

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 211

Cheng Xiangyun was speechless for a second before she retorted, jumping with rage, "You're detestable! I can't be bothered with you!"

Ning Ran had started in a bad mood today, but she felt better after the row with Cheng Xiangyun. "We should not affect our solid friendship over that Poker Face. Let's screw him. I'm going to video-call my kids now."

Ning Ran was about to leave when Cheng Xiangyun called out to her, "Are you really going to be with that Feng Minsheng? You can't be this foolish!" "You've said it, I can't be this foolish. Why do you still bother asking me then?"

"What exactly do you want to do? Why are you still involved with Feng Minsheng?"

"Auntie, please mind your language. What do you mean by 'involved with Feng Minsheng'? I have gotten close to him on purpose. I've previously asked him to bring me to visit his family, but he kept stalling. This reaffirms my belief that there's something wrong with him. I just want to know what he's up to."

"Fine, then you better be careful."

"Rest assured. I was too careless last time. Now that I know he harbors ill intentions, I won't fall for his tricks again."

She went upstairs and checked the time. *It's almost time to video-call the kids.*

The video call beeped up on her phone just when she took it out.

Two tiny, identical faces popped up on the screen together. *They're the cutest in the world.*

Despite being identical twins, there were slight differences in their looks. Dabao's jawline was getting sharper and more defined, while Erbao's face remained chubby. *Perhaps she is living too well now.*

"Mommy." Erbao broke out into a bright smile. *She's so fortunate to be born with a jovial, cheerful nature. She's always happy no matter what the circumstances are.*

Ning Ran's mood lifted at the sight of Erbao's smiling face.

"Darling, do you realize something is different about me today?"

The smart, savvy Erbao gave a diplomatic answer immediately. "You've become prettier."

Dabao squinted to take a closer look at her. Ning Ran was stunned. *He looks exactly like someone I know. Why does he pick up this bad habit- squinting his eyes- from Poker Face?*

“Mommy, you have moved houses?” Dabao asked, correct as usual.

He was always so composed. His calm, analytical mind could discover stuff others could not, in an instant.

“My son is so clever. You realized it immediately.”

“I’ve also realized it,” claimed Erbao, reluctant to lose to her brother.

“You little glutton. Tell me, what did you have for dinner today?”

“A lot of delicious, yummy food! I love to eat them!”

It seems like Erbao can't help herself in the face of the sumptuous meals specially prepared for the kids by the Nan family's chef!

“What else did you do except eating?”

“The teacher taught us Chinese just now. There’s a music class scheduled tomorrow too.”

“There’s still class at night?”

“Third Uncle arranged a private tutor for us. He told us to find our interests and arranged for a private tutor to groom us in those areas,” explained Dabao.

I haven't thought of engaging a private tutor for them before. But the kids are still so young. Is there a need to? Will this affect their happy childhood?

“Don’t worry, Mommy. It’s just an hour every day. It won’t affect us much.”

Dabao is so clever. He can tell I'm worried.

“Is the Chinese lesson fun?”

“Yes! The teacher told us many, many interesting stories about the ancient people long, long ago. I even learned to recite some poems. Let me recite it out loud to Mommy...”

Ning Ran was experiencing conflicted feelings now. She did not know whether she should be happy or worried.

The good news is that the Nan family has started to groom the kids after they have stayed with them for only a few days. They encourage the kids to find their interests and spare no effort to groom them in those areas. It will undoubtedly help the kids tremendously. They will win at the starting line compared to other kids their age. And these are things that I cannot afford to give them even if I want to.

“Mommy, why did you move houses? I feel that this house is much bigger.”

Dabao’s questions pulled Ning Ran back from her thoughts.

“Yes, it’s pretty big. Mommy intends to bring you back. Are you willing to come back?”

Ning Ran was touched when the kids chorused in unison without a moment’s hesitation, “Yes!”

No matter how kind the Nan family is to us, nothing can beat being with Mommy!

The three of them chatted for a while longer before Ning Ran asked Erbao to play on her own first, while she spoke to Dabao.

The video call mode was then switched to the audio call mode.

“Mommy, what is the matter?”

“Dabao, there’s an uncle who’s pestering me. He has caused me a lot of trouble. I know you are always online. Have you seen the news? If yes, don’t believe them or be affected by them.”

“Mommy, I saw them already. I believe in you.”

Ning Ran heaved a sigh of relief. *Luckily I’ve taken the initiative to tell Dabao. Otherwise, I can’t imagine how stressed he would be. What’s worse, he would bear the burden of the stress himself without saying a word to anyone. If I haven’t raised the issue up, he would have pretended that everything is fine.*

“Dabao is so sensible to believe in Mommy.” Suddenly, Ning Ran felt like crying.

She had found solace in her little, young and reliable son. *I have no fear of going up against the whole world so long as the kids are on my side, supporting me.*

“Mommy, don’t be sad. But if you don’t mind me asking, why were you with him?”

“Mommy wanted to find out his motive. I suspect he’s cooperating with someone to sabotage me.”

“I have a plan.”

"I was just about to tell you this. Dabao, your IT skills are fabulous. Is there a way for me to track his movements and read his phone messages?"

"It's a basic hacker's skill. I can do it easily."

Ning Ran was exhilarated. *Indeed, he has never disappointed me! My son is the best!*

"That's great. Dabao! Mommy needs you to support me in such IT matters!"

"But I need to have his phone and approximately twenty minutes to install certain stuff in it. Only then can we track his movements."

"No problem. I've told him already, to treat you and Erbao to a meal. He has agreed to it. During the dinner, you only need to borrow his phone to play games. He can't reject you. Twenty minutes should not be a problem."

"Don't worry, Mommy. This is simple. Leave it to me."

"That's great. Dabao is the truly best."

At this moment, a man's voice drifted in from the other side of the line, "Dabao, who are you talking to? Have you bathed?"

It's Nan Chen! Isn't he having dinner with some pretty lady? Why's he back so early? Didn't he bring the lady to some hotel after dinner? Gosh, don't tell me he has brought her home! No, given Poker Face's character, he won't bring her home.

"Third Uncle is back. Mommy, do you need to talk to him?"

"No. We're almost done. Remember to keep this matter confidential."

"I understand."

"That's it then. Good night, darling. Sleep early, and don't play games on your phone before sleeping."

"Okay, Mommy."

After hanging up the phone, Nan Chen walked over to his side and heard Dabao talking to his mommy.

Isn't this woman involved with another man? Has the man returned home already? She couldn't be that shameless to call the kids with the man by her side, was she?

As he thought of this, Nan Chen's face turned eerily cold.

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“Dabao, did you just talk to your mommy?” Nan Chen asked Dabao gently after he hung up on the call. He regained his composure. *After all, Dabao is only a kid. I can't lose my cool before him.*

Dabao nodded. “What did you talk about?” Nan Chen felt a little embarrassed asking this question. *It's weird to inquire about Ning Ran from a kid.*

“We were just talking casually,” Dabao replied calmly. “I see.” Nan Chen nodded. “Third Uncle, I'm going to bed now. Get some rest soon.” Dabao said, preparing to leave.

“Hold on. Let's talk for a while. It's still early.” Nan Chen was reluctant to let him go. Dabao stopped in his tracks and stared at Nan Chen with his big, black eyes, “What do you want to talk about?”

Actually, all Nan Chen wanted to find out was Ning Ran's location when she called Dabao just now.

“Anything,” Nan Chen replied passively.

“I guess you want to talk about mommy?” Dabao asked abruptly.

Nan Chen was taken aback. *Isn't he too blunt asking that question! This kid is too smart for his own good. It isn't necessarily a good thing for adults as he can read our thoughts easily. How am I supposed to reply?*

“Of course not.” Nan Chen denied immediately. *It will be awkward if I admit it.*

“Then what do you want to talk about?”

“Let's talk about Daddy,” Nan Chen said, trying to change the topic.

“What about Daddy? Oh yeah! I haven't seen Daddy for two days. Where has he gone to?”

“He has gone abroad for a business trip, so he'll only be back after some time.” Nan Chen lied again.

Nan Xing had actually overheard Nan Chen in the arena earlier that the children were not his. So, he had taken a flight to Europe for a vacation that same morning.

Although Nan Xing was good-natured, what happened this time was too much for him to accept. He was at a loss on how to face Ning Ran and the two kids. Thus, he had sought refuge elsewhere for the time being. This way, he could avoid the awkward

situation. Ning Ran, as well as the two kids from, would also be spared any embarrassment when they found out the truth this way.

“Okay.” Dabao nodded.

“Do you like daddy?”

Dabao looked at Nan Chen, confused. *What does he mean by that? Whether I like Daddy or not, he will still be my Daddy. It's not like I can change my Daddy if I don't like him. That's something only Erbao will think about, so why is uncle asking such a question?*

“I like Daddy.” Dabao answered reluctantly.

“What if Daddy is not actually Daddy?” Nan Chen was nervous when he said that.

How can I be so nervous when he's just a five-year-old boy? This is so weird!

“What do you mean, Third Uncle?” Dabao stared at Nan Chen.

“I'm saying, what if someone else, not Nan Xing, turns out to be yours and Erbao's Daddy?” Nan Chen became more nervous.

“No, I won't like it,” Dabao replied him determinedly.

Nan Chen froze for a moment. It had never crossed his mind that Dabao would resolutely detest it.

“I don't want another person to become my Daddy,” Dabao added angrily.

Dabao furrowed his brows and stared at Nan Chen coldly. The boy didn't know that he looked exactly like a mini version of Nan Chen when he was angry. Nan Chen only thought the expression on Dabao's face looked familiar and was even slightly shaken by it.

Why's Dabao so angry and opposing the possibility so violently?

Actually, Dabao had misunderstood what Nan Chen meant. The latter only meant to ask if Dabao would mind him transforming from his uncle to his daddy.

However, Dabao had another person in mind; the man involved in a scandal with his mother, which had gone viral online.

Dabao assumed Nan Chen had seen the rumor online defaming Ning Ran and thought his uncle sought out his view about this matter.

Furthermore, Dabao thought his uncle did not believe in his mother, and his question was filled with malicious intentions. Thus, he was furious.

Dabao wouldn't allow anyone to harm his mother, not even his own uncle.

Because in his eyes, his mother was the best person in this world. She was irreplaceable. He wouldn't let anyone bully her.

Even with his intellect, Nan Chen couldn't read the child's mind.

Their brilliant minds were thinking of two different things; their failure to communicate appropriately had led to a misunderstanding.

Nan Chen looked at the child, not knowing how to respond.

What else can I say now that Dabao has said this? It seems that I have to put off my revelation as their biological father for another time. I can't rush into this matter.

Nan Chen nodded his head awkwardly, "Go to bed now. Kids need plenty of sleep to grow properly."

"Goodnight, Third Uncle. Mommy is a good mommy. She's not a bad one," said Dabao, baffling Nan Chen.

Nan Chen nodded in agreement, "Of course. Of course."

Dabao was about to leave when a sudden thought crossed his mind, "Third Uncle, can I have lunch with Mommy tomorrow?"

Nan Chen remained silent as he tried to figure out the reason for Dabao's sudden request.

"It isn't mommy's idea. I just want to have lunch with Aunt Xiang and Mommy. I miss Aunt Xiang, she took good care of us last time," Dabao said.

As much as Nan Chen was unwilling to let Dabao and Ning Ran see each other in the current situation, he thought it was inappropriate to object to the child's request now that the boy had made his intention clear.

But no matter what, he had no reason to prevent the mother and child from seeing each other because it was cruel to do that to both Ning Ran and the boy.

Nan Chen had never hesitated in any decision making. However, he seemed to be exceptionally vigilant when it came to his children.

Because if a scar was left in a child's heart, it might stay there for a lifetime, unable to be truly healed.

"Alright. I'll make arrangements for it." Nan Chen nodded.

"I don't wanna be spied on by you during my meal," Dabao added.

Nan Chen drew in a cold breath. *This kid is too sharp!*

Here I thought I could perhaps book a restaurant to monitor Ning Ran and the children while they have lunch. It was a good plan, but Dabao has seen through my plan and pointed it out. I've got no tricks now.

"Of course not! I'm not someone who would do stuff like this. I just want to book a nice restaurant for you, and treat you to a meal," Nan Chen said.

"Thanks, Third Uncle. I believe in Mommy, and I hope you do as well." Dabao smiled.

"Of course. Of course." Nan Chen answered insincerely.

"Thanks, Third Uncle. Goodnight."

"Goodnight. By the way, where was Mommy when she called you just now?" Nan Chen couldn't help but ask the one question he was dying to know the most.

He had tried his best to hold it back, but his curiosity got the better of him.

"At home, with Aunt Xiang," Dabao replied.

"I see. Glad that she's doing well. All's fine then." Nan Chen heaved a deep sigh of relief.

"What's going to happen to Mommy?" Dabao asked.

"It's fine. There's nothing to be worried about. Goodnight, darling." Nan Chen looked incredibly relieved.

"Goodnight, Third Uncle."

Dabao turned around and ruminated about what had just happened. *Third Uncle is acting rather peculiar tonight. He doesn't seem like his usual self at all.*

Nan Chen was abashed when he realized he had become a different person ever since Ning Ran and the children entered his life.

He couldn't articulate the changes in words; he acted differently, whether in conduct or any other aspects.

Nan Chen felt helpless because he has always tried to be ruthless, but he has now unknowingly become gentle out of the blue.

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The next afternoon, Cheng Xiangyun drove to pick the two children from school with Nan Chen's consent.

Nan Chen had asked Qiao Zhan to send someone to protect the children, but he didn't need to inform him who Ning Ran had lunch with and where she went.

Since he promised Dabao not to get involved, he must keep to his words and not meddle with their lunch with Ning Ran.

After Cheng Xiangyun picked the children up, she brought them to the set. Ning Ran was still filming, so they had to wait for her to have a meal together.

Ning Ran was filming a scene where she was being bullied by the restaurant owner while working abroad.

There were many abusive scenes where Ning Ran had a squabble with the boss; her boss had grabbed her head, slapped her in the face, and knocked her to the ground.

Needless to say, Ning Ran cried, and she rose from the ground to resist him.

Ning Ran's acting was top tier. Even the staff nearby held their breath, impressed by her superb acting.

"Don't hit my Mommy!"

Everybody was surprised by the sudden childish voice, and the shooting on the set was disrupted.

"Whose child is this?" The director retorted.

An adorable child had bypassed the camera from the crowd and rushed to the actor and Ning Ran's side.

"You hit Mommy! I'll tell Daddy about it."

The man didn't know Erbao, so he asked in an annoyed tone, "Whose child is this? Why is she running wild here? Director, aren't you bothered?"

Ning Ran quickly apologized to everyone, "I'm so sorry, she is my child. My sincere apologies for disrupting everyone's work."

Then she glared at Erbao, "Get out. Who let you in?"

The supporting actor had joined the crew recently. He was an extra with very little screen time, so he knew little about the crew's situation and didn't know who Erbao was.

Not only did he not know Erbao, but the worst part was that he had no idea about the complicated relationship between Ning Ran and Nan family.

He only knew that Ning Ran was down on her luck these couple of days, as there had been endless negative news about her. He felt that he could use this opportunity to bully her.

Thus, his ears pricked up immediately when Ning Ran said Erbao was her child. Thinking he had gotten hold of the female lead, he started to blow up the matter.

"Director, can any random person, even a child enter the film set? Shouldn't there be proper rules and discipline on the set?"

The director and the production crew fell silent.

Indeed, strangers could not enter the film set, much less disrupt the filming progress.

But the child before them was Ning Ran's. Nobody dared to stop her if she insisted on barging in. They could not wait to flatter the little one, much less stop her from entering.

"Who are you? Why did you hit my Mommy? Erbao raised her head and glared at the supporting actor.

The supporting actor bristled with anger and berated her, "You're so ill-bred. How dare you speak in this manner when you've disturbed the adults while they're working!"

"How can you scold me when you've hit my Mommy!" Erbao was furious by now. Her eyes turned cold, and she flushed red with anger, emitting a dangerous aura.

"We're working. Stop your nonsense now." Ning Ran tried to stop her frantically.

"How dare you scold my sister? Apologize to her now." Dabao ordered, looking indifferent. In comparison to his sister, he was emitting an even more dangerous aura.

For a moment, the supporting actor could not believe his eyes when he saw another child looking exactly the same, appearing before him. *Am I seeing things?*

He took a closer look. *No, I'm not. There really are two of them. Though they look the same, the auras they're emitting are worlds apart. The one who has arrived later has a more compelling presence. Despite his young age, his cold eyes and indifferent expression are sufficient to give one tremendous shock.*

The supporting actor jeered, "So the twins are here to cause a scene now?"

"Apologize to my sister. My sister is young and insensible. But you're an adult. How are you so insensible too? What rights do you have to scold my sister? My Mommy will be the one to teach my sister if she has done wrong. Furthermore, my Mommy has apologized. Who are you to pursue this matter? Are you the director?"

It was rare for the usually quiet Dabao to talk so much at one go.

Protecting my mother and sister is my lifelong mission. How dare this scumbag scold my sister right before my eyes! I can't let this matter go easily!

"Oh, aren't you feisty? It's the parents' fault for not teaching their children well. No wonder the children are so ill-bred when their mother is always caught in scandalous rumors."

"My Mommy will teach me if I am ill-bred. What right do you have to say that of me? Hurry up and apologize to my sister!"

Ning Ran had wanted to rein in Dabao, but the supporting actor's antagonistic attitude had infuriated her.

How can I keep a foothold in the production team if I allow this supporting actor to bully me?

So, Ning Ran stood back and let the children handle him.

A man trying to bully two small children. Are my children that easily bullied?

"Kiddo, do you think I will apologize to you? You sure are interesting."

"If you don't, I'll tell my Daddy!" Erbao threatened, incensed.

"Oh, you have a Daddy?" The supporting actor sneered.

"Only you don't have a Daddy!" Erbao snapped, sensing the sarcasm in his retort.

"Director, the kids are causing a scene here. Are you intending to let them be?" The supporting actor asked again.

"Aren't you handling the matter? Go ahead then," replied the director.

The director felt that the supporting actor did not know his own limits. *Why are you, a grown-up man squabbling with the children? Even I, the director, haven't said a word. Who are you to speak up? Since you like to steal the limelight, then go ahead. Let's see how you're going to handle the two kids.*

The male actor was momentarily embarrassed by the director's reply and chuckled to defuse the situation. *Well, I can't offend the director, but I can jolly well offend Ning Ran and her two kids.*

"Ms. Ding, are you not intending to rein your children in? You are allowed them to talk to the adults in such an impolite manner?"

"Have they been rude to you? Has he scolded you?" Ning Ran asked him in return.

"I..."

"If he has not scolded you, then what rights do you have to claim that my kid is rude? He is only 5 years old. How old are you? Do you expect me to stand on your side during your quarrel with my kid?"

"It's not a matter of standing on my side. It's that they..."

"What? My kids thought you bullied me, and wanted to stand up for me. Yet you scolded them for being ill-bred. Now tell me, how should a child with a proper upbringing behave? Should they behave like you and quarrel with kids?"

The supporting actor now realized that Ning Ran was not a frail, weak woman who could be bullied easily.

"Mommy, stop wasting your time on him. He has bullied my sister. Make him apologize!" Dabao insisted.

The production crew kept quiet. They enjoyed the spectacle too much to attempt to stop the fight between the pair of feisty twins and the supporting actor.

"I will never apologize to a mere kid who's so rude!"

"Are you sure?" Dabao asked coldly.

"I'm sure!"

"Fine, then we will tell Daddy." Dabao gave Erbao a meaningful stare.

"I will call Daddy now and tell them that someone is bullying mommy and us! That person has even said I'm ill-bred!" Erbao threatened.

“Who’s your daddy? What can he do to me?”

“Haha! Her daddy is the Fourth Young Master from the Nan family. You just wait and see...” a production crew member chuckled.

The supporting actor paled at his words.

No matter how ignorant he was, he had heard of Nan family’s status and prominence in the Flower City.

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However, he would be too ashamed of himself if he was scared off by the two kids. Furthermore, he did not believe the words of the production crew member.

Why would Ning Ran continue acting if she has borne two kids for the Nan family? Why would the Young Mistress from the high and mighty Nan family need to work for a living? It isn’t logical.

Thus, the supporting actor was convinced that the Nan family whom the kids belonged to, was not the prominent Nan family he had heard of. They must be those distant relatives of the Nan family. Why should I be scared of them?

“So what if they are from the Nan family? All kids should be raised up properly!”

By now, Erbao had already made the call. “Daddy has switched off his phone. I’ll call Third Uncle now.”

“There’s no need.” Ning Ran stopped Er Bao hurriedly once she knew that Er Bao was about to call Nan Chen.

“No! I want to call Third Uncle! He has told me before that we must inform him if anyone bullies us!”

Er Bao refused to heed Ning Ran’s words.

Although Ning Ran was unhappy with the supporting actor, she felt that the kids shouldn’t develop a habit of using their privileged positions to bully others.

Furthermore, it will be awkward if Nan Chen really comes! I don’t want to see Poker Face now.

“I want to tell Third Uncle that he bullied me!” Erbao puffed out her cheeks, protesting indignantly.

“No. Listen to mommy. Hurry up and go outside. Mommy needs to continue working,” Ning Ran reasoned in a soothing voice.

Despite her reluctance, Erbao did not dare to disobey Ning Ran publicly. She simply pulled an even longer face and looked extremely aggrieved.

Of course, Dabao obeyed Ning Ran’s instructions and led his angry sister out.

Ning Ran signaled to the director and requested to continue filming the next scene before she got off work.

The director acceded to Ning Ran’s request.

The filming continued as Cheng Xiangyun brought the two kids out of the film set.

Ning Ran went hard on the supporting actor.

With her sharp gaze and a frosty expression, she flaunted her acting skills before the supporting actor. He was in a jittery mood by now. Though he had convinced himself that the two kids were not from the prestigious Nan family, he still felt uneasy.

His careless acting skills were no match for Ning Ran’s. He was flustered at the difference between them, and could not seem to catch up with her. As a result, he forgot his lines, the scene plot and even his role. After messing up multiple times consecutively, the director lost his cool and lashed out at the supporting actor, who had crumbled under pressure and screwed up his scene.

“Cut!”

The director shouted, “What lousy acting is that! Forget it! We’ll stop here today!”

With his face flushed red, the supporting actor bowed his head in shame.

“Do you even know how to act? If you don’t, I will give your role to another actor! Don’t waste everyone’s time here!” The director hollered at him.

The actor dared not speak.

“Director, are we still filming? If not, I will head off first,” said Ning Ran.

“Go then. Looks like we’ll be changing actors.” The director waved his hands.

After throwing a long meaningful stare at the supporting actor, Ning Ran turned around to change out of her costume.

The first thing she did after coming out of the changing room was to ask Erbao, "Did you call and complain to your Third Uncle?"

Erbao blinked her wide, innocent eyes, "I didn't."

Ning Ran grew suspicious at her weird reaction, "Really?"

"I didn't," reaffirmed Erbao, shaking her head.

Ning Ran stretched out her hand, "Let me see your phone."

Erbao's phone had been customized upon Nan Chen's order. It was specially meant for children; it was small and light, and pink in the shape of a rabbit.

Erbao dared not defy her mother's wishes and gave her the phone submissively.

In its call log was a record of a phone conversation with Nan Chen. Strangely, the call was not dialed out by Erbao. It was Nan Chen who had called Erbao instead.

"Did you talk to Third Uncle?"

"Yes, he's the one who called me. I did not initiate the call. I'm an obedient girl who listens to mommy's instructions." Erbao said, defending herself.

Ning Ran grew even more suspicious, "Why would Third Uncle call you?"

"Because he cares about me?"

"Fine. Then did you tell him about the incident just now?"

"Yes." Erbao bowed her head.

Anger rose within Ning Ran, "Did I not say you are not to tell him? Why didn't you listen to me?"

"That man bullied you, me and brother. I'm unhappy." Erbao raised her head, pouting her lips.

"So you aren't going to obey me now?" Ning Ran was furious.

"I am," replied Erbao hurriedly.

"Then why did you tell Third Uncle? I told you not to!" Ning Ran chided.

“That man will bully mommy next year if I don’t tell Third Uncle.” In her panic, Erbao had misspoken ‘next day’ as ‘next year’. Not that it mattered, as both terms represented a certain time in the distant future to her.

Her words made sense. If you don’t defend yourself today before the bully, he will continue bullying you the next day.

“Erbao, that man is a nobody. He and your Third Uncle are of different levels. He won’t be able to take it if your Third Uncle makes things difficult for him.” Ning Ran tried to explain to her.

While Erbao continued to stare at her with big, black eyes and seemed to understand Ning Ran’s explanation vaguely. Dabao, on the other hand, had caught his mother’s meaning.

“Mommy, I believe that Third Uncle knows what he’s doing. He will punish that man appropriately,” Dabao said.

Since Nan Chen knows about this already, what is the point of me blaming Erbao?

“Fine. In short, even if you know your Third Uncle dotes on you and that he’s a very prominent figure, you cannot bully others just because you have him as your backing, That will be wrong.”

While Erbao still appeared as if she only understood her mother’s words vaguely, Dabao nodded in complete agreement.

At this moment, Cheng Xiangyun drove the car over and passed her phone to Ning Ran, “Mr. BMW looked for you just now.”

“What did he say?”

“He said he has reserved seats in a restaurant for you. He has also asked what time you will reach and if he needs to pick you up.”

“I get it. Then can I trouble you to send me there?”

“Oh gosh! I have to double up as your manager, assistant and chauffeur. Should we re-discuss our wages?”

“I haven’t earned a cent. What use do you have? I will not miss you out once I make it big.”

“But when will you make it big?”

Ning Ran guffawed, "Soon! Just wait till I become a big-shot celebrity. You need not do anything but to sell my autographed photographs, to get rich!"

"Mommy, what is 'get rich'?" Erbao queried.

Only now did Ning Ran realize that the conversation she had with Cheng Xiangyun may be inappropriate in front of children. Quickly, she changed the topic, "Can you get through Daddy's phone?"

With a long face, Erbao replied, "I can't. Is Daddy abandoning us?"

"No. Maybe he's busy. He will contact us when he's free."

Actually, Ning Ran was thinking the same as Erbao. Why did Nan Xing disappear suddenly? Given his character, he would surely inform me before he headed overseas. Why did he leave so suddenly without a word?

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It was interesting to note that Nan Chen had selected the restaurant where Ning Ran, Feng Minsheng and the kids would dine in. It was the only condition he set for them to see the kids. He must be the one to decide on the restaurant where they would dine in. It was the only way for him to ensure the kids' safety.

For the kids' benefit, the restaurant he had selected was the best in the Flower City, which was meant specially for children.

After dropping off Ning Ran and the kids near the restaurant, Cheng Xiangyun drove off immediately. She had no wish to run into Feng Minsheng. Despite knowing that the dinner date was only meant for Ning Ran to clear up the matter with Feng Minsheng, Cheng Xiangyun was still reluctant to let Ning Ran meet that man.

Feng Minsheng was at the restaurant entrance waiting. Upon seeing the children, he was momentarily stunned. It was apparent that they belonged to the Nan family judging by their looks.

"This is Uncle Feng."

The kids did not greet nor bother to be friendly with him.

Ning Ran did not force them to greet him either.

"The kids are shy to strangers. Sorry about that."

Feng Minsheng smiled. "It's okay. Let's go in."

There were not many customers in the restaurant as it was way too expensive, given its numerous amenities. An ordinary middle-income family would not be able to afford a meal in the place.

“The staff here said that you’ve ordered the A1 set meal?” Feng Minsheng asked Ning Ran.

“Ah?” Ning Ran was caught off guard but recovered instantly. *Nan Chen has ordered the set meal.*

“Yes.” Ning Ran nodded hurriedly.

“Then we only need to ask them to serve the food since you’ve already ordered. What do you like to drink?”

“The drink is included in the set meal.”

“Do you come here often?”

“Not often. Only once in a while.”

An awkward silence ensued.

“Darling, what’s your name?” Feng Minsheng looked at Erbao.

Pretending not to hear him, Erbao turned her head and looked away.

“My sister’s name is Ning Sihan. I’m Ning Sirui,” said Dabao to defuse the awkward situation.

There would be an important segment later in which Dabao needed to borrow Feng Minsheng’s phone to play with. So Dabao was trying hard to keep the atmosphere light during the dinner.

“Your surname is Ning?” Feng Minsheng was delighted. *Maybe they aren’t the Nan family’s children?*

But he understood a second later. *They are using Ning Ran’s surname. They should be from the Nan family. Otherwise, they wouldn’t bear such a strong resemblance to the Nan family members.*

“Is there a problem if they share the same surname as I?”

“Of course there’s no problem at all.”

The food was then served.

All the dishes looked exquisite. The restaurant had paid meticulous attention to them, ranging from the colors and plating, ensuring that all children would love them.

Of course, being a restaurant that targeted children as their main clientele, it did not serve alcohol, only fruit juice and soda.

“Regarding the incident last time, I’m very sorry to cause you a lot of trouble. It’s all my fault.” Feng Minsheng brought up the incident about the photograph.

Ning Ran did not wish to talk about that incident as she was still bothered by it.

“Forget it. It’s over, so let us not mention it again,” said Ning Ran indifferently.

“I will pay attention next time to ensure that you won’t be hurt again.”

Ning Ran remained silent.

Feng Minsheng continued reminiscing about their past, while Ning Ran mostly kept quiet during the entire conversation.

Dabao finished his food first and sat patiently, waiting for the others to finish.

“Go and play with the other children. I want to chat with your mommy for a while longer.”

“I want to play games on the phone. Mommy, can you lend me your phone for a while?”

“My phone is going flat soon, so you can’t play with it.” Ning Ran rejected his request outright.

“Just a little while.”

“Why don’t you listen? My phone is going flat soon!” Ning Ran berated him.

Dabao put on a look of utter aggrievement.

“I have a lot of games on my phone. You can play them,” said Feng Minsheng, offering his phone to Dabao.

Dabao looked at Ning Ran inquiringly before he took the phone.

“Fine, fine. You can play for a while but not for too long. It’s not good for your eyes.” Ning Ran waved her hands resignedly.

Dabao took the phone and went to one side.

Erbao was restless and went to join the other children to play. Due to her good looks and friendly nature, it did not take her long to blend in with the other children.

“Ran, what’s your situation with that side now?”

“Which side?” Ning Ran asked, pretending not to understand his question.

“The Nan family’s side. You seem to have a lot of interactions with them.”

“Nothing, it’s still the same. Which side are you referring to?” Ning Ran continued to feign ignorance.

“Did they bully you?”

“Why would they bully me? Even if they did, will you stand up for me?” Ning Ran joked.

“Of course. I will always protect you. I’ve made that promise to you before.”

Smiling, Ning Ran replied, “The person we ran into that day in front of the restaurant was Nan Chen. You must have recognized him. Why didn’t you stand up for me then?”

“We didn’t run into any disagreements at that time. Why did I need to stand up for you then?”

“Forget it. I’m only joking. Thank you for your kind intentions. Oh yes, why are you so reluctant in bringing me to see your friends and family?”

“We need to find an opportune timing for that. We just got together. I feel that we need to take things slowly.”

“So when will be an opportune timing? Why is it so difficult? Is it because I have two kids?”

“Of course it isn’t because of the kids. They won’t cause me any trouble. I like children.”

“That’s good.”

Ning Ran sneered to herself. *My kids are not ordinary kids. I’m afraid they may cause you trouble in the future.*

Dabao waded in on them in the midst of their chat.

He thanked Feng Minsheng after returning his phone.

Ning Ran exchanged a meaningful glance with Dabao, and knew that he had accomplished his task.

“Let’s go.” Ning Ran stood up.

“Let’s sit a while longer. Is there a hurry? The kids are still playing.” Feng Minsheng was reluctant to leave.

“The kids still have to go to school tomorrow morning.”

“Okay. Then let me send you home.”

“No, it’s alright. Someone will send us home,” rejected Ning Ran.

“Let me send you home,” insisted Feng Minsheng.

“There really is no need. You rest early.”

After they came out of the restaurant, the bodyguard who was sent by Qiao Zhan, stepped forward. “Young Mistress, please wait a while. The car is coming now.”

“Ran, are you returning to the Nan family house?” Feng Minsheng asked, looking displeased.

“I have no choice. After the incident, the Nan family has snatched my children’s custody. Do you want to help me to get the custody back?”

“This...”

“Forget it. I know you aren’t capable of it. It is nothing but a lie when you say you want to protect me. You cower at the mention of the Nan family,” scowled Ning Ran, feigning anger.

“I am not. I will think of a plan.”

“Sure. Then I will wait for you to save me.”

At this moment, the car arrived. The chauffeur alighted and opened the car door for Ning Ran.

Ning Ran placed the kids onto the child seats and secured their safety belts before boarding the car herself. She rolled down the window and waved goodbye to Feng Minsheng, who was standing at the roadside. “I will wait for your good news.”

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Ning Ran realized that the car was driving in the direction of the Nan family, and reminded the driver, “Sir, my house is in the opposite direction.”

“Young Mistress, Captain Qiao has instructed me to send Little Master and Little Miss home.” “The children must stay with me at my house today.”

“Young Mistress, Sir Chen has instructed that we must ensure the Little Master and Little Miss return to the Commoner Residence. Otherwise...”

“They are my children. Am I not allowed to spend one night with them?” Ning Ran interrupted him.

“Young Mistress, please do not make things difficult for us...”

“I am not out to make things difficult for you. I am only asking if I am not allowed to spend one night with my children?” Ning Ran sneered at him.

“Sir Chen says that if you make things difficult for us, we shall kneel and beg you until you agree.” With that, the chauffeur stopped the car by the roadside. He undid the seat belt and was about to kneel before Ning Ran stopped him hurriedly, “Enough. Don’t you pull that trick and scare the kids. How can a grown-up man like you kneel before the kids and me?”

“This is Sir Chen’s order. We must execute it. Our rules are very strict,” said the chauffeur resignedly.

Ning Ran sighed and waved her hands, signaling the chauffeur to continue driving.

Nan Chen is so scheming. He knew I wouldn't allow the chauffeur aka bodyguard to kneel before me, much less before Dabao. He must be certain that this tactic would work on me. There is no need for him to deploy other means to force me to send the kids back to the Nan family. This scheming, devious man!

Ning Ran offered to alight from the car when they reached the gates of the Nan Mansion.

Judging from the situation now, I may be chased out of the Nan family if I head into the house. Why should I invite trouble for myself?

“Mommy.” Erbao was reluctant to leave Ning Ran. She wrapped her little hands tightly around her neck in a bid to stop her from alighting the car.

Ning Ran’s heart wrenched, but she could not portray her grief in front of the kids for fear of causing the kids undue stress.

“Fine. Go. Mommy will fetch you in two days.”

“Mommy.” Erbao refused to let go of Ning Ran.

“Be good and let go of me.”

“Why is Mommy not staying with us?” Erbao was about to burst into tears.

“Mommy is still trying to settle some matters, but they should be done soon,” consoled Ning Ran.

“So sorry, Young Mistress. I’m only obeying orders...” The chauffeur apologized guiltily.

“I hate you!” Erbao screamed at him.

The chauffeur dared not retort.

“Don’t behave this way. It’s not his fault. Be a good girl. I will alight now and see you tomorrow again.”

Ning Ran tried hard to suppress her reluctance and sadness.

“Really?”

“Of course. Mommy will settle my matters quickly, and we will be able to see each other every day soon.” Ning Ran forced a smile on her face.

“Let mommy get down from the car. We won’t fully understand adults’ matters.” Dabao chipped in, in an attempt to persuade Erbao.

“Brother, can you please tell Third Uncle to let Mommy stay with us?” Erbao pleaded.

“I will. Let’s leave it at that for now.”

Dabao pulled away Erbao’s hands which were still wrapped around Ning Ran’s neck.

Ning Ran took the opportunity to alight from the car.

“Goodbye, Mommy.”

Though Dabao’s tone was calm, the rims of his eyes were red.

“Goodbye. See you tomorrow.” Ning Ran forced a smile.

After seeing the car turn into the Nan Mansion’s driveway, Ning Ran turned around and was prepared to flag down a cab when another car appeared. The Nan family had arranged for a second car to send Ning Ran home. The chauffeur got out and opened the door for her.

“It’s okay. I can take a cab home myself.”

“This is Sir Chen’s order. He has ordered us to send you home safely.”

Nan Chen again! What exactly in the world does he want!

“Why should I listen to him? I’m not his subordinate.” Ning Ran was furious.

“Sir Chen says he won’t be cooperative in the future if you aren’t cooperative now.”

The threat in his message was evident. If I don’t listen to him, it will be hard for me to see the children in the future.

Ning Ran could imagine Nan Chen with his typical indifferent expression, standing before her and pointing his finger at her while he says, *You can’t afford to offend me. You must obey.*

Ning Ran was displeased, but she was left with no choice but to board the car.

She did not speak a word to the chauffeur. Yet he recognized the route back to her new residence and sent her straight home.

As I expected, Nan Chen is keeping tabs on me! This is so infuriating! He’s such a bully!

“Good night, Young Mistress.” The chauffeur got down the car to open the car door for Ning Ran.

“Don’t call me Young Mistress. I’m not that!”

The chauffeur bowed his head and did not say anything.

“Tell your Sir Chen not to be too full of himself.”

Ning Ran knew she was being spiteful and could not do anything to avenge herself. Nonetheless, she felt better after saying those words out loud.

The chauffeur did not dare repeat her words to Nan Chen, who would not give a hoot about them anyway.

Everything was within his control. He had the rights to be full of himself.

After Ning Ran returned home, she realized that Cheng Xiangyun was not back yet. *I wonder where she has wandered off to.*

It was a habit of Ning Ran to video call the children to wish them goodnight. Only in this way would the children sleep at ease.

Erbao's face popped up on the phone screen. She was in a study room; the bookshelves behind her were full of books.

"Where is your brother?"

"He's reading with Third Uncle. They're discussing some weird stuff."

Ning Ran understood what Erbao meant. *Dabao and that Poker Face can indeed discuss many topics that even I find to be baffling.*

"It's so late. Why aren't both of you sleeping yet?"

"Mommy, it's not that late. Don't worry, we will be sleeping soon," said Erbao obediently.

"Ask your brother to come to the phone. I want to speak to him."

"Okay." Erbao put down the phone and ran off looking for Dabao.

After a while, Dabao took the phone and changed the video call to an audio call.

"Mommy, I'm tracking the man's movements. I will send all the numbers he has recently called to you," said Dabao in a low voice.

Astounded, Ning Ran asked, "How did you do that?"

"It's very easy for me. You need not to ask."

"Aren't you worried he will find out?" Ning Ran was still worried.

"Of course not. I have planted something on his phone, but he will not discover it even if he installs an anti-virus software."

Although Dabao was only a mere child, he was very reliable, even more so than those boastful adults.

Ning Ran was about to speak when someone called out to Dabao over at his end, "Dabao, it's time to sleep."

It's Nan Chen's voice. This man really is annoying! He must have known I'm talking with Dabao. He's doing this on purpose. Why can't I talk to my own son?

"I'll be there immediately, Third Uncle."

"Dabao, ignore him. Let us continue talking," said Ning Ran, infuriated.

“Mommy, let’s not talk anymore. I need to send you the stuff you need urgently, as I must sleep on time.”

“Fine.” Ning Ran knew her son had imposed strict discipline on himself. She could not very well disrupt his disciplined lifestyle so she could only agree.

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Dabao sent over something that resembled a record of GPS locations. It was a list of the places Feng Minsheng had visited.

From the record, Feng Minsheng had headed in the direction of the city’s east side after they split ways outside the restaurant just now. He had stayed at a place for very long before he left.

It seemed to be a hotel near Cheng Xiangyun’s house. *He must have stayed there on a long term basis for me. But what exactly is his motive?*

Dabao had also sent Feng Minsheng’s phone call record to her. He had called three numbers frequently, and one of the calls was made immediately after they split ways.

Ning Ran felt an urge to dial the number to find out who the mysterious caller was, but decided against it as it would be too dangerous.

I can’t rush this matter. I have to take it slow.

...

The next afternoon, Qin Lan received a call informing her that Nan Chen was coming.

Thinking back, Master Chen has not come for a long time. I wonder if he was too busy or he just doesn’t need any psychological counselling anymore.

Qin Lan rushed to prepare for his visit. First, she had her assistant cancel all her appointments to ensure that no one would see Nan Chen in her clinic.

Next, she changed her reclining patient chair to a new one. Nan Chen had always disliked it, claiming that her chair was too dirty as it was sat on by different patients every day.

In Qin Lan’s eyes, he was too fussy. Of course, public amenities would not be squeaky clean – that was a known fact. *I can’t possibly change a new chair every day. But since the great Master Chen wants to be so fussy, I can only accommodate him.*

Nan Chen turned up as scheduled, in his typical black formal suit and white shirt. *I haven't seen him for so long, but he hasn't changed a bit. In fact, over the years, he hasn't aged much. He's still as tall and dashing as ever.*

At times, Qin Lan felt jealous of him. *Why did God give him everything beautiful in this world? He has exceedingly good looks, ridiculously high IQ and a prominent family background. Anyone would be blessed if one owns any of these traits, but he alone possesses all three of them.*

Nan Chen frowned the moment he walked into the room.

Seeing his frown, Qin Lan knitted her brows too, "What's wrong? What has annoyed you again?"

"The fragrance is too overwhelming."

"Fragrance? I use perfume during my working hours."

"Sandalwood fragrance."

Astounded, Qin Lan asked, "You smell sandalwood fragrance?"

Nan Chen could not be bothered to reply her.

"Gosh, you must have a dog's nose. I only used the sandalwood incense yesterday, not today. But you can actually smell that? Do you know that the smell will dissipate after the incense is used up? It's amazing how you can smell it!"

Nan Chen kept quiet. After ensuring the chair was clean, he lay on it and closed his eyes.

"You haven't come here for a long time. What have you run into this time? Which girl have you taken a liking to now?" Qin Lan asked in jest.

Nan Chen did not reply her.

"I am a psychologist. You have to tell me what's going on so I can help you. How do you expect me to help you when you're always brooding in silence?"

But Nan Chen still kept quiet.

"Fine, then just sleep if you don't want to talk. Anyway, I charge by the hour. You can sleep here for two hours. I will still charge you my counselling fees."

Nan Chen crossed his legs without saying a word.

Qin Lan was helpless against the uncooperative patient who refused to talk to her. Thus, she sat down beside him and played with her phone.

Anyway, I will still get paid without doing any work.

Suddenly, Nan Chen uttered a single sentence, "I have children."

Qin Lan could not understand him, "What?"

"Children," repeated Nan Chen.

"Did you just say you have children?"

"Yes."

Qin Lan was so shocked with the jaw-dropping news that she cast aside her role as a psychologist, and shrieked, "You got a woman pregnant?"

Again, Nan Chen kept quiet. *Why is she uttering nonsense? Can't I make a woman pregnant?*

"Which woman? Is she the one with the scent on her?"

Qin Lan was in a state of frenzied excitement now, more excited than if she was pregnant herself.

All along, the reason for Nan Chen's consultation with her was because he was a man incapable of loving anyone.

But now, her views of him had turned topsy turvy in an instant. *He has actually made someone pregnant! This is too interesting!*

Qin Lan could not wait to find out which woman was so formidable to break through the steel barricades that the man had built around him.

"I mean I have children." Nan Chen explained.

"I have heard it the first time. She's pregnant. For how long already?" Qin Lan persisted agitatedly.

Nan Chen was getting more impatient by the minute. *The psychologist I have come to see turns out to be an idiot. I told her I have children now, yet she keeps harping on about pregnancy.*

"Almost 5 year old."

“Huh?” Qin Lan was shocked to the bones.

Suddenly, she got his meaning. *The kids whom Nan Chen are referring to, are the ones I have met before. But I have inquired about them. Aren't the kids Nan Xing's? Why have they become Nan Chen's kids all of a sudden?*

“Are you saying the kids are yours?”

“Yes.”

“Oh gosh! What's wrong with you and your brother? Have you fallen for the same girl? Is that why you don't know who their father is?”

This was Nan Chen's greatest fear. He was worried that others might jump to this conclusion, just like Qin Lan did.

The crease between his brows deepened.

This matter had been bothering him for ages. He did not know how to console Nan Xing. Neither did he know how to break the news to the kids nor explain the matter to the Old Master.

He had come to find Qin Lan for this reason.

Never have I expected that a professional psychologist would rather indulge herself in the gossip and the joy it brought her, and discard her professionalism. She's so disappointing.

At the sight of Nan Chen's displeased face, Qin Lan suddenly remembered her duty as a psychologist. *He has paid to consult me. I can't spend the time digging more gossip from him.*

“What's your main worry now?”

“I don't like the woman.”

Qin Lan picked up his meaning instantly. *So he only wants the children, not their mother.*

“Is it because she's ugly?” Qin Lan's question carried a gossipy undertone.

An image of Ning Ran's exquisite and beautiful face popped up in Nan Chen's mind. *Of course, she isn't ugly. If she's considered ugly, there won't be any beautiful women in this world.*

“Not replying? That means she isn’t ugly. Then is it because her family background isn’t as prominent as yours? Is your family objecting to you being with her?” Qin Lan let her imagination run wild.

Again, Nan Chen did not reply, tacitly implying that it was not the problem.

“Ah! I know already! She’s married now. There’s another man in the picture! You cannot accept her if she re-marries you!”

Nan Chen jumped out of the chair in a sudden rage.

That woman is with that man now. Will they get married? I won’t allow it! Even if I, Nan Chen, don’t want her, I won’t allow her to get married to another man!

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Qin Lan almost jumped out of her skin due to Nan Chen’s sudden rage. *Did I guess correctly? Is the woman married now?*

“Don’t be agitated. She’s only re-marrying. A failed marriage is similar to a failed love relationship. It’s only because she has not met the right guy...”

Qin Lan had not finished her sentence when Nan Chen put on a frosty expression and picked up his jacket, preparing to leave. “Have I said anything wrong?” Qin Lan asked, with a face full of innocence.

“You’re right.” “Ah? If I have not said anything wrong, then why are you in a hurry to leave?” Qin Lan was puzzled. Without another word, Nan Chen strode off in the direction of the door.

“What’s wrong with you? Why do you not make yourself clear before you leave?” Qin Lan was in a panic now. Nan Chen did not bother to explain before he walked out of the room.

Qin Lan followed him at his heels and bombarded him with questions, but he still did not say anything. That was his character. He had never liked to explain himself. Left with no choice, Qin Lan had to give up.

“I will charge you 2 hours’ worth of consultation fees!” Qin Lan shouted as Nan Chen walked away from her. He did not bother to turn around to acknowledge her comments. Such minor matters had never bothered him.

The chauffeur did not expect his boss to be back so soon. Though he was curious, he dared not ask him anything.

“Call Qiao Zhan. Ask him to see me.”

30 minutes later, Qiao Zhan arrived at Nanshi Corporation Headquarters.

Qiao Zhan was the head of security for the Nan family and seldom appeared in the office.

He could tell at a glance that his Third Young Master was unhappy the moment he entered Nan Chen's office.

Although 3rd Young Master always put on a stoic expression, his face would become colder when he was in a bad mood. The aura he emitted was so cold and would deter anyone from approaching him.

"Young Master, do you have any orders for me?"

"What's that woman's situation now?"

For a moment, Qiao Zhan was at a loss for words as he did not know what he meant by his question.

"Young Mistress..."

"She is not..." Nan Chen cut him off.

"Ms. Ding is fine."

"Who did she have dinner on that day she brought the children out?"

"I don't know."

"How can you not know?"

Qiao Zhan bowed his head, "You have instructed us to protect the children, and not ask about any other unrelated matters. So I dared not ask..."

"Go and check now!"

After acknowledging him, Qiao Zhan ran aside to make a phone call.

After the phone call, Qiao Zhan ran over to him and reported, "Ms. Ding and a man took the children out for a meal..."

Ping! Nan Chen slammed the table.

Though he had expected the answer, he still could not suppress his anger.

Is that woman really intending to find a stepfather for the kids? Must she find such a lousy man?

Qiao Zhan dared not utter a word, seeing that Nan Chen was fuming mad now.

“Continue.”

“The meal was paid for by the man. As it was too expensive, the man could not cough up the cash on the spot, so he had swiped his credit card.”

“Haven’t I asked you to protect the kids? Why do you know so much?” Nan Chen chided him.

Qiao Zhan was stumped by his question. *How can I report to you if I didn’t know this? I will get scolded whether I knew or didn’t know. So what should I do?*

“We... It’s not me. My subordinates are the ones who know about it.” Qiao Zhan deflected the blame to others as a temporary measure.

“Continue.”

“There’s nothing more. They returned to their homes separately.”

Nan Chen knew this as he was the one to arrange for her transport home.

“Are they... very close?”

Qiao Zhan pondered over his question. *How should I answer?*

While he, the Nan family’s head of security, was a man of great strength and courage, he was not as sophisticated as Jiang Zhe about the ways of the world.

Since he was unable to read Nan Chen’s mind, he gave the answer he deemed most appropriate.

“I think they’re okay?” Qiao Zhan replied, slightly flustered, “I’m not sure.”

“Investigate him.”

“Fourth Young Master has asked us to investigate him before. We did not find out much about him. He doesn’t have an extraordinary background, but he and Ms. Ding have known each other since young. There’s nothing else aside from this.

Nan Chen was skeptical. *If this man doesn’t have an extraordinary background, where does he get the confidence to fight with the Nan family over a woman? Is he stupid? Or is he looking to seek his own death?*

"I asked Fourth Young Master before if we should chase that man out of the Flower City. But he said that he wished to compete with the man fair and square, instead of resorting to such means to deal with him. Only in this way would Ms. Ding side with him. If he deployed other means, Ms. Ding would sympathize with that man as he was the underdog." Qiao Zhan added.

So that's Nan Xing's thinking. He really has spent a lot of effort on this woman. Sigh...

Nan Chen did not reply. He was thinking about how to handle this matter.

Nan Xing has a point. It does seem inappropriate if I am to chase that woman's childhood friend out of the Flower City. That woman has not married into the Nan family. Logically, she has the right to date anyone, and the Nan family cannot interfere in her decisions. But how can I let her be?

"How do you think I should handle this?" Nan Chen asked Qiao Zhan.

Qiao Zhan stammered, trying to come up with an answer.

What kind of joke is he playing on me? I am nothing but a brusque man. How can I know how to handle the Young Masters' relationship matters? Isn't he making things difficult for me?

"Speak."

Nan Chen assumed Qiao Zhan was too embarrassed to speak his mind, so he forced him to speak.

"I don't know," said Qiao Zhan resignedly.

"You know."

Qiao Zhan was forced to a corner. *I must know if the Young Master insists that I know.*

"I will capture that man, and warn him not to pester Ms. Ding anymore." Qiao Zhan had no choice but to come up with a suggestion, however implausible it sounded.

"We can't use force."

Again, Qiao Zhan sank into a state of dilemma. *Are we going to use love and reason out with this man if we aren't using force? I am nothing but a brusque man! I don't know what else to use other than violence!*

"Young Master, why don't you give me instructions and I will carry out them? I really don't know how to handle it myself," Qiao Zhan pleaded.

Nan Chen looked at his watch, "You go and get it done now. I have to go to a meeting."

"I..."

"Go." Nan Chen waved his hand dismissively.

Qiao Zhan was in a state of confusion as he walked out of Nan Chen's office.

Nan Chen had asked him to 'get it done', but he had absolutely no idea what was to be done.

If I do it well, everything will be fine. But if not, not only will I offend both Young Masters, I may very well offend the future Young Mistress! This matter is too difficult for me! But what else can I do except to obey Young Master's orders? If I do it, I may offend him, but if I don't, I'll be going against him! My job will be in a precarious state!

On his way to the carpark, Qiao Zhan was racking his brains to come up with a solution.

What exactly does Young Master mean? What does he want me to do? What is the outcome is he expecting? I can only act after I understand my boss' intentions!

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 219

At night, after Ning Ran wrapped up her filming for the day, she boarded Feng Minsheng's BMW to head for dinner together. This time, Feng Minsheng did not opt for a high-end restaurant but a simple, ordinary one instead.

Ever since he met Ning Ran, he realized that he was ensnared into a cycle of high-end consumption. *I was merely buying the kids a meal, but she had chosen A1 set meal, the most expensive set meal on the menu, causing me to run out of cash immediately.*

Of course, he had no idea that Nan Chen was the one who had ordered the set meals when he made the restaurant reservation. He had intended for Ning Ran to spend more and had never expected Feng Minsheng to be the sucker instead.

After a few more dates with Ning Ran, Feng Minsheng could not stand it anymore, as the restaurants she had chosen were all high-end and expensive.

Feng Minsheng was very well aware that his smart, polished appearance was only a façade, and he was no rich person. Thus he finally opted for an ordinary restaurant today, caving under the immense pressure brought upon him by Ning Ran's extravagant choices.

After reaching the restaurant, Ning Ran realized that it was too low-class and understood Feng Minsheng's motive instantly.

“I don’t want to dine here.” Ning Ran refused to go in.

“Why?” Feng Minsheng asked, flustered.

“The environment’s not good. I don’t like it.”

“The food here is pretty good. You will know after you’ve tried it.”

“No, I don’t want to try it.”

With that, Ning Ran turned around to leave.

Huh! You’re trying to cause me harm, yet you don’t want to spend a penny. Dream on!

“Where do you want to dine at then?” Feng Minsheng asked testily, obviously displeased with her.

“Anywhere but here.”

Left with no choice, Feng Minsheng had to follow her out of the restaurant in a soured mood.

Detecting Feng Minsheng’s apparent displeasure, she said, “You can jolly well leave first if you’re not happy about my insistence to change restaurants.”

“Of course not. You have such a difficult time filming. You deserve a treat. I will accompany you to wherever you like to dine at.” Feng Minsheng pasted a forced smile on his face, suppressing his irritation.

“Okay. Then let’s go.”

Ning Ran boarded the car again. This time, she selected a restaurant she and Nan Xing had visited before.

Feng Minsheng gave up the moment they reached its entrance. The place was simply too expensive. After all, how could any restaurant that Nan Xing had visited be cheap?

“Ran, can we not frequent such places? I’m sick of dining at such restaurants.”

Ning Ran knew Feng Minsheng thought the restaurant was out of his league. Thus, she puts on a perplexed look.

“The food here is very nice. You will know after you try.”

“Ran, let’s change venues. This restaurant isn’t good.”

“Which part of it isn’t good?”

“It just doesn’t feel right. It may look nice, but the food probably doesn’t taste good.”

“It’s pretty good. You will know once you try it.”

“No, Ran. I.. I need to spend the money in other areas, so...”

“Oh! You’re broke? Why are you still asking me out if you’re broke?” Ning Ran asked coldly.

“No, that’s not the case...”

“What is it if it’s not the case? Go home and eat instant noodles if you’re broke. Why do you come out here to embarrass yourself?”

“Ran, how can you say that? What do you mean by ‘embarrassing myself?’” Feng Minsheng was really growing madder now.

“Isn’t it embarrassing yourself if you have no money for dinner? Then let us go our separate ways!” Ning Ran turned around to leave.

Feng Minsheng was agitated by now. Hardening his resolve, he said, “Let us dine here then!”

Anyway, I have a few credit cards with me. I can always swipe them if I’m left with no choice. My task is accomplished if I cause Ning Ran to fall out with the Nan family. At that time, I will come into a big pile of money and can settle everything then.

Ning Ran knew Feng Minsheng was going beyond his means to impress her. She scoffed and entered the restaurant with him.

Ning Ran asked after they were seated, “Aren’t you driving a BMW? I heard you’re a high-ranking officer? Why are you so broke that you can’t even afford a meal?”

Slightly abashed, Feng Minsheng replied, “The situation isn’t so bad. It’s just that I need to spend money on a lot of areas recently. That’s why I have exceeded my spending limit. But rest assured. I like you and will give you nothing but the best. Just order what you like.”

“Then I won’t stand on ceremony.”

Ning Ran started to order after scrolling through the menu on the iPad.

Nervousness crossed Feng Minsheng’s features. *He must be worrying that I will order dishes that are too expensive and beyond his means.*

Initially, Ning Ran had planned for him to cough up loads of money for the lavish meal, but she was worried that it might implicate herself if he had no means to pay for it. Thus, she capped her spending to within 3 thousand.

“Do you want some white wine?”

Feng Minsheng readily agreed upon hearing the words ‘white wine’.

“I have some white wine in the car. Let me go and take it.”

You still want to drug me? Dream on!

“No need for that. We can order any bottle here.”

“Fine, then I will order randomly.”

In the end, the cheapest white wine in the restaurant cost over a thousand. Feng Minsheng grimaced and went ahead with the order.

When the dishes were served, Feng Minsheng poured her a glass of white wine.

“I’m not drinking. I’m having gastric.”

“Ah? Weren’t you the one who wanted to drink white wine?”

“Your mood isn’t too good, so I have asked you to drink a bit to ease your mood,” said Ning Ran, feigning concern.

“I can’t finish the whole bottle. Why don’t you drink a glass too?”

“No, I can’t drink. My gastric isn’t too well. I still need to film tomorrow, and will drink other beverages instead.”

Ning Ran requested a glass of fruit juice, leaving Feng Minsheng to drink the bottle of white wine all by himself in a rather hasty manner, as he was in a soured mood.

Ning Ran poured him another glass, “I toast to you. Thank you for treating me to dinner even if your financial situation isn’t in the best state now. I will pay for the meal if you can’t afford it later.”

Ning Ran had said those words on purpose to agitate Feng Minsheng.

Expectedly, Feng Minsheng could not take her taunts lying down, “Ran, how can you say that? Even if I’m not as rich as the Nan family, I’m not that poor either. I won’t allow you to pay for the meal. Your words are too hurtful!”

With that, he downed the glass at once and poured himself another glass.

It was what Ning Ran had wanted, for Feng Minsheng to panic. *He will drink a lot of alcohol if he's agitated. In that way, I can make him drunk easily. The plan tonight is to make him drunk so that I can obtain his phone. Maybe I can find out the truth once I dial the number he frequently calls, using his phone.*

"Ran, I know you look down on me. But please believe me. I will treat you well."

"How do you intend to treat me well?"

"I will try my best. What's so good about the Nan family? They're only rich. Can one do everything simply by being rich?"

Feng Minsheng still felt inferior and brought up the topic of the Nan family without any prompting.

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Judging from Feng Minsheng's drowsy state, Ning Ran could tell he was almost drunk. But she was not sure how much he could drink before he was thoroughly drunk.

I will lose if he's too drunk to even pay for the bill later... I'll have to pay for it myself! So I must control the situation well. I must make him drunk, just not dead drunk.

"Don't drink so much," reminded Ning Ran in pretense. "I'm okay. A little wine won't bring me down." Feng Minsheng waved his hands dismissively. Ning Ran felt at ease, looking at his state now. "Ah, I have to call the kids."

Ning Ran fished her phone from her bag, "Oh, why is it flat again? Phone batteries nowadays are so unreliable."

"Use mine." Feng Minsheng passed his phone to her. "Thank you."

"I'll head over there to make the call. The kids are too noisy. You carry on drinking." Not caring for Feng Minsheng's reply, she headed to the toilet with his phone in her hands.

In the toilet, she closed the door and dialed the number. A woman picked up the phone within a few rings. "Minsheng, are you still together with that little slut? How is it going?"

Ning Ran kept quiet. *The voice sounds familiar.* Though she could not place it for a second, Ning Ran was sure she knew the owner of the voice.

"Minsheng, why aren't you talking? How is that little slut now? Don't ever let her marry into the Nan family!"

Ning Ran pricked her ears at the words 'little slut'. She finally remembered who the owner of the voice was! She was used to being scolded in such a manner by this person and had grown very sensitive to this term. *Coupled with that vicious tone, the person can only be that evil stepmother of mine, Luo Yi!*

Last time, Luo Yi had always pretended to be gentle in front of Ning Ran's father, Ning Ziqiang. But behind his back, she was always scolding her and referring to her as 'little slut'.

After so many years, Ning Ran had not forgotten that woman's evil curses towards her.

Hurriedly, Ning Ran hung up the phone.

So, Feng Minsheng has always maintained contact with Luo Yi and Ning Ziqiang. He has pretended to care about me with the motive of sabotaging me and causing me to fall out with the Nan family. To think I was touched when he remembers my mother's birthday. It seems like they have ganged up to plot against me. But why does Luo Yi want to stop me from marrying into the Nan family? What good does she have out of it? Or does she think that I should not marry into the Nan family if Luo Fei fails to do so? Is it for revenge? Or maybe Luo Fei has not died and is secretly in contact with Luo Yi?

"Ran? Ran?"

Feng Minsheng's voice drifted in from the other side of the door.

Ning Ran came out of the toilet hurriedly, and returned the phone to him, "Thank you."

Suddenly, the phone rang when it was in Feng Minsheng's hand.

Feng Minsheng walked aside to pick up the call.

Oh no! It must be that witch, Luo Yi calling him! I must have aroused her suspicions when I did not talk during the call just now! Now, everything will be out in the open after Feng Minsheng picks up her call.

Expectedly, Feng Minsheng walked over and asked, "Didn't you use my phone to call the kids?"

Smiling, Ning Ran asked, "How did you know?"

"Ran, what are you up to?"

"I should ask the same to you. What are you up to?"

"I'm not up to anything. Let's return to our seats first to talk things out."

Fine, then I will trash things out with you.

“Why did you use my phone to call Auntie? She has changed her phone number. How did you get the new phone number?”

“Of course, I know that. I also know you always visit them and discuss with them how to plot against me.”

“Not to plot against you. We’re only concerned...”

“Stop pretending!” Ning Ran could not bear it any longer, “Feng Minsheng, stop with your act. It only disgusts me!”

“Ran, you must be mistaken. I genuinely like you.”

“Enough! You’re indeed so disgusting! How dare you say this to me when you’re collaborating with others to plot against me! Feng Minsheng, let me be honest with you. I have suspected you long ago, just that I don’t have the evidence on hand. I always know someone is behind this whole scheme. So it is that evil witch! Your motive is to stop me from marrying into the Nan family, am I right? What good does it do you? What benefits has the witch given you?”

“Ran, you’re mistaken. It isn’t what you assume. I really like you. As for Uncle and Auntie, it’s only because they have no one to take care of them so I visit them when I have the time. They miss you too...”

“Shut up! You still want to continue lying? That witch caused my mother’s death. She misses me? I think she just wants me dead! Tell her that I will avenge my mother’s death one day! I will look for her even if she does not look for me!”

“Ran...”

“Don’t call me in that manner! You’re not worthy! From now on, do not look for me or follow me. Otherwise, I will not spare you!”

Standing up, Ning Ran grabbed her bag and was about to storm off when Feng Minsheng blocked her path, “Ran, you can’t treat me this way!”

“Why can’t I when you lie to me every day and have even ganged up with others to plot against me?”

“I haven’t lied to you. It’s evident how well I treat you. Ever since we got together, I have spent so much on you. It’s all for you. Isn’t it too much of you to leave just like this?”

Feng Minsheng was getting increasingly agitated under the influence of alcohol.

“You approached me for the sake of sabotaging me. You have forked out the money willingly. Do you expect me to pay you back?”

“I had no money all along. For your sake, I even rented a BMW and spent all my savings on you within a month. Am I not treating you well enough? The restaurants you’ve selected while we’re out are all so darned expensive. Have I had a single complaint? Don’t blame me if you’re so heartless!”

Ning Ran sneered, “So are you intending to fall out with me?”

“It’s you who wants to fall out with me! Ran, you’re too heartless!”

“You scheme against me and still dare to claim I’m heartless? It’s you who wanted to pretend to be a rich man. I have made you spend so much money to let you see clearly what you really are. Do you think I’m a fool who believes whatever you say? I’m going now. Don’t you dare to block my path, otherwise I will call the police!”

“Don’t think about leaving this place if you don’t make yourself clear tonight!” Feng Minsheng stood in front of the door, refusing to let Ning Ran through.