

# Chasing After My Beloved Wife by M. Fei Chapter 21

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There was a meeting going on in the conference room of the Richard Group. Shawn didn't have much interest in listening. He unlocked his phone screen with his slender fingers and checked on the stock market.

When he saw the set of numbers, he raised his eyebrows slightly and was quite disappointed.

"Mrs. Richard, there's a shareholders' meeting inside. You can't go in."

Noticing the commotion, he put his phone down and looked up in the direction of the door with a meaningful smile on his face.

"I'm here to attend the meeting."

At the same time when Joye's voice was heard, the secretary in the conference room had already pushed the door open. She ignored the surprised expressions of the crowd and looked straight at Shawn, who was sitting in the president's seat, and walked towards him

"Miss. Leonard, nearly half of Leonard Group's stock price have evaporated. Aren't you supposed to be managing the Leonard Group and try your best to raise the stock price? Why are you here at Richard Group to attend the general meeting instead? Are you that ambitious?"

The corners of Shawn's mouth were slightly raised, and his tone was full of mockery. However, there was a complicated expression in his eyes. Even his assistant, who had been working with him for many years, couldn't guess what he wanted to do.

Joye's fingers tightened on the chair because of his words. In the blink of an eye, she had calmly pulled out the chair and sat down with a smile.

"No matter what the stock price of Leonard Group is, as the largest shareholder of the Richard Group, I think I must attend the general meeting of the Richard Group. After all, the shares of all the people sitting here are still a little less than mine."

Hearing this, the shareholders were all surprised. Even if Shawn wanted to divorce, he didn't have to hand over so many shares to the woman as alimony.

Looking at everyone's expression, she smiled again. She turned towards her secretary then took the share transfer agreement and threw it on the table so that everyone could see it. Then she stood up from her seat.

The tailored black suit on her body made her temperament more outstanding. She held the edge of the conference table with both hands. Her delicate facial features had indescribable coercion, and her voice was much colder than before.

“The shares that I mentioned earlier are all from the Richard family, including Mr. Richard’s. This is proof of the stock ratio. In addition, I will divorce Shawn in a month, and his shares will be transferred to me. In other words, I will become the absolute shareholder of the Richard family.”

Everyone was speechless.

Her words contained a lot of information, and everyone was shocked.

After the divorce, in one month, not only will Mr. Richard have to pay her alimony, but he would also lose everything he had. No, it should be said all of the Richard family would fall into Joye’s hands.

What a costly divorce. It was almost unheard of.

Shawn didn’t even bother to look at the expressions on everyone’s faces. He stood up from his seat and walked to Joye. His sexy thin lips drew out an arc as he looked down at her face with his devilish eyes that were filled with flames of fury.

“It seems that I underestimated you, Miss. Leonard.”

“I am only following Grandpa’s arrangements. If you have any problems, please communicate them with Grandpa.”

They looked into each other’s eyes, which made her flustered. Her fingers that were gripping the edge of the table tightened. She did not want the shares of the Richard family, but she had to use them to pull Leonard Group out of trouble.

As for her and Shawn, it didn’t matter if they would offend each other or not.

“I’ll wait for you to sign the divorce agreement next month.”

Shawn shifted his gaze away from her face and stepped out of the conference room, but he deliberately bumped her shoulders on his way out.

Joye lost her footing from the impact. A sultry voice sounded by her ear. “My, my, you should learn to stand firm as the major shareholder of the Richard Group.”

“Shawn!”

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Joye's face was filled with shame and anger. She looked at the stunned crowd and said, "The meeting is over."

She had fulfilled her purpose of coming to the Richard Group.

"Miss. Leonard, I have recorded the audio according to your instructions."

After coming out of the conference room, the secretary couldn't hide her excitement. She thought that Leonard Group had suffered a devastating blow, but she didn't expect that Joye would receive most of the shares of the Richard Group out of nowhere. The stock price of Leonard Group would rise the next day for sure, and no one would dare to divest.

"Good, get the Media Department to share this news properly. The Financial Department will centralize all the available funds. You can go to several banks that previously cooperated with us and take the opportunity to sell the shares of Leonard Group."

Compared to her panic-stricken self when she was with Shawn, Joye had completely calmed down at that moment. There was no turning back. Once the news that she became the first major shareholder of the Richard Group was out, it was impossible to predict how the public would comment on her and the Leonard Group.

But this was the only way to save the Leonard Group.

"Okay."

Even if the Leonard Group would survive this crisis, she felt a trace of bitterness in her heart. She thought that she could cut off all ties with Shawn after a month, but it seemed like they were tied together. She didn't know how long this entanglement would last.

"Wait for me downstairs. I'm going to the bathroom."

"Okay."

The secretary entered the elevator with a smile. Joye turned to the bathroom, but she froze when she saw a tall figure in the bathroom entrance. Then she saw Vivian's beautiful face from the reflection in the mirror.

Vivian also saw her. She turned off the tap and turned around with a smile. Her decent makeup and a faint smile on her lips made her look like an angel from heaven. She pulled off a lavender suit which not many could do, giving it her signature charm.

"Miss. Leonard, I didn't expect that we would meet again so soon."

Joye glanced at the badge on her chest and felt a sting in her eyes.

Shawn had brought Vivian to work in the Richard Group?!

She had embarrassed him in front of the shareholders, but she didn't know that he had already prepared a way to fight back.

As expected of Shawn!

Joye quickly calmed down and smiled. "Shawn is not here. Miss. Hilary, do you really not know who I am?"

Vivian deliberately pretended that she didn't know her while in the restaurant. But how was it possible that she did not know the wife of the married man with whom she was hooking up?

"Miss. Leonard, you are so straightforward. Fine, I admit that I knew who you were from the start, but none of that matters. Whether you are the Miss Leonard of the Leonard family or Mrs. Richard, as long as Shawn loves me, that's enough for me."

"I have been keeping up with Shawn's scandals while abroad. To me, you are the same as those women. You are just a passer-by in his life, while the one who will accompany him for the rest of his life is me," said Vivian. Her elegant smile made her shameless words sound reasonable.

Joye's body tensed. Her? A passer-by?

In the past three years, she and Shawn were lawfully wedded. Even if she was a passer-by, she left an impact on him.

She gritted her teeth. "You're confident, aren't you?"

"Miss. Leonard, you're wrong. A woman's confidence comes from a man's love. It just means that I have confidence in Shawn's love for me."

Compared to the other women who showed off and insulted others, Vivian wore a smile on her face as she spoke gently while being confronted.

However, her gentle demeanour stabbed Joye's heart until she was in so much pain, but she refused to give up.

Vivian was right. A woman's confidence originated from a man's love. She had been arrogant and said that half of the entertainment industry belonged to her family, but she never had the confidence to say she would be the one to spend the rest of her life with Shawn.

Even if she had a good family background, Baird's love, and the protection of the law...

Joye couldn't deny that Shawn didn't love her. He never did.

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The smile on Vivian's face grew when she saw that Joye was silent.

"Anyway, Miss. Leonard, I am very grateful for your care for Shawn in the past three years. But now that I am back, I want to amend my wrongs as soon as possible—"

"So?"

Before she could finish her words, Joye had already interrupted. She straightened her back and said, "Miss. Hilary, you keep calling me Miss. Leonard. It seems that you have forgotten that I am still Shawn's lawfully wedded wife. Please address me as Mrs. Richard."

"Oh, and there's one more thing you should know. You're fired."

She stepped forward and tugged the badge on Vivian's chest, tilting the badge. Vivian frowned and asked, "What do you mean?"

Joye sneered, "I am the biggest shareholder of the Richard Group, meaning I am more qualified than the man you took from me to decide if you can work here. I'm sorry. I don't want you here, Miss Hilary."

Vivian didn't expect that Joye, who looked weak, would have such a strong side. Her expression changed slightly, but she quickly recovered.

"I understand. It doesn't matter. I believe that Shawn will arrange a more suitable position for me, such as—"

Vivian deliberately lengthened the ending, but she didn't finish her words. Instead, her lethality increased as she walked away. Joye stared at Vivian's back as Vivian left with a faint smile. She couldn't contain the anger in her eyes. Compared with Yelena and the other women Shawn was with before, Vivian was a stronger opponent.

As she breathed in and out, she smelled the lingering scent of perfume, and her desire to use the bathroom was gone.

When she left the Richard Group building, the secretary had driven the car to the entrance. Seeing that she didn't look well, the secretary couldn't help but ask. "Miss. Leonard, are you unwell?"

The crisis of Leonard Group was over, but why was Joye's face so pale?

"I'm fine. Just drive."

“Okay.”

As soon as the car arrived at the parking lot gate, Shawn’s Rolls-Royce sped over from the other side. The two cars almost collided with each other.

Joye was shocked as she grabbed the handle over the car’s door. Through the windshield, she saw Shawn’s aloof smile and the woman who said she would accompany him for the rest of his life in his passenger seat.

“Miss. Leonard—” The secretary didn’t expect that the adulterous couple would be so arrogant and wanted to speak up, but Joye said, “Let them go first.”

Coldly, Joye looked at the two in the other car, not bothering to fight back.

“Shawn, thank you for not forgetting me for the past three years and for giving me a job in the Richard Group. But your wife doesn’t seem to welcome me there.”

When the Rolls-Royce drove on the spacious road, Vivian said softly, “I think I’d better change my job.”

“Okay. Which company do you want to go to? I’ll talk to them for you.”

Shawn didn’t even look sideways as he drove the car. His straightforward reply caused her to press her lips together, and disappointment flashed across her smiling eyes.

In fact, when she was in the restaurant a day ago, she had already noticed how much Shawn cared about her. She thought that even if she had a conflict with Joye, he would ask her to stay. Unexpectedly, he agreed without hesitation.

“What’s wrong? If you don’t want to work, you can do whatever you want to.”

“Shawn, you hate me, don’t you?”

Vivian reached out and held his hand that was grabbing the steering wheel. Shawn had no choice but to slow down and stop the car on one side of the road. He turned his head and frowned. “You are overthinking.”

“No, I know you hate me. It’s all my fault. Three years ago, I went abroad to further my studies and pursue a life that I thought was right, but I hurt you.”

Vivian shook her head, and her eyes instantly turned red. “What I did was wrong. Shawn, can you forgive me this once? I came back this time to make up for my mistake and return to you.”

“I love you. From then till now, I have never stopped loving you.”

There was a slight tremor in her soft voice. She raised her head and inched closer to him.

When she was only a few centimeters away, he reached out and pushed her away. "Vivian, I don't hate you, nor do I forgive you. What happened between us is already in the past."

Three years ago, she left him without notice. It was true that he was hurt and thought that he still wanted to be with her. But when she came back, he couldn't feel the same way for her again.

"No, we aren't over yet. I can't live without you."

Tears flowed from her eyes as Vivian wrapped her arms around his waist, burying her face into his chest. "You know you still have feelings for me, and we have Dalton. This morning, Dalton has been asking for you to accompany him. He is still so young. Shawn, I beg you, let's start over."

Shawn stretched out his hand and wanted to push her arm away from his waist. When she mentioned Dalton, he froze, and his expression changed slightly.

A kid with a pair of big, bright eyes flashed across his mind, calling at him in a childish voice, "Dad, I miss you so much."

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Feeling Shawn's hesitation, Vivian raised her head with tears in her eyes. If anyone saw her pale face, they would feel pity for her.

"It doesn't matter whether you can accept me or not, but Dalton is innocent. His only wish is to have his father. Shawn, don't you pity our child?"

The humble pleading made Shawn swallow hard. He couldn't help but think of Dalton's pitiful look when hugging him tightly. His heart softened once again. "I promise you. I will try my best to make it up to Dalton."

"As long as Dalton is happy, I will be satisfied. Thank you."

Wiping away the tears from the corners of her eyes, Vivian let go of his waist. Seeing that she was back to her gentle self, he withdrew his frown and eased up. "I'll go back with you to accompany Dalton."

"Thank you, he will be very happy to see you."

When the car started again, Vivian turned to look out of the window with a faint smile on her face.

Shawn had never changed in the past few years. No matter how powerful the threat he faced, he would never take it seriously. But he was weak to gentleness.

She vowed to slowly make him come back to her!

The Rolls-Royce stopped at the gate of the villa. Vivian took out an exquisite toy from her bag and stuffed it into Shawn's hand. "Last time when I was shopping with Dalton, he fell in love with this. If you tell him that you bought it for him, he will be happy for sure."

Shawn lowered his head to look at the magic dinosaur egg in his hand. His gaze was even more complicated and he also felt guilty.

She withdrew her gaze and pushed the door open with a smile. Upon hearing the sound of the door opening, the tiny figure inside rushed towards her and shouted merrily, "Mom! Mom!"

"Dalton, look who's here."

Vivian smiled and put him down. She turned her body to reveal Shawn, who was following behind her. Dalton's eyes were shining with excitement and a trace of caution. "Dad, I thought you didn't want me anymore."

Shawn's entire body trembled. He couldn't find any words to describe his current mood. He could only take a step forward and squat down until he was Dalton's height. His gaze softened, and even his voice had become unprecedentedly gentle.

"How could I not want you?"

He only found out that he had a son with Vivian when he met Dalton the night before. It turned out that Vivian had gotten pregnant when they separated from each other. Dalton was already three years old.

"I'm afraid that you would disappear by dawn like the people in the books."

Dalton whispered as he tugged on Shawn's sleeve and pleaded, "I don't want to have no father."

Shawn's heart skipped a beat, and he didn't know how to face Dalton's innocent yet pitiful eyes. Vivian patted Dalton's head and tried to comfort him with a gentle voice.

"Be good, Dalton. Your dad is not someone in those books. He will not leave you."

"Really? Dad, will you always be by my side?" Dalton asked again.

Shawn was stunned for a moment before nodding his head. "Yes, I will always be by your side."

"Yay! Dad will not disappear."



Having received a positive answer, Dalton immediately jumped up happily. His joyful and satisfied expression made Shawn's heart melt. He opened his palm and revealed the toy he had been holding. "I have a gift for you. Do you like it?"

"Yes, I like everything you give me."

"Look at how happy he is. Dalton, be good. Go and play with your toy."

Vivian pinched her son's face in amusement. After he left, she looked towards Shawn with gratitude and said, "Thank you for giving him such a beautiful dream."

Shawn stood up and pressed his lips together. If it was just a dream, it would hurt more when Dalton woke up. He turned to look at the adorable Dalton, who was playing with his new toy. He couldn't bear to leave him.

Seeing the look on his face, she smiled proudly. "I'm going to prepare lunch. You can have lunch before going back to the company."

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After Joye came back from the Richard Group, she began to work non-stop. Linda followed her orders and contacted the banks they worked with before. Soon, they got a satisfactory reply from the banks, but they didn't know if they should be happy or mad about it.

"These banks are fickle than women."

A few days ago, Joye had gone to all of these banks. But the banks had brushed her off, saying that they had no quota left to buy her shares. Now that they knew that Joye was the absolute shareholder of the Richard Group, they immediately supported her unconditionally. They were simply acting according to circumstances.

"This is how banks work. Profits are desirable, losses are avoided."

Joye handed over the loan agreement that she had signed with a smile. She used to believe that some matters should be condemned, but now, she suddenly realized that those matters were reasonable. Just like how she used to never accept help from others, but wasn't she using Baird's guilt for her own selfish reasons?

"By the way, is the news typesetting done?"

"Yes. Everything is prepared as you asked, it will be released tomorrow morning."

"Very well. Inform everyone that we will have to work overtime a little today to prepare for tomorrow."

The next day was the day she would see the rise of the price of the Leonard Group.

Since all the employees were working overtime, she couldn't be an exception. It was not until 10 p.m. that Joye stretched her stiff body to relax.

She looked at the photo frame on the table with tired eyes. In the photo, she and her sister had their arms wrapped around their parents, smiling happily.

Her lips were about to curl into a smile, but sharp pain soon consumed her. She would never get back those happy days with her family.

She brushed the edges of the photo frame, and her eyes were full of longing. "Mom, Dad, I miss you so much. How are you doing over there?"

"You left all the burden of Leonard Group to me. Although it's heavy, I will carry it with me. Dad, you will support my decision, right?"

When her dad was alive, he had told her many times that Shawn would bring her happiness and that she and Shawn were just facing a temporary obstacle in attaining happiness. As long as they persisted, everything would be fine.

But she couldn't hold on anymore after three years.

The lights in the building went out one after another, and even the air became much quieter. She narrowed her eyes and tears blurred her vision. Like a lonely and helpless child, she lay on the table and fell asleep in a daze.

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Early the next morning, a knock on the door woke her up from her sleep. She looked up awkwardly, wiped away the wet spots on the table, and shouted, "Come in."

"Yvon, why are you here?"

She thought that Linda came, but it was Yvon who pushed the door open

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Are you surprised that it is me?"

Yvon walked over to Joye's desk with a smile. His gaze landed on her bloodshot eyes, and his heart ached for her. "I happened to pass by your apartment this morning and wanted you to have a taste of the breakfast Sherry made. I didn't expect you to work overtime in the company and didn't go back all night."

“Well, I have to prepare for the comeback of the Leonard Group.”

Yvon didn't attend the meeting of the Richard Group because of his identity, but she believed that he and the Richard family had already received the news.

“I understand. I just feel that it's too hard and too tiring for you to do this.”

The smile on Joye's lips froze as she subconsciously avoided his gentle and concerned eyes.

Seeing that she was avoiding that topic, Yvon coughed and placed the thermos on the table. “Sherry asked me to bring this over for you to drink to replenish your strength, so you will be prepared for your comeback.”

As he spoke, he opened the lid and poured her a bowl of soup. Joye got up and took the hot soup from him, but she exposed the saliva marks on her sleeves. She smiled awkwardly, “Let me brush my teeth and change my clothes first.”

Looking at her quickly walking into the bathroom, Yvon couldn't help but smile. She was surprisingly adorable.

After washing up, Joye changed into the spare clothes she left at the company and came out of the bathroom. Yvon was sitting on the chair in front of the desk, looking at an outdated magazine.

He looked like an elderly man enjoying his morning papers. The thought made her laugh. Perhaps he was just concerned for her as her senior.

She stopped thinking about what had happened just now. She looked at the time and quickly opened her notebook. The news had been uploaded, but it only took more than ten minutes to gain much attention. She scrolled through the comments that were increasing constantly. People were making her sound like a scheming divorced woman.

Not only did she make her husband lose everything, but she also devoured a large sum of assets from her in-laws.

Some netizens even suggested to her to get married and divorce over and over again. It would take her no time to become the richest woman in the world.

“If you don't drink the soup, it will turn cold.”

Yvon raised his head from the magazine, reminding her as he pushed the soup forward.

“Thank you.”

She picked up the bowl and closed the news website with her other hand. Then, she opened the stock market software. There were still a few minutes before the

bidding. Although she knew that she would win, she could not rest assured until she saw the real result.

As she was distracted, the bowl of soup in her hand tilted and poured onto her hand.

“Did you get burned?”

Before she could do anything, Yvon had already snatched away the bowl from her hand. He strode past the table and pulled her into the washroom.

He turned on the tap and adjusted it to be cold before putting her burned fingers under the water. She felt the pain lessen and breathed a sigh of relief. Fortunately, the soup had been cooled for a while, or she would have gotten a worse burn.

She wanted to pull back her hand, but he held onto it tightly. She blushed as she said, “It doesn’t hurt anymore.”

“It’s hard to recover from burns. Be more careful, okay?”

Awkwardly, Yvon withdrew his hand, but his gaze was fixed on her eyes. The first time he saw her was by the river. Although she was on the verge of breaking down, her face was still a little fleshy. However, her cheeks were thinning, and he knew she was barely hanging on, merely making it through on faith.

Joye was a little flustered. Yvon’s face was about seventy percent similar to Shawn’s. She didn’t expect to think of Shawn at this time, so she couldn’t help but feel a little annoyed. Coincidentally, there was a knock on the door.

“Miss. Leonard, we’re about to—”

Before she could respond, Linda strode in, clad in high heels, excitedly. However, when Linda saw Yvon in the bathroom, she was so shocked that she couldn’t react.

The bathroom of the president’s office was such a private place. Why was he there?

Joye was worried that it would lead to unnecessary misunderstandings, so she quickly walked out and explained, “My hand got burned just now. So, he was helping me wash it with cold water.”

“Oh, are you okay?”

Linda’s eyes swept over the steaming soup and Yvon in the bathroom. She immediately imagined what had happened. It seemed that she had come in at a bad time.

"It seems that you have some business to talk about, so I won't disturb you. Joye, I want to take you to a place to relax this weekend. I have something to tell you. Can you make time for it?"

Joye was silent.

Joye looked up at the man coming out of the bathroom. She wanted to refuse, but Linda took the initiative to agree on her behalf.

"Miss. Leonard is free this weekend."

"Okay. I'll call you and pick you up at your apartment."

Then, he walked out of the office. Joye frowned and looked at Linda. "Who asked you to decide for me?"

"Were you going to refuse? Miss. Leonard, I think that Yvon is much better than Shawn. At least he is a self-disciplined man."

As an employee, there were some things that she shouldn't say. However, when she thought of how arrogant Shawn and that woman were in the parking lot, she couldn't help feeling sorry for Joye.

"Nonsense. He and I are just friends."

Joye panicked and didn't dare to think about what Yvon was going to say to her on the weekend. She had paid a painful price when she was with Shawn. When Leonard Group got back on track and didn't need to rely on the Richard family anymore, she would stay far away from the Richard family.

"But I don't think that's what Yvon thinks. In his eyes, you are something more than a friend."

Linda tilted her head. Joye didn't want to linger on this topic anymore, so she turned around and sat back at her desk.

"The bidding is starting."

She was just in time for the opening of the bidding. Looking at the line that was soaring over time, she couldn't help but smile. This round of turning the tables finally ushered in a good start.

In the Richard Group.

Shawn looked at the line on the screen, and his thin lips curved in satisfaction. Meanwhile, his assistant couldn't understand why Shawn was smiling.

"Boss, what are you thinking?"

That day, Shawn asked the media to report his love affair with Vivian. If it was to embarrass Joye, why did he tacitly confirm her identity as the largest shareholder of the Richard Group the next day at the general meeting? It didn't make sense.

The assistant made bold speculation. "Boss, do you want to... help Leonard Group?"

Did Shawn deliberately create an opportunity for Joye to announce that she was the biggest shareholder of the Richard Group so that he could help her overcome the crisis of the Leonard Group?

Shawn didn't answer. His slender fingers casually tapped on the table. He didn't want to help Leonard Group but wanted to make up for what had happened.

He did not cause the aviation accident that took Joye's family, but he was somewhat responsible for it too.