

He wanted to faint.

Li Shanshan didn't seem to treat him like a stranger; her tone even suggested that she saw him as family.

Fan Hunjun smiled but didn't speak.

He wanted to continue to watch Li Shanshan's performance. In fact, this was a good opportunity for him to get a better handle on Li Shanshan as well, and to deepen his understanding of her.

After all, his impression of Li Shanshan was from back when they were still classmates in school, just like Li Xinqiao. Fan Hunjun had never thought that Li Xinqiao would turn out to be such a kind and virtuous woman.

Seeing how Fan Hunjun didn't reply to her, Li Shanshan realized that Fan Hunjun had assumed that she was being nice due to the Fan Group's wealth.

While that was the gospel truth, Li Shanshan still had to mask it.

"Fan Hunjun, I know what you're thinking. I suppose you're thinking that I changed my attitude towards you because of your family's wealth and because you've reconciled with your father, am I right?"

Fan Hunjun gave an ambiguous smile, but he still didn't make another sound.

“To tell you the truth, rich people are a dime a dozen in today’s society. If I were such a gold-digger, I wouldn’t have dated Zhang Junhao for so long.”

Shock and horror!

To Fan Hunjun, he’d rather hear her say that she was a money-hungry person. He’d prefer for her not to bring up Zhang Junhao.

“Anyway, even if I wanted to hide my relationship with Zhang Junhao, I can’t, and I don’t intend to hide it. If you’re talking about my feelings towards others, Zhang Junhao is the only one I’ve ever loved, but since he didn’t treasure them, I suppose I don’t have any wild hopes anymore.”

At least her words here were rather honest, and at least, Fan Hunjun could see that Li Shanshan hadn’t lied to him with pretty words. She still had some semblance of goodness in her, when compared to Zhou Manlan.

“The reason why I changed my tune so quickly and called her ‘Mum’ is because my father had a long talk with me. In addition to that, I know that if I cannot be with the one I love, then I can only choose someone who loves me.”

Those were all truthful words, but they were difficult for Fan Hunjun to hear.

“Since I picked you, it’s equivalent to me picking your family. I know about your hang-ups with your father and stepmother to some extent, and since

I'm about to become part of the Fans, I feel that I have a duty and responsibility to ensure that everyone gets along."

She's talking like she's some high and mighty queen.

"Which is why you better not think I'm only calling your stepmother 'Mum' because of your family's wealth. I'm doing it in hopes that our family can become a bit more normal, better, and happier."

The waiter served their food right then. He also brought the wine and yogurt that Li Shanshan had ordered earlier.

Li Shanshan didn't hesitate and straightaway opened the bottle to pour herself a glass of Wuliangye. She then opened a packet of yogurt and placed it before Fan Hunjun.

Fan Hunjun studied the yogurt before him, before speaking in an unhurried manner. "Are you fond of drinking?"

"I've never been one to drink, but my parents are good drinkers. I've been influenced by them." Li Shanshan picked up her glass. "I know that even when we're together, you still hate hearing Zhang Junhao's name, but I'm still going to say this again: the reason why I'm drinking today is because I wish to cut all ties with Zhang Junhao and all that he has done."

"You're just drowning your sorrows in alcohol. Do you think that you can forget about your past with

Zhang Junhao by downing that glass of wine?"
Fan Hunjun asked her.

"Of course I can. People fear being hurt. My heart is already dead, so what can't I forget?"

"If your heart has already died, then can there still be love between us?"

"Love? Hehe~" Li Shanshan tilted her head up and swallowed the entire contents of her glass in one gulp. "Fan Hunjun, how old are we again? Why are you still talking about love?"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Fan Hunjun lifted up the bottle of wine and poured out another one for her. "Can you endure a loveless marriage?"

Li Shanshan gave a miserable smile. "My father and mother married out of love, but how did it end? They divorced! Your parents probably married out of love too, but look how it turned out. Your mother left, and your father married another woman."

"What are you trying to say?"

"Love belongs only to those in their teens. They belong only to our seventeen, eighteen year-old selves. We were never on the same wavelength back in our teenage years. Let me tell you something that you may not like to hear; there is no love for us to speak of, because we've missed that window of opportunity."

"And?"

"Haven't you always liked me? Perfect. So let us become husband and wife."

"And then?"

"We'll marry and have kids. Didn't they just recently relaxed the laws so that each family can have two children? If you want, I can even bear two kids for you."

"There's DNA testing nowadays. Can you ensure that the children are mine?"

Chapter 172 Fighting Fire With Fire

family's wealth, wealth that was in the hundreds of millions.

Even if she didn't get along well with him, Li Shanshan wouldn't pass up an opportunity for that money.

Especially with her hopeless situation with Zhang Junhao. With her pure and romantic love gone, she didn't want to brush shoulders with such an enormous treasure trove of wealth again.

"Fan Hunjun, just what do you mean?"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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those aspects.”

“Who said that he got my body?” Li Shanshan was somewhat flustered now. “If you don’t think that this is right, we can go to the hospital and get a checkup for me to see if I’m a virgin.”

Fan Hunjun shook his head. “If I hadn’t discovered you two that night, would you still be a virgin? You don’t prize your first time that highly. Once you marry me, can I still have any expectations for you to respect me?”

“You...”

“You should know when to be content. You get to receive all that you wish for, while maintaining your virginity. When we divorce in the future, you can even go and find a whole entourage of fresh pretty boys. Of course, if Zhang Junhao still pines after your foolish love, he might even turn around and marry you.”

“I’m already married to you, so who will believe that I’m a virgin!”

“You can go for a checkup with him!”

“Don’t you know how terrifying the power of words is? Even if I’m a virgin, everyone already knows that I’ve married you. Do you think I can go up to every one of them and explain?”

“Why are you only realizing this now? When you were behaving oh-so-affectionately in front of our former classmates with Zhang Junhao, did you

Chapter 173 Just What Do You Want Me To Do?

think that I was going to go up to each one of them and explain that you're a virgin during our wedding?"



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Fan Hunjun smiled. "During our first meeting when I first came back to this country, you agreed to Fang Youqin's demand to marry me and bear my children. Today, you even call Zhou Manlan 'Mum'. Right now, you're sitting before me to talk about our future wedding. Let me get this straight; this is about money, is it not?"

Li Shanshan stared unblinkingly at Fan Hunjun, waiting for him to continue.

"In truth, it's not a problem if a woman likes wealth. Everyone likes money, never mind women, and in today's society, money is the one thing that is most capable of displaying your power and status. You agreed to marry me and have children with me for the sake of money. You're even willing to have a second child of it. There is nothing wrong with that. The only mistake you made is that you didn't consider my feelings."

"What feelings?" Li Shanshan asked. "Didn't you want to marry me?"

"That's right, but I had hoped that the Li Shanshan I marry is one who loves me and has feelings for me. Someone who is willing to live with me and build a happy family together, and not a Li Shanshan who sells her body to me like a woman on the streets for money, while thinking of another man."

"I've already told you that I will forget about the past."

"Then, let us talk once you've forgotten it!" Having

partly so that she could take the time to think about how to answer Fan Hunjun's question.

Unfortunately, she didn't respond quickly enough. No matter how she tried to smooth things over, it was already too late.

Li Shanshan placed her glass down. "What you said is just a hypothetical question. I just want to tell you this; a hypothetical is something that cannot possibly happen. Even if it did, I can't possibly turn back. We've already filed for marriage after all. We're lawfully husband and wife, and respect towards you is equivalent to respect towards me!"

Fan Hunjun nodded, pretending as if he had just reached an epiphany, and then he spoke in a tone that was neither enthusiastic nor bored. "That night when you were with Zhang Junhao by the hospital entrance, we had already gotten our marriage cert. In other words, what you did then isn't something that aggrieved me. Rather, it is something that disrespects yourself, isn't that right?"

Li Shanshan's face went through several expressions in the blink of an eye.

If she still had her temper and personality from before, she would have already splashed her glass of wine on Fan Hunjun's face.

But now, things were different. She could sense that the one sitting before her wasn't the Thoughtless Hun of the past; it was the Fan

finished speaking, Fan Hunjun got up and prepared to leave.

Li Shanshan was taken aback. She suddenly had the feeling that if she were to let Fan Hunjun go right now, it wouldn't just be a man disappearing into the distance; a mountain of gold would disappear as well!

"Fan Hunjun, just what do you want me to do?"

Fan Hunjun smiled faintly. "I don't wish for you to do anything, but there is something that you can be assured of. Aren't you a little lacking in funds? Aren't you in need of a marriage devoid of love? I can give those things to you. You can continue to call Zhou Manlan 'Mum' in a sweet voice. She will spend all the money that you would need just so she can bribe me. I can also pretend to accept you as my beautiful wife in front of others, but you shall live your life, while I live my own. Once you've felt that you've gotten enough money you need, we can divorce."

"Fan Hunjun..."

"Alright, there are no more words to be said. Didn't you tell me earlier that Zhang Junhao is better than me in every way? Then, you at least know this now; my family is wealthier than his. Another thing: I'm willing to spend money on you, with my family's coffers. As for the third point, I never thought of wanting your body in exchange for the money I spend on you. He got your body while being unable to part with a single dime. When you look at it that way, I seem to be better than him in

Li Shanshan's face fell. "Fan Hunjun, please give me some face here. What do you mean by that in such a situation?"

"You just said it. You said that you're going to bid farewell to your past. I just want to know if you can truly do that."

"When I say I'll do something, I mean it! Make no mistake; Zhang Junhao is better than you. He's better than you in every way! But he hurt me. I'm not the kind of person who'll hang on without any sense of shame!"

"What if Zhang Junhao shamelessly kneels before you one day, and admits his wrongs while crying? What if he said that he was discouraged from pursuing you due to his parents' meddling, but he had seen the light after losing you, and that he realized how precious you are to him after you left? What if he then begged for you to give him another chance?"

Li Shanshan instantly froze.

If what Fan Hunjun said came to pass, she truly didn't know what she would do.

That momentary pause was enough to extinguish the hope that had flared within Fan Hunjun.

Li Shanshan brought up her glass again. This time, she didn't drink it all; she merely drank less than half of it.

She did so partly to mask her embarrassment, and

“You...”

“You’re the one who said that words are frightening!”

Fan Hunjun turned and prepared to open the door, but Li Shanshan suddenly darted in front of the door and puffed her chest out. “You’re not allowed to leave!”

“Relax. Nothing will change when I walk through this door. When your father is discharged, we can hold the wedding as planned so long as you’re willing. As for the matter of children, you should leave it for a man you love.”

Fan Hunjun prepared to push her away, but then Li Shanshan suddenly sobbed. “Fan Hunjun, just what is the meaning of this? If you don’t like me, why did you file for that cert with me? Why didn’t you stop your stepmother when you saw her giving me that gift? Do you know how much she gave me?”

Li Shanshan thought that Fan Hunjun didn’t know the amount of money that Zhou Manlan gave her. If Zhou Manlan caught wind of how her relationship with Fan Hunjun was truly like, she might turn and ask for the gift back. That would mean that Li Shanshan had celebrated for nothing today.

“No matter how you slice it, isn’t it because of money?” Fan Hunjun chuckled. “Relax. What’s a gift for meeting you for the first time anyway? She’s sure to give you even more during our

wedding. You should rest easy and keep it. Who knows, you just might become one of the famed elite ladies of River City in a few years.”

“What are you insinuating? Am I someone who flings logic out of the window over money to you?”

“Why are you bringing the topic back to this? It’s not wrong for you to do this for money, but the question now is, why am I doing this?”

“Isn’t it because you want my body?”

Fan Hunjun shook his head. “Do you really think that you’re the most beautiful woman in the world? Even if you are, do you think you’re more beautiful than those blow-up dolls? Don’t you think that it would have been better for me to just buy a blow-up doll and be done with it? Why should I sleep together with a person who doesn’t care for me while having to spend so much money on her?”

“You... just what do you want me to do?”

“I now have an understanding of you, but you know nothing about my current self. We shall talk once you’ve come to understand me.”

Fan Hunjun was about to leave, but then he abruptly turned and walked back to their table. He picked up that bottle of Wuliangye and poured it into a bowl, downing the contents in one gulp. He then picked up Li Shanshan’s glass and drank every drop of the wine that was left in it.

Li Shanshan was startled. She had no idea that he was such a good drinker.

Fan Hunjun turned and smiled at Li Shanshan. "As they say, alcohol is best enjoyed with others. When I was abroad, I could down five bottles of Maotai wine in one go when I was with my fellow brothers. Back then, I constantly thought of exchanging a glass of wine with you, but now I realize that you're not fit to drink with me!"

With that, Fan Hunjun shoved Li Shanshan aside before pushing open the door to leave.

Li Shanshan stood by the booth for a long while, before she collapsed upon the table and wept hard.

She had been a proud little princess ever since she was a child, and had never thought that she would be kicked around like this. While it was already more than enough that Zhang Junhao had lied to her, even Fan Hunjun—who had been bullied since young—looked down on her now.

Most importantly, the Fan family's wealth could decide her quality of life for the rest of her days.

Fan Hunjun might have said some pretty words, but who could guarantee that he would be able to keep his promise? Even if he didn't touch Li Shanshan, could he maintain a husband-wife facade in the long term?

In addition to that, the marriage certificate was currently still in Li Shanshan's bag, even though

Chapter 174 Pain Beyond Belief

Fan Hunjun should be the one to keep it.

Li Shanshan clutched the card with one million on it. She just felt that it didn't belong to her, as if Zhou Manlan would ask for it to be returned at any moment.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Fan Hunjun's grandmother's surgery the next day was a huge success. When she opened her eyes and saw Fan Hunjun, Zhou Manlan, Wang Xu, Li Xinqiao, and Li Shanshan, she immediately grasped Li Shanshan's hand.

"My child, you are so beautiful, even more beautiful than when you were a young child. When I was lying on the operating table, I kept telling myself that I have to leave the operating theater alive, that I have to see my grandson and his wife!"

Li Shanshan felt a myriad of emotions. She clutched Fan Hunjun's grandmother's hand tightly, but she glanced at Fan Hunjun out of the corner of her eye.

She knew that Fan Hunjun was raised by his grandmother, and was closer to her than with his father. So long as his grandmother liked her, Fan Hunjun couldn't do anything to her.

Li Xinqiao shed tears of joy at this sight.

To her, Fan Hunjun and his grandmother had lived a far too difficult life. Now, things were taking a turn for the better; Fan Hunjun had reconciled with his father, and his stepmother had turned over a new leaf. Now that Li Shanshan had gotten together with Fan Hunjun, she believed that Fan Hunjun's family could now live happily ever after.

However, Wang Xu did not think so.

Even if he hadn't personally seen Li Shanshan and Zhang Junhao together that night, he thought that

something must have happened between them both already.

In Wang Xu's view, it was important for a man to find a beautiful wife, but a wife's purity was far more important than her good looks.

Especially now that Fan Hunjun was a far cry from his past self. Not only had he reconciled with his father, the Fan Group's bountiful assets would be Fan Hunjun's in the future. Since he was so wealthy, did he even have any need to take on Zhang Junhao's leftovers?

Seeing how Li Shanshan looked shocked from the attention, Wang Xu thought, I have to separate them!

Fan Hunjun didn't say anything. He felt happy as long as his grandmother was happy.

He already noticed Li Shanshan's glance from the corner of her eye. To him, however, he would hold up his end of the bargain with Li Shanshan, regardless whether his grandmother fancied Li Shanshan.

Zhou Manlan upstaged them even more. She immediately walked over to Fan Hunjun's grandmother and grasped her other hand. "Grandma, it's good that your eyesight has returned. I would have felt guilty for the rest of my life otherwise."

Fan Hunjun's grandmother froze. "Child, why are you speaking like this? I am already old, so my

eyesight declined. What does this have to do with you?”

“Grandma, you are a good person for being able to not bear a grudge against me. If I hadn’t been so immature back then and adamantly chased you out of your home, you wouldn’t have...”

“Oh, don’t bring up past wrongs. To be frank, there is no blood relation between us, and that house was under Zhongzhen’s name. To you, it was normal for you to take it back when they were tearing it down and offering compensation for the tenants to move. Haven’t you already returned half of the money to me?”

“Grandma, when you put it that way, I feel so ashamed.”

“I am telling the truth, child. You are getting on in your years already, and you are childless. Treat Fan Hunjun as your own child! Hunjun is kindhearted. He may not be able to change his views in such a short time, but he will be sure to respect and care for you in the future once some time has passed!”

“I know, so allow us to take care of you for now!”

Everything that Zhou Manlan did was just a farce she put on for Fan Hunjun. There were some words that shouldn’t have been said here, but the reason she put on this act was to send a message to Fan Hunjun.

Fortunately, Fan Hunjun already knew her tricks by

heart. Otherwise, he might just have been fooled by her supreme acting skills.

Fan Hunjun's grandmother had certainly not forgotten about Wang Xu and Li Xinqiao. She thanked them profusely. If it wasn't for them, she might not have been able to endure long enough to see Fan Hunjun return.

Everyone happily chatted for a while. Wang Xu and Li Xinqiao still had to go back to run their shop, so they bade farewell to the others.

Wang Xu could no longer hold it in when Fan Hunjun sent them off. "Hunjun, you're now truly one of those nouveau riche. You're the son of the Fan family, and the only one at that. Do you think it'll be a good idea to enter the Fan Group with all those rumors surrounding you?" he told Fan Hunjun right to his face.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“What do you mean, rumors?” Li Xinqiao didn’t understand it at first, but when she caught on, she immediately shot a glare at Wang Xu. “What nonsense are you speaking? Even if you’ve got something against Li Shanshan, you shouldn’t ruin Fan Hunjun’s marriage. Did all that time spent cooking at the stove smoke your brains out?”

Wang Xu did not give in. “What do you know? Out of sight, out of mind, or so they say. If we hadn’t been by the entrance to the hospital that night...”

“Enough, enough. Shut it already!”

Fan Hunjun gave a faint smile. “It’s okay. Wang Xu’s my sole brother. He’s saying this for my own good.”

“You see?”

“You wretched man!”

Fan Hunjun patted Wang Xu’s shoulder while he turned to face Li Xinqiao. “I’m truly happy to see that Grandma has regained her sight. It’s just as she said, if it wasn’t for you two, she might...”

It was Wang Xu’s turn to pat Fan Hunjun. “Huh? If we’re truly brothers, then you’ll just drop this matter!”

“That’s right,” Li Xinqiao interjected. “If you’re really thankful, you should just say thanks once or twice. It feels a little hollow for you to repeat it. Speaking of that, what did you tell that renovation company? I went to take a look earlier today and they were

just incredible. Are they renovating the place or tearing it down?”

Fan Hunjun laughed. “You don’t have to worry about this. We’ll talk more about it when they’re done.”

Wang Xu suddenly remembered something. “Oh right, you’ve made up with your father already, and I saw that your stepmother is rather caring towards your grandmother. Your grandma can’t possibly stay with us now, can she?”

It was then that Li Xinqiao came to a realization. “Hunjun, don’t tell me you arranged for this because you planned to help us renovate our home?”

Seeing how he couldn’t continue to hide this any longer, Fan Hunjun could only chuckle. “I already told you guys that I’m not lacking in money, but you wouldn’t believe me. I had no choice, so I just pulled this trick!”

Wang Xu shoved him. “You little...”

Fan Hunjun grabbed onto his shoulder tightly. “We’re brothers, so don’t say anything!”

Li Xinqiao glowered at Fan Hunjun. You little brat, you made me worried about giving you my personal savings behind Wang Xu’s back! Now, you’re using it to renovate my home!

She absolutely knew that the renovation cost was more than 50,000 when she saw just how many

After he sent off Wang Xu and Li Xinqiao, Fan Hunjun returned to his grandmother's room to realize that no was there.

He immediately exited the room and rushed over to Fan Zhongzhen's ward. As he expected, he saw Zhou Manlan and Li Shanshan wheeling his grandmother over to his father's side.

His grandmother was impatient. She had rushed over to see Fan Zhongzhen in order to discuss Fan Hunjun's marriage to Li Shanshan.

Fan Zhongzhen had seen Li Shanshan before and was rather pleased with his daughter-in-law. However, he just didn't know about her past.

Fan Zhongzhen had no opinions when his mother-in-law talked about their wedding, but he constantly worried that Zhou Manlan might have some insidious plan hidden up her sleeve.

Right at that moment, Fan Hunjun arrived. Fan Hunjun's grandmother had him hoist Fan Zhongzhen into a wheelchair, before they went together to see Li Haobo. It would be the first proper meeting between the two fathers.

Li Shanshan's nerves frayed upon hearing that. She was especially worried that Fan Hunjun would expose her in front of everyone.

She hadn't expected that Fan Hunjun would use only his gaze to ask Fan Zhongzhen for his opinion, who nodded at once.

Chapter 176 Renovation

“That’s because who would fall for you other than me?”

“Tsk...”

“Alright, I’m warning you now. Why did you have to bring that up? It’s not like Fan Hunjun doesn’t know what kind of person Li Shanshan is, so do you really need to constantly mention that? Hurry up and start cooking!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

walls were being torn down.

Wang Xu stopped in his tracks. "Since things are already like this, I won't say anything more, but there is one thing that I have to say: don't spend too much."

"Relax, I'm not one who's irresponsible with finances."

Wang Xu nodded. "Fan Hunjun, I still have to tell you this; if you actually marry Li Shanshan, then you're really living up to the moniker Thoughtless Hun!" he couldn't help but add.

"What are you saying?" Li Xinqiao dragged Wang Xu along with her as she walked ahead. She turned to speak to Fan Hunjun. "You should hurry back. You don't have to send us off."

"Alright then, take care!"

Li Xinqiao hissed as she pushed Wang Xu along. "Are you nuts? You shouldn't have said that. Fan Hunjun's liked Li Shanshan for pretty much all his life. So what if they got married?"

"Man, you don't know..."

"What is it that I don't know? I thought you men like your women to be virgins? But what about you men? Who can guarantee that you haven't touched another woman before tying the knot?"

"I haven't!"

Fan Hunjun didn't speak. He simply picked up Fan Zhongzhen and settled him into the wheelchair.

Tears fell from Fan Zhongzhen's eyes the moment Fan Hunjun picked him up.

Fan Zhongzhen had never picked up his son, even when he was a child. It had never crossed his mind that his son would be the one picking him up today.

He felt that his son had grown up and become strong, to the extent that he could even protect himself now. However, he was unable to voice his thoughts, because he believed Zhou Manlan's words; he thought that Fan Hunjun had fallen for her.

The entire Fan family came to Li Haobo's ward.

Li Haobo, who was on a drip, was taken aback when he saw this, and hastily sat up straight.

With such a beautiful daughter, he should sit up straight when someone came to propose or even discuss marriage.

However, when it came to Li Shanshan and Zhang Junhao's past deed, he felt—and he was aware that Fan Hunjun knew about this as well—a little apologetic for his son-in-law.

So when Fan Hunjun's grandmother brought up their marriage, Li Haobo had no other opinion. He said that everything should follow whatever the Fans had in mind.

Although she had never wanted to stay in River City for the long term, she felt a little guilty towards her son because she was about to bid for the mansion and give it to Fan Hunjun. After all, her son liked that mansion.

Coincidentally, both Huang Wenxuan and Chen Feifei had arrived on the scene. Although they had come for the gossip, their presence put yet more pressure on Zhou Manlan.

Fan Hunjun sat next to Zhou Manlan while Li Shanshan sat next to Fan Hunjun. Seeing that there was no one she was familiar with around, she quietly looped her arm through Fan Hunjun's.

Fan Hunjun shook his head. Will she still be so friendly towards me, when Mike gets his hands on Min Hill Mansion later?

Right at this time, Wu Pinghui and Zhang Junhao walked over. It occurred to Fan Hunjun that this was an excellent opportunity to show them all up.

So he said to Li Shanshan, "I think it's better if you took your arm back."

"Why?" Li Shanshan tilted her head, looking at Fan Hunjun. "Both our families have agreed on it, and even the date of the marriage has been set. Why should we care about what other people think?"

Fan Hunjun smiled at her. "Why don't you turn around and see who's arrived?"

Li Shanshan turned her head, catching sight of

Chapter 178 Fighting Both Openly and in the Shadows

Li Shanshan and Fang Youqin's feud had gone on for most of their lives already. While Li Shanshan felt that she had won against Fang Youqin where their love lives were concerned, she had never even dreamt that she would win in wealth too. Her marriage to Fang Hunjun had unexpectedly given this opportunity to her.

For just a moment, it occurred to her that Fang Hunjun was indeed worth something to her, just a little; at the very least, he gave her the chance to show off her wealth in front of Fang Youqin.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Fang Youqin's words were indeed quite sickening, coming from a woman who hadn't even married yet.

But Li Shanshan wasn't turning on her because of how disgusting her words were; it was because she was insulting Zhang Junhao.

Maybe even Li Shanshan herself didn't realize how important of a position Zhang Junhao had taken up in her heart. She didn't want anyone slandering Zhang Junhao behind his back.

Fang Youqin wasn't just anyone though; of course she could tell exactly what Li Shanshan was feeling. She laughed icily. "Even now you're trying to protect him. Even now, while you've got your hand around your husband's arm, you're talking about him right in front of your husband."

"How am I protecting him?"

"That's something that only you'd know." Fan Youqin watched Zhang Junhao and Wu Pinghui as she spoke. "Look at Zhang Junhao. His smile is practically blooming at that woman. When the auction finishes later, I'll rent a random room downstairs, and the moment I make the phone call, he'll come running. Would you like to witness this all in person?"

Li Shanshan's words got stuck in her throat.

Fan Hunjun had already played those audio recordings of Fang Youqin and Zhang Junhao's exchanges to her. Li Shanshan knew that Fang

Chapter 179 Put in an Awkward Position

Youqin wasn't lying, and a stabbing pain carved its way through her heart.

She wasn't angry about Zhang Junhao cheating on her however' she was angry and sad beyond relief that Zhang Junhao had chosen Fang Youqin.

Li Shanshan retrieved her hand away from Fan Huijun's arm, her expression murderous. She lowered her head, and looked at Fan Hunjun and Fang Youqin from the edge of her vision.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Fang Youqin smiled. "I'm afraid it's not that simple. I heard that a big shot is coming this time too from W Country, and I think he's in the gold mining industry. He's on good terms with Mr. Yang from California Cafe, and he's pretty confident that Min Hill Mansion will be his too."

Zhou Manlan turned around then, and asked Fang Youqin, "Are you talking about Mike and his friends?"

Fang Youqin nodded. "That's right. Do you know them, Mrs. Zhou?"

"I've heard of them."

Looks like Johnson was pretty efficient at his job. Not only did Zhou Manlan know about them, even Fang Youqin had heard of them. Many of River City's rich elite probably knew of Mike now.

Fang Hunjun felt very pleased at that, though he did not let it show.

Zhou Manlan interjected in a quiet voice, "How did you come to know the young lady from the Fang Group?"

"She was in the same class as us."

Zhou Manlan was quietly surprised, and took another glance at Fang Youqin. Miss Fang surely hasn't told Fan Hunjun about me being at that club, has she?

Wu Pinghui and Zhang Junhao sat diagonally

Since the elders were all sickly patients, Fan Hunjun's grandmother gave it some thought and suggested that the wedding be held on New Year's Day. Both parties had no objections. Fan Hunjun's grandmother then asked the couple for their own opinions.

Li Shanshan didn't dare to speak. All she could do was shift her gaze over to Fan Hunjun.

Fan Hunjun nodded. And with that, the rock hanging above her fell to the ground without a hitch.

Fan Hunjun's grandmother was well and utterly thrilled, for she thought that Li Shanshan was simply deferring to Fan Hunjun.

She knew that Li Shanshan was pretty, and her only worry was that Fan Hunjun wouldn't be able to keep her.

Now, when she saw Li Shanshan, it seemed like she wasn't faking any appearances. Fan Hunjun's grandmother was overjoyed, but she didn't know that there was a reason behind everything.

If Fan Hunjun hadn't figuratively slapped Li Shanshan at the restaurant yesterday, Li Shanshan might not have been this docile today.

His grandmother was alright now. She could get up from her wheelchair and walk, so she could be discharged any time.

Zhou Manlan suggested that his grandmother

Zhang Junhao. She snatched her hand away from Fan Hunjun's arm on reflex, as if electrocuted by the touch.

Right at this instant, she realized that not only was Wu Pinghui latching onto Zhang Junhao's arm, her face was also leaning on Zhang Junhao's shoulder. At once, a twinge of pain crept through Li Shanshan's heart.

She immediately took up Fan Hunjun's arm again, and regretted her earlier actions a little. Why did she have to take her hand away earlier?

Fan Junjun gave a cold laugh, telling her quietly. "In the future, it's best if you think carefully before acting. Awkward situations like this one will definitely appear often in the future, so you should make sure to prepare yourself well mentally."

Li Shanshan's face reddened, as if Fan Hunjun had just slapped her.

She had never been so humiliated before. She bit her lip, tamping down her anger with great difficulty, before saying in a light voice, "If mocking me like this will make you feel better, then by all means, continue mocking me!"

"Who on earth would dare mock you, oh great beauty Miss Li?"

Fang Youqin had appeared from the other direction without them noticing, and directly took a seat right next to Li Shanshan. She had also heard Li Shanshan's words just then too.

Li Shanshan hadn't expected Fang Youqin to come. Her hand, which was wrapped around Fan Hunjun's arm, tightened unconsciously.

But, on second thought, didn't Fang Youqin like Zhang Junhao too? Not to mention that Fang Youqin was on her own right now, while Li Shanshan at least had Fan Hunjun. If she had to compare them both, then Fang Youqin was losing even worse than Li Shanshan was.

So she once again grasped Fan Hunjun's arm tightly, smiling at Fang Youqin with a reserved facade. "You're here too?"

At her words, Fan Hunjun turned around and nodded at Fang Youqin.

Fang Youqin replied with a dazzling smile. "Oh my, the one next to you seems to be Mr. Zhou of the Fan Group, isn't he? Then that means that you've gone back to the Fan family, haven't you? You've become the Fans' young master then?"

Fan Hunjun shrugged, smiling but giving no affirmation to her words.

"Your family has Min Hill Mansion confidently within their grasp then, if my guess is correct?"

Li Shanshan smugly replied, "Not necessarily. I mean, there are so many wealthy people in River City, so we might not necessarily get it. However, Hunjun's stepmother already announced that if we successfully bid for it, it's where our wedding will be held!"

Chapter 177 The Auction Begins

should stay with her for now, but Fan Hunjun didn't agree with that. He wanted to bring his grandmother straight to Min Hill Mansion, so he insisted on letting his grandmother stay in the hospital for a little longer.

Fortunately, the auction for Min Hill Mansion was about to begin.

Today, there were many wealthy people gathered in the round ballroom at the top of the River City Grand Hotel. They were all here to bid on Min Hill Mansion, as well as to get their hands on the land next to the mansion. That was why most of the people here were developers.

There were, of course, people from various other industries here as well, who were here today to prove just how rich they were.

Zhou Manlan had originally been determined to win this bidding war, but Huang Wenxuan's outrage earlier made her feel a little uncomfortable.



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opposite to them, closer to the front. They didn't seem to have seen them yet.

"Don't you want to go over and say hi?" Fan Hunjun quietly taunted Li Shanshan

Li Shanshan stared at Fan Hunjun for a bit before retorting, "What are you trying to say?"

Although they were speaking very quietly, Fang Youqin was sitting right next to them, and so she still heard them. She suddenly spoke up then. "Thoughtless Hun's trying to tell you that loose ends need to be tied up. Since you're getting married soon, it follows that there shouldn't be anyone you feel awkward facing. Thoughtless Hun, am I right?"

Fan Hunjun nodded. "More or less."

Li Shanshan ignored Fan Hunjun, and instead coldly said to Fang Youqin, "Fang Youqin, don't you think that you're the one who should be tying up their loose ends with Zhang Junhao right now?"

"Hmph, what could he and I possibly have to say to each other? While he and you were making your oh-so-romantic promises with each other, he was coming over to my place quite frequently. I think of him as a blow-up doll, and one that I don't even need to wash after using at that. Since there's someone willing to take him from me, he's free to go."

"Why are you so sickening?"

“What are you guys even doing? Did you two make plans to humiliate me today or something?”

Before Fan Hunjun could speak, Fang Youqin snorted and said, “You’ve always thought so highly of yourself, it’s like you think you’re a princess. I don’t know what other people think of you, but my only purpose for being here today is to see who Min Hill Mansion ends up with. I don’t have the time to watch you make a fool of yourself!”

Having finished speaking, Fang Youqin got up and walked straight to Zhang Junhao and Wu Pinghui. She called out to Zhang Junhao on purpose. “Hey, is that you, Junhao? You’re here too?”

Zhang Junhao had expected that Fang Youqin would be here. He’d even looked for her when he walked in, but he had not seen her then. He didn’t expect for her to suddenly appear before him, and was thus a little flustered.

Wu Pinghui looked at Fang Youqin, and then looked at Zhang Junhao. She had an inkling that Fang Youqin and Zhang Junhao had something going on between them.

Zhang Junhao stuttered a little, unsure what to say.

However, Fang Youqin kept talking. “I was going to bid for Min Hill Mansion and gift it to you as a token of our love, but I guess you don’t need that anymore. Bye!”

She actually smiled when she finished speaking,

Chapter 180 Public Humiliation

that Fang Youqin would pull something like this before her before the auction even started. Now, she felt quite lost.

She wasn't sure whether she should continue her PDA with Zhang Junhao, or get up and slap him before leaving with her head held high.

It was a good thing for her then that the auction's host came up on stage at this time, pulling everyone's attention to the stage at once.

Zhang Junhao took this opportunity to look around and see whether there was anyone else he knew here. It was then that he caught sight of Li Shanshan and Fan Hunjun.



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Her first reason for doing all of this was to prove to Li Shanshan that every word she spoke about Zhang Junhao was true.

Fang Youqin was doing it not for Fan Hunjun, but to humiliate Li Shanshan as much as she could.

Fang Youqin knew very well that even though the one she picked in front of everyone was Zhang Junhao, Li Shanshan would no doubt feel worse about it than Zhang Junhao himself did.

The two had, after all, been enemies with each other for much of their life so far; Fang Youqin understood Li Shanshan far too well. And her only goal was to make Li Shanshan suffer.

Her other reason was to tell Wu Pinghui that Zhang Junhao wasn't worth a single penny, and that he was used goods that she had thrown away.

So when the nouveau riche around her said all those disrespectful things to her, not only did she remain serene, she even appeared quite happy.

Zhou Manlan was quite stunned at all of this, and sneakily remarked to Fan Hunjun, "Wow, your classmate's quite a firecracker. I've seen her around a few times in the past but I hadn't realized she was so sassy."

Wu Pinghui now felt quite awkward.

When she'd brought Zhang Junhao over, her goal had been to bid for Min Hill Mansion and make a name for herself in River City. She hadn't expected

and even gave a little wave at Zhang Junhao.

Zhang Junhao's face instantly turned a shade of liver-purple, and he sat in stifled silence.

She had been quite loud; it would appear that she was saying it specifically so that Li Shanshan would hear her.

Li Shanshan wanted to dig a hole and bury herself in it upon seeing this. She still felt no hatred; all she felt for Zhe Junhao was sadness.

The participants of the auction around them however flew into a frenzy. Among them were people who knew Fang Youqin.

"Miss Fang, my gorgeous, even if he doesn't want you, I totally do! Why don't you give your token of love, Min Hill Mansion, to me?"

"For a guy like you? In your dreams! I think if Miss Fang were to put her love up for auction, it'd definitely go for a price that everyone in the south of the city could only dream of."

"Oh, Miss Fang, if you agree to have me, I'll win that bid on Min Hill Mansion for you no matter what today!"

If it were any other day, Fang Youqin would definitely unleash hell on them for that.

But today was different. She smiled as her gaze swept over the crowd. Then, she merely walked to the front and sat down in a seat.