



## Chapter 71 He's Our Boss

At times, the natural stubbornness and unreasonableness of women were, from a certain viewpoint, able to bring out their charms better.

If that natural stubbornness and lack of reason came from a little girl, she would be considered naive and adorable.

However, since it was currently coming from someone of Li Shanshan's age, Fan Hunjun simply thought that her stupidity was beyond comprehension.

Fan Hunjun couldn't help but sigh mentally. No wonder they say that even the most pitiable of people have something that you hate about them.

Since things turned out this way, he decided not to sink to the same level as her.

"What's your account number?" Fan Hunjun asked all of a sudden.

"What?"

"I'm asking you, what's your account number?"

Li Shanshan spontaneously rattled off her number. "What for?" she added.

Fan Hunjun immediately took out his phone and transferred 600,000 to her account. "I'm giving you the money simply because we used to be classmates. As for your gratitude, save it and give it to the man you love! Give me a call when you have the time. I'll accompany you to the civil



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affairs bureau whenever you want.”

With that, Fan Hunjun got up and stepped towards the bar counter to pay the bill.

Nervousness showed on the cashier and waiter's faces when they saw him approaching.

Fan Hunjun looked at the cashier who had cleaned his bike and smiled. “Thank you! Still, don't do that again. It'll spark some discontent among the other customers. Why wash my bike when you don't wash theirs?”

That cashier's face reddened in an instant, and she nodded her head repeatedly without stopping.

Fan Hunjun patted the waiter on the shoulder. “Your service today is good, but you don't have to be so nervous. I might come here often in the future, so just treat me like a regular customer.”

“Understood.”

Once he paid the bill, Fan Hunjun turned and strode quickly to the door without so much as sparing another glance at Li Shanshan.

The cashier and waiters only exhaled deeply once they saw him leave.

Li Shanshan might be obstinate, but she wasn't dumb. She realized that something was up from their behavior toward Fan Hunjun.

“Hey, Handsome, Missy.” Li Shanshan walked over



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to the bar counter and smiled. "You seem to be rather acquainted with my friend. Do you know what he does for a living?"

The cashier and waiter instantly froze.

Since she was able to sit together with Fan Hunjun, she had to be his friend.

They didn't know that Li Shanshan knew absolutely zilch about the current Fan Hunjun. They assumed that she knew that Fan Hunjun was the owner of this place, that she was purposely showing it off in front of them.

Even so, no one dared to step on her toes.

The cashier who helped Fan Hunjun to wipe down his electric bike gave a faint smile to Li Shanshan, and said, "He's our boss!"

Li Shanshan stared at the cashier, bewildered. "What did you say? He's your boss? What boss? Isn't the owner of California Cafe Mr. Johnson?"

The cashier realized that she wasn't aware of Fan Hunjun's actual status, so she smiled and continued to speak. "Mr. Johnson works under him."

How could this be?

California Cafe had been running for two years, and it had a good reputation in River City as well. Everyone thought that the business philosophies of foreigners were advanced, and many people



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wished to join hands with Johnson and form a partnership. So, why was it that—in a blink of an eye—he was now working for Fan Hunjun?

Even if Fan Hunjun was a nouveau riche, and, at best, could buy this California City in these few days, it was still impossible for Johnson to work under him.



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## Chapter 72 Do Things Get Better When You're Free of Debt?

Li Shanshan suddenly felt that that the cashier and waiters didn't know the true story and were simply parroting untruths. And so, she turned to leave after giving them a smile.

Li Shanshan pulled out her phone when she reached the entrance. After she confirmed that the money that Fan Hunjun transferred to her was already in her account, she turned back to look at California Cafe's signboard. She muttered in disgruntlement. "Tsk, does he think he's hot stuff just because he has money now? Acting like that in front of me while trying to trap me, he sure has no limits to how low he can go!"

Li Shanshan was an impatient person. She immediately opened up the banking app on her phone and immediately transferred the money to Fang Youqin once she found her account. Once she did so, she called Fang Youqin.

"Hey, Youqin? I just returned those 600,000 to you. Remember to give me the receipt for that loan!"

Fang Youqin was apparently taken aback. "Huh? Does your father not need the surgery anymore?"

"No, I've got money now, so I don't need yours. While I cannot stand the extra conditions you added, I still want to thank you. To tell you the truth, you're the only one who would even think of helping me when I'm in dire straits!"

Erm... what?

This did not seem like thanks at all. There was a

clear mocking undertone in this.

Fang Youqin was unable to comprehend this, even after contemplating it for a while. Where would Li Shanshan—who was already as poor as dirt—find 600,000?

Could it be from Zhang Junhao?

That couldn't be possible, because Zhang Junhao's parents controlled his finances. If his parents had been willing to give this sum to her, he would have married Li Shanshan earlier. Would she even be driven to such poverty then?

Fan Hunjun?

Crap, was I unable to see it? Did he really earn that much money while abroad?

However, Fang Youqin also thought that Fan Hunjun wasn't that much of an idiot. Even if he was wealthy, wouldn't he just allow himself to trick Li Shanshan and have a child with her before helping her to settle her debt? It wouldn't even be too late for him to do that!

Even though it was just a short exchange, Fang Youqin could already hear the smugness from Li Shanshan. An indescribable rage rose within her. Apart from being unable to watch Li Shanshan make a fool of herself, more importantly, she thought that she had no other way to take Zhang Junhao for herself.

After Li Shanshan paid back the money, she had a

pleased and smug expression on her face. She felt as light as a feather, being debt-free.

Even so, she still didn't seem to understand that Fan Hunjun was being rather generous, and that he didn't care about those 600,000.

Li Shanshan, however, was different. To her, 600,000 was absolutely an eye-watering sum.

When Fan Hunjun transferred her the money, he didn't tack on any additional terms. He didn't even intend for her to pay it back.

But her?

If she hadn't married Fan Hunjun in this life, how else could she have the money to pay back this debt?

Right now, she felt as though a heavy weight had been lifted from her. Did she think that she didn't have to return that money at all?

Li Shanshan, who had originally come to the cafe by bus, flagged down a taxi. However, she let out a small yelp the moment she got into the car.

The driver turned back, startled by this. "Miss, is something wrong?"

"Nothing. Let's go to the hospital."

Li Shanshan suddenly recalled that she had mortgaged her house to her students' parents for 700,000. Why did she return the money so quickly



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to Fang Youqin? She should have scrounged up an extra 100,000 to get her house back first. It wouldn't be too late to return Fang Youqin's money by the time she was done!

She took out her phone, about to ask Fang Youqin to lend her the money again. However, she suddenly thought twice about it. Did her ecstasy from earlier provoke Fang Youqin? If Fang Youqin refused, wouldn't Li Shanshan just be asking for trouble?

She couldn't help but turn back to eye California Cafe again. If only Thoughtless Hun would lend me another 700,000.



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Fan Hunjun rode Li Xinqiao's electric bike back to the hospital. He headed inside his grandmother's room with the two bags of clothing, but then he noticed that there were plenty of health foods and supplements on the bedside dresser.

At first, he thought that Li Xinqiao had bought them, but when he stepped closer for a look, he realized that they were all high quality supplements. There were cordyceps, ginseng, deer antlers and bird's nest. It wasn't a matter of whether they could afford it; Fan Hunjun knew that no matter how generous Li Xinqiao was, she would never think of buying such things.

Did Fang Youqin visit earlier?

"Grandma," Fan Hunjun said. "Who came by earlier?"

"Oh, little Jun. Your stepmother came to visit earlier and bought so many things. Oh, she even gave me a red packet filled with money. I let the nurse take a look and it turns out that there's 100,000 in it. I was so taken aback that I didn't dare sleep the entire afternoon. I just held onto the money and sat here. I have to go and put it away safely."

As she spoke, Fan Hunjun's grandmother lifted her blanket and took out a stack of notes that had been tied together with the red packet's paper.

Fan Hunjun shook his head as he took the money from his grandmother's hands. "You're talking about Zhou Manlan, right?"

“Little Jun, don’t be so disrespectful!” his grandmother chastised. “The sins of your forefathers belong to them and them alone. She is your father’s legal wife now. Even though she chased you out of the house, your ID details are still tied to their home. In the eyes of the law, she is your stepmother.”

Neither Fan Hunjun nor his grandmother knew that Huang Hongde used to be Zhou Manlan’s husband. Those two had practically worked together to drive his mother into a corner, causing her death. Had Fan Hunjun’s grandmother known this, she would certainly be unable to accept Zhou Manlan. In addition to that, Fan Hunjun would not have been able to be as calm as he was when he faced her.

Fan Hunjun sat by his grandmother’s bed and cracked a joke. “Grandma, you really shouldn’t be all that surprised. Getting bribed by a mere 100,000? You have to know that if she hadn’t taken the house back and asked for cash as compensation, the house that we would have gotten would have been worth several times more!”

“Look at you, child. Do you think that I’m that kind of person?” His grandmother continued to explain, “In truth, you can’t completely blame your father when he and your mum separated. There is no smoke without fire after all. Frankly, your father went through all that money because he was the one who earned it... Oh, I’m going on quite the tangent.”



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“Then don’t continue.”

“Little Jun, this is the second time I’ve met your stepmother. To be more exact, the first time I saw her was the year they tore down the neighborhood. And now, I can’t see her; I can only hear her. However, I can hear that she has changed a lot, and she even expressed that she hopes that you can go back to your father’s company to help her run it while your father is under medical care.”

“Yeah, she’s said that much to me.”

“She even said that she didn’t have any children with your father because she wanted to let you inherit the legacy your father created. While I do not know whether she is being truthful, the fact that she is able to say such a thing proves that she’s not that bad of a person. Let the past stay in the past. I am already old, and I won’t have many days left in this world. I simply hope that you can return to your father’s side, and that you can live together as a family happily for the rest of your days.”

“Grandma, what are you saying? You’ll be having surgery in two days. You said it yourself that there’s a high chance that your sight will return. Our happy lives together are just beginning.”

Fan Hunjun’s grandmother nodded before she continued. “I’ll be fine. I’ve been blind for a few years already, so I’m used to being alone. Your father on the other hand is another case. He’s used to being a social person, and now he’s lying on a hospital bed due to a stroke. I’m afraid that



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he still isn't used to it. You should spend time with him."

"Alright."

"Also, I've talked with your stepmother earlier. She visits your father every night, so be more polite when you meet her. Even if you don't call her 'Mum', you should at least call her 'Auntie'. Your father is old now. I suppose he is now like me and doesn't have many wishes. All he hopes for is for you and your stepmother to get along."

"I understand, Grandma."

Fan Hunjun sat there for a while, and then his grandmother began to urge him to visit his father. Just as Fan Hunjun was about to stand up, Zhou Manlan suddenly came in.



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Chapter 74 They're All Actresses

“Grandma... Oh, little Jun is here too?”

Fan Hunjun froze. Why is she addressing her as Grandma too?

However, when he thought about it, Zhou Manlan had a point. She couldn't possibly call her Mum, so she had to call her Grandma like he did.

“Oh, is that you, young Zhou?”

“Grandma, I just came from visiting Zhongzhen. I'm about to head home and make dinner. I'm here to ask what you would like for dinner.”

“You don't have to bother with me. Just take care of Zhongzhen.”

“How can I not care about you? Why don't I make you some noodles, or some congee with lean meat? I'll have to head back to the hospital anyway. It won't be any trouble.”

“Alright, do as you wish.”

Zhou Manlan shot a seductive wink at Fan Hunjun. “Little Jun, what would you like to eat this afternoon?”

“I'm not eating. I've got things to do this afternoon.”

“You should run your errands then. You don't have to come back to the hospital tonight. I'll be here anyway. All I'll need to do is come by after visiting the other.”

"That's right," Fan Hunjun's grandmother added. "I'm alright here. You youngsters have a lot on your plates. You should hurry and finish your business."

Fan Hunjun pretended to be embarrassed as he smiled at Zhou Manlan. "I'll leave it to you then."

"We're family here, why are you being so uptight? From what your grandmother said, you're about to have your wedding soon. You should bring your wife back to the family home, and give your father something to be happy about."

"You should indeed. Family should get along in harmony," Fan Hunjun's grandmother piped up.

Fan Hunjun nodded, unable to deny her words.

Zhou Manlan was incredibly delighted to see Fan Hunjun wearing the clothes she bought him. She walked over and patted Fan Hunjun's arm and shoulder as she nodded her head in clear admiration. "Look how handsome young Jun here looks! Whoever you married sure is a lucky girl!"

And with that, she suddenly pinched Fan Hunjun's face out of the blue. After she bade Fan Hunjun's grandmother farewell, she turned and left.

Fan Hunjun smirked coldly as he watched her go.

Once her footsteps were softer from the distance, Fan Hunjun's grandmother spoke to him, "This kind of person just needs more experience. When she came to see me when our neighborhood was being torn down, I truly thought that she wasn't a

good-hearted person. I hadn't expected such a drastic change from her. I suppose it is because she's older now and has seen the world for what it is. Furthermore, since she doesn't have any children of her own, she sees you as more or less her own child."

Both Fan Hunjun and his grandmother did not know that Zhou Manlan's son was only younger than him by two years. He was also at the age when he should be looking to marry.

Fan Hunjun's grandmother then urged him to visit his father, so Fan Hunjun reluctantly headed over to his father's room.

Unexpectedly, when Fan Zhongzhen saw Fan Hunjun again, he wasn't as excited as he was before. It was the opposite; he was abnormally calm and unperturbed.

Fan Hunjun thought that his father should be apoplectic with rage after the commotion with Zhou Manlan in the morning and her afternoon visit. Or at the very least, there should still be trace of lingering anger on him when Fan Hunjun came to see him.

However, the current Fan Zhongzhen seemed to have completely forgotten about the clash from this morning, and he also seemed to have forgotten that he had spoken to Li Xinqiao. The calmness now was a little baffling.

As Fan Hunjun walked over to sit on the neighboring bed, Fan Zhongzhen kept looking at



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his son with guilt in his eyes. It was as though he had a million words to say, but didn't have a clue where to start.

The words that Zhou Manlan had said to him earlier had practically left Fan Zhongzhen in despair.



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## Chapter 75 Playing Along

Zhou Manlan made a beeline for the hospital after exiting Chu Zhaonan's shop. She first visited Fan Hunjun's grandmother before heading over to Fan Zhongzhen's room.

Fan Zhongzhen grunted in agitation the moment he saw her. How he wished he could leap from the bed and strangle her to death.

However, Zhou Manlan placed some high quality supplements and health foods on the table by his bed, smiling as she spoke to him, "Don't be overly excited. I just spent some time with your son at a cafe. Guess what? He actually fell for me that way."

Fan Zhongzhen was stunned right that instant. He widened his eyes in shock, and instantly quietened.

That was Zhou Manlan's ability. She knew what Fan Zhongzhen feared the most—or to be more exact, she knew what he exasperated him the most— that was why she lied that Fan Hunjun had fallen for her charms, and it ended up shocking Fan Zhongzhen.

Right at that moment, a nurse opened the door and stepped in. When she caught sight of Zhou Manlan, she immediately assumed that she was here to harm Fan Zhongzhen, so she rushed over to check the medicine bottles.

The nurse's actions certainly did not escape Zhou Manlan's eyes. She smiled. "It's just how husbands and wives are. Even if we argue, we eventually

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make up. Do you still think I'm here to harm him? If I hurt him, wouldn't that mean I'd have to pay for that?"

The nurse did not respond to her words. Instead, she looked at Fan Zhongzhen.

Fan Zhongzhen nodded at the nurse. He intended to express that Zhou Manlan was right, that they had already made amends with each other.

Fan Zhongzhen did so because he wished to hear what else Zhou Manlan had to say, especially about the matter which she claimed Fan Hunjun had fallen for her. Fan Zhongzhen found it practically difficult to believe.

It was then that the nurse gave a somewhat embarrassed smile to Zhou Manlan. After she said that they could press the bell if anything came up, she turned and left the room.

Fan Zhongzhen's eyes immediately swiveled toward Zhou Manlan. He grunted at her, urging her to continue her words.

Zhou Manlan knew very well that the most confusing things that couldn't be explained were matters of that nature, the kind between a man and a woman, especially when it involved a stepmother and a stepson. When it came to matters that were in grey morality territory, while people who were mere onlookers had plenty of things to say, the ones who were actually involved found it difficult to defend themselves.

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She assumed that no matter how she twisted and manipulated this matter between her and Fan Hunjun, Fan Hunjun would not possibly interrogate his son about it, nor would he have the courage to do so.

Of course, with Zhou Manlan's scheming mind, shrewdness and understanding of Fan Zhongzhen, she would definitely be able to weave a flawless story that could deceive him, making Fan Zhongzhen unable to ever discern the truth.

Zhou Manlan picked up a lychee from the pile of health foods she bought and peeled it, before bringing it to Fan Zhongzhen's mouth. Fan Zhongzhen, of course, declined it, but she still grinned at him. "We have all the time in the world. We can eat and have a nice conversation together. You should at least let the medical personnel see that we're a loving couple. Otherwise, when young Jun comes over and starts throwing me all these bedroom eyes, people will think that there's something fishy."

Zhou Manlan implied to Fan Zhongzhen that she and Fan Hunjun were together already. After all, Fan Hunjun had just hit her this very morning. If the two of them were to get all hanky-panky later, the medical workers would definitely think that something was up.

Right now, she needed Fan Zhongzhen to play along and let people think that they were a husband and wife who had made up after a quarrel. That way, the change between Fan Hunjun and Zhou Manlan's behavior toward each other



## Chapter 75 Playing Along

would not attract any attention.

However, Fan Zhongzhen couldn't think that far ahead. Right now, all he wanted to know was the cause of the incident and the events that followed after that. Despite being utterly reluctant to do so, he still opened his mouth and ate the lychee that Zhou Manlan peeled for him as though he was eating a mouthful of wax.

The nurse who had just left felt that something was wrong. Suddenly, she wondered if Fan Zhongzhen did not dare to express his displeasure because Zhou Manlan threatened him.



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## Chapter 76 Speaking Nonsense

She took a few steps before turning again and discreetly placed her head by the glass of the door to observe the two. When she saw Zhou Manlan feeding Fan Zhongzhen a lychee while smiling, only then did she believe what Zhou Manlan said.

“There’s no helping this couple!”

The nurse murmured and shook her head, before turning to head back towards the nurses’ station.

Fan Zhongzhen couldn’t wait anymore; he was already grunting even before he chewed the lychee thoroughly.

Zhou Manlan continued to peel more lychees, smiling like she was in no hurry. “Don’t be so agitated. You better not think badly of young Jun here. While he was extraordinarily taken by my beauty, just like you, his motive for wanting my body isn’t to humiliate you. Rather, he wants to torment me as payback for chasing him out of the house all those years ago.”

Fan Zhongzhen finally released a breath when he heard this.

To him, Zhou Manlan had always been a youthful and beautiful wife, who was virtuous and upstanding too. Not only was she an aide in his business, she also took great care of him in regular life as well.

It was only when Fan Zhongzhen saw Zhou Manlan and Huang Hongde lying in bed with his own two eyes that he realized that he had been

tricked for so many years.

His beloved wife and his most trusted subordinate lying together was an immeasurable blow to him, making him lose control in a moment. That was how he fell to the ground when Zhou Manlan kicked him, and ended up getting a stroke as adrenaline pumped through him.

Fan Zhongzhen was most worried that Zhou Manlan would use her charisma to seduce the naive Fan Hunjun into the void of taboos and grey morality. When he heard that Fan Hunjun's motive was revenge, Fan Zhongzhen's heart instantly calmed down.

But, in the blink of an eye, Fan Zhongzhen nearly had a second stroke due to Zhou Manlan's provocation.

Zhou Manlan first undid her top to reveal the bite marks upon her shoulders. Then, she lifted up her qipao, allowing Fan Zhongzhen to see the purple marks criss-crossing on her skin.

In truth, Huang Hongde had left those marks on her earlier during noon, reluctant to be separated from her. Now, however, she claimed that Fan Hunjun made them.

"Zhongzhen, your son really is like his father. Sons do take after their fathers in the end. Your son is just as easily swayed as you are. He invited me to Cafe California, where we always liked to go, and he also unwittingly picked the booth that we typically use. Then, he forced me to take off my

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qipao and made me bend over the table, and then... Never mind, I won't speak more about the details. Look at the marks he left on me. To tell you the truth, I don't hate him at all. On the contrary, it felt wonderful."

Fan Zhongzhen immediately roared.

"Don't overexert yourself, Zhongzhen. Young people have their own ways of handling things. If these actions are enough to eliminate the rage and hatred within him, while also giving me unforgettable pleasure, isn't it a victory for both sides then?"

Fan Zhongzhen grunted and moaned as he scolded her internally for being an adulterous witch, but unfortunately for him, he was unable to speak clearly.

"Alright, Zhongzhen, you best calm yourself down and comply with the doctors. If you get overexcited and and keel over, your fortune that is worth billions will be mine.

Fan Zhongzhen instantly froze.

"If you die, I'll be the first heir in line. While Jun will also be able to get a small portion of your fortune, I'm sure you're well aware that my skills in bed are not something that youngsters like little Jun here will be able to take. I'll just need to wink at him, give him a few of those looks. Perhaps he might even give me his own portion without any strings tied then."



## Chapter 77 Keeping It In The Family

Fan Zhongzhen had to admit that Zhou Manlan's skills in that area were unparalleled. That was why even though he had fooled around with plenty of women—many of them unmarried—he still was smitten with Zhou Manlan, and in the end, took her as his wife.

Although Fan Zhongzhen didn't know that she had had children, women who had been pregnant were certainly different from those who hadn't. Despite this, Zhou Manlan managed to convince Fan Zhongzhen that she had never been pregnant before. It could be considered an oddity to rival all oddities.

In addition to that, Zhou Manlan had constantly helped him to manage the Fan Group for all these years. Her resolution and methods were not things that the average woman would be able to match.

Fan Zhongzhen believed that if she used one of her little tricks and used her charm, his own son would definitely be unable to resist her.

Although he was already beyond himself with anger, Fan Zhongzhen still thought that what Zhou Manlan said was right. Right now, he most certainly could not die yet at this critical moment. He must help his son to smoothly inherit the Fan Group.

That was why he kept muttering to himself internally, praying.

In truth, he never believed in religion. He was the typical kind of person who would only pray when



in dire straits.

Zhou Manlan finished peeling the second lychee and held it toward Fan Zhongzhen's mouth. Fan Zhongzhen, however, did not open his mouth no matter what. He thought that if he ate that lychee, he would definitely choke to death.

Zhou Manlan smiled and stuffed the lychee into her mouth. "Zhongzhen, perhaps this is karma? You've played so many women, and now many people are playing around with your wife. Even your own son has fallen for me. You reap what you sow, and if you haven't received your karma yet? It just hasn't caught up to you yet!" she said as she ate.

Fan Zhongzhen's wizened face flushed red at her words.

Zhou Manlan gave a faint smile. "Don't get agitated! Calm down, just calm down! I just said a few words, and little Jun already agreed to move back to our home. When you're finally discharged and hear us rolling in bed in the neighboring room—hear the bed bumping and crashing into the wall as we torment each other—wouldn't you just roll over and die then?"

Fan Zhongzhen wished to control his emotions, but he was thoroughly provoked by Zhou Manlan now. Although he didn't grunt and moan, he still snorted.

Although she didn't wish for him to literally die from anger, Zhou Manlan kept provoking him

because she didn't want him to recover quickly either.

Zhou Manlan thought that it would be best to make Fan Zhongzhen angry enough to be rendered a vegetable, unable to ever get up from his bed or speak again. And then, she could use her seductive charms however she wished. She would be able to toy with Fan Hunjun however she liked.

Zhou Manlan continued to speak, "Oh, Zhongzhen, you should lighten up a little. You're like this already so I can't get any satisfaction from you. It's only natural that I'll seek comfort from other men. Instead of just helplessly watching me tango with Huang Hongde, you should just accept me and Jun. As they said, keeping it all in the family!"

You shameless adulterous witch, why in the world didn't I see you for who you are earlier?

Fan Zhongzhen cursed internally, but he still couldn't speak.

Zhou Manlan was quite the germaphobe. She had only peeled two lychees, but she got up to wash her hands in the bathroom. She then exited the bathroom and stood by the foot of Fan Zhongzhen's bed. "Zhongzhen, let's strike an agreement. As long as you acknowledge my relationship with Jun, I shall help him to sit in that chairman's seat. I shall also give him whatever should be his, on the condition that you lie in your bed like a good boy and live the rest of your life without any other large ambitions. Don't make any

trouble for me.”

Fan Zhongzhen looked at her with a cold smile. Perhaps Li Xinqiao still hasn't told Fan Hunjun about her infidel ways. If Fan Hunjun were to know, he might...

Since they had been husband and wife for so many years, Zhou Manlan instantly knew what he was thinking when she saw that sly gleam in Fan Zhongzhen's eyes.

“Are you thinking that Fan Hunjun doesn't know about my cheating or that I caused your stroke?”

Fan Zhongzhen was struck dumb right that moment.



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## Chapter 78 Furious To The Point Of Spewing Blood

Zhou Manlan grinned as she spoke, “When he bit me with his sharp teeth to get back at me for chasing him out of his home, I told him about my cheating, and even how I kicked you to the ground and caused your stroke. Everything.”

Fan Zhongzhen stared at Zhou Manlan with widened eyes, in expectation for her to continue speaking. Fan Zhongzhen wanted to know Fan Hunjun’s reaction to that.

Zhou Manlan pulled a funny face at Fan Zhongzhen. “It shows that my choice is right. I know that things will eventually make their way to him. He’ll eventually know what happened, so why not tell him myself? And in the end... heehee, I’m sure you know.”

Fan Zhongzhen instantly deflated like a popped balloon at that. He already realized what was going on.

However, Zhou Manlan simply continued. “Little Jun put all his rage and hatred into it. As he scolded me, he kept handling me roughly. However, for once, he made me a real woman.”

Fan Zhongzhen could no longer take it anymore. With a twist to the side, he hacked up a mouthful of blood, spitting it onto the ground.

“Oh dear, look at you. You’re already getting on in your years, why are you being so agitated for? I already told you that you have to watch your health. You’ve got to continue living well, even if it’s just for your precious son, hm?”

## Chapter 78 Furious To The Point Of Spewing Blood

Fan Zhongzhen clearly knew that Zhou Manlan was trying to get a rise out of him. He kept telling himself, I can't be angry! I must not be angry!

Even so, he still couldn't reign back his anger. With another coughing fit, he spat up another mouthful of blood.

Zhou Manlan shook her head, taking out a napkin to wipe the blood by his mouth, before taking the mop in the washroom to clean the blood up. She then returned to stand by the bed.

"Zhongzhen, I advise you to control your emotions better. If young Jun were to know that you died from anger due to his actions, just how guilty would he feel? He might even shift his anger to me after your death, and strangle me. If that were to happen, he would have to pay with his life. Your candle is already burning rather short. Do you have to drive your entire family to death, all because of that little bit of pride in you?"

Fan Zhongzhen kept telling himself not to be angry and not to become overexcited, but Zhou Manlan kept provoking him with her words, her tone oh so solemn and heavy. If it wasn't for his son, Fan Zhongzhen might have dropped dead right that instant.

"I've already told Jun that I'll be here every night to spend time with you, so you better behave and play along. You better not let him know that you resent me. If you don't, I shall tell him that you know about what he did to me. And then, your only option would be to roll over and die on the spot.



## Chapter 78 Furious To The Point Of Spewing Blood

Guess what he would do if that happens?”

Fan Zhongzhen immediately reminded himself. Don't get angry, don't. She's just trying to anger myself to death. I must live!

However, he didn't know that there was no truth to Zhou Manlan's words. She's was simply making a story that suited her.

It was clear as day that Zhou Manlan actually wished that everything she was saying now would happen one day.

That was when Fan Hunjun came in after Zhou Manlan left, Fan Zhongzhen looked at his son with eyes full of guilt. However, he didn't dare express his anger towards Zhou Manlan.

Right now, Fan Zhongzhen had only one thought; as long as he could stand by himself, he would certainly make Zhou Manlan go down with him so that Fan Hunjun would be able to smoothly take control of the Fan Group, and also to completely obscure the ugly relationship between Fan Hunjun and Zhou Manlan.



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## Chapter 79 Words That Are Difficult to Say

Zhou Manlan's assumption was right. Apart from realizing the danger that his son was in, and the guilt he had toward his son, Fan Zhongzhen never thought of asking his son about whether she was telling the truth.

When Fan Hunjun saw his father lying unusually quietly in his bed, he didn't know that his father had been furious enough to cough up blood earlier. He thought that Zhou Manlan had used her flowery words to trick his father again, in order to curry favor with him.

Even his grandmother, who should have loathed Zhou Manlan the most, had chosen to forgive her, and Fan Zhongzhen had been together with Zhou Manlan for years now. Even if Zhou Manlan was infidel, with what Fan Hunjun knew of her acting skills, he believed that his father would also choose to forgive her as well.

The nurse came by again. Upon seeing him, she smiled and told him that Zhou Manlan had visited earlier and that the two of them had made up. The look in her eyes was admiration for Fan Hunjun.

All of the medical workers had come to the same understanding. They all thought that Fan Zhongzhen was such a fortunate man to have such a strong and reliable son. Otherwise, who knew what kind of shenanigans Zhou Manlan might have pulled.

Fan Hunjun smiled back in embarrassment. He was already used to being looked down upon and ignored back in his hometown, so he felt a little



Chapter 79 Words That Are Difficult to Say

mortified upon seeing the look of approval the nurse had for him.

However, when Fan Zhongzhen saw this, he mistakenly thought that Fan Hunjun had actually done such things to Zhou Manlan. Apart from feeling a wave of disgust—the kind that you’d feel when you find a fly in your soup—he didn’t know what to say to his son.

After the nurse left, Fan Hunjun told Fan Zhongzhen, “I’ve already talked with Zhou Manlan. She agreed that she’ll spend time with you every night starting from today. I still have other things to do, so I can’t be by your side.”

Oh crud!

So everything she said is true?

“Uarghh—”

Fan Zhongzhen just wanted to tell Fan Hunjun that he didn’t need Zhou Manlan to accompany him, and that he would not become a burden on Fan Hunjun. He just wanted Fan Hunjun to acknowledge him as his father, and to come over and visit sometimes when he was free.

Even though the two of them had been separated for years, Fan Hunjun still understood Fan Zhongzhen’s thoughts just from the pleading look in his eyes.

“You’re trying to tell me two things, right? One, that you don’t need Zhou Manlan to spend time with



you. Two, that you hope that I'll acknowledge you as my father, and that we can live peacefully together in the future as though nothing happened?"

"Ugah!" Fan Zhongzhen nodded his head vigorously.

He wanted to say that as long as Fan Hunjun acknowledged him as his father and lived together with him, he would be satisfied. He would use his wealth to make amendments for all that happened in the past.

He wanted to tell Fan Hunjun that since he was a billionaire, his wealth was enough to help Fan Hunjun in accomplishing whatever dreams he had.

"Then, let me tell you something first," Fan Hunjun explained. "Li Xinqiao already told me about Zhou Manlan's cheating because you told her about it. I don't have any interest in pursuing more, but Zhou Manlan actually admitted to this in front of me, and in addition to that, Huang Hongde has escaped. Zhou Manlan promised me that she won't make that mistake again, and that she's willing to do her best as a wife for you."

What Fan Hunjun said was the truth, but Fan Zhongzhen believed Zhou Manlan's words even more now. With Zhou Manlan's personality, she wouldn't give in so easily if she hadn't gotten release from Fan Hunjun.

Apart from shaking his head and this and sighing, Fan Zhongzhen found it difficult to voice the



Chapter 79 Words That Are Difficult to Say

thoughts he had.



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## Chapter 80 Great Changes in the Course of Time

Fan Hunjun kept on talking. "I heard from grandma, my mom was the one who betrayed you. Now Zhou Manlan betrayed you again. The same thing keeps happening to your wives over and over again. I think besides holding grudges, you should do some self reflection. Even if the universe was against you, it wouldn't happen for no good reason."

Fan Zhongzhen had lost his speech ability. But then, he would not be able to explain it clearly even if he was able to talk now.

Fan Hunjun's mother, Wu Meizhu, hung herself after the incident back then. Even though he watched the video clip and forwarded the video clip to Wu Meizhu, Fan Zhongzhen sensed something fishy was going on, but he didn't know it was a trap set by Zhou Manlan and Huang Hongde.

However, he witnessed Zhou Manlan having an affair with his own eyes this time. On top of that, Zhou Manlan was the one who kicked him and caused him to have a stroke.

All these years, he had loved and trusted both Zhou Manlan and Huang Hongde. He never did anything that wronged them, but in the end they teamed up and sold him out instead.

Zhou Manlan's words made more sense to him now. Perhaps this was his punishment from god; there was nothing Fan Zhongzhen could do now besides feeling sorry and regret for Wu Meizhu and Fan Hunjun.

Especially when he believed that Fan Hunjun already slept with Zhou Manlan. He didn't know how to help his son to overcome the obstacle.

Fan Hunjun kept talking, "As for the second thing, whether I like it or not, you are my father for fact."

A twinkle flashed across Fan Zhongzhen's eyes as he heard that.

All the while, his biggest concern was that Fan Hunjun would never forgive him or accept him as his father. Now that he heard Fan Hunjun said that, he could finally get it off his chest.

Fan Hunjun continued his speech. "However, I have to make it clear. The sole reason I am calling you father now, was simply out of sympathy; it was just to help your body recover. After all, I still carry your blood in my body. It has no emotional attachment though, and it definitely has nothing to do with your multi-millions assets. You let me down over and over again when I needed you the most. To be honest, I already got used to the absence of a father figure and lack of family fortune in my life. If I get it now out of the blue, I'm afraid it will be too overwhelming for me."

Fan Zhongzhen was dumbstruck.

In his memory, ever since Zhou Manlan kicked Fan Hunjun out of the house, he had completely disappeared in his life. He thought about dropping by his mother-in-law's house sometimes, or visiting Fan Hunjun in the school.

But that was the prime time of his career, so Fan Zhongzhen was constantly swamped in his endless works. He always thought he could visit the child anytime, whenever he was available. Before he knew it, thirteen years had passed.

After thirteen years, the reunion of the father and the son was no longer the same. The evanescence of love was unavoidable in the course of the thirteen years.

Even though Fan Zhongzhen felt terribly guilty for it, he was lost; there was confusion in his eyes. It's my fault for not reaching out to you and not caring for you back then, but you never reached out to me as well.

Furthermore, Fan Zhongzhen assumed Fan Hunjun definitely hated his guts for his mother, Wu Meizhu's suicide, so he never reached out to him ever since.

Fan Hunjun coldly said, "When mom passed away, I had just graduated from primary school. I didn't know what happened between you two, so I didn't hold much grudge against you. Zhou Manlan kicked me out of the house, and I assumed it was because you two newly-wed need some private space for yourself. Furthermore, I'm more than happy to stay with grandma, so I never hated you and Zhou Manlan over this matter."

Fan Zhongzhen was even more confused. If Fan Hunjun never held grudges over these two matters, then why didn't he reach out to him all these years?