about, right? Yes, it's Cheng Che's mother. She was a good friend of my mother. At that time, Cheng Che's mother was seven months pregnant with him. She left her daughter to look for her mother-in-law and never returned. Her decision implicated me and Cheng and changed our fates. If she did not leave, even if my parents passed away early, I wouldn't have been in such an unfortunate state," Guan Tang said, filled with self-pity. She sighed before she continued to say, "Cheng Che's mother's name was Yiwan. Aunt Yiwan's death aggravated the conflict between the Old Madam and Old Master Yin. Coupled with the instigation of a third party, the rift in their relationship grew even more difficult to mend. The Old Madam was so furious about the Old Master's abandonment that after leaving the Yin family, she let Cheng Che take her surname."

"Not long after that, that old man arranged for my aunt to be married into the family as his eldest daughter-in-law. The Yin family and the Guan family have close business relations, after all. Daughters of

wealthy families like ours are just mere tools for marriage. My aunt didn't have the right to choose her husband. Fortunately, she was blessed. She got pregnant after two months of marriage. This means that Yin Zheng is only a year younger than Cheng Che. In that old man's eyes, Yin Zheng was the heir-apparent of the Yin family. With that, the Old Madam, Aunt Yiwan, and Cheng Che, who had never entered the Yin family at all, were completely forgotten. They were completely erased from the family; there were no traces of them at all. As a result, Yin Yi was unaware of all these old family matters."

Finally, Guan Tang smiled bitterly and asked, "What do you think? Did this refresh your worldview? This is what wealthy families are like; we're all chess pieces in a wealthy family."

"You're taking too long to get to the point. I want to know about the original heir of the family. What happened to him? Although the family is quite chaotic, I'm sure the rules are still there."

"Yin Zheng. Like I said, Yin Zheng is my aunt's first child. For the longest time, he held the position of the eldest grandson in the Yin family. His birth was legal, and his mother's from a suitable family, hence, the old man was extremely fond of him. Yin Zheng grew up by the old man's side, and this caused the mistress to be dissatisfied. After all, her son and daughter are also children of the Yin family. Why couldn't her grandchildren be the heir of the Yin family?"

"If the position of the heir of the Yin family belongs to the eldest grandson, then both Yin Zheng and Yin Jian, the mistress' grandson, aren't qualified. They're not the eldest grandson of the Yin family, after all. The real eldest grandson of the family was wandering outside. Since both of them were unqualified, the mistress thought Yin Jian should be given the same treatment as Yin Zheng. Because of this issue, Yin Xing, or Cheng Che, was brought up in the family for the first time."

Guan Tang spoke with emotions that even Jiahui could not help but be immersed in her storytelling.

"Our Guan family attaches importance to Yin Zheng since he would be the future head of the Yin family. Hence, when the mistress caused a scene, it was equivalent to denying Yin Zheng's status. Naturally, the Guan family wouldn't accept it. As a result, they went looking for the old man to make their stance clear."

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"That old man's heart had already been moved by his mistress. However, when faced with the Guan family, he naturally had to consider the two families' relationship that spanned generations. The mistress was afraid of unexpected changes so she eavesdropped on the conversation when the Guan family came over. As a result, when she heard the conversation, she naturally couldn't accept it and stepped forward to argue her case. For the longest time, there was no conclusion to that matter."

"The parties involved, Yin Zheng and Yin Jian, grew up together. They shared the same interests and were like brothers. Their parents fought fiercely for them, but they took advantage of it to relax and enjoy themselves. In the end, both of them fell in love with the same girl. For that reason, they both fell out with each other and began to oppose each other along with their parents."

"It was also at that time that the lawyer, whom Old Madam Mu sent, came to the Yin family. How could the Yin family acknowledge Cheng Che at that time? It would mean there would be an extra person fighting for the Yin family. Uncle would rather not have his son as well. Can you imagine how chaotic it was?" Guan Tang asked as she looked at Jiahui.

Chapter 655: Insurmountable Obstacle

Jiahui, who was still engrossed in the story, said, "So they simply ignored Cheng Che just so there'd be one less contender?"

Guan Tang nodded.

Jiahui frowned. "Although the family's actions are appalling, it has nothing to do with Cheng Che. In fact, it's a good thing that they gave up on Cheng Che. It's also beneficial to the Yin family. Why did the family suddenly go back on their words? Why are they now insisting that Cheng Che returns to the Yin family?"

Guan Tang sneered before she said, "Isn't that because the heavens are watching and Cheng Che is blessed by the heavens? He's the rightful heir to the Yin family; how could the heavens allow his position to be usurped by those who are unworthy?"

Jiahui said, disagreeing with Guan Tang, "You're thinking too much. Moreover, Cheng Che doesn't care about this at all. Whether it was when he was 18 or now when he's 28, Mu Chen has always treated him like a brother. There's no need for him to fight for the Yin family's inheritance."

Guan Tang rolled her eyes. "Even if Cheng Che has no intention of fighting for the Yin family, do you think those wicked people would feel reassured with his existence? It would be different if Cheng Che died. However, not only is he alive, but he's also living quite well. This makes him a strong opponent."

"When the mistress brought Cheng Che up, she naturally only brought it up as an excuse. How could she really want Cheng Che to return to the family? It was the same for the Guan family. Since Yin Zheng's position was threatened after the mistress mentioned Cheng Che, the Guan family instructed my aunt to make a fuss, cry, and threaten to commit suicide. My uncle was under my aunt's control so he naturally refused to bring Cheng Che back to the family," Guan Tang said. She sighed before she continued to say, "Alas, life is unpredictable. Yin Zheng and Yin Jian embarked on a path of no return because of a woman. Their enmity that began when they were young couldn't be resolved. They took pleasure in stealing each other's girlfriends and were proud of sleeping with women the other party had slept with. For that reason, they caught AIDS from a woman they both slept with."

"What? This... This..." Jiahui was so shocked that she almost fell off her chair. She was speechless.

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"Isn't it so absurd?" Guan Tang said, extremely satisfied with Jiahui's reaction. Then, she continued to say, "Now you understand why Cheng Che absolutely has to return to the Yin family, right? It's because the Yin family has no other heirs. The old man watched me grow up and felt that I'm the most suitable candidate to be his eldest granddaughter-in-law. He felt that when his eldest grandson returns to the family, his eldest grandson would be very pleased with our engagement. Do you understand now? I was originally a chess piece and later turned into a gift. However, due to Cheng Che's refusal, my position is very awkward now."

Guan Tang smiled before she looked at Jiahui provocatively and said, "Oh, right. Did you see his actions earlier? Let me tell you. There's no man who can resist a woman's active pursuit. Previously, he was so determined about not having anything to do with me. What about now?"

“My move is retreating to advance. He won’t be able to resist this move. Growing up in the Mu family gave him happiness, but it also robbed him of his ability to survive in a family like the Yin family. Dr. An, I’m not trying to bully you. However, between Cheng Che and I, there’s an obstacle you can’t surpass and that is his mother, Yiwang. No matter what, he’d give me a little bit of consideration because of his mother, and this is all I need to come between the both of you. As long as I’m around, the both of you won’t be able to live in peace!” Guan Tang said with a very sweet smile on her face.

Chapter 656: Madwoman

Guan Tang sat up straight before she said with a sigh, “Initially, I planned to kill you. However, I’m not familiar with this city so it won’t be easy to dispose of your corpse. In any case, I’ve changed my mind now. It’s good to keep you around so I can chat with you and also for you to be an audience. I don’t have any friends and have no one to confide in. No one has ever listened to me seriously like you do...”

Guan Tang paused, looking as though she was thinking about something seriously before she said, “I’ve never talked so much to another person before. Who would listen to someone like me?”

Jiahui was rendered speechless by Guan Tang. After a moment, she looked at Guan Tang with an expression of pity as she asked, “Don’t you have a job?”

“A job?” Guan Tang laughed as though she had heard a funny joke. “Why do I have to work and earn money? What kind of job do you think suits me?”

Jiahui asked patiently, “What did you study in university?”

Guan Tang glanced at Jiahui as she said, “Naturally, I studied business management. Don’t try to understand me with your knowledge. It’s useless. We’re from two different worlds. In my world, what I study has nothing to do with what I do in life. Whether it’s my family or my in-laws, what I studied isn’t important. In the eyes of my family, I’m an outsider. After all, sooner or later, I’d be married into another family. As for my in-laws, I’m also an outsider. The best for me is to be a full-time housewife. I’d dress up beautifully every day and live a comfortable life. Independent women are rare in families like ours.”

Jiahui looked at the jade young woman in front of her and said, “How pitiful that you can’t be yourself... You must be unhappy...”

Guan Tang lowered her gaze and chuckled. “So what if I’m unhappy? I’ll feel happy as soon as I see others in pain. For example, when I went to search for you with your friends, I felt very happy when I saw how anxious they were. It made me even more satisfied when they were nice to me because I helped them to look for you. I like the feeling of blending in with the crowd and doing bad things without anyone knowing.”

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Guan Tang laughed until she cried after she finished speaking. After a while, she wiped her tears away with elegant movements before she rose to her feet. Then, she said with a smile, “You must have been worried all night and didn’t sleep well, right? You should rest now and wait to see how I snatch your fiance away from you and make him mine. I must make you understand that all men are the same. Back then, Yin Jia’s boyfriend loved her so much, but in the end, didn’t he still throw himself at me?”

Guan Tang's expression changed immediately after she finished speaking and left the room.

Jiahui thought to herself helplessly, 'This woman is mad. She's been driven mad by her family.'

However, Jiahui was filled with hope when she recalled Guan Tang had said that she no longer intended to kill her. At the very least, she had some breathing room now. Her biggest problem now was to escape from this place.

...

On the other side.

Everyone returned empty-handed after searching for Jiahui.

Cheng Che's expression was extremely unsightly. After all, it was as though Jiahui had vanished into thin air; there was no clue at all.

Mu Chen said in an attempt to reassure Cheng Che, "Don't worry. We've already made a police report. Apart from that, our men are also looking for her. There'll definitely be news."

Cheng Che remained silent. He was at a loss over what to do, and an ominous feeling lingered in his heart.

Song Ning said with a frown, "I keep feeling there's something wrong with Guan Tang, but I can't place my fingers on it..."

Jiang Jin said in a deep voice, "Let's not worry about that now." Then, she said to her two grandsons, "Send out all your men. Nothing is as important as Jiahui now. You must bring Jiahui back!"

Cheng Che looked at his grandmother gratefully, and his heart was filled with emotions.

Chapter 657: Confirming the Relationship

Ye Cheng slowly sipped from the glass of wine in his hand. A gentle smile could be seen on his face as he looked at Yin Jia. From time to time, he would sigh as he listened to Yin Jia's story.

On the other hand, tears welled up in Yin Jia's eyes as she spoke. It had been many years since someone had listened to her so seriously, and it had been many years since she chatted with someone so freely.

Ye Cheng handed her a piece of tissue.

After gently wiping the tears off her face, she asked, feeling slightly embarrassed, "Do you think it's too dramatic? My first love died in my arms just like that. I don't even know if his death was an accident or intentional. Five years have passed, and I still haven't found the answer."

Ye Cheng said regretfully, "It's too tragic. Yin Jia, I hope you can let go of the past and move on. After all, you're still young. People can't just live in the past."

Yin Jia's tears began to fall again when she heard these words. She tried her best to smile and said, "I'm only telling you this because I don't want to hide anything from you. If you're still willing to be with me after knowing this, then I'm willing to reconsider our relationship."

Ye Cheng seemed slightly surprised upon hearing this. He straightened his back and asked, "Yin Jia, you're willing to start a new life?"

Yin Jia nodded slightly and said with a smile, "I'm willing to try with you."

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A smile blossomed on Ye Cheng's face before he said, "Great! This is great!"

Yin Jia smiled shyly as she said, "When you have the time, come home with me to meet my family."

Ye Cheng smiled and replied, "Why don't you see when it's convenient for your family to meet me? I'll make time to meet them."

Yin Jia nodded with a sincerely happy smile on her face. "Alright."

...

During dinner, when everyone was present, Yun Jia announced that she wanted to bring her boyfriend back to meet her parents.

Everyone was stunned.

Guan Tang, who was invited back for dinner, was the most stunned.

Guan Ning asked tentatively, "Yin Jia, when did you get a boyfriend? Why haven't we heard anything about it at all?"

Yin Jia smiled faintly, and her tone was gentle as she said, "Mom, I'm not young anymore. I'm not like Yin Yi who has time to slowly fall in love. I think he's a good person. Meet him and tell me what you think. If there's no problem, I want to get married as soon as possible."

Yin Bin said unwillingly, "Why are you in such a rush to get married? What do you mean by you're not young anymore? It's not like our Yin family can't afford to raise you. You're my daughter. Even if you remain unmarried until you're 80, you'll still be the princess of our family."

Although Yin Jia's expression was one of gratitude, her eyes were cold. She softened her voice and said, "Dad, why are you so anxious? It's not like I'm getting married tomorrow. I'll wait for Cheng Che's return before I get married. I have to see him return to your side before I can get married without any worries. Our family can only have one lucky star. If I'm here, how can my brother return? Once I'm married, my brother will surely return to inherit the family business. With this, our Yin family will be blessed." Then, she paused before she said coquettishly, "If you can't bear to part with me, then you can add to my dowry."

Yin Bin's expression eased when he heard the words 'lucky star'. He said gently, "Of course, of course." Then, he said to Guan Ning, "We can't be sloppy with Yin Jia's dowry."

Guan Ning said, "Don't worry. It was prepared long ago."

Yin Jia's eyes were frosty as she lowered her gaze and drank from the bowl of soup in front of her.

At this time, Guan Tang said softly, "Eldest sister has finally recovered from her emotional trauma. I'm really happy for you."

Yin Jia's gaze was as sharp as a knife when she looked at Guan Tang.

Guan Tang revealed an apologetic expression on her face immediately, looking as though she was about to cry.

Chapter 658: The Daily Life of a Family

Yin Yi asked curiously, "Sister, what does my new brother-in-law do? When did you meet him? Is he a local?"

The words 'new brother-in-law' stabbed at Yin Jia's heart, but she pretended as though she did not hear it as she said, "He's just an ordinary civil servant in the Public Security Bureau. He's a local. His family does business as well, but I didn't ask him much about it. He's an only child. His mother is seriously ill and is recuperating so only his father manages the family business since he has no interest in business."

Guan Ning could not help but inwardly sigh in relief upon hearing this.

On the contrary, Guan Tang's eyes flashed.

Yin Bin frowned. "How did both of you meet? Does he know about your background?"

Yin Jia replied, "I didn't tell him about our family. He probably thinks I'm an ordinary white-collar worker. Dad, I don't want to marry someone who only likes me for my background. He's a civil servant with a stable job. He won't cause trouble for our Yin family in the future. I think he's the most suitable candidate for me. In the past, I was too young and made judgments quickly. I was too immature. Now, I think I should be more practical."

Yin Bin did not say anything, but his expression was not very good.

Yin Yi asked bluntly, "Sister, does this mean you have to support him?"

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Yin Jia replied with a smile, "That's not necessary. His salary isn't low either. At most, we'll contribute evenly in the future. I think it's not a bad idea."

Yin Yi quickly said, "Dad, then we really have to make sure that Sister has a sizable dowry. There must be a house and a car! Apart from that, we can't forget about a prenuptial agreement. In the future, if he betrays Sister, he won't get anything from us!"

Yin Jia could not help but laugh. "Nothing's happened yet, but you're already thinking about my divorce. Can't you wish me well?"

Guan Ning said slightly reproach to Yin Yi as well, "What nonsense are you spouting?" Then, she turned to Yin Jia and said, "Don't mind your sister. She just cares about you and worries that you'll be wronged."

Yin Jia ignored Guan Ning and said to Yin Yi, "Wait until you meet him before you start worrying."

Yin Yi's eyes widened. "Could it be that he's as outstanding as Mu Chen?"

Yin Yi did not bother to hide her admiration for Mu Chen at all.

Guan Ning said angrily, "Yin Yi! How can you always be thinking about a married man?"

Yin Yi was very unhappy that her mother interrupted her conversation with Yin Jia. She said indignantly, "Wasn't Dad also married when you liked him?"

Guan Ning's expression changed drastically. She instinctively turned to look at Yin Jia. Fortunately, Yin Jia seemed to be engrossed in a conversation with Guan Tang and did not seem to hear Yin Yi's disgraceful words.

Yin Yi knew she had misspoken so she no longer said anything. However, a resentful expression could still be seen on her face.

On the other side, Guan Tang chuckled lightly and asked, "Sister, what time do you plan to bring your boyfriend back tomorrow? I want to have a look as well."

Yin Jia said, "Is it convenient for everyone if I bring him back at 8 pm?"

Guan Ning hurriedly said, "It's convenient, it's convenient. Do you need me to prepare anything?"

Yin Jia said, "No need. He'll just come over for a visit."

No one asked about what Yin Jia and Guan Tang were talking about earlier.

Guan Tang's smile did not reach her eyes, and Yin Jia did not say anything.

Finally, Yin Bin said, "Alright, then bring him back tomorrow so we can have a look."

After that, Yin Jia switched the topic. She asked with a concerned expression on her face, "Dad, how are things going with Brother?"

Yin Bin frowned. "Your grandfather will be visiting in the next few days. He'll go over and speak to Old Madam Mu again. There are some things that only your grandfather can do and say."

Yin Jia nodded. "That's for the best. I didn't expect Cheng Che to be as stubborn as you. Although he didn't grow up by your side, he's very much like you."

Chapter 659: Anger

When Yin Bin heard those words, he felt as though he had just drunk a glass of ice water on a hot day. A smile could be seen on his face as he said, "Hmph, that brat's temper is really bad!"

After that, Yin Bin rose to his feet and made his way to the study.

Upon seeing this, Yin Jia got up and followed Yin Bin. She said, "Dad, you're stubborn but soft-hearted; I think Cheng Che's the same as well. Like father, like son. In fact, I think Grandpa is like that as well."

At this time, Yin Yi got up as well and said, "I'm done eating. Enjoy yourselves."

After saying that, Yin Yi ran away. She had been gathering information about Mu Chen recently and had long become Mu Chen's fan. Needless to say, she knew she could not let her family know about it.

In the end, only Guan Ning and Guan Tang were left at the dining table. It was silent for a moment.

Finally, Guan Ning broke the silence and asked, looking troubled, "Do you think she's serious?"

Guan Tang remained silent. At this moment, her heart was already in turmoil. She could not believe Yin Jia had forgotten about her former so quickly.

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Guan Ning continued to ask uneasily, "Do you think she noticed something? She didn't even reveal her boyfriend's name earlier. Do you think she's guarding against us?"

Guan Tang sneered. "She is definitely guarding against us, and that's not all she's doing."

Guan Ning could not help but say with reddened eyes, "It's all Yin Zheng's fault for failing to live up to expectations."

'What's the point of saying this now?' Guan Tang thought to herself irritably.

...

When Guan Tang returned home, her anger had yet to dissipate. She tossed the food she had packed for Jiahui into the room.

Jiahui had been hungry for a long time and did not mind Guan Tang's behavior. She glanced at Guan Tang and asked, "What's wrong? You look as though someone owes you money and refuses to pay you back. Do you want me to check your pulse? I think your anger is too much."

Guan Tang glared at Jiahui silently before she sat down on the chair near the door.

There were only two chairs and one bed in the room.

The chair Jiahui was sitting on was by the bed, and the one Guan Tang occupied was near the door. Every time Guan Tang visited Jiahui, she was very vigilant and always maintained a certain distance from Jiahui.

Seeing that Guan Tang did not say anything, Jiahui said as she ate, "Didn't you say you're keeping me alive so I can be your audience? If you have something on your mind, just say it. Isn't it uncomfortable to hold it in? Why? Did you fail to seduce Cheng Che?"

Guan Tang rolled her eyes before she said, "I didn't see Cheng Che today. Don't worry. I'll definitely succeed."

Jiahui shrugged.

Guan Tang looked at Jiahui before she suddenly asked, "Do you think you'll love Cheng Che forever?"

Jiahui nodded without hesitation. "Of course."

"What if he betrays you?" Guan Tang asked.

Jiahui shook her head. "Cheng Che won't betray me."

"I mean, what if? What if he betrays you? Will you still love him?" Guan Tang stared at Jiahui unblinkingly, not wanting to miss any changes in Jiahui's expression.

Jiahui shook her head and said, "Then, I won't love him. Since he betrayed me, why would I still love him? Do you think I'm sick in the head? In any case, Cheng Che won't betray me. I'm only answering this hypothetically."

Guan Tang remained silent.

After eating a few mouthfuls of the food, Jiahui asked curiously, "What's wrong? You're quite good at keeping people in suspense."

Guan Tang's eyes seemed unfocused as she softly murmured, "Yin Jia is in love."

Jiahui's hand that was holding the chopstick froze briefly. "Cheng Che's sister?"

"Yes. She used to love her former lover so much. How long has it been since he died? However, she's already fallen in love with someone else and forgotten about that relationship. Tell me, how can she be so heartless? This is too much!"

At the end of the words, Guan Tang's anger returned again.

With this, Jiahui finally understood why Guan Tang had asked her those questions earlier. She asked casually, "Didn't you say Yin Jia's former lover betrayed her and fell in love with you? Why are you dissatisfied now that she has a new lover?"

Guan Tang said angrily, "Before her boyfriend died, she had already forgiven him. Shouldn't she continue to love him? How can she find another lover and think about getting married?!"

Chapter 660: Clues

Jiahui looked at Guan Tang, slightly surprised. She wondered inwardly, 'Is her madness acting up again?'

Guan Tang kicked the door as she said, "She said she forgave him, and he died in her arms! She was heartbroken! Doesn't this mean she loved him very deeply? Shouldn't she be forever affected by his death? Otherwise, how could it be called love? How can she change her mind and fall in love with another person?"

Jiahui could not keep up with Guan Tang's thoughts so she only remained silent.

After Guan Tang was done venting her anger, she left and slammed the door behind her, returning to her bedroom.

Jiahui had yet to finish her food when she saw Guan Tang had changed her clothes and was rushing out of the house.

Jiahui felt that the Yin family was really abnormal. Fortunately, Cheng Che was raised by Jiang Jin.

After Guan Tang left the house, she called for a car to bring her to the Mu family house.

...

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Jiang Jin and Song Ning were anxiously waiting for news about Jiahui from Mu Chen and Cheng Che. When they heard that Guan Tang came to visit, they exchanged a look immediately.

Finally, Jiang Jin said, "Bring her in."

As soon as Guan Tang saw Jiang Jin and Song Ning, she said anxiously, "I, I came to look for Cheng Che. Please let me see him." Tears brimmed in her eyes as she continued to say, "Old Madam Mu, Dr. Song, I came to look for Cheng Che because of an urgent matter."

Song Ning invited Guan Tang to take a seat before she said, "Miss Guan, let's talk slowly. Cheng Che isn't here. He's out looking for Jiahui."

Guan Tang seemed to hesitate for a moment before she stammered, "I, I suddenly remembered something, and I wanted to tell Cheng Che about it. It's... It's about his sister, Yin Jia, and Jiahui."

Song Ning perked up immediately. "What is it?"

Guan Tang lowered her gaze and remained silent.

Jiang Jin said kindly, "Miss Guan, since you're willing to help Cheng Che, please tell us everything you know. The Mu family and Cheng Che will be eternally grateful to you."

Upon hearing these words, Guan Tang finally looked up with eyes that shone with tears. She said, "Old Madam Mu, Dr. Song, I don't know if Cheng Che had told you this, but my parents passed away early, and I grew up in my aunt's house. My aunt and her family have been very kind to me."

Guan Tang looked hesitant as though she had something on her mind as she said these words.

Jiang Jin and Song Ning looked at each other before Jiang Jin reached out and patted Guan Tang's hand. Then, she said, "Miss Guan, it's been hard on you."

Guan Tang's tears fell immediately. "Old Madam Mu, please call me Guan Tang. I've never seen such a warm family like yours. I never knew families can be so warm and harmonious. Cheng Che is more fortunate than I am."

Without waiting for Jiang Jin's response, Guan Tang wiped her tears away, and her expression turned solemn as she said, "I came because I suddenly recalled what Sister Yin Jia said so I wanted to tell Cheng Che about it to see if he can find any clues from her words."

Jiang Jin and Song Ning listened attentively.

Guan Tang said, "I looked for Dr. An at the hospital before, and Sister Yin Jia accompanied me. Sister Yin Jia dislikes Dr. An a lot. Previously, she had looked for Dr. An and told Dr. An to leave Cheng Che. When we went to look for Dr. An together, she was also very rude to Dr. An and said a lot of harsh words. She hopes that Cheng Che will marry me. After all, although my parents are no longer around, I'm a member of the Guan family so my dowry is quite sizable. Sister Yin Jia thinks I'll be of help to Cheng Che, and, and..."

Guan Tang paused briefly before she continued to say timidly, "Sister Yin Jia thinks that I, I have a good temper; I'm obedient and easy to control. However, Dr. An is too smart. Hence, Sister Yin Jia dislikes her."

Jiang Jin and Song Ning looked at each other in surprise.

Guan Tang said, lost in her thoughts, "I spoke to Sister Yin Jia's driver and asked about the day that Dr. An disappeared. He said that he drove Sister Yin Jia to the hospital. However, I dare not ask her if she met Dr. An."