

"After you left, I worked hard to live how you hoped I would. I did it because it felt like you were still with me..."

He Jichen's fingers by his sides gently curled and tightly clenched into his palms.

He didn't say a thing as the woman glued to his back cried violently and quickly drenched a big patch of his shirt.

She loosened her grip around his waist then placed her face even closer to his body. "I really do like you. I didn't develop feelings for you just because of all the things you did for me."

"I realized I liked you when I found out that everything you did for me that night, two years ago at the television awards, was just to help me attack Qian Ge."

"I didn't dare tell you because I married Yuguang Ge and I didn't want to be a thorn between you two brothers..."

"But He Jichen, did you know? I liked you before I even knew it. Maybe I knew the moment we watched fireworks together two Chinese New Years ago; or maybe I knew even before that, when you told me that without YC, I'd still have you; or maybe even earlier than that, when you fired director Lin for me, or when we took that evening stroll by West Lake during the shoot for 'Three Thousand Lunatics'."

"I didn't know you were the one who arranged the sky full of lanterns that evening, not Yuguang Ge. If I knew you were pretending to be Yuguang Ge and that the one typing on the phone all along was you, I never would've rejected you!"

"You told me to believe you, and I do. You've really been with me throughout my comeback and you've also helped me get back everything bit by bit. The annual television awards will be held again in a few days' time. I'm nominated for the best actress and I might get the best leading female award for last year's popular release of 'Jiuchong Palace.' For the past year, my career has gone smoothly and I've been living a glamorous life every day. It's just as you said before about how I would reach the peak of success, but I'm not happy in the slightest. I feel like the whole world is shrouded in darkness because you, who brought me to my brightest heights step by step, weren't by my side. For the past year, even when I was well off, I would think back to my days with you. Although I wasn't famous, and although Qian Ge also bullied me back then, that was when I was happiest..."

"Everyone says that 'Jiuchong Palace' is a drama I should be most proud of, but they don't know about the pain I ignored for the past year or so."

As Ji Yi said this, the sound of a broken sob escaped her mouth. "He Jichen, do you know why I tricked you into coming here today?"

"I wanted to propose to you..."

Propose... He Jichen's body swayed slightly.

Ji Yi didn't say anything more as silence encircled the two of them once again.

After who knew how much time passed, Ji Yi said with a quiet murmur, "He Jichen, do you really not plan on being with me anymore?"

Ji Yi didn't wait for He Jichen to speak and continued to go on.

"But I know you still love me. At Lilac, you were stunned to see me. At your apartment, when I grabbed on and wouldn't let you go see Xia Yuan out, you caved in. Even just now, when you saw me fighting someone, your first reaction was to call Chen Bai and order him to do a bunch of things just like before..."

"So, He Jichen... you still want to be with me, right?"

Chapter 802: I Don't Want Someone Better, I Just Want You (22)

"So, He Jichen... you still want to be with me right?"

He Jichen had been staring out at the tall windows since Ji Yi started speaking, but when she finished, his gaze became a little dazed.

She said she liked him and she knew she liked him a long time ago.

She said she missed the days they spent together.

She also said she tricked him here today to propose to him.

For his entire life, this was something from his wildest dreams.

He wanted to tell her he wanted to be with her.

But the words boiled a million times over in his chest. Every time the words approached his lips, they were swallowed right back down.

He couldn't say them out loud because he knew far too well what it really meant to nod and agree to her.

It meant that people like those three women from the red plum garden tonight would be pointing fingers at her.

By then, people would no longer be giving Ji Yi nice nicknames like the "queen of tv ratings," or the "nation's first love." Instead, they'd be calling her the "murderer's wife" and saying that her husband killed someone.

She was the girl he truly loved and watched over from the time he was young.

She was the one who made him experience how it felt to like someone and know how to treat them properly. From her, he learned how to fall deeply in love with someone.

He expended an enormous amount of blood, sweat, and tears to successfully create the wonderful life she now lived today.

How could he bear to personally sully her wonderful life?

He Jichen didn't realize it until now, but the most painful thing wasn't when the person you loved didn't love you back. It was when you clearly loved each other, but you couldn't persuade yourself to be with her.

He really couldn't do it.

Even if what she just said really touched his heart; even if he could clearly see his heart being shaken up by her...

He still couldn't do it.

He couldn't allow her to unnecessarily bear the burden of the rumors and hateful words for him, He Jichen.

Deep in thought, He Jichen felt the grip on his back loosening up. He then lowered his head to see Ji Yi's hands had let go of his waist.

He heard a rustling noise from behind him as Ji Yi's hands quickly reached out in front of him.

Her fingers were pinching a diamond ring. The light shone down on the diamond ring which radiated bright rays of light.

"He Jichen, it took me a long time to pick out this ring. Isn't it beautiful?"

"Look on the inside. I even asked someone to engrave it. It's the word 'Ji'."

As Ji Yi spoke, He Jichen really did check the 'Ji' on the inside of the ring.

It felt like a lump was stuck in He Jichen's throat. It felt so bad that he wanted to swallow, but no matter how hard he tried, he couldn't even do such a simple thing.

Sitting behind He Jichen, Ji Yi got up, walked around, and stood in front of him.

With her shoes off, she was so much shorter than him that she had to lift her head when she looked at him.

The crystal lights in the living room shone on top of her head, allowing the light to fall into her eyes, making them glisten.

There was a degree of sincerity in her eyes as she stared at him, and the corners of her lips pursed slightly. "He Jichen, you..." she said.

He Jichen guessed what Ji Yi was going to say as he didn't wait for her to finish speaking. As though by reflex, he interrupted her. "Xiao Yi, you deserve someone better."

Ji Yi almost blurted out: Will you marry me?, but after two seconds of silence, she quietly replied, "But I don't want someone better."

"I don't want someone better. I just want you."

Chapter 803: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (1)

Maybe the light in her eyes seemed resolute; they were so piercing that He Jichen instinctively had to turn his head away to avoid her gaze.

"I don't want someone better, I just want you"... what a maddening thing to say...

He Jichen felt his ruthless heart starting to sway from when he rejected her earlier.

"He Jichen, if I'm ever going to marry in my lifetime, I'm definitely going to marry you!"

"Ji Yi," said He Jichen suddenly as he interrupted her again.

It seemed like Ji Yi hadn't heard He Jichen and she continued to say, "It doesn't matter if you plan to be with me or not. Besides, I decided that you're mine for life!"

"Ji Yi!" cried He Zhichen again.

That was when Ji Yi stopped speaking.

He Jichen stared at the nearby wall for a while then he turned his head and looked over at Ji Yi.

His pitch-black eyes barely carried any emotion. He stared at her for just two seconds then cried her name again with a flat voice.

Ji Yi's eyes stared at He Jichen without blinking or uttering a word.

The room fell quiet for a moment before He Jichen's lips moved again. Before he could speak, a piercing pain rose from the bottom of his heart. "Find some time. Let's go to the civil office and let's get a divorce."

In actuality, he should've gotten a divorce long before he left Beijing. However, he just couldn't bear to do it and wanted to leave himself a single memory to hold dear.

Even though he had to painfully break off their final connection, it would really be worth it.

Considering what Ji Yi said today, he was sure that the story of his love for her had come to a perfect end.

"I don't want to!" Ji Yi shook her head without a second thought.

He Jichen ignored her and continued on: "Wait till I contact someone then I'll call you to come right over and sign the papers. Then it'll be sorted."

"I told you I don't want to! Quit trying to get a divorce. I'm telling you that I'll never divorce you!"

"If you don't want to come over, don't worry. I can do it alone. I'll tell you once it's done." After he said this, He Jichen walked right around Ji Yi without a moment's hesitation and headed for the front floor.

"He Jichen, did you hear what I said? I said I don't want to get a divorce..." as Ji Yi said this, she chased after He Jichen.

He Jichen's footsteps didn't slow down in the slightest and sped up instead. In a short while, he put quite some distance between himself and Ji Yi.

“You want to divorce me? He Jichen, quit dreaming! Don’t even think about it!” Ji Yi’s walk turned into a run.

Just after she said this, the door slammed with a loud *bang!* The only person left was Ji Yi.

When Ji Yi reached the front door, she opened the door and ran down the hallway, but the silhouette of He Jichen had already disappeared.

Ji Yi knew that this time, she wouldn’t be able to catch up to He Jichen. She was so angry that she kicked the hallway wall, but since she wasn’t wearing any shoes, pain shot up from the soles of her feet.

She let out a cold breath and limped back to the room as she furiously slammed the door shut. At the thought of He Jichen’s words before he left, she grabbed the cushion on the sofa and fiercely tossed it to the floor.

—

That night, He Jichen seriously pissed off Ji Yi.

After He Jichen left, she grabbed her phone and called him several times. He didn’t pick up, so she figured she might as well start to send him angry text messages.

He never replied, and the longer he ignored her, the angrier she got. It wasn’t until she fussed about this till three in the morning that it finally forced her to fall asleep.

Ji Yi thought she wouldn’t hear about He Jichen for a long time. She never imagined that she’d get a call about He Jichen bright and early the next morning.

Chapter 804: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (2)

Ji Yi slept late, so when she was woken up by her phone, she was incredibly groggy. She was completely dazed for a moment before she realized her phone was ringing at all. Then she shut her eyes and dug around by her pillow for her phone for a long time with her muddled head.

Since she was seriously sleepy, her eyelids felt like they were glued together. Ji Yi tried really hard to force them open.

She saw that the caller on the screen was Ning Shuang.

Ji Yi took the call and mumbled “hey” then shut her eyes tightly again.

“Miss Ji, this is Ning Shuang...”

She was truly sleepy, so Ji Yi groggily replied “mhm” but nothing more.

“Yesterday, didn’t you guys successfully get He Jichen to come out? Don’t tell me you and him didn’t talk things through?”

She called just to say this... thought Ji Yi groggily without replying to Ning Shuang.

“Didn’t you say you wanted to propose to him? Don’t tell me you didn’t do it?”

Ji Yi was still half-awake and she started to loosen her fingers up around her phone. "I proposed," she said while daydreaming as she replied to Ning Shuang.

"You proposed. So why does he still want to leave?"

Ji Yi was so sleepy that she almost fell asleep again. Her mind was incredibly sluggish, so although she heard what Ning Shuang said, she hadn't processed what she meant.

"And he's leaving in a real hurry. He's leaving three days from now!"

When Ning Shuang finished speaking, Ji Yi's mind started to register what she said earlier.

Why does he still want to leave? Why does he still want to leave? Leave?

Ji Yi's brows furrowed slightly as she hadn't completely come back to her senses. The next thing Ning Shuang said bore into her ears.

What's more, he's leaving in a hurry. He's leaving in three days from now...

Three days from now... Today, tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, and three days from now... which means he only has three days left in Beijing?

With those thoughts running through Ji Yi's mind, she felt like she suffered the biggest shock. She slumped down in bed, completely awake. "What did you say? He Jichen's going to leave? Where's he going?"

"Last night, he got back really late, really drunk. I only found out because the lady at the front desk called me. I went downstairs and carried him up to his room with the hotel attendant. He rambled on drunkenly for a whole night. Something about being sorry, something like: 'I want to be with you. More than anyone else, I want you to be with someone better...'"

It felt like something was prodding Ji Yi's heart. She felt hurt and bitter as she couldn't help but tightly clutch her phone.

Ning Shuang thought he was just spewing drunken words, but Ji Yi knew he was replying to what she told him last night in the executive room at the Golden Lounge.

"...I stayed up late again last night, taking care of my dad at the hospital. I was seriously deprived of sleep, so after I took care of He Jichen, I wanted to wait for him to drink some hangover soup then head back to the room after he sobered up. In the end, I accidentally dozed off on the sofa. When I woke up, before I could open my eyes, I heard him on the phone... he said he was going to book a flight in two days' time. He didn't say where he was going over the phone... but he said he didn't need a return ticket."

"Miss Ji, do you know how hard I worked to trick him into coming back from France? I did it because I wanted him to be with you, but if he goes just like that, then I'm afraid you won't ever be able to find him again!"

Chapter 805: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (3)

“Miss Ji, I really don’t have any other ideas, so I called you to think of a plan.”

Ning Shuang probably noticed Ji Yi hadn’t said anything for a while and thought she was just hesitating. She paused for a few seconds with the phone in her hand and spoke again.

“He Jichen really likes you. Back in the French town, he came to the bar I worked at every day. At first, I thought he came often because he was a regular, but later, I found out that wasn’t it. It was because our bar had a big screen with your commercial on it...”

“I only noticed He Jichen because of the bartender. He was sitting in a dim area. At the time, I didn’t even know how he looked. I was purely curious, so when I went to the restroom, I deliberately walked around him. That was the first time I heard your name. He was a drunken mess splayed out on the table as he called and called for Xiao Yi...”

As Ji Yi heard this, her lips pursed but she stayed silent.

“...In the same night, when I finished work and was heading back home, I saw him crouched by the side of the road. I called him a few times but he ignored me. Later, he finally looked up and I thought he was looking at me, but I found out he was looking at the ad on the screen behind me.”

“Later on, he fainted... so I took him to the hospital. After I woke up, he was standing by the bed, smoking while staring at his phone. His fingers tapped the screen a few times but then he withdrew his fingers. After I got closer, I saw he wanted to call your number, so I asked him why he didn’t just do it and why he didn’t just follow his heart. In response, he told me he was already following his heart. A lot later, I realized that he was using that method to think about you. He really never wanted to call you because you would call someone if you liked them, but if you really loved someone, you would be able to not call them.”

Ji Yi lowered her eyes to hide the pain in her eyes.

The next second, she tapped to put Ning Shuang on speakerphone then opened her schedule.

“He practically spent half the year in a drunken trance. He drank until his stomach bled and drank until the doctor gave a serious warning for him to stop drinking or he’d die!”

“For the past year or so, him and I never really spent a lot of time together. However, I rarely ever saw him sleeping until daylight...”

The annual television awards would be held two days from now at eight in the evening.

Ji Yi stared motionlessly at the itinerary.

“Miss Ji, I told you everything so you realize He Jichen really likes you. He just doesn’t want to drag you down, but I think it doesn’t matter. People who mutually love each other should be together, so who cares what the world says...”

Ning Shuang spoke on the phone for a long time, but seeing as Ji Yi hadn’t said anything from the very beginning, she wasn’t sure if Ji Yi was going to try to stop He Jichen. “Miss Ji? Miss Ji?” said Ning Shuang again.

She cried “Miss Ji” several times but got no response. Just as she was about to continue calling her, Ji Yi stared at the phone screen that read “television awards” and suddenly said, “If things went back to how they were before like nothing happened, then he’ll come back to my side?”

Chapter 806: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (4)

“If things go back to how they were before like nothing happened, then he’ll come back to my side?”

Ji Yi’s tone of voice was so soft that she sounded like she was talking to herself. Some words were spoken so quietly that Ning Shuang couldn’t catch what she said. “What?” she asked in confusion.

Over the phone, Ji Yi stopped talking.

Ning Shuang waited for a while then spoke out again. “Miss Ji, what did you say?”

“Nothing,” came Ji Yi’s voice from the phone. Her voice sounded really quiet as though she hadn’t said anything at all. “I got it. Thank you for calling to tell me. If there’s nothing else, I’m going to hang up first.”

“Miss Ji...” Ning Shuang noticed Ji Yi’s voice sounded a little flat and distant, so she thought Ji Yi wasn’t going to stop He Jichen. When she heard Ji Yi was going to hang up, she anxiously tried to stop her.

Ji Yi didn’t hesitate in the slightest like she hadn’t just heard the anxiousness in Ning Shuang’s voice. Then she continued on her own train of thought, said “goodbye” and hung up the phone.

Without Ning Shuang’s voice in her ear, the entire world was a lot quieter.

It seemed like Ji Yi slipped into some kind of conflicted thought as she stared at the corner of the bed in a daze for a while before she gazed at her phone screen.

She unlocked her phone to see the schedule which she hadn’t closed.

She stared at the “television awards” reminder for a long time without so much as blinking. All of a sudden, a determined glow appeared in her eyes like she had just made a life-changing decision.

—

He Jichen called Ji Yi the day after Ning Shuang called.

When he called, Ji Yi was in a photo shoot and her phone wasn’t on her, so she couldn’t take the call.

She didn’t see his incoming call until she finished and finally had time for a breather to get a drink. Tang Huahua handed Ji Yi her bag, so she pulled out her phone and saw his missed call on the screen.

Ji Yi vaguely knew what He Jichen called to say.

She wasn’t in a hurry to pick up the call, so after she casually drank a bottle of water, she then gave Zhuang Yi and Tang Huahua beside her, who were chatting and giggling away, the excuse of going to the restroom to walk away on her own.

Ji Yi walked out of the set and found a remote place to call He Jichen back.

He Jichen was probably busy as the phone rang a few times before it was picked up. "Hello," cried He Jichen in a flat voice.

Ji Yi 's fingers clutched the phone tightly as she tried her best to sound natural like she was having a casual conversation. "You called me?" she replied.

"Yeah." With He Jichen's reply, Ji Yi could hear an exhale through the phone. She knew it was He Jichen smoking.

Ji Yi waited until after the sound of the exhale had disappeared before she asked, "Is there something wrong?"

It was quiet over the phone for a while before He Jichen said, "I contacted people at the civil office."

It was just as I thought – he called me to tell me about the divorce procedures.

Ji Yi didn't say anything.

Over the phone, He Jichen said again, "Check to see if you've got some free time and if you really can't come, I'll give you the information and send someone over for you to sign..."

"Definitely not today. Tomorrow's the television awards, so I'll be in C city." Ji Yi didn't wait for He Jichen to finish when she interrupted him. "Can you do the morning of the day after tomorrow?"

The call was silent for a while then He Jichen's indifferent-sounding voice was heard: "Yeah."

Chapter 807: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (7)

With practically no break in between, He Jichen's voice came out from the phone again: "There's nothing else. If you have nothing else to say then..."

"He Jichen..." Ji Yi interrupted He Jichen for the second time.

He Jichen didn't keep speaking but he didn't respond to her either.

"...Do we really have to do this?" exclaimed Ji Yi.

He Jichen's silence informed Ji Yi of his answer.

"If you really insist on doing this, then can you do me a favor?"

He Jichen remained quiet on the phone for three seconds before finally saying, "Go on..."

"In the past, you told me you would walk with me one step at a time to the highest peak in my life. The television awards is tomorrow and I'm nominated. If you're not busy, then can you come to the live show? Take it as a perfect ending to us being together. What we agreed on in the past can also be..." Ji Yi seemed so sad that she couldn't finish speaking. Then, after a pause, she continued by saying, "...our farewell."

After Ji Yi said her piece, the call fell silent.

Ji Yi didn't know how long she was quiet for. Maybe it was just for a minute or maybe it was just thirty seconds, but Ji Yi felt like it was as long as an eternity.

Just when she thought He Jichen wouldn't answer and thought she needed to think of something else to say to persuade him, his voice came from the phone: "Okay."

It seemed like a giant rock crushing Ji Yi's heart had been removed. She secretly let out a sigh of relief. "Do you have an invitation? Do you need Zhuang Yi to send one over to you?"

"There's no need to go through that trouble. I can do it myself," replied He Jichen more quickly this time.

"So... see you tomorrow night."

"See you tomorrow night."

Ji Yi was stunned for two seconds when she heard He Jichen's reply as she lowered the phone from her ear and pressed the button to hang up.

Ji Yi stood there for a while in a remote corner without a single person around. Then she headed back to the studio, clutching her phone.

Tang Huahua glanced at Ji Yi and immediately rushed over to her. "Xiao Yi, Chen Bai and I were just chatting. Do you know who he saw today?"

Tang Huahua was clearly asking Ji Yi a question, but she didn't wait for Ji Yi to guess. She couldn't help blurting out: "Cheng Weiwan!"

—

Chen Bai really did bump into Cheng Weiwan.

It happened three hours ago at Muqing Publishing.

Muqing Publishing's boss was Lin Muqing. There were countless best-selling books published under her management.

Chen Bai was only in touch with Lin Muqing because this year, Muqing Publishing released an explosive collection of books. Huan Ying Entertainment wanted to buy them and adapt them into dramas.

One story was called "Lost" The author's name was just a single letter: C.

At first, Chen Bai wanted to contact the author named C directly, but this author gave all their copyrights to the publishing house, so Chen Bai had to speak to Lin Muqing.

"Lost" was so popular that countless television companies were fighting for the book's copyrights. Chen Bai tried to book a meeting with Lin Muqing for a week before he finally set up a meeting time.

Chen Bai and Lin Muqing had a meeting at two in the afternoon at the publishing house.

At noon, Lin Muqing and Cheng Weiwan had lunch together. With them was Cheng Weiwan's one-and-a-half-year-old son, Cheng Han.

In this world, aside from Lin Muqing and Cheng Weiwan, no one else knew that the author of “Lost,” “C,” was Cheng Weiwan.

In the first year Cheng Weiwan started to write her book, she met Lin Muqing, who was responsible for publishing all her books.

Chapter 808: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (8)

At first, the two women really did become closer because of work, but ten years passed and their friendship grew stronger.

So, aside from knowing Cheng Weiwan was the author of “Lost,” Lin Muqing also knew Cheng Weiwan’s biggest secrets.

For example, that Cheng Weiwan didn’t actually abort her baby.

And for example, that Cheng Han was Han Zhifan’s son.

And for example, that even though Cheng Han lived with Cheng Weiwan and called Cheng Weiwan “Mummy,” he was legally Lin Muqing’s son.

Over lunch, Lin Muqing hesitated again but eventually said what was on her mind for the last two days. “Wanwan.”

Cheng Weiwan was feeding Cheng Han when Lin Muqing spoke. She didn’t look back at her but softly replied “hm?” then spoke to Cheng Han sitting in the baby chair. “Hanhan, no matter how naughty you are, if you aren’t willing to eat, mummy’s gonna get mad.”

When Cheng Weiwan fed the rice into Cheng Han’s mouth, Lin Muqing said, “I saw him.”

There was a hidden meaning in Lin Muqing’s words. Cheng Weiwan didn’t react immediately, but she continued to feed Cheng Han rice as she casually asked, “Who?”

“Who else could it be? Him...”

When Cheng Weiwan heard this, she slowed down stirring the rice significantly. She didn’t have much emotion on her face, but her eyes clearly became dimmer. However, this glimpse of emotion quickly disappeared without a trace. She watched Cheng Han finishing the rice in his mouth then she scooped up another spoonful of rice and brought it over to Cheng Han’s mouth. “So you saw him. Why’d you have to tell me?”

“Hanhan saw him too.”

Lin Muqing’s sentence made Cheng Weiwan’s hand tremble. The entire spoonful of rice spilled into the bowl.

“It happened two days ago when you were unwell and asked me to help take care of Cheng Han so you could go to the hospital for a drip. However, at the last minute, something important came up and I couldn’t take Hanhan to the hospital because I was scared of him catching something. All I could do was take Hanhan with me on business. On the way, Hanhan was screaming to go to the bathroom, so I took

him. After he finished peeing, I wanted to go too, so I told him to wait for me and to not run off. In the end, he didn't listen to me and ran out, almost scaring me to death..." After saying so much, Lin Muqing stopped for a moment then secretly glanced at Cheng Weiwan. Seeing that the expression on her face was considerably okay, she got to the main point. "...after I ran out of the bathroom, I saw him."

The more Lin Muqing spoke, the quieter she was. "He held Hanhan. I don't know what Hanhan said, but Hanhan even called him daddy. I didn't dare stay for long, so I took Hanhan and rushed out of there."

"Wanwan, that day really was an accident. I never imagined it would be such a coincidence. For the past two days, I've been thinking about whether or not I should tell you, but I was also scared you'd overthink things. However, it all happened two days ago and seeing that he hasn't made a move, I don't think Hanhan actually said anything to him that day. He must've not thought too much about it, so I'm telling you about it today."

"Oh," said Cheng Weiwan after she heard what Lin Muqing said. Then she picked up the spoon, scooped another spoonful of rice and brought it to Cheng Han's mouth.

After Cheng Weiwan's "oh," Lin Muqing didn't react at all. Realizing that Cheng Weiwan was deliberately avoiding everything to do with Han Zhifan, she didn't say anything else.

Chapter 809: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (9)

When they finished eating, Lin Muqing glanced at the time and asked, "Do you still need to head back to the publishing house?"

"Yeah. Hanhan's milk bottle, diapers, and the cold medicine he needs to take are in your office."

"Then let's head back now. I have an appointment with Chen Bai at two. He used to work with you at YC, and the two of you were close, so he'll definitely know the truth if he sees you and Hanhan together. Let's head back early and get your things then leave with Hanhan."

Cheng Weiwan listened to all this and replied to Lin Muqing with "Alright" without any hesitation. She raised her hand and called the waiter for the bill.

The restaurant Cheng Weiwan and Lin Muqing were at was quite close to the publishing house – it was just a five-minute walk away.

They came out of the restaurant at ten past one, so it was sixteen past one when they got back to the publishing house.

The appointment with Chen Bai was for two, so no matter what time Lin Muqing and Cheng Weiwan got back, Chen Bai never thought he would arrive that early.

But some people were destined to meet and some stories were destined to never end. Nobody could escape or avoid the plan the Lord had prepared.

That day, Chen Bai had a business lunch in the afternoon near Muqing Publishing. However, after he rushed over, the person he was supposed to meet canceled at the last minute.

There were still two hours until 2 PM. It was too much of a hassle to head back to the office, so Chen Bai figured he would randomly find somewhere to eat on his own. Then he headed over to Muqing Publishing early.

He came out of the elevator and was just about to give his name to the lady at the front desk. In the end, he only managed to say “Chen” when all of a sudden, a soft voice said from behind, “Mummy! Hurry up, mummy!”

Chen Bai casually glanced over to see an adorable little-steamed bun running out of the publishing house.

There were two women behind the little-steamed bun; one was a woman he’d seen photos of who he recognized as the owner of Muqing Publishing. The other person was someone he was very familiar with. He was so familiar with her that he thought he was seeing things. He couldn’t believe he and her were meeting again there.

Chen Bai saw Cheng Weiwan the same moment that Cheng Weiwan saw him.

The two of them were stunned at the same time.

Lin Muqing didn’t notice anything amiss at first. When she sensed something was off with the atmosphere, she instinctively wanted to carry Cheng Han into her own office. Cheng Han saw Cheng Weiwan standing at the door without going inside. He shuffled back to Cheng Weiwan, reached out his chubby little hand and grabbed Cheng Weiwan’s pants and cried, “Mummy.”

The two of them were stunned at the same time.

That one word made Chen Bai suddenly widen his eyes.

His gaze turned back and forth between Cheng Weiwan and the little-steamed bun. After some time, he said in complete astonishment, “Screenwriter Cheng, is this your child?”

Cheng Weiwan suddenly came back to her senses. Without saying a word, she bent over, picked up Cheng Han, and ran out of the publishing house.

Chen Bai instinctively bolted, wanting to run after her when Lin Muqing reached out and stopped Chen Bai.

...

After leaving Muqing Publishing that day, Chen Bai was torn.

It wasn’t until twelve at night that he ended up calling Han Zhifan.

—

The next day, Ji Yi got on a plane in the afternoon with Zhuang Yi and Tang Huahua bound for C city.

Since the weather was bad, the plane was delayed and there was practically no time to rest when they reached the hotel. They had Ji Yi’s makeup done and they started to get ready for the television awards.

Chapter 810: A Confession For The Whole World To Hear (10)

The Television Awards was going to be held at C city's gymnasium which was quite a distance away from the hotel Ji Yi was staying at.

So after Ji Yi got her makeup done, by the time she changed into her gown and finished getting styled, it was almost time to leave.

The company booked the hotel. By coincidence, it was the same hotel He Jichen stayed at last year when he attended the television awards in C city.

As she stepped out of the room, Zhuang Yi suggested Ji Yi take a full body shot and post it on Weibo for publicity before tonight's awards.

Ji Yi listened to Zhuang Yi's suggestion without any objections. She raised the hem of her dress and took a few steps forward. After Zhuang Yi cried "good," she came to a stop.

She fixed her dress a little, lifted her head, and broke into a perfect smile towards Zhuang Yi's raised phone.

After she finished taking the photos, Ji Yi was just about to walk over to Zhuang Yi and check the photo when her gaze caught the room number: "3618."

Ji Yi instinctively stopped walking and looked over at the tightly-shut door of room 3618.

This was the room He Jichen stayed in last year.

The Television Awards last year happened to land on her birthday. The birthday present he gave her wasn't just the devastating blow to Qian Ge but also a tree of lipstick in this very room.

It was in this room when she realized she had fallen deeply and silently in love with him a long time ago.

Zhuang Yi saw that Ji Yi wasn't coming over to her, so she hurriedly came over herself.

"Xiao Yi, wait a minute. I'll just adjust the lighting..."

Zhuang Yi stopped by Ji Yi's side and kept her head lowered, editing the photo on her phone.

Ji Yi ignored Zhuang Yi and stared unwaveringly at the door to room 3618. After a while, she murmured, "It's been two years now. There should be an end to it now..."

"What's 'been two years'? What should have an end to it now?" asked Zhuang Yi in confusion. Seeing as Ji Yi didn't reply, Zhuang Yi lifted her head in bewilderment and looked over at Ji Yi.

Zhuang Yi's gaze hadn't fallen on Ji Yi's face yet when Ji Yi withdrew her gaze from the room door after hearing Zhuang Yi's voice. As though nothing had happened, Ji Yi tilted her head and looked over at the phone in Zhuang Yi's hand. "How's the photo?"

Zhuang Yi quickly handed Ji Yi the phone.

Ji Yi glanced at it for two seconds. "Pretty good. Send it to me and I'll post it on Weibo."

"Wait, lemme do a final check..."

Ji Yi didn't say anything but walked over to the elevator with Zhuang Yi.

Tang Huahua headed downstairs and started the car up in advance. She was waiting at the hotel lobby entrance.

Ji Yi and Zhuang Yi got in the car together. After Tang Huahua left the hotel, Zhuang Yi said, "Xiao Yi, I'm sending you the photo."

As Zhuang Yi's voice fell, an alert popped up on Ji Yi's WeChat. She saved the photo into her photo album then opened WeChat.

After Ji Yi uploaded the photo on Weibo, she edited the caption. At first, she wanted to write what most artists wrote about the Television Awards. However, after she wrote two words, she deleted one letter after the other. Then, she posted a restyled caption: "I don't want radiant glory, I just want a lover who won't leave."

After the Weibo post was successfully posted, Ji Yi put her phone away.

She first leaned back into her chair then shut her eyes for a short while.

As the car swayed and drove some distance away, she slowly lifted her eyelids. Through the blackened glass windows, she stared out the window.