

A Marriage 701

Chapter 701: Guan Tang

Guan Tang, who was suddenly called out, feigned a panicked expression on her face as she said, "Grandma, you're worrying too much. I'm fine, I'm fine."

Old Madam Yin's smile deepened. "How can you be fine? You've been in our family for twenty years, right? We've long treated you as one of our own. For the sake of our eldest young master, you were forced to move out. How pitiful. I heard that our madam didn't even send you a helper?"

Guan Ning, the Madam of the Yin family, who was still immersed in her joy regained her senses when she heard Old Madam Yin's words. Alarm bells began to blare in her mind. She smiled and hurriedly said, "That's right. Guan Tang only packed up her personal belongings before she quietly moved out. Since she decided to give up on her engagement with Yin Xing, how could she accept a helper from our Yin family?"

Guan Ning deliberately used the name 'Yin Xing' instead of 'Cheng Che'.

Old Madam Yin's smile froze as she said, "Your aunt is really ruthless. Why is she so calculative? She raised you by her side. How could she feel at ease letting you live alone? Since the Eldest Young Master is here, we should make things clear now. Don't put Guan Tang in such an awkward position."

Old Madam Yin was not afraid to stir up trouble at all.

Guan Ning feigned an aggrieved expression and said, "Old Madam, I've discussed this with the family. We don't want to make things difficult for Yin Xing. Moreover, Guan Tang said that she owes the Yin family a favor for raising her so she doesn't want to be an obstacle that prevents Yin Xing from returning to the family."

After that, Guan Ning looked at the expressionless Cheng Che.

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Cheng Che remained unmoved, making it clear that this matter had nothing to do with him.

"Based on what you said, Guan Tang is indeed very sensible and obedient. This makes her even more pitiful. Right, Old Master?" Old Madam Yin continued to add fuel to the fire.

Old Master Yin's expression was very dark as he looked at Cheng Che.

Guan Tang set down the glass in her hand before she said gently, "How can that be?" She continued to say with a graceful smile on her face, "The engagement between me and Cheng Che was arranged by our mothers. Even if our mothers were alive, it doesn't necessarily mean we have to be together. Perhaps, we would've grown up as childhood sweethearts if they were alive or perhaps, we would've long discovered we're not compatible. Who knows, right?"

Old Master Yin's expression eased.

Guan Tang continued to say with a smile on her face, "At present, we didn't grow up together, and we only met recently. It's too difficult for us to get married without getting to know each other. That's why I wanted to move out as well. Moreover, I have plans of my own too."

Old Master Yin smiled when he saw how sensible Guan Tang was. "Hm? You have plans of your own?"

Guan Tang smiled and replied, "Of course. Grandpa, I was thinking that after moving out of the Yin family, I might make new friends. At that time, I might even meet someone who likes me or meet someone I like?"

Upon hearing this, Old Master Yin said, "Nonsense!"

Guan Tang lowered her voice just enough for everyone to hear her before she said, "Moreover, perhaps, Cheng Che would look at me more if I'm sensible? Perhaps, he might be willing to get to know me and date me? With that, perhaps, I won't be labeled as the unwanted woman who was forced onto the Eldest Young Master of the Yin family."

Chapter 702: Coaxing

After Guan Tang finished speaking, she forced a smile on her face.

Old Master Yin could not help but pity Guan Tang. He said, "I want to see who dares to say such things!" After that, he glared at Cheng Che.

Guan Tang said again, "Grandpa, Cheng Che and I have already discussed it. We're family friends, to begin with. We can just treat each other like friends in the future. Let us handle our own matters, alright?"

Old Master Yin's expression eased slightly. "Guan Tang, it's been hard on you. Don't worry. No matter what, Grandpa will always support you. No one can bully you."

Old Master Yin naturally noticed Cheng Che's indifference so he did not say everything he wanted to say.

Guan Tang smiled. "Grandpa, who dares to bully me? Even if you don't say it, everyone knows you support me."

Cheng Che lowered his gaze, hiding the shock in his heart. If he did not personally see the secret room in Guan Tang's house and Jiahui being imprisoned in that room, no matter who said it, he would not have believed Guan Tang was so vicious. Despite her elegant and graceful appearance, she had the heart of snakes and scorpions.

With that thought in mind, Cheng Che's back broke out in sweat.

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Everyone present was likely unaware of Guan Tang's true colors. She was too scheming and terrifying.

On the other hand, after she single-handedly resolved the crisis caused by Old Madam Yin and improved her image in everyone's minds, Guan Tang was very pleased with herself. Her gaze inadvertently swept past Ye Cheng and Cheng Che. Cheng Che remained indifferent as usual while Ye Cheng's eyes were sparkling.

Guan Tang did not understand why Cheng Che was so devoted to Jiahui. Jiahui was indeed cute, but it was not to the extent where it could make a man so devoted. Men were usually like Ye Cheng; they would be moved by the slightest bit of temptation.

Cheng Che did not relent; he did not agree to return to the Yin family. As such, Old master Yin was determined to find a way to meet Jiang Jin.

With the help of Ye Cheng, the future son-in-law of the Yin family, the atmosphere was rather good. Everything went smoothly and was not too awkward.

Old Madam Yin and her daughter-in-law did not reap many benefits from the outing this time. Since they were afraid of Old Master Yin, they did not dare to go too far.

On the other hand, Yin Bin and his family basked in the light of glory this time.

After leaving the restaurant, Yin Jia got into Ye Cheng's car.

Ye Cheng asked Cheng Che to send Guan Tang home.

Upon hearing this, Old Master Yin used his status as an elder to pressure Cheng Che to agree to it.

Cheng Che hesitated briefly before he agreed in a gentlemanly manner.

Guan Tang got into Cheng Che's car in a reserved manner before she fastened her seatbelt. When the car started, she asked Cheng Che worriedly, "Did I make you unhappy today?"

Cheng Che looked slightly surprised. "No. How can that be? Moreover, I'm just a guest today."

Guan Tang sighed. "That's not true. You're the host today. Everyone was looking at your expressions before they said and did anything."

Cheng Che frowned and did not say anything.

Guan Tang continued to say earnestly, "Cheng Che, you have to learn to hide your emotions in the Yin family. This is the best way to keep yourself safe. Old Madam Yin, her son, and her daughter-in-law aren't on the same side as Uncle and Aunt. You have to be careful not to get involved in their fights."

Cheng Che drove the car as he said bluntly, "They have nothing to do with me. I'm not returning to the Yin family."

Guan Tang sighed. "Cheng Che, you'll have to return sooner or later. The situation in the family is complicated. You have to remember what I said. I grew up in the Yin family. I can't say much, but I don't want you to be bullied when you return to the family."

Cheng Che looked at the road ahead intently. He really did not dare to face Guan Tang at this moment.

Chapter 703: Interaction

Who would not be touched by such careful concern?

At this moment, Cheng Che was extremely grateful to Zhuang Ning. If Zhuang Ning did not help him see Guan Tang's true colors, he really did not know which path he would have taken.

Guan Tang asked tentatively, "Cheng Che, is there any news about Jiahui?"

Cheng Che could not help but turn to look at Guan Tang upon hearing this question. Her eyes were clear and sincere. No one would have doubted her kindness. With great difficulty, he looked away and shook his head before he said, "No, there's still no news from the police."

Guan Tang's smile deepened, but she quickly adjusted her expression, and her smile vanished from her face. She said, "We can't just rely on the police."

Cheng Che replied softly, "Hmm."

Guan Tang continued to comfort him. "Jiahui is such a good girl. She's definitely blessed. Don't worry. She'll be fine."

Cheng Che stepped on the brakes, pulling to a stop in front of a traffic light. He said, "I only hope that she's safe and sound."

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"Of course," Guan Tang replied casually.

After a moment, Cheng Che said, "Thank you."

Guan Tang smiled. "I also want to thank you for treating me like a friend. Moreover, you didn't embarrass me in front of everyone today."

Cheng Che continued driving when the light turned green. He said, "It's nothing."

Guan Tang looked ahead as she said softly, "Cheng Che, when you marry Jiahui in the future, don't ignore me, okay? I'll definitely try my best to get along with Jiahui. Don't... don't abandon me, okay? I'm really afraid that you'll hate me and abandon me."

After Guan Tang finished speaking, she covered her face as she cried softly.

Cheng Che did not know what to do for a moment. He did not feel distressed for her, but he felt terrified of her at this moment.

Guan Tang was like an onion; she had so many different layers to her. It was difficult for people to see what kind of person she truly was when she had so many faces. Such a woman was too scary.

Cheng Che took a while to calm down. Then, he acted accordingly and said slowly, "Don't cry anymore. If you have any problems in the future, you can look for me. As long as it's within my ability, I'll definitely help you."

"Really?" Guan Tang asked through her tears.

Cheng Che looked at the road ahead as he nodded.

After wiping the tears off her face, Guan Tang said, "I'm sorry, Cheng Che. I lost control of my emotions for a moment. I, I will definitely try my best not to trouble you."

Guan Tang's pitiful look was enough to melt steel.

Cheng Che thanked Zhuang Ning, his brother, and his sister-in-law again in his heart.

When they finally arrived at Guan Tang's house, Cheng Che heaved a sigh of relief. If he continued watching Guan Tang's pitiful act, he would have ended up driving his car up the wall.

"Do you want to come in and have a cup of tea?" Guan Tang asked.

Cheng Che shook his head. "I have to go back. Jiahui hasn't been found yet. I'm going to go back and discuss the matter with everyone. When I find Jiahui, I'll bring her to thank you and the Yin family."

Guan Tang's smile deepened. After she alighted from the car, she turned around and waved at Cheng Che before she entered her house.

Guan Tang was very happy today. She was certain Cheng Che would be hers sooner or later. She had already found Cheng Che's weakness. He was too soft-hearted and could stand to see a woman's tears.

After unlocking the door with her fingerprint, Guan Tang pushed the door open. However, a sense of unease crept into her heart. She closed the door again and looked at the locking mechanism. Nothing had changed, but she strongly felt that something was amiss. Her instincts told her that someone had been in her house. She walked in and out, checking the door, but found that nothing was wrong. When she determined that everything was as it should be, she finally dismissed her suspicion. She thought she must have been too paranoid.

She let out a long sigh as she threw her bag on the ground and removed her shoes. Then, she went to the living room and poured herself a glass of water. After she lay on the couch, she recalled what everyone had said earlier, and she could not help but laugh. Everyone was under her control, and the Yin family would be hers sooner or later.

Chapter 704: Missing

Guan Tang lay on the couch and rested for a while. She was in a really good mood. Although she was sleepy, she rose to her feet and made her way to the secret room. She needed someone to share her joy with. After all, Jiahui was an excellent listener. She grew more and more reluctant to kill Jiahui. Moreover, it was not easy to get rid of a corpse, and she wanted Jiahui to watch as she captured Cheng Che's heart.

She had already written the script in her mind. She wanted Jiahui to watch in the secret room while Cheng Che kissed her in the living room. She wanted Jiahui to watch as the man she loved betrayed her and admit that Cheng Che was hers.

Guan Tang felt giddy when she thought about Jiahui's heartbreak. She could not wait to watch Jiahui drown in despair and sorrow. When Jiahui was completely broken, she would turn Jiahui into her plaything.

The more Guan Tang thought about this, the happier she became. She grew even more eager to see Jiahui.

Guan Tang yawned as she opened the door to the secret room. The next second, she stood frozen by the door, petrified. There was no one in the secret room.

'Where's Jiahui?'

The secret room was neat and tidy. There was no trace of anyone being imprisoned when Jiahui had been in here for a week.

Guan Tang instinctively rubbed her eyes. Alas, the room was still neat and empty.

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Her heart began to thump violently in her chest, and she found it difficult to breathe. She used all her strength to call out, "Jiahui..."

Every time she came into the room, Jiahui would sit in front of the table and eat.

Jiahui was eating with relish. She bought a lot of snacks for Jiahui, and Jiahui did not refuse them. Jiahui did not seem to have any self-discipline as a doctor. Even when she was too lazy to cook and only gave Jiahui instant noodles, Jiahui would still eat them with relish. Jiahui ate so well that sometimes it aroused her appetite as well.

She would always sit on the chair nearest to the door as she chatted with Jiahui. She was very cautious and did not get too close to Jiahui.

She thought that when the time was right, she would poison Jiahui. After all, Jiahui did not put up her guard at all and ate everything that was given to her. Hence, she thought it would not be difficult for her to poison Jiahui.

However, where was Jiahui now?

Guan Tang caught her breath and quickly left the secret room.

'Someone discovered this place and saved Jiahui! Someone knows my secret! What to do? What to do? Are the police coming? I've committed a crime; I'm going to jail! How will I live in jail? Will the Yin family save me? No, they won't. They'd be embarrassed and won't associate with a criminal! Will the Guan family save me? Impossible! The Guan family will only treat me as though I'm dead. What should I do? What should I do?'

Thoughts raced through Guan Tang's mind as fear and unease overwhelmed her. She pressed her hand against her chest, finding it difficult to breathe. Her legs weakened, and she tripped, falling to the ground. The sudden pain jolted her back to her senses. She rose to her feet with great difficulty as she swept her eyes across the room carefully. She could not help but shiver. Her instincts were right: someone had indeed entered her house when she was away. Without anyone noticing, the person had taken Jiahui away.

'Who was it?'

Guan Tang took a deep breath to calm down as she tried to analyze the situation.

'Who knew my secret? Who saved Jiahui so quietly without leaving any traces behind? What is that person's motive?'

Chapter 705: Speculation

'Could it be Cheng Che? No, Cheng Che was with me the entire time so it couldn't be Cheng Che. Cheng Che's worried expression was real. Then, could it be Mu Chen and the others? No, with Cheng Che's pure personality, he would have wanted to personally save his girlfriend. He wouldn't have been able to remain calm and have a meal with the Yin family. Who else could it be? Yin Jia?'

Guan Tang took a deep breath as she analyzed the situation.

Yin Jia had taken a strong interest in the long stretch of wall during her first visit. She had always been suspicious of Guan Tang and did not buy into Guan Tang's kind act.

Guan Tang recalled that Yin Jia had seemed uneasy during the meal earlier. At that time, she had thought Yin Jia was worried about something going wrong during the meal and was keeping an eye on Ye Cheng. However, she was certain now that Yin Jia's unease must have something to do with Jiahui.

'Very good! She's trying to use Jiahui to win Cheng Che's heart! She can also claim credit in front of that old man. With all these, her position in the Yin family would become unshakeable.'

Finally, Guan Tang concluded that Yin Jia was behind Jiahui's rescue. However, she could not figure out how Yin Jia had pulled it off. Similar to her, Yin Jia had just moved to the city not long ago. Where did Yin Jia find the connections to pull something like this off? She wondered if Ye Cheng had helped Yin Jia. With the Ye family's status and Ye Cheng's job, it would indeed be easy for them to rescue Jiahui. However, why did they do it so quietly? With Yin Jia's temper, Yin Jia would definitely stir up a huge commotion, making her lose all her credibility in front of the Yin family. Yin Jia would not let her go until her reputation was in tatters.

With these thoughts, Guan Tang began to doubt herself again.

'So it's not Yin Jia? Then, who else could it be? Yin Yi? No, she's a fool. Who else? Who else?!'

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Guan Tang curled up on the couch with her hands on her head.

'Who was it?'

Guan Tang's mind continued to spin like a merry-go-round. When it finally slowed down, a figure appeared in her mind: Zhuang Ning.

She had almost forgotten about Zhuang Ning among all the visitors she had received at her house. She recalled Zhuang Ning had gone to the bathroom and had even spilled water on the floor. It was possible that she discovered a leakage from the secret room. Humans were curious by nature. Zhuang Ning's curiosity must have been aroused when she saw the leakage. Logically, Zhuang Ning should have asked about it, but she did not. Was it because Zhuang Ning only had Ye Cheng on her mind at that time or was Zhuang Ning hiding something?

Guan Tang recalled how Zhuang Ning did not take the bait and did not show up at the restaurant to ruin Ye Cheng and Yin Jia's relationship. At that time, Zhuang Ning had told her she could not come because she had something to deal with. She had thought Zhuang Ning was a coward at that time.

Guan Tang quickly dismissed her suspicion. 'So was it Zhuang Ning? No, impossible! Why would she do something like that? It's impossible for her to know Jiahui. Why would she save someone she has never met before?'

Guan Tang quickly brought her phone out and dialed Jiahui's number.

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Xiao Peng, Zhuang Ning's manager, answered the call.

"Hello, Miss Guan. Sister Zhuang Ning is in the midst of filming so she can't answer your call. I'll get her to call you back when she's done."

'Zhuang Ning's filming?'

Guan Tang's heart skipped a beat as she asked, "Has she been filming all this time?"

Xiao Peng sighed and complained, "The second female lead in this movie had a sponsor. However, for some reason, she fell out with the sponsor and was removed from the movie. As a result, many scenes had to be reshot. Sister Zhuang Ning has been filming the entire day. I think she'll be able to rest soon. I'll get her to call you back when she's done filming."

After listening to these words, Guan Tang's doubts were dispelled. Zhuang Ning had no connections to Jiahui, after all.

Chapter 706: Conclusion

'Then, who was it? Who saved Jiahui? No matter who it was, it was impossible to save her without leaving any trace behind!'

After thinking about it, Guan Tang thought there was only one possibility left: Jiahui escaped on her own.

'That's right! She must have found a way to escape! That's why there are no traces! Jiahui, you're really smart!'

Guan Tang began to think of countermeasures. She sneered as she thought to herself, 'Now that she's escaped, she must have gone to the police station right? I must get rid of the evidence! I won't be caught!'

With that, Guan Tang sprung up and rushed into the secret room. She had to get rid of the evidence. When the police arrived, she was going to turn Jiahui into a liar; a vicious woman who slandered her.

Guan Tang took action immediately. Jiahui was unaware that the secret room could also be converted into a walk-in closet.

By the time Guan Tang had set everything up, it was almost dawn.

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At this time, Han Mo, who was sitting in front of the computer, could not help but exclaim, "This woman's mental fortitude is too strong!"

Xiao An wore a frightened expression on his face as he said, "With this level of scheming, if we didn't know better, I think Boss would have fallen for her act."

Han Mo agreed. "Who could scheme to this extent? In the future, it's best to stay away from women. Look at her angelic face. Who can tell she's so venomous? She's really amazing!"

Xiao An leaned back against the chair as he said, "Don't generalize. After all, women like Guan Tang are really rare. The probability of encountering someone like her is like winning the lottery."

Han Mo pursed his lips before he said, "Then... Young Master Cheng is really too lucky, isn't he?"

At this moment, the door opened, and an exhausted Cheng Che walked in. "What's the situation like?"

The two men quickly replayed the video for Cheng Che to see.

"She's destroying the evidence and turning the secret room into a walk-in closet. This woman is too terrifying."

Cheng Che did not say anything. He looked at the woman on the screen, lost in his thoughts.

"Young Master Cheng, why didn't you call the police?" Xiao An could not help but ask.

Cheng Che raised his chin and gestured at the screen. "What's the use of calling the police? We took the initiative to save Jiahui, and the evidence we have can't be used since they're obtained illegally. She could have turned the table on us and reported us for breaking and entering."

"However, Dr. An is clearly the victim," Xiao An said with a frown.

Cheng Che sighed softly. "We don't have enough evidence. We can't prove anything. She'll definitely twist everything and frame Jiahui if we act recklessly."

Xiao An looked defeated. "Then, we're just going to let her off? Why is it always like this? Good people have to suffer while wicked people live so happily!"

Cheng Che sneered. "Let her off? Impossible! Xiao An, send people to keep an eye on the Yin family and their schedule. Pay close attention to Guan Tang. Not only that, but keep an eye on those who have dealings with them. Apart from that, I want a report of the Yin family's business dealings."

"Understood!" Xiao An replied.

Han Mo asked, "Young Master Cheng, are you going to stop the Yin family's business? Are you going to go against them?"

Cheng Che smiled. "I'm afraid I'm not capable of this on my own. I don't want to implicate the Mu family either. The best way is to let them fight among themselves. We can save a lot of time and effort and let them exhaust themselves fighting."

Upon hearing this, Han Mo thought to himself, 'This Yin family is really unlucky. They just had to offend this black-bellied person. Young Master Mu looks cold when he acts, but Young Master Cheng can kill

people with a smile on his face. In fact, his victim might even thank him unknowingly! The Yin family is really pitiful!’

Chapter 707: Protect

When Cheng Che returned to his room, he saw Jiahui sleeping soundly. Song Ning had given her some medicine to calm her nerves. Although she did not suffer much and was not physically injured, she had trouble sleeping due to the lingering fear.

Cheng Che reached out and stroked Jiahui’s face. He was afraid he would scare her so he quickly withdrew his hand and sat on the chair next to the bed. Then, he looked at her silently.

This unexpected disaster Jiahui suffered was caused by him. He did not expect Guan Tang to be so terrifying.

Currently, it looked like the Yin family was willing to pay any price as long as he agreed to return to the Yin family. Outwardly, they looked sincere, but all of them had their own agendas. Among these people, perhaps, his sister, Yin Jia, was the only one who sincerely wished for his return. They were biological siblings, after all. Nonetheless, he was also aware that Yin Jia had her own selfish motives as well.

Cheng Che was not surprised by the Yin family. He had seen many of this kind of people in the Mu family, after all.

What the Mu family did have nothing to do with him, and he did not care about the Yin family. The only person he cared about was Jiahui.

Since Guan Tang dared to touch Jiahui, he was going to make Guan Tang pay for it.

The Yin family was getting restless as well. If they dared to touch Jiahui, he would not let them go as well. Even if it was his sister who made a move, he would not be polite.

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It was all thanks to Jiang Jin that he was able to grow up peacefully. He did not have much desire since he was content with what he had. He had never pursued material wealth. However, if those people dared to touch the person he loved and the Mu family, he did not mind turning into a wolf to deal with them.

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Mu Chen had yet to sleep as well. He had just finished dealing with his work, and when he returned to the bedroom, Song Ning woke up immediately.

“Done?”

“Yes,” Mu Chen replied as he came to the side of the bed to kiss Song Ning. Then, he said, “I’m going to take a shower. Go to sleep first.”

Song Ning’s sleepiness had completely disappeared. After Mu Chen entered the bathroom, she got out of bed and poured a glass of warm water for Mu Chen.

When Mu Chen came out of the bathroom, he was drying his hair. He picked the glass of water up and drank a mouthful from it.

Song Ning stepped forward and took the towel from him before she helped him to dry his hair. Then, she casually lifted the hairdryer to completely dry his hair.

After Mu Chen got into bed, he let out a long sigh.

“You must be exhausted,” Song Ning said, feeling distressed for him.

Mu Chen nodded. “Yes. However, Jiahui’s finally back, and Cheng Che can finally feel at ease now.”

Song Ning asked, “What do both of you plan to do next? Since you’re not planning to report this to the police, is this matter over?”

Mu Chen pulled Song Ning into his arms before he said, “Things aren’t that simple. It’s not wise to involve the police. Zhuang Ning will also get dragged into this if we involve the police. The gains aren’t worth the loss. Jiahui is back now, and she’s fine. That’s the most important thing. As for the rest... leave it to Cheng Che. He’ll deal with them one by one...”

Song Ning could not help but say, “Cheng Che is really pitiful. I think he must be very sad.”

Mu Chen was silent for a moment. Then, he said, “We have no way of truly understanding how he feels now. He has to face this on his own.”

Song Ning nodded with a sigh before she said, “We have to support him no matter what. I thought Cheng Che and Jiahui’s lives would be very smooth. I didn’t expect them to encounter such a disaster. Let’s just treat this as a test of their love. Let’s solve this matter as soon as possible so they can get married.”

Mu Chen tightened his hold around her and said, “Of course. They’ll definitely get married. Cheng Che isn’t as easy to fool as he looks. If those people think he’s easy to bully, then they’re very wrong.”

Upon hearing this, Song Ning also could not help but speak up for her best friend. “Jiahui isn’t someone to be trifled with as well.”

Chapter 708: Waking Up

Jiahui woke up slowly. There was a hint of worry in her heart, and her mind was blank. It had been a long, long time since she had slept properly. She had been worried that the lunatic, Guan Tang, would kill her while she was sleeping.

As soon as she thought about Guan Tang, she jolted up.

‘No! I slept so deeply! Am I still alive?’

Jiahui screamed in fear when her hand suddenly touched something hairy.

Cheng Che hurriedly leaped up and hugged Jiahui. “Jiahui, don’t be afraid.”

Jiahui trembled as she pushed Cheng Che away. She quickly got off the bed and held a pillow in front of her.

Cheng Che, who was caught off guard, fell on the carpet, and the chair he was sitting on fell on his waist, causing him to groan in pain.

At this moment, Jiahui finally regained her senses. "Cheng... Cheng Che?"

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Jiahui's eyes widened as she looked at Cheng Che who was sitting on the ground holding his waist. Then, she rushed over to help Cheng Che up. She asked anxiously, "Why are you here? How did she get you in here?"

After Cheng Che stood up, he pulled Jiahui into his arms and hugged her tightly. "Jiahui, Jiahui, you're back. You're safe."

Cheng Che knew Jiahui was still disoriented and highly stressed.

Jiahui was stunned.

Cheng Che let go of her and looked at her as he gently said, "Baby, you're safe. You're in my house, in my room. Look carefully. This is my room."

Jiahui did not look around. She stared at Cheng Che wordlessly, unable to speak.

Cheng Che kissed Jiahui's forehead softly. His warm lips caused her to tremble slightly.

At the same time, memories from before flooded her mind.

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Previously.

After Guan Tang left the house, Guan Tang crouched down and touched the wall carefully, looking for a way to escape. Although she had yet to find anything so far, she did not give up. She believed the mechanism to open the door had to be around this area. After all, every time Guan Tang visited her, Guan Tang would sit within this area.

Jia Hui was confident that she would be able to take down Guan Tang as long as Guan Tang came close enough. Alas, Guan Tang did not let down her guard; she continued to maintain a distance between her and Jiahui.

Guan Tang was too cunning and careful. Not only did she not get close to Jiahui, but she was also very careful not to reveal anything.

At this moment, there was a sound from outside, causing Jiahui to retreat back to the bed in shock. She thought Guan Tang had returned, but when she looked outside, she was dumbfounded.

Jiahui's first thought when she saw the two men was that they were thieves. The next second, she hurriedly pounded on the wall in front of her, uncertain if the sound would be transmitted outside. She did not care at this moment if the two men were thieves. As long as it was not Guan Tang, she had a chance of survival.

The two men in black looked around before they made their way to the bathroom.

Jiahui was stunned. After a moment, she saw Mu Chen standing at the door. When she reacted, joy and relief flooded her heart, and tears were already streaming down her face.

When the door to the secret room slid open, one of the men stood at the door and said anxiously, "Dr. An, let's go! We're here to bring you away!"

Jiahui did not need to be told twice and hurriedly ran out of the room that had been her prison.

"Mu Chen!" Jiahui was so excited that her tears kept falling down her face.

Mu Chen hurriedly supported Jiahui, who almost fell down. "Let's go out first. Song Ning's waiting for you in the car outside."

"Okay, okay, okay," Jiahui quickly said.

Xiao An appeared and brought Jiahui out of the house while Mu Chen stayed behind with his two men.

Chapter 709: Explanation

Jiahui sprinted all the way like the time she had participated in the 100-meter sprint in school.

At the same time, the door of a black car parked at the side opened, and Song Ning rang out.

The two women hugged each other tightly.

At this moment, Xiao An said from behind, "Hurry up. Get into the car!"

Then, Song Ning quickly pulled Jiahui into the car.

The driver stepped on the accelerator and drove away immediately.

Jiahui threw herself into Song Ning's arms and began to cry loudly.

Song Ning cried as well as she patted Jiahui's voice and comforted Jiahui in a soothing voice.

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When the two women returned home, Jiang Jin, who had been waiting anxiously, could barely contain her joy. She felt her heart ache when she saw Jiahui.

Song Ning brought a bowl of calming tonic for Jiahui to drink before she brought Jiahui to have a hot bath and settled Jiahui down.

After that, Jiahui fell into a deep sleep.

It was normal that Jiahui was disoriented when she woke up and momentarily forgot that she had been saved.

At this moment, Jiahui said softly, "Cheng Che, I'm safe."

Jiahui could see that Cheng Che had lost a lot of weight and that he did not even bother to shave. He looked haggard and exhausted. She knew he had been working hard to find her.

Cheng Che's eyes reddened. He rested his forehead against her as he said, "Yes, you're safe. You're finally safe. I'm sorry, Jiahui. I've implicated you."

Jiahui looked at him through the tears in her eyes as she said, "I... I've caused you trouble. I was too careless and made you worry."

Cheng Che hugged her again. "Silly, how did you cause me trouble? This is all clearly my fault. You had to suffer because of me."

The couple hugged each other tightly, drawing strength from each other's warmth. With this, they could reassure themselves that they were not dreaming.

When Jiahui finally calmed down, they finally sat down to talk.

At this moment, Jiahui seemed to recall something. She hurriedly said, "Mu Chen! Mu Chen didn't leave with us!"

When Cheng Che saw Jiahui was about to stand up, he stopped her and said, "Brother Chen returned a long time ago. Don't worry, don't worry."

Jiahui looked at Cheng Che with an uncertain expression for a moment before she asked, "Cheng Che, Mu Chen came to save me. What about you? Where did you go?"

At this time, she could finally think clearly.

Cheng Che smiled bitterly as he replied, "I was having a meal with the Yin family, including Guan Tang. I had to distract the Yin family to buy time for Brother Chen."

Jiahui's eyes burned with flames as she said, "Did you report this to the police? When I was imprisoned, I thought that I would definitely report her and let her rot in jail after I escaped."

At this moment, the person Jiahui hated most in her life was Guan Tang.

Cheng Che stroked her head. His heart ached for her.

Jiahui asked again, "Did you report this to the police?"

Cheng Che said softly, "Jiahui, listen to me. We can't report this to the police for the time being."

Jiahui was stunned. "Why? Oh, is it because she's your fiancée? She bullied me to this point, and yet, you're unwilling to involve the police? Cheng Che..."

Cheng Che hurriedly grabbed Jiahui's hand and said, "Jiahui, listen to me. It's not like that. We can't call the police. Technically, what we had done when we saved you is classified as breaking and entering."

Jiahui did not react for a while, looking at Cheng Che in a daze.

Then, Cheng Che patiently explained to Jiahui how they had found her. Finally, he said, "Trust me. I won't let her off the hook for hurting you like that. However, the police can't solve this matter now. Believe me. I'll make her life a living hell. We need to weigh the pros and cons."

Jiahui thought about it for a moment before she said, "I understand. This means we are privately seeking revenge, right?"

Cheng Che nodded. "Yes."

A smile bloomed on Jiahui's face. "Very well. I was thinking that I won't be able to vent my anger completely even if I hand her over to the police. At most, I could only hope for a harsher sentence. After listening to you, I think this is good as well. I don't want to hold onto these grudges; I'd rather seek revenge to vent my anger."

Chapter 710: Request

Cheng Che was speechless. He thought to himself, 'As expected of my girlfriend. Perhaps, I should let her seek revenge on her own. Forget it. I couldn't protect her this time. How can I let her risk her life for revenge? Besides, Guan Tang's cunning isn't something Jiahui can compare to. I can't and won't let her face Guan Tang alone.'

As the saying went, 'Once bitten, twice shy'.

...

Guan Tang waited until dawn in fear. Relief flooded her heart when the police did not come. She had waited until ten in the morning, but the police still did not show up.

'Is Jiahui dead?'

With Jiahui's temper, if she was still alive, she would definitely want to send Guan Tang to prison. She was not the kind to forgive and forget such a thing.

At this time, Guan Tang's phone suddenly rang, startling her. She trembled slightly as she answered the call. It was Yin Yi.

"Cousin, Grandpa wants you to come home for lunch."

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"Oh, okay, okay, I got it," Guan Tang quickly replied. She packed her things swiftly, feeling the urgent need to leave her house so she could have a change of scenery.

...

Ye Cheng was resting at Zhuang Ning's house. He had already treated the place like his home. He was also worried that Yin Jia would come looking for him without warning so it was inconvenient for him to stay at his house.

At this moment, Zhuang Ning brought out a cup of coffee and placed it in front of Ye Cheng. She said with a frown, "It doesn't seem appropriate for you to keep coming in and out of my place. There's a lot of paparazzi outside. You can't afford to stir up any scandals with your current situation."

Ye Cheng raised his head and smiled. After taking a sip of the coffee, he said, "Haven't you heard that the most dangerous place is also the safest place?"

Zhuang Ning did not reply and took a seat across from Ye Cheng. She asked, "Did your meeting with the Yin family go well?"

Ye Cheng was stunned. It was as though he did not understand Zhuang Ning's words.

Zhuang Ning smiled bitterly. “Miss Guan told me you were having a meal with the Yin family. She told me that if I want to capture your heart and be with you, I have to seize the opportunity. In other words, she wanted to appear during the gathering. She said Old Master Yin and Old Madam Yin would definitely be unhappy and that my chances of ruining your relationship with Yin Jia are very high.”

After that, Zhuang Ning looked at Ye Cheng silently.

Ye Cheng tried to calm down first before he asked with a smile, “Why didn’t you do as she said?”

Zhuang Ning averted her eyes and forced herself to remain calm. She rose to her feet and walked to the window. A pot of orchids sat on the windowsill, and she reached out to stroke the leaves as she said, “First, I don’t fight over men. Second, I don’t want to be used as someone’s knife. Just because she doesn’t get along with the Eldest Young Miss of the Yin family doesn’t mean she can use me. Third, I don’t like such sinister women.”

Ye Cheng stood up and hugged from behind. Then, he leaned down slightly and whispered in Zhuang Ning’s ear, “Zhuang Ning, I love you. For the rest of my life, I’ll only love you.”

Zhuang Ning gently pushed Ye Cheng’s hands away and stood at the side. She smiled and said, “Stand and talk properly. Don’t get physical. Talk about practical things. I’ve heard enough of your confession.”

Ye Cheng smiled. He felt that Zhuang Ning’s cuteness was unparalleled.

Zhuang Ning sighed softly.

“What’s wrong?” Ye Cheng asked when he saw the slight frown on her face.

Zhuang Ning looked at him and asked, “Ye Cheng, can you teach me how to run a business?”

Ye Cheng was puzzled. “Why do you want to learn how to run a business?”

Zhuang Ning said seriously, “Acting is just a job for young people. There are newcomers pouring into the industry every day. I’m afraid it won’t be long before I get pushed out of the industry. After all, youth is the most important thing in the industry. I don’t want to wait until I’m cornered before I act. Why don’t you accept me as your protege so I have a legitimate reason to stay by your side?”

Chapter 711: Flattery

Ye Cheng found the final part of Zhuang Ning’s part the most touching. He was overjoyed. “Zhuang Ning, are you serious?”

Zhuang Ning nodded. “Yes, Master. Teach me some real skills that will help me to survive in the future.”

Ye Cheng reached out and hugged Zhuang Ning, placing his chin on top of her head. “Alright, I’ll teach you everything I know. Let’s see if I can nurture a great businesswoman.”

Zhuang Ning buried her face against Ye Cheng’s chest, hiding the sneer on her face. ‘Ye Cheng, I’ll be the knife that penetrates your shield. I’ll let you die without regrets.’

...

When Guan Tang arrived at the Yin family house, Old Master Yin had just returned from a stroll in the garden. He was accompanied by Yin Jia, who wore a bright smile on her face. However, she did not see Old Madam Yin.

Guan Tang quickly walked up to the duo and said, "Grandpa, you're really energetic. After drinking yesterday, you don't look tired at all today. You're still as sharp as a knife. You're in an even better condition than us."

Old Master Yin was extremely pleased with Guan Tang's words. He smiled and patted Yin Jia's hand as he said, "Guan Tang is the most suitable for Yin Xing. I think not even nine bulls can rein in Yin Xing's temper, but with Guan Tang's temperament, I think we'd be able to rest assured. In my opinion, they'd be a harmonious couple."

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Yin Jia glanced at Guan Tang before she replied with a smile, "Isn't his temper like yours? I was so worried you'd hit him with your cane yesterday. It seems like time has helped you to control your temper. Nonetheless, you were still able to control him even though he was so arrogant. The most amazing person is still Grandpa."

Old Master Yin could hardly hide the smile on his face upon hearing these words. "Let me tell you. If it weren't for Ye Cheng, do you think I'd be able to restrain myself from hitting Yin Xing?"

Guan Tang had already moved to hold Old Master Yin's arm as she said, "Looks like my brother-in-law is still the most favored person in the family. Grandpa, tell me, how can there be such a lucky person like Sister? Since young, she has been loved by so many people. She's beautiful and capable. Even the boyfriend she found is a leader among his peers. Sister is just like a fairy that descended to the mortal world. It really makes a mediocre person like me envious."

Guan Tang looked at the smiling Yin Jia. Her heart felt as though it had been bitten by a bug called jealousy.

Old Master Yin patted Guan Tang's hand and said, "There's no need to feel envious. Yin Xing is also a rather outstanding child. Right now, he still has resentment in his heart. However, as long as you treat him well, he'll definitely treat you like how Ye Cheng treats your sister."

After the trio entered the house and took a seat on the couch, Old Master Yin continued to say, "Guan Tang, I called you here today to tell you that you should take the initiative. When a man chases a woman, there's an insurmountable mountain between them, but when a woman chases a man, there's only a veil between them. Grandpa wants you to take the initiative to pursue Yin Xing. Ah, wait, his name is Cheng Che now. Anyway, you should take the initiative to pursue him. You have a good temperament and personality so there's no man who dislikes you. Help me to win him over. Only you are qualified to be the Eldest Young Madam of our Yin family. As long as I'm alive, no one can take this position from you."

Guan Tang was flattered. She looked at Yin Jia carefully, studying Yin Jia's expression.

Yin Jia smiled gently as she said, "Guan Tang, look at how Grandpa favors you. Although you've moved out of our house, you're still in our hearts. It's up to you now to bring my brother home."

Guan Tang blushed and said softly, "Grandpa, I'm not sure if Cheng Che will like me. He... He has another woman in his heart."

Chapter 712: Persuasion

Old Master Yin was naturally aware of that. He waved his hand and said dismissively, "Don't worry about such an irrelevant person. Just do what you want. Let me tell you, a man's heart won't remain unmoved forever. Don't be afraid. He'll definitely be touched and admire you as long as you show your sincerity. Do you understand?"

Guan Tang nodded. "I understand, Grandpa. I'll do my best."

Old Master Yin was very happy. He had watched Guan Tang grow up. If it were not for Cheng Che's return to the family, he would have found her a good family to marry into; a family that would benefit the Yin family. However, it was naturally best if Guan Tang could marry into the Yin family. With that, the Yin family would have control over the Guan family as well.

Guan Tang and Yin Jia accompanied Old Master Yin for lunch and waited on him before he went for his afternoon nap.

Yin Jia made her way to the garden, and Guan Tang had no choice but to accompany her. She no longer had the gentleness when facing Old Master Yin, and her voice was frosty and hard as she said, "Cheng Che's girlfriend hasn't been found yet. It's really strange. How can a living person just vanish into thin air?"

Guan Tang's heart skipped a beat upon hearing these words. She tried to suppress the panic in her heart as she said, "Perhaps, she's just pulling a prank on Cheng Che, and she's not really missing?"

Yin Jia looked at Guan Tang with a strange expression as she asked, "How did you even come up with such a ridiculous possibility?"

Guan Tang shut her mouth immediately.

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Yin Jia sneered as she said, "There's no need for you to pretend to be pitiful in front of me. I advise you to give up on Cheng Che. He told me about the various 'tests' you pulled on him. Don't waste your efforts. Why don't you use your brain and think of a way to tie my brother down instead? You even have my grandfather's support now. Don't waste such a good opportunity."

Guan Tang's face paled immediately as she hastily said, "Sister, I didn't..."

Yin Jia refused to listen to Guan Tang. She interjected, "That's enough. From now on, we can just continue our sisterly relationship in front of everyone. When no one's around, we can just do whatever makes us feel comfortable. The most important thing is to do our respective tasks. Apart from that, you should dismiss all your unnecessary thoughts. Although I agree to you marrying my brother, it doesn't mean that I'll allow you to harm his interest and reputation."

After Yin Jia finished speaking, she did not wait for Guan Tang's reply and walked away immediately.

Guan Tang clenched her hands tightly, digging her nails into her palms. When she felt someone patting her shoulder, she jumped in fright and spun around only to see her aunt, Guan Ning. She called out, "Aunty?"

Guan Ning smiled faintly. "What's wrong? Did our Eldest Young Miss frighten you?"

Guan Tang quickly composed herself and said, "No. What's there to be afraid of about her?"

Guan Ning's smile froze on her face briefly before she said, "That's right. What's there to be afraid of? However, after so many years, even with the two of us combined, we still can't beat her. There's nothing we can do; she's the Eldest Young Miss of the Yin family, after all. Guan Tang, no matter what method you use, I'll support you. If you need money, just let me know. I only have one request: drag the Eldest Young Miss down from her pedestal! I want her reputation to be ruined."

Guan Ning's voice turned vicious nearing the end of her words.

Guan Tang lowered her gaze and did not speak.

Guan Ning did not care much. She only wanted to vent her feelings. After a moment, she said, "Oh, right. Yin Yi is really fond of Mu Chen. She's found all kinds of excuses to get close to Mu Chen. I'll give you a task. When Yin Yi goes to the Mu family, you can go to the Mu family under the pretext of bringing Yin Yi back. With this, you have a legitimate excuse to get close to Cheng Che."

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Guan Tang was slightly surprised. This chance was like a pie falling from the sky.

Guan Ning let out a long sigh before she continued to say, "After settling you two sisters down, I'll be able to seek justice for my son."

Chapter 713: Decision

Guan Tang nodded slightly. "Aunty, I understand. Don't worry, I'll do my best to help you."

Guan Ning looked at Guan Tang and said, "Helping me is also helping yourself. Our surname is Guan, and we're family."

Guan Tang nodded again.

After Guan Ning left, Guan Tang heaved a sigh of relief. Everyone wanted to use her; she was born to be a chess piece. At this time, she felt much more at ease. It had been so long, but the police did not come to look for her. There was no movement at all, indicating that Jiahui did not report the matter to the police. What she was most concerned about was Jiahui's whereabouts and how Jiahui had escaped. There were no traces at all; it was as though everything had been a dream.

...

Jiang Jin looked at her four grandchildren, Mu Chen; Cheng Che; Song Ning; and Jiahui, with a solemn expression on her face. After listening to their plan, she found it hard to remain calm. She asked Cheng Che, "You're going to pretend to agree to return to the Yin family?"

"Yes, Grandma," Cheng Che replied honestly.

“Why pretend?” Jiang Jin asked.

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Cheng Che’s smile vanished from his face as he said, “Grandma, I know you hope I’ll acknowledge my family, but after interacting with them a few times, I always feel that they have ulterior motives. I don’t like being schemed against. I have no interest in the Yin family’s assets, but I need to know what they’re scheming.”

Jiang Jin thought about it for a moment before she finally nodded. Then, she looked at Mu Chen.

Upon seeing this, Mu Chen said gently, “Grandma, don’t worry. I’ll always keep an eye on him.”

Jiang Jin nodded before she looked at Jiahui and said, “It’s just that Jiahui will have to suffer. The Yin family insists on pushing Guan Tang to Cheng Che. I’m worried that Jiahui won’t be a match for those black-hearted people. After all, Jiahui comes from a scholarly family; she’s too innocent.”

Jiang Jin sighed softly as she looked at the two couples in front of her. She continued to say, “Everyone has their own paths to walk. No matter how much I love you and how much my heart aches for you, I can’t do anything to help you. At my age, I can only hope not to bring trouble to you. However, I hope that you’ll tell me about your plans. Don’t hide things from me. If there’s anything I can do to help, I’ll be more than happy to help.”

Song Ning smiled as she hugged Jiang Jin’s arm and said, “Grandma, don’t worry. How can we exclude you? You’re our backbone! You’re the only one who can give us advice when we’re in trouble.”

Jiang Jin smiled. “Ningning is still the best at coaxing people. You and Jiahui have to take care of yourselves. I don’t want any more instances of kidnapping. My heart can’t take it.”

The four of them chatted and laughed with Jiang Jin. This kind of happiness was something most families could not imagine.

Jiahui smiled as she asked, “Should we find a suitable occasion for me to come out and scare Guan Tang?”

Cheng reached out to stroke Jiahui’s hair as he said, “We’ll definitely deal with her. Just scaring her is letting her off too easily.”

Jiahui smiled. “Alright, I’ll listen to you. If you ask me to go east, I’ll never go west!”

Mu Chen and Song Ning laughed, finding Cheng Che and Jiahui’s interaction amusing.

Sometimes hardships were not completely bad. For example, after this kidnapping incident, Cheng Che and Jiahui’s relationship seemed to have grown even stronger than before. It seemed like they had both clearly seen their feelings for each other.

Chapter 714: Worries

Ye Cheng was very patient and enthusiastic when teaching Zhuang Ning.

It had to be said that Zhuang Ning was also an excellent student. She was highly perceptive and diligent, which gave Ye Cheng a great sense of achievement. His feelings for her had also grown deeper and deeper.

Ye Cheng felt as though his world had grown richer and more colorful. His relationship with Yin Jia allowed him to freely enter and exit the Yin family house. He also had a very good relationship with Old Master Yin, making the cooperation between the Yin family and the Ye family much smoother.

Ye He had always given other people the impression that he was just a decadent wealthy man who did not care about his responsibilities. However, ever since the change in his family, he seemed to have become a different person. He was now focused on his career. After some time, many people discovered that he was much more reliable and capable than they had imagined.

With this, the Ye family's business gradually got back on the right track.

As for Ye He's dalliances with his various female companions, no one criticized them. After all, after being betrayed to such an extent, it was normal for him to react in this manner. Moreover, not a single one of his female companions had spoken badly about him even after they parted ways. On the contrary, they praised him, saying he was a gentleman and that he was generous and respected women.

With his own efforts, Ye He's reputation began to take a turn for the better.

As a result, the public also turned their attention to the other main character of the incident, Ning Zhe.

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Ever since Ning Zhe made a fool of himself in public, he rarely made an appearance.

The Ning Group's shares continued to drop, and Ning Zhe had no choice but to release news that the Ning Group had found new traditional embroidery techniques and that they had new products coming out soon. He also asked relevant government departments to vigorously promote them to stabilize the stock price.

Alas, their losses were too heavy.

Although most of the shareholders were relatives, they still condemned and criticized Ning Zhe.

Ning Zhe simply pretended to be ill and did not go out. With this, he had no choice but to push his son, Ning Dong, who was still studying, out and teach Ning Dong everything he knew.

Ning Dong was young, but fortunately, he was very mature and well-behaved. Previously, when Ning Zhe was hospitalized, he and his mother had sat in during the board of directors' meetings. For this reason, he was familiar with them and was widely praised for his wisdom beyond his age.

Everyone tacitly agreed with Ning Zhe's decision to direct matters behind the scenes and push a puppet out.

As for Su Tong, she could barely contain the joy in her heart. Her son had finally grasped power in his hand and was only half a step away from success.

On the contrary, Ning Dong remained calm, seemingly unperturbed by recent developments.

Ever since his father, Mu Qing, and Ji'an had met with mishaps, he realized the importance of being patient. He could not expose his strength so early on. During this time when the dark tide was surging, it was best to let his father shelter him from the wind and rain. There was no need for him to waste his time and energy unnecessarily. When the group of old men was almost done killing each other, he would reap the benefits. This was much better than exhausting himself to deal with them.

Fortunately, Mu Qing had been imprisoned. Otherwise, he was really worried Ji'an would betray him. If he lost his life, everything would be useless. Survival was always the most important thing.

At this time, Ning Dong was most worried that the dosage of medicine he had given his father was too large and would leave side effects. After all, he still needed his father to act for him now. Hence, he was even more concerned about his father's health.

Ning Zhe was naturally very happy with his son's care. He felt that his son had finally grown up and become sensible. He knew that his son had finally thought things through. No matter what, he had to have a successor for the Ning family's business. If Ning Xia refused to take over the family business, then he had to find another successor to support the family. After all, he could not hand the family business over to some distant relative.

Chapter 715: Marriage

The father and son from the Ning family were very satisfied. They were using each other for their own agendas for now so they did not have any problems.

Su Tong was unprecedentedly happy. She felt that her years of suffering had finally paid off. The most important thing for her now was to find a suitable marriage partner for her son. She did not have a powerful family to help her in the past, which made it difficult for her to stabilize her position in the Ning family, and to help her son now. Hence, she was determined to find someone whose family would be able to help her son. Things would be different if her son married a wife with a strong background. Although Ning Dong had yet to graduate, it was not too early for him to socialize and cultivate a good relationship with his prospective partner.

Alas, Su Tong searched and searched, but she found that there was no suitable candidate. To be precise, no one wanted to associate with the Ning family

Su Tong and Ning Zhe's story was well-known among the wealthy families in M City. Moreover, recently, everyone also found out about Ning Zhe's illegitimate daughter with Gao Wen. It was a complete disgrace. With the Ning family's crumbling reputation, which family would marry their daughter into the Ning family?

This made Su Tong extremely anxious until she got to know Guan Ning, the Madam of the Yin family, and Guan Ning's daughter, Yin Yi. She was overjoyed.

The Yin family had just moved to M City so they did not know much about the previous incidents. Even if the Yin family heard about the shameful matters from the others, it would not be too damaging. After all, which wealthy families did not have skeletons in their closets?

The Ning family and the Yin family were of equal status, and Ning Dong and Yin Yi were about the same age. They were simply a match made in heaven.

When she excitedly told Ning Zhe about her plans, she was surprised that Ning Zhe did not scold her for doing unnecessary things. On the contrary, he encouraged her to arrange a blind date as soon as possible. This was the first time in years that she was acknowledged by him. She was so happy that she felt as though she was walking on air.

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She did not hesitate and quickly contacted Guan Ning.

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At this time, Ning Zhe was listening to Ning Chun's report and would smile occasionally.

"Yin Bin and Ye He have a very good relationship. Currently, the Yin family only has business dealings with the Ye family. The Yin family is still looking around for cooperation. Ye He must be targeting Zhuang Ji as well. Yin Bin doesn't hold real power in the Yin family; he's just a puppet. Old Master Yin is the one pulling the strings behind the scenes. Ye Cheng and the Eldest Young Miss of the Yin family are about to be married. At that time, the two families will merge into one. We can't underestimate them."

"Two families will merge into one?" Ning Zhe laughed. "Ye He's idea is quite good. I knew it. How could he silently endure such humiliation and not retaliate? As it turns out, he's being good for the Yin family. In this case, I'm quite relieved. Otherwise, I'll have to be on guard against him all the time."

"Su Tong is finally of some help this time. We must secretly pair Ning Dong and Miss Yin up. Let us stir up this pot of mess as well. In any case, we won't suffer any losses," Ning Zhe said slightly smugly.

Ning Chun asked hesitantly, "Will Young Master... cooperate?"

Ning Zhe sneered. "Don't worry. He knows how to weigh the pros and cons. He's so cunning. He thinks I don't know what he's thinking just because he shows me his poker face every day. His wings have yet to harden, but he dares to play all these small tricks. Very well, I'll accompany him to play."

Ning Zhe's expression eased as he continued to say, "Regardless, the Ning family will still have to rely on him in the future. No matter how difficult it is, I have to educate and nurture him. Let's start by letting him marry a good wife."

"Will he consider Miss Yin a good wife?" Ning Chun was still hesitant.

"Why not? Otherwise, what kind of person does he want to marry? I'll help him marry her first. How he plans to deal with her later is up to him!" Ning Zhe said with a cold smile on his face.

Chapter 716: Fainted

To Ning Zhe, a woman had to bring him benefits like Zhuang Yi or give him a son like Su Tong. Other than that, he had no use for them.

If Ning Dong married the Young Miss of the Yin family, it would definitely be beneficial to the Ning family's future.

Currently, the major source of his headache was Zhuang Ji's embroidery manual. The most important thing was to find a way to get his wretched daughter to hand over the embroidery manual.

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He thought everything would go smoothly after his daughter changed so drastically. Unexpectedly, she was a fake. Not only did his fake daughter fail to obtain the manual, but his old affairs were also exposed, causing his reputation to plummet to the ground. In the end, he ended up in a lose-lose situation.

As for the real Ning Xia, she was still the same as before; there was no change at all. In the end, he felt like he was too hopeful. That wretched girl was as stubborn as her mother; they would not be swayed by force and persuasion. He had to consider this matter from a long-term perspective. If it was necessary, he would resort to extreme measures.

Ning Zhe felt slightly tired. He wanted to walk a little to relax, but as soon as he rose to his feet, his vision turned black, and he fell to the ground.

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When Ning Zhe regained consciousness, the first thing he saw was a white ceiling.

'Am I in the hospital?'

"Master is awake!" Ning Chun exclaimed.

"Hubby..." Su Tong sobbed and rushed over.

Ning Zhe turned slightly and looked at the others, perplexed. He asked Ning Chun, "What happened?"

Before Ning Chun could reply, Su Tong quickly said, "I went to the study to bring you a pot of tea. That's when I saw you lying on the ground. You really scared me to death! You've been unconscious for a day and a night!"

Su Tong's expression was one of sorrow.

Ning Zhe looked at Ning Chun and asked, "What did the doctor say?"

Ning Zhe only trusted Ning Chun. As for Su Tong, he did not trust her at all.

Ning Chun quickly replied, "The doctor said you're over-exhausted, and your blood sugar level was low. You need to rest and make sure you don't overexert yourself. After this, he'll give you a comprehensive physical examination. Just treat this time as a time to rest."

Ning Zhe nodded slowly. He felt this was too sudden.

Meanwhile, Su Tong gnashed her teeth in anger when she saw Ning Zhe ignoring her and only speaking to Ning Chun. After she suppressed her anger, she finally asked, "Hubby, are you hungry? What do you want to eat? I'll tell Ning Chun to buy it for you. Ning Dong has gone to school. He'll come back to accompany you after his classes are over."

In Su Tong's opinion, this was the best time for Ning Dong to perform. After all, Ning Zhe's real daughter disliked him while his fake daughter was imprisoned. There was only Ning Dong now.

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Ning Zhe shook his head gently. "I'm not hungry. Ning Chun, send Madam home. I'm fine. I'm just a little tired. There's no need to accompany me here."

Ning Chun nodded.

However, Su Tong said hastily, "It's fine. Hubby, I'll stay here with you!"

Ning Zhe forced a smile on his face and said, "Right now, the most important thing for you is to settle Ning Dong's marriage. I've gotten someone to investigate the Yin family. They're indeed the most suitable family. No matter what, you have to deal with this matter well."

Su Tong was shocked. She looked at Ning Zhe with her mouth agape. She did not expect him to easily agree to Ning Dong settling down with the Young Miss of the Yin family. She felt as though the sun had risen from the west at this moment. It seemed like she was right; the Young Miss of the Yin family was a very suitable candidate.

How could Ning Zhe not understand Su Tong's thoughts? He said with a smile, "Ning Dong is our only son. His marriage is of great importance. You must not be careless. Make sure to handle this matter well. You also have to explain to our son clearly the pros and cons of this relationship. Make sure he doesn't act like a child or act insensibly at the critical moment."

Su Tong hurriedly said, "He won't! Ning Dong definitely won't act like that!"

Chapter 717: Truth

After sending Su Tong away, Ning Zhe asked Ning Chun, "What's going on?"

Ning Chun lowered his gaze and quickly replied, "The doctor said you fell ill from over-exhaustion."

Ning Zhe's expression turned frosty as he said, "Ning Chun, when you were ten years old, I picked you up and raised you like my son. I trust you far more than I trust Ning Dong and Ning Xia. You should know that."

Upon hearing this, Ning Chun fell to his knees immediately.

Ning Zhe knew things were not that simple. He struggled to sit up.

Upon seeing this, Ning Chun quickly adjusted the bed and placed a pillow behind Ning Zhe.

Ning Zhe asked calmly, "Tell me. What happened?"

Ning Chun said in a small voice, "It's true that Madam found you lying on the floor unconscious. She did not call the doctor immediately and asked someone to carry you to the room instead. When I returned, the family doctor was there. After speaking to the doctor, I called the ambulance immediately. Madam said she called the ambulance as well, but it never came. Instead, the family doctor arrived first."

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“The family doctor said that your condition isn’t very good so he asked me to send you to the hospital immediately. In the end, I didn’t wait for the ambulance and drove you here. Madam and the doctor came with me as well,” Ning Chun explained calmly as he lowered his gaze. He tried his best not to mix his personal feelings with his explanation. He would be as objective as possible and let Ning Zhe decide on his own.

Ning Zhe scoffed coldly. “Go and check the phone records at home for me. I want to see if she really did call the ambulance. Investigate her relationship with the doctor as well. If there’s a problem, don’t say anything. Look for any mistakes on his part, and let him rot in prison.”

“Understood,” Ning Chun replied.

“What did the doctor here say?” Ning Zhe asked. What he cared about most was his health now. Apart from his body, what else did he have?

Ning Chun said, “I’ve already arranged for a full examination...”

Ning Chun trailed off.

Upon seeing the hesitant expression on Ning Chun’s face, Ning Zhe knew Ning Chun must have some opinion so he said, “Speak.”

Ning Chun had always been very measured, and he never did anything that crossed the line. He hesitated for a moment before he said, “Should I ask for Eldest Young Miss to have a look at you?”

“Why?” Ning Zhe was briefly stunned by the suggestion.

“Traditional Chinese medicine has its benefits just like Western medicine. If you’ve overworked yourself, perhaps, we can nourish your body with traditional Chinese medicine. What do you think?”

Ning Zhe thought about it for a moment before he nodded. “You have a point.”

Inwardly, Ning Zhe thought that he could not let go of any opportunity to interact with his daughter.

After a moment, Ning Zhe said, “However, Ning Xia might not be willing to see me.”

“Master, I’ll go and plead with Young Miss. Doctors are kind. She won’t refuse me,” Ning Chun said, sighing in relief inwardly. As long as Ning Zhe did not object to this, everything would be fine.

Ning Zhe nodded slightly. “If she refuses...”

Ning Chun did not wait for Ning Zhe to finish speaking before he said, “Don’t worry. I’ll make sure she understands that I took the initiative to approach her, and it has nothing to do with you. I’ll emphasize that you actually didn’t want to trouble her.”

Ning Zhe was extremely satisfied upon hearing this. He said, “Ning Chun, the best thing I’ve done in my life is to bring you home. You’re the only person I can trust now. Don’t worry. I won’t mistreat you.”

Ning Chun quickly said, “Master, don’t say that. My life is yours. I don’t think I’d be able to repay your favor to me even in the next life.”

Ning Zhe nodded. Only those who knew gratitude were worthy of his trust.

Chapter 718: Check-Up

Song Ning waited for Jiahui to get off work. She would never let Jiahui be alone again.

Mu Chen and Cheng Che had also arranged for people to protect them.

Mu Chen had spoken to the hospital and gave them a perfect reason for Jiahui's absence. With that, no one pursued the matter of her sudden disappearance anymore.

Only their seniors and juniors scolded Jiahui for making them worry.

Jiahui apologized sincerely and promised to treat them to a meal to appease them.

Song Ning whispered, "Everyone is worried about you."

Jiahui's eyes were a little moist as she nodded and said, "I know. They really care about me and want the best for me."

Due to Song Ning's past experiences and the two women's unlucky encounters, they grew even closer.

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When Song Ning walked out of the office, she was stunned when she saw Ning Chun waiting outside.

Ning Chun stepped forward and asked, "Young Miss, can we talk in private?"

"It's okay. We can speak here. Jiahui's not an outsider," Song Ning replied calmly.

Ning Chun glanced at Jiahui. Seeing that Jiahui had no intention of leaving, he knew that the two women were wary of him. With this, it was quite difficult for him to speak. However, after a moment, he recalled that Jiahui was a doctor as well. Perhaps, she would be able to help. Finally, he said, "Young Miss, Master is in the hospital."

Song Ning was slightly surprised. She instinctively asked, "What's wrong?"

Ning Chun was happy when he saw Song Ning's reaction. He quickly said, "Young Miss, please save Master."

Song Ning frowned. "What illness does he have? What did the doctor say?"

Ning Chun told Song Ning the entire story, but he hid Su Tong's intentional or unintentional involvement. Then, he said pleadingly, "Young Miss, the results of the tests aren't out yet. I'd like to invite you over to take a look at Master, see if there's anything wrong. Young Miss, doctors are all kind. Please take a look at Master."

Jiahui tugged at Song Ning's sleeve and said, "I'll go with you. We're only going to see a patient." Then, she said to Ning Chun, "You don't have to resort to moral kidnapping. You're being too obvious."

Song Ning was still reluctant.

Jiahui patted Song Ning and said, "Let's go. We'll go home after that. I'm still lacking a few cases anyway." Then, she held Song Ning's hand and said impatiently to Ning Chun, "Aren't you going to lead the way? How do we know which ward he's in?"

Ning Chun quickly led them away.

Song Ning could only let Jiahui pull her along.

Jiahui knew what Song Ning was thinking. However, the other person was Song Ning's biological father, after all. She did not want Song Ning to have any regrets in the future. Hence, she decided to help Song Ning. They could treat him like an ordinary patient anyway.

When they arrived at Ning Zhe's ward and saw him, the two women looked at each other and saw the shock in each other's eyes.

Ning Zhe was overjoyed when he saw Song Ning. He was about to say something to her when she walked to his bedside calmly and said, "Lie down and stretch your hand. I want to check your pulse."

Jiahui quietly walked to the other side of the bed and checked the pulse on his other hand.

Then, the two women exchanged a look before they tacitly switched positions. As time passed, their expressions grew more and more solemn.

After a while, Song Ning said, "Stick out your tongue."

Ning Zhe did as he was told.

At the same time, Jiahui gently pressed on Ning Zhe's lymph nodes as Song Ning moved on to check Ning Zhe's eyes.

The two women worked silently, making Ning Zhe and Ning Chun worry.

Finally, Ning Chun could no longer endure it. He asked carefully, "Young Miss, what's wrong with Master?"

Song Ning replied lightly, "He's been poisoned. Not only that, but it seems like he's been poisoned for a long time. The poison has already seeped into his bones. Fortunately, the amount isn't large."

Chapter 719: Agitated

Ning Zhe and Ning Chun were stunned when they heard the diagnosis.

The sound of the metal clanging could be heard amidst the silence.

Jiahui added meaningfully, "It's not an accidental poisoning, right?"

Ning Chun cried out, "Who did it?"

Jiahui rolled her eyes. "How would we know?"

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Ning Chun hurriedly apologized. "I'm sorry."

Ning Zhe, on the other hand, was quite calm. He looked at Song Ning and asked, "What kind of poison is it? What are the effects? Can it be detoxified?"

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Song Ning placed her hand on Ning Zhe's wrist again to check his pulse. Then, she said calmly, "Go back and check your tea set. Maybe you'll be able to extract traces of the poison. The effects are like what you're experiencing now. If you didn't discover it in time and the poisoning continues, you'll eventually suffer from heart, kidney, and liver failure. You might even present symptoms of a heart attack or cerebral infarction. You'll have shortness of breath and anxiety. Your vision will go back more often than not. You'll be easily agitated, and you'll also have trouble sleeping at night. In the early stages, it'll seem like a cause of over-exhaustion."

Ning Chun's eyes widened. "The family doctor and the doctor at this hospital said that. They said he's over-exhausted." His eyes reddened as he said through clenched teeth, "Are they trying to kill someone without a trace? This is too ruthless and vicious."

Ning Chun's voice trembled slightly when he spoke.

Song Ning was familiar with Ning Chun's personality so she said calmly, "If I were you, I'd keep this a secret for now. Even if you can't find the culprit, you have to find the method of poisoning. Otherwise, you won't even know how you died."

Ning Chun was shocked.

Ning Zhe said, "Listen to Ning Xia. Ning Chun, return to the house and get the tea set from my study. Tell them that I'm used to using my tea set. As for the tests, change them once they come out. Don't let anyone find out about this at all."

"Understood," Ning Chun hurriedly replied.

After Song Ning withdrew her hand, Ning Zhe looked at her and asked, "Ning Xia, can I still be saved?"

Ning Zhe's voice was slightly shaky. Faced with life and death, who would not be afraid?

Song Ning said calmly, "It's not that serious. The discovery is quite timely."

Ning Zhe and Ning Chun heaved a huge sigh of relief upon hearing this.

Ning Chun's eyes were moist as he said, "Young Miss, it's all thanks to you. Otherwise, I wouldn't..."

Ning Chun could not finish his sentence.

Song Ning frowned before she looked at Jiahui and asked, "What should we do?"

Jiahui understood Song Ning. She turned to Ning Chun and asked, "We can prescribe an antidote. Do you have a place to decoct the medicine?"

What Jiahui meant to ask was if they knew who poisoned Ning Zhe, and if it was possible for Ning Zhe to take the antidote without alerting the culprit.

Ning Chun quickly nodded. "I'll think of a way, I'll think of a way. Miss, please prescribe the antidote."

Song Ning nodded slightly.

No matter who he was, Ning Zhe was a patient. Jiahui was right; as doctors, it was their duty to save patients' lives regardless of their identities.

Jiahui said, "Let's go back and discuss the prescription."

Jiahui did not want Song Ning to get involved with the Ning family affairs beyond their duty as doctors.

Ning Chun thanked Song Ning and Jiahui profusely.

Just as the two women were about to leave, Ning Zhe suddenly said, "Ning Zhe, you've seen it now. My life is in someone else's hands. I might leave at any moment. However, our Ning family can't fall. I've always wanted to bring your mother's legacy and embroidery to greater heights. Don't you want that?"

Song Ning did not reply and held Jiahui's hand as they left the room.

When they were alone, Jiahui looked at Song Ning and asked, "Do you think it's your stepmother?"

Song Ning shook her head. "I don't know. Anyway, it's their family affairs, and it's up to them to investigate the matter. Our duty is only to save lives."

Chapter 720: Conversation

Despite her words, Song Ning was still somewhat affected, and for a moment, Jiahui did not know how to comfort her.

Song Ning wrote down the prescription before she found an intern to send it over to Ning Chun. After that, she and Jiahui finally left the hospital.

It did not take long before Cheng Che called Jiahui.

"Jiahui, where are you? Your family said that you're not at home."

Jiahui replied with a smile, "Don't worry. I'm with Song Ning. We just left the hospital."

Cheng Che could not help but reminded her to be careful again before he finally ended the call.

Song Ning smiled. "Cheng Che is like a frightened bird nowadays. Poor thing."

Jiahui said softly, "That's why I decided to marry him. I don't think there'll be another person who treats me as well as he does. Ningning, tell me, did I save Earth in my previous life?"

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Song Ning smiled and patted Jiahui. "I don't know if you saved Earth in your previous life, but the Cheng Che in this life can only be saved by you."

The two women chatted happily as they left the hospital.

...

At the same time, Guan Tang, who was standing in a hidden corner, felt her legs weaken. She almost fell to the ground.

Guan Tang did not expect Jiahui to show up to work in high spirits, laughing and chatting with others. Moreover, Jiahui did not do anything at all even though she had kidnapped and imprisoned Jiahui for a week.

Why?

She could not figure out why Jiahui did not call the police or why Cheng Che did not come to settle scores with her. Was there something wrong with Jiahui's brain? Was Jiahui an idiot?

Guan Tang leaned against a pillar and panted.

...

When Song Ning and Jiahui got into the car, a bodyguard immediately sent them a high-definition video of Guan Tang hiding behind a pillar.

Song Ning said directly, "Follow her, and report back if there's anything abnormal."

Jiahui watched the video and clicked her tongue in wonder. "Tell me. How did this woman's brain grow? Her brain circuitry is really unfathomable. I really admire her. If it were me, I'd be so scared that I would be on the run by now."

Song Ning forwarded the video to both Mu Chen and Cheng Che, briefly explaining the situation.

The two men reacted calmly.

Jiahui sighed. "When I was in school, I was a straight-A student. I don't know why, but after I met all of you, I feel like my brain has regressed. All of you can understand things in just a few words, but I had to think for a long time before I managed to figure things out. How can you understand things so easily?"

Song Ning smiled and said patiently, "What to do? We had to adapt considering all the problems that come to us. Moreover, Mu Chen and Cheng Che had been taught to solve problems since they were young. As for me, I'm a woman. I do things based on my intuition and learn from my mistakes."

Jiahui sighed dramatically and said, "I'm also a woman, but I'm not like you."

Song Ning did not reply to Jiahui. She leaned against the window and closed her eyes, wanting to rest for a while.

Jiahui muttered to herself, "Fortunately, Grandma likes me and doesn't dislike me for being stupid."

Song Ning could not help but laugh.

"I'm being serious! Don't laugh!"

Song Ning sat up straight and said with a smile, "By the way, Grandma has already chosen a new date for both of you to get married early. With this, she'll feel at ease."

Jiahui tried to suppress the sweetness that threatened to overwhelm her heart as she said, "I'm really curious about the Yin family now. I really want to meet them. How dare they bully Cheng Che? Do they think he's an easy target?"

...

Ning Zhe was livid.

Ning Chun had brought his tea set over and the tea leaves that Su Tong bought. He did not waste time and sent them to be tested immediately.