

Chapter 1211

Top Star Found Her Love

Cai Yan and Rose looked at each other, it was far from their expectations.

“As a matter of fact, for the last 50 years, Sea Eagles might have been the top first or second ranked mercenary in the world but they have never won against that mercenary in the Caesar Assembly.” Ron continued to rouse their interest.

Rose was so intrigued as she was curious to know about Yang Chen’s past. She shook Ron’s sleeves and asked, “Mister Ron, don’t keep us hanging. Tell us about the mercenary. Who are they?”

Yang Chen couldn’t stand it when Rose started to behave coquettishly and he answered on Ron’s behalf, “The mercenary belongs to a clan called ps. They have already taken the top rank before I showed up.”

“Ps? What does it mean?”

“Cyclops, they were created by God. Similar to the Titans, they are skilled at forging weapons.” Ron explained, “Well, even though that clan is mysterious and no one knows the location of their headquarters, they are all normal humans and not real cyclops. However, every clan member has great powers and physique. They are also vicious and ruthless to the point that people were suspicious of their bloodline. It wasn’t weird since the Panthers and Shamans were born with great magical talents and the sorcerers from the Sword in the Stone, their magical powers were passed on from generation to generation. But because they are all arrogant and obstinate, people weren’t willing to hire them even though they always took the top spot. They are expensive yet disobedient. Apparently, someone hired them once but they accepted the enemy’s money and killed the employer instead. Despite their bad reputation, they could still join the Caesar Assembly since the Assembly doesn’t take this into account. However, people don’t really talk about them so they are not really well known.”

“They sound terrifying,” Rose bit her lip while saying that but her eyes were glowing as if she was looking forward to meeting them. She turned around to look at Yang Chen, “Hubby, did you join the last session? Are they stronger than you?”

Yang Chen rolled his eyes, “You think too much. I’m not qualified to join the assembly. I never hired a mercenary and I have divinity so I can’t take part in international affairs like this. Those who participate in the Assembly are elites from the Sea Eagles. Ordinary people wouldn’t be a match for the Sea Eagles, but ps does have members with unique traits so it makes sense if they lost to ps.”

“Fortunately the Caesar Assembly banned malice murder so they have not gone further than incapacitating their opponent.” Callejón laughed mischievously, “Your Majesty Pluto, shall we go watch the match next Monday? I heard the new guys in Sea Eagle are pretty skilled. They might have a shot against ps.”

Yang Chen wasn’t really interested. From what he had witnessed four years ago, the members of ps were at least in the Full Cycle of the Xiantian stage. If he hadn’t broken the seal and used the space laws, he might have lost to them.

Hence, even if the Sea Eagles had become stronger, they still wouldn’t stand a chance against ps.

Upon seeing the eager expression on Cai Yan and Rose, Yang Chen asked with a smile, “Are you guys interested?”

The ladies nodded hard.

“We can go then. But I can’t stay here for the whole week. You guys can stay here first and I’ll come back next week to accompany both of you.” Yang Chen didn’t want to make Lin Ruoxi jealous again.

The ladies were beaming with excitement. They couldn’t wait for the day to come.

After the meal, Yang Chen gave them a tour in his castle and just like Lin Ruoxi, they immediately understood his intention upon seeing a large number of rooms in the castle. Unlike Lin Ruoxi, they were more embarrassed than upset.

Yang Chen showed them his collection and facilities inside the castle and also talked to Ron about things he had to pay attention to before the ladies say goodbye.

When he was embracing Cai Yan, he purposely whispered into her ear, “I’ll eat you up the next time I see you.”

Cai Yan was startled at first but blood soon rushed up to her face and she hid behind Rose.

Yang Chen smirked and disappeared in a flash.

It was already daytime when he returned to Zhonghai and Yang Chen thought it was time to go to work so he drove straight to the company.

Right when he arrived, things felt odd to him. The office was supposed to be hustling and bustling with energy but the air was stiff. Employees were also looking at him with a complex gaze.

Yang Chen walked into his office and saw Zhao Teng walking around in circles with a frustrated expression.

“Director Yang! You’re finally here!!” Zhao Teng shrieked.

“What’s going on? Why does everyone look so dead?” Yang Chen was puzzled.

Zhao Teng slapped his thigh, “I knew you weren’t aware of it. I called President Lin just now and she told me to inform you to go to her office for a meeting. I was waiting for you!”

“Ruoxi is calling me over for a meeting?” Yang Chen furrowed his brows.

Lin Ruoxi hardly called him over when they were working because she didn’t want people to talk about them behind their backs. This must be a serious matter for her to do this.

Zhao Teng pulled Yang Chen to his desk and pointed at the monitor first before motioning towards the tabloids and newspapers.

“Look, Director Yang, this is getting way out of hand!!”

Yang Chen’s face darkened the moment he laid his eyes on them...

The titles were in striking black or red bold fonts and the contents were shocking!

“Top star Lin Hui is the mistress of a company executive!”

“Top Star Lin Hui showed up in a kindergarten, she may have given birth ages ago!”

“How did Lin Hui become famous so quickly? He’s the one behind this!”

“President Lin Ruoxi of Yu Lei International is humiliated, her company’s artist Lin Hui has a secret relationship with her husband...”

“The pure goddess found her love? Affectionate photos of her with a mysterious man!”

There were photos attached to these titles which mainly consisted of Hui Lin sitting amongst the parents in the kindergarten while chewing something as Yang Chen adjusted her mask.

They were smiling so sweetly to one another as if they were a couple.

Yang Chen’s hands were trembling and he almost broke the desk.

“Bull crap...bull crap...complete bull crap!! Who wrote this damned news?! Which publisher?! Do they have a death wish?!”

Yang Chen was infuriated. It felt as if his lungs were on fire!

It would have been fine if they mocked him but they pulled Lin Ruoxi into this and made Hui Lin look like a total whore!

Yang Chen couldn’t express his feelings of having his beloved being humiliated by others.

He never would’ve imagined that someone would take a photo of this in such a short time. It was a grave mistake on his end!

Zhao Teng forced the words out of his throat, “Director Yang, I believe in you guys...”

“Duh!! I’ll kill those who don’t believe in us!!” Yang Chen roared with a red flushed face.

Zhao Teng thought he was about to become deaf, “Calm down, calm down, Director Yang. We can’t solve things this way. I asked someone to look into this and these photos came from a paparazzi working for a small tabloid company. They bought these photos from people who took them secretly using their phones. Someone must have taken the photos secretly when the kindergarten was packed and sold it to the paparazzi. We have relations with the regular media so they wouldn’t dare to report this since they wouldn’t want to be on our bad side. These are reports done by online websites and small tabloids so we were unable to stop them in time. Once this spreads online on personal blogs, Weibo and other platforms, the whole world will see these articles and photos in no time...we have to come up with a way to repair Miss Hui Lin’s reputation and clear you and President Lin’s name

Chapter 1212 - Six Eared Macaque

Six Eared Macaque

Yang Chen turned around and panted heavily to calm himself down, “Is Miss Lin Hui in the building now?”

Zhao Teng shook his head, "No, it's too risky for her to be here. Every media in China is looking for her. We booked her an aeroplane and sent her off to Beijing, she should be safe there."

"Good, we can't have the paparazzi eyeing on her. I'll go to the HQ now, do whatever it takes to make the other media come up with something positive. Also, dig the source out! I want those fools to know that they messed with the wrong people." Yang Chen's voice was sinister.

Zhao Teng trembled out of reflex and he kept nodding. He couldn't imagine what Yang Chen would do to the tabloids once he found the culprit.

Just when Yang Chen rushed to Lin Ruoxi's office, she was on the phone with someone.

"Mmh, okay...thank you mom...I'm fine..."

Her lips were slightly pale which made her look haggard. Having noticed Yang Chen's arrival, she ended the call quickly and sighed.

"You asked for mom's help?" Yang Chen went next to her and patted her back lightly.

Lin Ruoxi forced a smile at him, "Yeah, I'm not familiar with the state administration and the general administration. Mom can talk to them and ask more media for help so that we can keep this under control."

Yang Chen nodded. It was true that they needed connections to deal with this matter. It wasn't like they could kill anyone who badmouthed them. They could control the major media, but it'd be impossible to control each and every one of them.

"I didn't expect this to happen. It was my fault; I should've been more observant. I didn't notice someone was taking photos with their phone." Yang Chen felt guilty, "Ruoxi, you didn't misunderstand things right? I only wanted to pull her mask up since she forgot about it as she was eating candy."

Lin Ruoxi furrowed her brows. She wasn't pleased to hear this, "How can you think of me like that? This isn't the time to talk about this, we should care about Hui Lin the most. She's being accused of something she didn't do. Those who support her and those who don't are all suspecting her and cursing her. She's so young and naïve, what if she can't take it..."

Tears welled up in her eyes and she started to blame herself, "I was worried that the showbiz world would be too messy for her and that she could get hurt from it. I started a company for her and something like this still happened...it happened because I asked her to go to the kindergarten...it's all my fault..."

"Don't say that, you had good intentions. Hui Lin's really happy with her job." Yang Chen consoled her and tried to distract her, "Did you notify the kindergarten? I'm sure someone will interview the teachers there."

Lin Ruoxi replied to him, "I put Mingyu in charge of this. She's really good at publicity, so it shouldn't be hard to have it under control. The problem now is that there are so many media in our country and especially those that are on bad terms with us, they'll definitely take advantage of this situation. They have already gained the public's interest and they will definitely kick up a fuss. If this goes on, how should we take care of it?"

Yang Chen was having a headache from this too. He had never dealt with problems like this, so he was equally helpless.

Right at this moment, Zhao Hongyan's voice was heard from outside...

"Eh! Miss! You can't do this!! No..."

Yang Chen snapped out of it. He had just realized someone was here. With a bitter smile, Yang Chen furrowed his brows, "That was quick."

The door was pushed open roughly and the lock was broken from the force!

Abbess Yun Miao walked in with an overbearing aura which was conflicting with her outfit and hairdo. With eyes filled with fury, she made her way towards Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi, ready to unleash her anger!

Zhao Hongyan followed after her since she failed to stop her. She stooped towards Lin Ruoxi apologetically and left the office.

Lin Ruoxi was startled at first and the moment she stood up to say something, Abbess Yun Miao's hand was already aiming for her cheek.

A light slap was heard but it didn't come from Lin Ruoxi's face. Yang Chen caught her wrist before she could slap Lin Ruoxi.

Abbess Yun Miao's gaze was ferocious, and she sneered, "I forgot about you. Why? I can't hit your wife, but my granddaughter can be bullied?"

"Abbess, I know you're angry and we're angry too. I wasn't expecting you to come here so soon but you can't hit my wife." Yang Chen tried to stay calm. It was understandable for Abbess Yun Miao to react like this.

Lin Ruoxi was surprised but she pulled Yang Chen's arm, "It's alright hubby. Let me talk."

"Talk? Hmph, what else can you say?!" Yun Miao reprimanded her.

Lin Ruoxi sighed, "Madam Lin, I know you despise me for bringing Hui Lin into the showbiz world. This is partially my fault but I'll do my best to clear her name. Please believe in me, I'm doing all this for Hui Lin's sake."

Yun Miao snorted, "You're all talk. Tell me, what do you plan to do to clear my granddaughter's name? The news is spreading like wildfire, everyone in China is talking about it! Hui Lin cultivated with me on Emei from a young age. She's so innocent and kind yet you're the reason why the whole world is judging her. Do you think she can stand it?! Would you be able to stand it?! Hui Lin called an outsider like you as her sister, do you deserve this title?! Do you know what other people are saying? They are saying she's the mistress and that she gave birth to an illegitimate child! Can you imagine how hurt she would be because of this?! I've said it from the very beginning, don't let her sing, don't let her appear on television and don't let her enter the showbiz world! You guys didn't listen to me! Now her reputation is ruined because of both of you! Are you guys satisfied now?!" Her voice echoed throughout the room.

Yang Chen had nothing to say. His heart ached at the thought of Hui Lin staying in Beijing alone.

Lin Ruoxi's eyes were red too but she held her tears in.

"I'm sorry, Madam Lin. I didn't want her to feel lonely, so I invited her to the kindergarten to watch the children's performance. I never expected this to happen. You can hit me and scold me and I'll take it because this is my fault."

Yun Miao sneered, "Lin Ruoxi, I know you're smart, but you don't act in front of me! You're worried that Hui Lin will steal your husband from you, just like the other women! Did you do it on purpose to ruin Hui Lin's reputation?"

Lin Ruoxi looked up abruptly and shook her head, "No...No! I didn't! I never thought of that!!"

Yang Chen reprimanded Yun Miao with a deep voice, "Abbess, you've gone too far. I know you're upset but you can't say such nonsense!"

"Nonsense? Fine, let me ask you this. Do you like Hui Lin? Do you not have any feelings for her?" Yun Miao turned to look at Yang Chen.

Yang Chen was taken aback and it took him a while to react, "Hui Lin is a good girl, but I've never had feelings for her."

"Hmph, that's what you say. It means you don't actually dislike her; you just don't dare to like her. Men are like this; they want someone whom they can never get." Yun Miao said in disdain.

"Abbess, this isn't the problem now. Instead of insulting us, shouldn't you think of a way to help Hui Lin?!" Yang Chen was getting annoyed.

Yun Miao shouted, "You don't need to tell me this! Do you think she can rely on hypocrites like you two?! I'm here to tell you guys that I'm bringing Hui Lin back to Emei tomorrow. She has nothing to do with you guys anymore! Don't you guys dare to contact Hui Lin ever again! Get out of her sight as far as possible!"

"Madam Lin, you can't do this. It'll be harder to repair her reputation if you act like this. She can't hide forever. We have to solve the problem!" Lin Ruoxi was anxious.

While they were quarrelling, a grey silhouette walked out of the elevator and came into the office within seconds.

It was Gray Robe. He smiled at Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi before convincing Yun Miao, "Madam, we can't blame Mister Yang and Mrs Yang. Let's go back to Beijing first, we should take care of Miss Hui'er. She's the only descendant of the Lin clan."

Ever since Lin Zhiguo's departure, Gray Robe remained in the Lin clan and continued to help Yun Miao manage the clan.

Yun Miao respected Gray Robe. Even though she was still furious, she nodded her head forcefully and glared at Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen before leaving.

Yang Chen was ashamed to face Gray Robe, "Thank you. Also, thanks for your help last time. I was able to save Ruoxi because of you. Sorry for the trouble again."

Gray Robe was puzzled, "Last time? What do you mean?"

Yang Chen thought to himself, *Does he have Alzheimer? Why did he forget about it so quickly?*

"It's about the fake Magical Girdle. Didn't you tell me the blood race went to Nanshan?" Yang Chen asked him.

Gray Robe furrowed his brows and contemplated it, but he was still baffled, "I don't get it. I've not left Beijing in two months and I left this time because of Madam. How am I involved with the Magical Girdle?"

Chapter 1213 - Surrounded By Enemies

Surrounded By Enemies

Yang Chen froze. He had to confirm that Gray Robe wasn't joking about it. This was weird!

Yang Chen was actually puzzled since he couldn't see through Gray Robe's cultivation level before that and at this time he could see that Gray Robe was in the Xiantian stage. He thought Gray Robe wasn't bothered to conceal his cultivation but it turned out to be a different person!

Gray Robe was surprised to hear that someone pretended to be him and notified Yang Chen about the incident.

"I don't think that the person is inferior to you, seeing how he was able to trick you. If he's not from the border, he could be one of the Gods. He has to be extremely skilled with face changing and illusions."

Yang Chen filtered through his opponents in his mind and he was suddenly reminded of the mysterious Raphael. Hermes was skilled at Illusions!

Yang Chen remembered when he wanted to kill Yang Lie and Hermes pulled him into an illusion. He saw Shi Qi which made him stop his actions!

If it was Hermes, it'd make sense since his abilities were on par with him. With his caduceus, he could even pull God into a dream. It shouldn't be hard for him to trick Yang Chen for a short time with some special magic.

"I think I know who did it but I don't understand his intentions." Yang Chen mumbled.

Gray Robe nodded but he didn't probe further, "Young Master Yang, you have to be careful. Things may seem peaceful in China but compared to decades ago, too many things happened for the past two years. Ever since you returned to China, weird things have been happening continuously. People are getting restless. Unfortunately, I'm not free to talk today as I need to follow Madam back to Beijing. I hope we'll meet again soon."

Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi bade him goodbye politely. They were grateful for his help.

Even though Yun Miao had returned to Beijing temporarily, it didn't mean that things were over. Once tabloids are spread out, it can't be controlled easily.

The whole afternoon, Lin Ruoxi was busy dealing with matters that arose from the tabloid. Technically, Yang Chen was supposed to take care of it as the director but Lin Ruoxi was forced to deal with it as was also involved in it. People would have bad-mouthed her if she didn't show up.

The thing that bothered her the most was an online media which took advantage of the situation and started to make stuff up.

Within a few hours, there were discussions on the internet guessing about the truth. Some said Hui Lin was the mistress and some said the President of Yu Lei was the mistress. They wondered about the mother of the child and if the man worked in Yu Lei...

Some even photoshopped a random girl's face with Hui Lin's face together and caused another uproar!

Yang Chen was impressed by their imagination. Regardless of the genuineness of the rumour, people flocked to it like how moths are drawn to fire.

It pained Yang Chen to watch Lin Ruoxi suffer and when it was time to get off work, he pulled her out of the office.

Lin Ruoxi was planning to work overtime to deal with these matters but she wasn't experienced in dealing with it, so it was impossible to convince Yang Chen to let her stay back. In the end, she handed it over to Liu Mingyu and decided to calm herself down back at home.

However, the moment they walked out of the office, Zhao Hongyan came rushing out of the elevator.

"President Lin, there's a ruckus going on outside the building." Zhao Hongyan sounded frantic.

A startled expression was seen in her tired eyes, "What happened..."

"A group of Miss Lin Hui's hardcore fans from the Fanclub are raising banners and shouting slogans, they are...they are cursing you..."

"Cursing me?"

"Mmh..." It was hard for Zhao Hongyan to say it.

Yang Chen could already guess the situation. They must have assumed that Lin Ruoxi was the mistress or that she did this on purpose to ruin her career.

"Just ignore them. Let's go home." Yang Chen said.

Lin Ruoxi wasn't willing to let this go but there was nothing she could do about it. She nodded and told Zhao Hongyan, "Tell the guards not to hurt them. They will leave when they're tired. If the police come, tell them not to be rough towards the fans."

"Got it. President, go home and have a rest. I'll contact you if there's any problem." Zhao Hongyan couldn't bear to see her like this.

Lin Ruoxi smiled and leaned on Yang Chen as they made their way towards the elevator.

Zhao Hongyan turned around and watched them leave. Lin Ruoxi had never looked so weak and exhausted...

Upon reaching the basement, Yang Chen held onto Lin Ruoxi's hand as they made their way towards the parking spot.

They had only taken a few steps when footsteps were heard running towards them!

Flashlights and shutter sounds were heard and felt from far away!

Yang Chen was preoccupied with his thoughts that he failed to notice the paparazzi waiting for them in the car park!

After all, Lin Ruoxi appeared on financial magazines and television news frequently so all they needed was to do some research. They snuck into the car park and surrounded Lin Ruoxi the moment she came downstairs!

"President Lin, is this your husband?"

"President Lin, can you tell us your thoughts about this incident?"

"Sir, are you Miss Lin Hui's mysterious boyfriend..."

The paparazzi started throwing questions at them excitedly while blocking their way.

Lin Ruoxi was shocked and she hid in Yang Chen's arms subconsciously. The paparazzi made her feel humiliated, she had never experienced something like this. It felt as if she was the mistress who was receiving eye rolls from everyone.

Yang Chen's face darkened. He hugged his wife and warned the paparazzi, "Scram."

The paparazzi became even excited when they heard this. He cursed at them! This could be used to make another article!

"Sir, are you acting so rude because you feel guilty?" One of the paparazzi held up a voice recorded pen.

Yang Chen grabbed the pen and broke it into pieces easily!

"I'll count to three. Scram now or you'll never be able to leave." Yang Chen's voice was hoarse.

The paparazzi wouldn't believe him. Some even snickered at him.

One of them smirked, "Sir, you must be President Lin's husband, Yang Chen. It'd be hard for us to write an article if you treat us like this. Why don't you cooperate with us and give us something to write about? We're just doing our jobs..."

"President Lin, you're a strong woman. Why can't you be honest? Are you really the mistress? Did you do this because of jealousy?"

Lin Ruoxi bit her lip and leaned on Yang Chen's chest. Her shoulders were trembling as she sobbed. Yang Chen's shirt was wet from her tears.

Lin Ruoxi knew that no one would believe in her even if she explained herself. The media wanted explosive news, not the truth.

Lin Ruoxi was more upset about the fact that Hui Lin was involved in this. The guilt was eating her up, she couldn't even stand straight.

Yang Chen felt differently. His patience was already at the brink.

These people were making up rumours, wishing to cause chaos in the world. If it wasn't for their immorality, things wouldn't have took such a big turn!

Abbess Yun Miao was Hui Lin's grandmother and she was technically his master too so he couldn't possibly do anything to her. However, these guys were strangers to him and yet they dared to bother him. They basically had a death wish.

"I gave you guys a chance and no one wanted it. Go to hell then."

The paparazzi laughed at him mockingly but soon, the smiles were wiped off of their faces!

A dark blue liquid appeared around Yang Chen. Black fumes were dissipating out of it. Fear was ignited in their minds even though the liquid moved like a squirming bug!

This was the Ming Water Yang Chen had just learned. Even though it was exaggerating to use it on mundanes, this was the easiest and quickest way to deal with them.

Before the paparazzi could react in time, the Ming Water had dispersed and attached to them!

With Yang Chen's precise control, all the Ming Water landed on their bodies and equipment without ruining anything else.

The paparazzi couldn't even shriek as they disappeared within seconds. This was capable of corroding blood races, let alone mundanes.

Right when Lin Ruoxi realised their surroundings had quietened down, she turned around to check things out. To her surprise, not a single silhouette could be seen around them as if they never showed up in the first place!

"You...you killed them all?" Lin Ruoxi asked in a daze.

Yang Chen snorted, "At least they had a clean death."

Lin Ruoxi sighed but she didn't reprimand him as she did in the past.

Having experienced so many things, her mindset had started to change.

Some new thoughts appeared in her mind involuntarily and she stared at him blankly.

Yang Chen wasn't bothered with her blank expression, pulling her towards their car instead. His brows were furrowed together the moment he saw the red Bentley.

Chapter 1214 - Take The Blame

Take The Blame

"Damn it...they're dedicated to their job."

Yang Chen wanted to curse. The paparazzi busted the tyres of Lin Ruoxi's Bentley so that they couldn't leave the car park!

Yang Chen didn't see this coming, how did they even find out about Lin Ruoxi's car?

Lin Ruoxi saw the situation and she wasn't sure how to react to it, "It's fine, we'll just drive your car."

"But we need to cross the road. Aren't you afraid someone will block our way?" Yang Chen smiled.

"Can't you go over yourself and drive the car over?" Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes.

"Oh, I didn't think of this. Ruoxi darling, you're really smart!"

"Enough, stop teasing me." Lin Ruoxi knew he was trying to cheer her up but it wouldn't work.

Around ten minutes later, the two of them steered away from the group of fanatic fans and went on the highway.

On their way home, Lin Ruoxi stayed silent as if she was deep in thought.

Yang Chen didn't interrupt her, assuming that she was thinking about Hui Lin's matter.

Lanlan had just returned home from kindergarten when they arrived. She was holding a dozen lamb skewers and there was another bag of fried chicken nuggets with Minjuan.

She was bouncing up and down with lips covered in grease and chilli powder.

Lanlan stuck out her tongue sheepishly when she saw her parents. With a blushed cheek, she tried to sneak into the house.

Even though Lin Ruoxi never stopped her daughter from eating roadside snacks, she didn't allow her to buy a bunch of it at once.

Minjuan wasn't expecting her to return so quickly. It was really awkward for her and she tried to explain herself, "President Lin, I bought this for myself. Please don't misunderstand."

Lin Ruoxi wasn't in the mood to talk about this and she walked over to carry Lanlan.

Lanlan opened her eyes wide and said in a soft voice, "Mommy, Lanlan will listen to you...I won't buy it anymore...don't be angry..."

Lin Ruoxi smiled at her gently, "Is it tasty?"

Lanlan nodded subconsciously but she quickly shook her head when she realized it was the wrong answer.

"You can have it if you want. I want you to be a good girl, it doesn't mean I won't let you eat it. You can eat whatever you like, just tell Aunt Minjuan to buy it for you. Don't waste money and you have to finish it if you bought it. Do you understand?" Lin Ruoxi said with a stern expression.

Yang Chen and Minjuan were taken aback by her change in attitude. When did she become so open-minded?

Lanlan was overjoyed and she nodded with a sweet smile, "You're the best, mommy!"

Lin Ruoxi pinched her cheeks and asked, "When's your holiday?"

Lanlan tried to recall, "In six more days!"

"It's almost time then. Should I bring you out? We can go anywhere to eat good food." Lin Ruoxi said.

Lanlan brightened up at her suggestion but Lin Ruoxi continued with a mysterious smile, "Mommy won't go to work if you'll be a good kid. I'll only bring you out if you're a good kid."

"Lanlan will be a good kid!" Lanlan promised her.

Yang Chen walked up to Lin Ruoxi when he heard this, "Dear, are you really going to take leave?"

She was always the busiest during the end of the year so why would she suggest bringing Lanlan out for a trip?

Lin Ruoxi looked at him with a deep gaze, "Let's go in first. I'll tell you more about it later."

It sounded weird to him as if Lin Ruoxi had made some sort of decision. Even though he couldn't really believe her, he still nodded and decided to wait.

Once they got into their warm house, they could finally relax their stiff bodies.

Having a kid certainly made the atmosphere lighter and warmer.

Lin Ruoxi felt better after having a warm shower and dinner with her family.

They watched television together until Lanlan became sleepy. Minjuan carried Lanlan to her room whereas Lin Ruoxi called Yang Chen out to the yard.

Yang Chen was already waiting for her to tell him what she was thinking about. Although she didn't seem to be in a hurry, strolling around the yard and looking up at the sky instead of talking to him.

Her breath was white from the cold and a sudden sigh escaped her lips after a long silence.

"Hubby, didn't you tell me before that you'll listen to all of my requests as long as I'm not forcing you to give up on the other women..."

Yang Chen was startled. He wasn't expecting her to start the conversation with this sentence.

He contemplated for a while before replying, "I did say that but it doesn't apply to every request."

"Are you not going to keep your promise?" Lin Ruoxi furrowed her brows. Anger was creeping up her face.

Yang Chen waved his hands and smiled awkwardly, "If you asked to leave my side, I can't agree to that. I wouldn't ignore it if you wanted to bully someone. I can only say that I'll support you most of the time."

"I knew you weren't that generous," Lin Ruoxi gave him a side-eye, "Let me ask you this. Is it true that you'll never oppose me regardless of the decisions I make on the operation of Yu Lei International?"

Yang Chen didn't even think twice about it, "Of course! The company was founded by you and your grandmother. It's your career and I've never thought of intervening."

Lin Ruoxi nodded and she took a deep breath before saying the next sentence, "If I say...I'm planning to resign and appoint someone else as the President, will you still support my decision?"

Yang Chen was startled. He stared at her blankly and a bitter smile formed on his lips, "I had this suspicion earlier on but I didn't think you would consider doing this for real...is this truly what you want?"

Lin Ruoxi's smile was bitter, "I'm really tired. I don't have the energy to deal with this anymore. After all, I'm still human. I can be heartless towards outsiders but I really don't know how to face my friends and family at work."

"Are you doing this because of Hui Lin's incident?"

"It's one of the reasons," Lin Ruoxi sounded resentful, "Be it Qianni or Mingyu, they both hold important positions in the company and I can't work without them but whenever I think about their relationship with you, I feel a prick at my heart...even so, because we're colleagues, I had to control my emotions and pretend as if nothing was wrong. Do you think it's easy for me?"

Yang Chen's face became flushed. He had thought about this before but he thought Lin Ruoxi had gotten over it ages ago. It turned out she had been suppressing her emotions all this while.

Lin Ruoxi continued, "Also, if I was an outsider, I would've cleared Hui Lin's work schedule for about half a year to a year before she can reappear in public but I can't do that. It's because I'm not only the President, I'm also her sister...how can I treat her coldly? I would be ruining her career if I did that. As the President, I can't let my employees be spit on and cursed by others but as Hui Lin's sister, I can't do anything that will possibly hurt her...I really don't know how I should deal with this. I'm really tired...I want to rest..."

Yang Chen furrowed his brows and patted her shoulder. He sighed and tried to console her, "I understand your feelings but...if you resigned and gave your position to someone else, they can't do anything about this either. They'll only say you chickened out from the pressure."

"I know, that's why I'm planning to hold a press conference to publicize our relationship. I want the public to know that Hui Lin is innocent. I want to clear her name and take the responsibility for damaging the company's image and Hui Lin's reputation. This way I'll be able to step down from my position with a valid reason.

Yang Chen refuted her, "What responsibility?! The tabloids are the ones who are responsible for this!"

"But someone has to take the blame. I don't plan to work anymore so this will be the final thing I can do for Hui Lin. It's what I can do to make it up to her." Lin Ruoxi said.

Yang Chen thought her decision was extremely foolish but he couldn't bring himself to say no. She was right, this would never end unless someone took the blame. Hui Lin would never be able to stand in public proudly unless she stayed hidden from the public forever.

Right at this moment, the door opened and Wang Ma came running out of the house while shouting frantically, "Miss! Sir! Come in quick! Bad news!"

Chapter 1215 - Atrocity

Atrocity

Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi were surprised. Why was there another bad news?

"Wang Ma, calm down. What's going on?" Yang Chen asked.

Wang Ma was frantic, not knowing how to tell them, "I can't say it clearly, come and watch the television! It's live news!"

"Live news?" Lin Ruoxi was puzzled at first but she quickly ran into the house.

Once they got in, the television was broadcasting the night news.

The night news was usually filled with all sorts of news but they mostly summarise overseas news that had happened in the day. However, it was different today. The news media dispatched journalists to a live scene for exclusive news coverage!

A journalist dressed in formal attire was seen holding a microphone in front of the camera. Behind him was a press conference packed with journalists and cameramen. Camera flashes were going on and off continuously.

"Dear audiences, we're currently reporting live from top star Lin Hui's press conference! Photos of her and a mysterious man had been spreading all over the internet and she has become involved with the marriage of the President of Yu Lei International. People have been making guesses about their relationship. Miss Lin Hui came to an agreement with the broadcasting station through her manager and they have decided to hold a press conference to clarify things and reveal the truth to all her fans and the public..."

Lin Ruoxi's face became ghastly pale as she stood in front of the television.

With trembling lips, she grabbed Yang Chen's clothes, "What is going on?? Why is there a press conference?! Why didn't I know about this?!"

It was confusing for Yang Chen to accept this too, "Don't ask me, I didn't know about this either. No one informed me."

"Did Hui Lin do this herself..." Lin Ruoxi mumbled.

Wang Ma sounded anxious, "What is going on? You guys didn't know about this? Did Hui Lin arrange this secretly?"

"That's the only explanation. She must have organised this press conference by herself. This silly girl..." Yang Chen's mind was a mess. He didn't know what to do either.

"No! I can't let her do this!"

Lin Ruoxi ran to the coffee table and dialled Hui Lin's handphone number.

The call went through quickly but Hui Lin's manager, Yu Min was the one who answered the call.

"Let Lin Hui answer the call! End the press conference!" Lin Ruoxi was furious.

Yu Min's throat felt dry, "President Lin, it's too late. The journalists are already here. We can't stop it now..."

"How can you guys do this without getting our permission?! Aren't you afraid of losing your job?!" Lin Ruoxi was close to having a mental breakdown.

Yu Min felt sorrow, "I didn't want to do this either but Miss Lin Hui did this behind our backs. We couldn't stop her in time...that's why we didn't dare to inform Director Yang. I've let everyone down..."

There was already no turning back as the press conference had started.

Hui Lin was dressed in a black suit with a stern expression. Her bare face seemed haggard but she still forced a smile.

Compared to when she first arrived in Zhonghai, Hui Lin had matured over time but work had also changed her.

The shy smile on her flawless face remained the same.

From the live stream, they could see Abbess Yun Miao standing at the side of the stage.

Her face was stern and no one could have guessed that this middle-aged looking woman would be Hui Lin's grandmother.

The press conference had no emcee which showed that she planned to face the journalists and audiences on her own.

After waiting for everyone to quiet down, Hui Lin spoke up, "Sorry for the long wait. I had to organise a press conference because of what happened today. It hasn't been a long time but it brought me profound feelings. I don't think I need to reiterate the incident anymore. Please voice out your questions one by one if you have any. I'll answer with the truth."

The journalists all shouted at once and the bodyguards had to keep them under control. In the end, Hui Lin chose a journalist herself.

"Miss Lin Hui, who's the man in the photo? What is your relationship with him? Why did you go to that kindergarten?"

Hui Lin smiled, "The man in the photo is my brother-in-law. The reason why I became a singer is that I love to sing. I love music. My sister is President Lin Ruoxi from Yu Lei International. We're not blood-related but she dotes on me. She founded the entertainment company because of me. My sister and my brother-in-law have a daughter and she's studying in Yunhua Kindergarten. The kids had a performance on Christmas Day and my sister invited me to watch my niece's performance. There's nothing else going on with my brother-in-law."

Another journalist asked, "I have a question. You gain popularity quickly because of the Star of Yu Lei. Were you able to win easily because of your sister?"

The journalist was obviously trying to provoke Hui Lin and he gained angry stares from the staff as a result.

Hui Lin smiled faintly, "I'm sure there are suspicions like this and it won't go away anytime soon. After all, I'm still young and I became famous too quickly. Indeed, I wouldn't be able to reach this level of success without my sister's support. I can only say that for those who like to hear me sing, they must like me for a reason. As to whether I deserved to be the champion, I'm sure that the audiences have an answer for it."

The journalists nodded their heads in agreement. Even though they worked with media companies, most of them enjoyed Hui Lin's songs. Even if she had a strong background, she still needed the talent to reach this level.

Lin Ruoxi's eyes were brimmed with tears as she watched the television.

Her heart was feeling less anxious. Maybe Hui Lin's sincere attitude would be able to solve this problem.

Suddenly, a male journalist stood up, "Miss Lin Hui, from the research I've done, during the shooting for the God of Sword you had a dispute with the lead actor, Zhang Kaiwei. Scandals about Zhang Kaiwei were released. Is it true that you refused to submit to him and you also refused to do a kiss scene so you hit him, is that true?"

His words caused an uproar in the crowd. *Why did he mention this suddenly? Unless there was really an inside story?*

Zhang Kaiwei's incident happened months ago but everyone still remembered it clearly. Frankly, most of the experienced journalists thought it was fishy since it felt like the production team was trying to cover things up.

Unfortunately, they weren't able to interview Zhang Kaiwei since he was in prison.

Hui Lin became nervous subconsciously since Yang Chen was involved in this incident but she still nodded, "Mmh, that's true..."

Her answer made the journalist smirk and raise his voice, "Everyone, I had the opportunity to interview Zhang Kaiwei last week as he was out of the prison and hospitalised because he was sick. He was feeling weak from pneumonia but he still told me about the dirty deeds done by Yu Lei in hopes to clear his name. He told me that Lin Hui had a secret relationship with her brother-in-law!"

"Woah!!!"

The whole crowd clamored and the camera flashes flickered continuously. This was breaking news!

Lin Ruoxi looked at Yang Chen in confusion as Yang Chen widened his eyes in shock. He never saw this coming!

Zhang Kaiwei?! How did he manage to stir up trouble at this critical moment?!

Yang Chen thought this was already in the past but Zhang Kaiwei turned out to be a time bomb!

Hui Lin turned ghastly pale from shock and she started trembling. She never expected this to happen.

The male journalist took out a CD proudly, "This is a copy of the audio and video recordings of my interview with Zhang Kaiwei. It's exclusive content and I was planning to reveal it at a suitable time since

Yu Lei International is a huge company. We didn't dare to provoke them. But now, to ensure that our colleagues will not be exploited and that the fans will not be lied to, our director decided to reveal the dirty deeds done by Yu Lei and the atrocity of Lin Hui and her brother-in-law!"

Chapter 1216 - Courage

Courage

This journalist was sly, seeing how he purposely mentioned Zhang Kaiwei's critical condition before taking the CD out.

He wanted to pique everyone's interest since in situations like this, people would normally pity the weaker one. With the so-called evidence in his hand, he would have gained the upper hand.

"What evidence? Play it for everyone!"

Someone started to shout, followed by supportive words from others.

Abbess Yun Miao had been standing by the stage quietly, thinking that this incident would be over soon. She was feeling proud that her granddaughter was finally growing up when a clown interrupted the press conference!

Anger crept up her face and she motioned the bodyguards to do something. The leader of the bodyguards understood her message and he ordered two bodyguards to get the journalist out of here.

However, before they could get any closer, the journalist pointed towards them and yelled, "Did you guys see this?! They are calling the bodyguards to kick me out of here! They are feeling guilty!!"

The other journalists were infuriated and the whole scene became a mess.

Abbess Yun Miao's face darkened. She wasn't expecting things to be so complicated. There was nothing she could do other than feel anxious.

Right at this moment, Hui Lin stood up and raised her voice, "Everyone, please calm down. I'm willing to watch what's inside the CD. I promise that I'll be honest with everyone if the content inside the CD is true since there are a lot of eyewitnesses at that time."

The journalists quietened down and the journalist smirked before putting the CD into a player and turned on the projector.

Soon, a video showed up on the huge screen. Zhang Kaiwei was seen sitting in the hospital bed with a pale face and an IV drip next to him.

His voice was weak but it was still audible.

The interview started and they could hear the journalist's voice, "Mister Zhang, can you tell me what exactly happened on the filming site?"

"Sure," Zhang Kaiwei nodded weakly, "On that day, the filming was smooth but a dispute happened because of a kiss scene. I think the scene wouldn't look good if a body double was used so I suggested doing the scene with Miss Lin Hui as an act of professionalism...I'm a professional actor so I hate it when some people harbour personal feelings during filming. I feel that once you decide to act in a movie, you

should dedicate yourself to the movie and the director. You shouldn't ruin a movie because of personal reasons..."

Tears were brimming in his eyes which accentuated his anger.

Upon hearing this, some journalists started to look at him with pity and respect since they were aware of the hardships faced by actors, having worked in the showbiz world.

"I never thought that Miss Lin Hui would refuse to continue with the filming because I was against using a body double. I was even angry at the fact that some man who called himself as the Director of Yu Lei Entertainment brought gifts over to Lin Hui and when he heard about the dispute, he beat me up...I'm just an artist. I don't have a strong background so they worked together and forced me to record a fake video. They threatened to break my limbs if I didn't follow their orders...I only found out about the man's identity after the incident. He's the Director of Yu Lei Entertainment and also the husband of President Lin Ruoxi from Yu Lei International. I was puzzled at that time, wondering why he would come and visit Lin Hui by himself. They were really close and I never expected him to beat me up because of Lin Hui..."

Lin Ruoxi turned ghastly pale when she heard this.

Yang Chen furrowed his brows and wished he could teleport to Beijing and wreck the whole conference. However, it was impossible to do so since it would only make matters worse.

He could be fearless and do whatever he wanted but that didn't mean that Hui Lin and his family could do the same.

"Is...is it true?" Lin Ruoxi asked with a trembling voice.

Yang Chen sighed deeply and shook his head, "Not really. He was the one who started it. He insisted on kissing Hui Lin but we had an agreement that all kinds of intimate scenes were prohibited. He was arrogant at that time so I beat him up. I didn't think he would dare to make stuff up because he's ill."

Lin Ruoxi didn't suspect him since she remembered this was stated in the agreement.

As for the relationship between Yang Chen and Hui Lin, she wouldn't think much about it since she was the one who suggested Yang Chen to go over.

"Then what should we do? Things aren't looking good for Hui Lin now." Lin Ruoxi was worried.

Yang Chen's brows were tightly knitted as he couldn't come up with anything now.

"I don't know. No matter what we say, people will still be suspicious of her, no one would believe her."

Hui Lin's gaze was unreadable as she faced everyone's suspicious stares.

The journalist sounded cocky when the video was done playing, "Alright. Miss Lin Hui, I'm sure everyone can tell that my video is legitimate. I'm really curious about something, is he just your brother-in-law? Why would he visit you by himself? Why would he abuse a famous actor because of a kiss scene?! From what I know, you accompanied him out of the filming site on that day. There are many eyewitnesses on the production team. Your relationship with him is too close."

The journalist stirred up the scene. On the other hand, the rest of the media didn't care about the truth as long as it was breaking news!

Abbess Yun Miao's eyes were filled with murderous intent. She had decided to kill the journalist herself once this conference was over. It didn't matter even if she would be suspected by everyone else!

She could feel her heart bleeding from the pain as she watched her only granddaughter receive mocking gazes from the crowd.

Yang Chen tightened his fists as he stood in front of the television, "Ruoxi, I have to go to Beijing. If this goes on, Hui Lin won't be able to withstand it. This happened because of me so I should take care of it."

Before he could leave, Lin Ruoxi grabbed him anxiously, "You're going there? Are you crazy? Not only would they wonder how you appeared out of nowhere, but it would also make things worse! Can you stop everyone from talking? Would they believe in your explanation?"

Yang Chen was stumped for words. He knew it was futile for him to be there but it pained him to watch Hui Lin face the media by herself.

She had never gotten anything from him other than silent rejections and heartbreaks.

But now, she had to face so many curses and mocks because of him.

Yang Chen was at a loss. He wondered if his attitude towards Hui Lin was right or wrong. Did he do it for her own good or did he cause harm to her?

Before he could organise his thoughts, Hui Lin stood up silently.

She faced the cameras and media with a bashful smile.

For a moment, the crowd became silent from her sudden yet breathtaking smile.

Hui Lin breathed out and pursed her lips before bowing down slightly.

"I'm sorry that I've caused trouble to those who've been supporting me. I know that I won't be able to appear on stage and on screen after today but I hope that everyone can listen to me quietly as I share my relationship with my sister and my brother-in-law. By then, you all should be able to understand why these things happened."

She paused for a moment as if to muster up all her courage before continuing, "Yes, I like my brother-in-law."

Chapter 1217 - What Can You Do

What Can You Do

The whole area turned silent.

No one could have thought she would pour fuel into a burning fire.

Even Abbess Yun Miao thought she was hearing things. *Did her granddaughter lose her mind from all the pressure?!*

The crowd clamored after seconds of silence!

Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi too were stumped for words.

Wang Ma covered her mouth out of shock as she looked at Hui Lin with a loving yet confused gaze.

Yang Chen felt as if someone was clenching his heart and he was struggling to breathe from it.

Lin Ruoxi trembled, biting her lips as she made her way upstairs.

“Miss, where are you going?” Wang Ma asked worriedly.

“Rest.”

Lin Ruoxi replied flatly and went into her room without looking behind her.

Yang Chen stood still in the same spot. He couldn't be bothered about Lin Ruoxi's thoughts when his mind was a mess.

On the other hand, Hui Lin felt more relaxed as if she had put down a heavy stone off her chest.

She smiled at the crowd, “I don't want to hide my feelings because I can't control my heart. I've been curious about my brother-in-law the moment I first met him. As we spent more time together, the curiosity turned into romantic feelings. But I hope that people won't look down on me. I know that my sister and my brother-in-law only think of me as a younger sister. I've never dreamt of being together with my brother-in-law and he has never crossed the line. Humans aren't made out of wood, so it'd be impossible to shut my feelings away. On that day, my brother-in-law beat up Zhang Kaiwei because he was protective of me. There's nothing more to it. If you all don't believe in me, you can ask Director Yu Shuo and the staff. They can be our eyewitnesses. I never provoked him. I'll never back down because this is more than my morals and dignity, my sister's company and my brother-in-law's morality. From today onwards, I'm no longer a singer, actress and artist. I'm just Lin Hui, a normal girl who doesn't need to worry about my reputation or hide my feelings...”

At the end of her sentence, Hui Lin took a step back and bowed to them before getting off the stage.

Yun Miao guided her to the backstage and only then journalists snapped out of it and tried to chase after her.

However, the bodyguards were ordered to block their way.

Yun Miao hugged her granddaughter's shoulder and with a loving yet proud voice, she said to Hui Lin, “Hui Lin, you did the right thing. Granny will take care of the journalist for you!”

Hui Lin shook her head and chuckled, “It's fine, granny. I said I'm quitting the showbiz. They can do whatever they want. It'll be over soon.”

“You...you're really not singing anymore?” Yun Miao was taken aback.

“Mhm.” Hui Lin nodded.

Yun Miao's expression was unreadable and she sighed, “This is weird, initially I was against you singing and acting. Even though our clan is declining, we are still a reputable clan, it doesn't make sense for you

to be an actress. But then, I saw how happy you looked on the stage so I thought it worked out well. Now, you're telling me that you're going to stop singing while I know it's your passion. Won't it be a pity to give up now?"

Hui Lin forced a smile and shook her head, "No, I've experienced it. It's good enough."

"Hmph, it's all Yang Chen's fault! He shouldn't have caused you trouble if he wasn't willing to accept you! He's hiding in Zhonghai and he made you face them all by yourself..." Yun Miao complained.

"Granny, you can't blame him. He did it for my own good, I'm sure he doesn't feel good about it either." Hui Lin said.

"You're still defending him," Yun Miao sighed, "Hui Lin, what are you planning to do next? Now that you're no longer singing, you still need to find something to do."

Hui Lin looked down and muttered, "Granny, I want to go back to Emei and cultivate. I need some time alone..."

Yun Miao saw this coming so she wasn't surprised. She nodded in agreement, "Sure, I haven't been there in a long while. You can look after the place on my behalf. The population of Shushan has been decreasing and if this goes on, the bloodline will end. Rest well when you're there and guide your younger disciples too."

"Mmh, take care of yourself, granny." Hui Lin hugged her only family.

Yun Miao's eyes reddened and she forced a smile, "Don't worry. I'm still young. I'll visit you at Emei soon."

Their close relationship warmed the corridor.

Gray Robe stood far behind them quietly and a sigh escaped his lips.

After the live conference, the dispute moved online.

Some supported Hui Lin for her honesty and courage whereas some thought she was making things up. However, it was actually more shocking to learn that Hui Lin decided to quit the showbiz world.

She had already reached great heights and she decided to leave just like that, even giving up on performing at the New Year's Gala. This convinced others that she was innocent.

It didn't make sense for someone like her to bully someone else when she was able to give up on fame and career. It wasn't like she needed this boost of popularity.

Yang Chen didn't think much about it.

After standing still for a long moment, he finally walked upstairs and knocked on Lin Ruoxi's door.

Lin Ruoxi didn't open the door, answering him from her room instead.

"I don't know anything and I didn't hear anything. I'm going to sleep now."

Even though there was a door between them, he still heard her clearly.

Having lived together for so long, Yang Chen understood what she was trying to say.

She didn't want to face this but she didn't want to stop Yang Chen from making a decision.

She couldn't bring herself to stop Yang Chen from checking up on Hui Lin but she wouldn't feel good if he went.

So, she chose to pretend to know nothing. Even if it was all a pretence, at least it was easier than facing it head-on.

Yang Chen didn't hesitate any further and he arrived in Beijing as quickly as possible.

It wasn't hard to locate Abbess Yun Miao and Gray Robe since they had cultivation. Yang Chen appeared from a hidden corner and walked towards the car park.

Yun Miao was talking to Gray Robe as they made their way towards the car.

They were surprised to see Yang Chen standing by the car.

"Where's Hui Lin?" Yang Chen asked directly. He searched around the area but he couldn't find her.

Abbess Yun Miao felt slightly better when she saw how worried he seemed.

"You're too late. She left ages ago." Yun Miao replied.

"Where did she go?" Yang Chen was astonished.

"She's going back to Emei. She's planning to cultivate and she wanted me to inform you guys to cancel all her work." Yun Miao said flatly.

Yang Chen was frustrated. The guilt towards Hui Lin was getting stronger. He was just talking to Lin Ruoxi on how to overcome this crisis but who would have thought that Hui Lin would choose to sacrifice herself!

"I'm going after her. I can't let her leave like this."

Before he could leave, Yun Miao stopped him, "What are you going to do when you see her? Can you make her happy? Can you let her stand in front of Lin Ruoxi confidently?! What can you do for her?"

"I..."

Yang Chen was stumped for words.

"You can't do anything. Hui Lin wouldn't want you to look for her. She's a sensible kid and if you want her to feel better, let her go back to Emei by herself."

Yun Miao sighed and motioned Gray Robe before passing by Yang Chen to get into the car.

Yang Chen stood idle and didn't move even after Yun Miao left.

At the same time, far in the North Pole, the night sky was filled with stars.

Underneath the ice layer in Yan Buwen's giant laboratory, the atmosphere seemed weird.

The whole laboratory was brightly lit, showing complex datas running on multiple screens.

At the middle of the laboratory was a large operating table. Countless tubes and wires were stuck to a man's body.

Around the operation table were four weirdly shaped metal equipment like four twisted water pillars!

A fuzzy ball of energy was forming at the converging point of the pillars!

The man lying on the table was naked with his limbs tightly bound to the table, prohibiting him from moving!

It was Yang Lie!

Although he was still conscious, he'd rather pass out!

This was all because the dark energy ball above him was preparing to erode him!

Chapter 1218 - You

You

"Calm down, it'll be fine soon. This is all for your own good, hehe..."

A man snickered at the side. He was wearing a stained lab coat with dishevelled hair. His beard was covering his face from the unkemptness.

Wen Tao wouldn't have been able to recognise himself if he looked in the mirror.

He was wearing nothing but a lab coat. His muscles were firm and tough but the lack of fat in his body made him look bony.

Lying on his chest was a fuzzy ball of energy. With a closer look, one would have realised it was the antimatter energy, the God's Stone!

Same as Yan Buwen, Wen Tao used the technology left behind by Yan Buwen. He fused the God's Stone with his body and after multiple attempts to improvise it, the energy he gained from it has far surpassed what Yan Buwen once had.

The streaks of antimatter energy that were being released from the four weird equipment actually came from Wen Tao!

He was already skilled at using the antimatter energy and it seemed to be flowing out of him endlessly!

"You...what are you doing?!"

Yang Lie almost lost it. He had been hiding in the North Pole to cultivate until Wen Tao came to him and controlled him forcefully.

He had him bound to the operation table and with the oppression coming from the antimatter energy, Yang Lie couldn't budge at all!

He thought his cultivation had improved greatly but he never expected that Wen Tao's progression would be inhumane!

“Hehe...don’t you want to be stronger? This is my newest research – antimatter energy transformation device! All I need to do is to activate it with the God’s Stone and it can strengthen the antimatter energy by three hundred-fold. It can be used to change and reset your genome! If this succeeds, my antimatter genetic link will be unlocked, and I can do whatever I want!”

Wen Tao cackled. His bloodshot eyes were filled with zeal!

“What...what do you mean...?” Yang Lie’s voice was trembling.

“How would I know...” Wen Tao grinned, “According to Yan Buwen’s idea, the transformation on the test subject is still unknown. Well, no matter how it turned out to be, I’m sure I’ll benefit from it. You won’t understand it even if I explain it to you.”

“You...how could you use me as a test subject!! Aren’t we partners?!” Yang Lie roared.

Wen Tao threw his head back and laughed, “Partner? You? You’re just a dog to me! Do you think you’re better than that b*tch? Hilarious!”

Wen Tao widened his arms. The God’s Stone was activated by his mind and a blinding glow of grey light exploded from it!

The equipment collected and strengthened the antimatter energy until a limit was reached!

A bolt of antimatter energy was shot out of the energy ball and swallowed Yang Lie’s body!

Yang Lie froze and his body was engulfed by the antimatter energy within seconds!

A destructive pillar of grey light broke through the permafrost and crushed large areas of ice!

The cracking sounds lasted for a minute and the laboratory was half destroyed at the end of it.

Electric sparks and flames were jumping around the laboratory and the only thing standing was the antimatter energy barrier.

The operating table was gone, including Yang Lie who was lying on it!

The only thing left was a ball of energy!

Wen Tao stood by the side. With trembling hands, he held the energy ball which was the size of a basketball.

Slowly, the ball of energy rushed into the God’s Stone in his chest!

“I did it...I did it!”

Wen Tao was thrilled. He could feel something squirming in his body as if his cells were moving.

A second later, Wen Tao had transformed into Yang Lie!

“Yang Lie” smirked and with a simple swipe of his hand, a hundred Ton of ice and snow was vaporized by a gust of antimatter energy.

He jumped lightly and reached the dark ice field.

Two silhouettes appeared behind “Yang Lie” – Luo Cuishan and Ning Guodong.

They were no longer the same as before, totally unaffected by the cold.

Shock was evident in Luo Cuishan’s eyes when he saw “Yang Lie”. She giggled at him and said, “Little Cripple, dear, you finally succeeded. Should I call you Young Master Yang?”

Wen Tao turned around and Luo Cuishan landed in his arms with a gasp!

His strong arm wrapped around her tightly as if he wanted to crush her.

Luo Cuishan was used to it, licking her lips with a seductive expression.

Ning Guodong remained expressionless. This woman was no longer his mother.

Wen Tao wasn’t in the mood to do anything with her.

“Have you got anything?” Wen Tao asked.

“Yes, there are two middle-aged men in the Ning clan now, Ning Xin and Ning De. They’re greatly respected in the Ning clan and Ning Guangyao was polite to them. They should be from the Ning clan in the border.” Ning Guodong answered him.

“Nice...we have to take advantage of this.” Wen Tao sneered.

Luo Cuishan muttered, “Little Cripple, are we going to the Ning clan? Why don’t you eat Ning Guanyao and be the Premier for fun?”

“Foolish,” Wen Tao snorted, “You think Ning Guangyao is dumb? You think Ning Xin and Ning De are weak and easy to be dealt with? Do you think the hidden clan can be fooled easily? Why would other people do risky things like this? I’m Yang Lie now, I got to take advantage of this identity.”

“Are you saying...” Luo Cuishan rolled her eyes and she smiled brightly as if a lightbulb lighted up in her mind, “Little Cripple, you’re really smart!”

Wen Tao sneered and sniffed her neck but there was no lust in her eyes.

“Alright, we’ve spent enough time in the North Pole...let’s go back to Beijing!”

A person dressed in a black robe and metal mask stood a few kilometres away from the laboratory and witnessed the whole incident.

Just when the trio left the North Pole in a rush, a black silhouette appeared behind Black Robe.

Black Robe turned around and bowed to her, “Your Highness Athena, you’re here.”

“Mmh.”

Athena responded with a faint hum. She looked far ahead, “He did it...”

Black Robe nodded, “Yes, just as you said, he activated the genetic link and ate Yang Lie. He transformed into Yang Lie and his powers had improved greatly.”

“He’s still slower, looks like he’s not as good at Yan Buwen.” It sounded as though losing a chess piece like Yan Buwen was a great loss.

Black Robe smirked, “In my opinion, Yan Buwen might be more talented, but Wen Tao is more ambitious and ruthless. I’m sure he’ll be a threat to us soon. I don’t know why you’re keeping him but hasn’t he completed his mission with the research?”

“I need the results from his research, but he still has values. Stop asking about it.”

“Yes.” Black Robe answered obediently.

Athena looked towards the laboratory, “Move the equipment to a safe place and destroy the rest. After that, go to Beijing and keep an eye on him. Remember not to give yourself away. Yang Chen will head to Beijing soon, don’t let him find out about you...I won’t save you again...”

Cold sweat dripped down his forehead. He didn’t want to be “eaten” by the Chaos Cauldron again. With a frantic nod, he flew towards the laboratory immediately. With his abilities, it was a piece of cake to move and hide those stuff.

However, Athena was acting more and more mysterious. All her moves were precisely calculated which made him fear and respect her. Even with centuries worth of experience, he still couldn’t read her mind.

Chapter 1219 - Keeping Him In Suspense

Keeping Him In Suspense

It was the day after Yang Chen’s return from Beijing, and they were having breakfast at home.

Lanlan was the only one enjoying her meal whereas Lin Ruoxi, Wang Ma and Yang Chen didn’t have an appetite.

As a matter of fact, Yang Chen didn’t sleep at all. His mind was filled with thoughts as he sat on the sofa the entire night.

Should he go look for Hui Lin? Or should he let her go back to Emei on her own?

Yang Chen realized he was unable to make a decision when his heart was still wavering.

Halfway through her meal, Lin Ruoxi put down her chopsticks and asked Yang Chen with a flat tone, “Hui Lin went back to Emei, am I right?”

Yang Chen was startled, “How did you know that?”

“She texted me. She told me not to miss her and that she’s sorry about what happened to my company.” Lin Ruoxi’s voice was calm but he could hear the hint of sadness.

Yang Chen laughed self-deprecatingly, “Why didn’t she text me?”

“Are you going to look for her?” Lin Ruoxi asked suddenly.

Yang Chen was taken aback and he looked at her with a dazed expression.

“I won’t stop you if you want to go.” Lin Ruoxi said word by word.

Yang Chen took a deep breath, "I know you won't stop me because she's Hui Lin. But that's the exact reason why I can't go."

Lin Ruoxi smiled faintly, "I don't know if I should be happy, sorry or sad about this."

"Don't overthink it. No one did anything wrong, some things in life just don't work out but it wouldn't be impossible to get over it. Hui Lin's still young, she might be able to get over it while cultivating." Yang Chen consoled her.

Lin Ruoxi sighed internally. This wasn't about Hui Lin's attitude; it was about his feelings towards Hui Lin.

Even so, Lin Ruoxi wouldn't say it out loud. It was a sensitive topic to her, so she chose to stay silent.

Lin Ruoxi shook her head and patted Lanlan's head before getting up to leave for work.

Yang Chen was startled, "You're not eating anymore? Why? did something urgent happen in the company?"

"No, I have an appointment and I need to prepare a lot of stuff for a meeting." Lin Ruoxi replied.

"Dear, are you really retiring?" Yang Chen was shocked.

Lin Ruoxi nodded, "I told you yesterday, you said you'll support my decision."

"But you don't need to rush. You have to choose a suitable successor. Yu Lei is a multinational corporation, it's not that easy to find someone who's proficient and familiar with it's corporation matters." Yang Chen thought she was really efficient!

Lin Ruoxi smiled mysteriously, "You can come to the headquarters if you're curious. I've chosen my successor and the person will be arriving at the company later."

Yang Chen had a bad hunch since she was keeping him in suspense. He felt as if he was "fooled" by her again!

Regardless of the process, it would be shocking news to the industry for Yu Lei to suddenly change the President.

Especially since Hui Lin's incident had inflicted heavy losses to the company's stock.

However, overall, Yu Lei International wasn't really affected since Yu Lei Entertainment wasn't the main source of income.

Compared to that, Lin Ruoxi's retirement at the golden age would gain much attention from the public.

Lin Ruoxi gathered all the executives of Yu Lei last night, so when she arrived at the company, the executives were already seated in the meeting room nervously.

Mo Qianni and Liu Mingyu were also present, but they had no idea what Lin Ruoxi was trying to do. They could only shake their heads when their colleagues asked them about the purpose of this meeting.

It would've been hard for other companies to change their President, but things were different in Yu Lei.

Lin Ruoxi had full control over Yu Lei and no one could stop her even if she wanted to quit.

The employees were more concerned about the next President as it would directly affect their work lives.

At 10 o'clock, Lin Ruoxi arrived at the meeting room right on time. As she walked into the room with a calm expression, all the executives stood up instinctively to welcome her.

After years of working together, although Lin Ruoxi was a young woman, she had left a heavy influence on them.

Yang Chen didn't attend the meeting as an executive, instead, he stood by the door and leaned on the doorframe while waiting for Lin Ruoxi's "surprise".

Zhao Hongyan followed behind Lin Ruoxi and her mind was a mess. She was one of the earliest people to know about Lin Ruoxi's retirement because she had to contact the executives to attend this meeting.

She had been feeling lost because of this. If Lin Ruoxi quit as the President, was there a need for her to stay here since she was Lin Ruoxi's assistant?

"Have a seat!" Lin Ruoxi said to them.

The whole room was completely silent as everyone fixed their gazes on Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi kept quiet for a short moment before smiling at them, "I know you guys are worried and confused. You all are making guesses and are having doubts, but it won't affect my announcement. I'm quitting my position as the President of Yu Lei International."

Someone gasped in surprise and some even stared at Lin Ruoxi in disbelief.

"President Lin, what is going on? Our company is doing well now, how can we continue without you?"

"Yeah, President Lin, tell us about your troubles. We have been through a lot together, there's nothing to be afraid of."

They couldn't hold it in any longer and they started to persuade Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi shook her head and asked everyone to pipe down, "I'm quitting as the President, but it doesn't mean I'm abandoning Yu Lei. My grandmother gave her all for this company and it has been like a part of my family...I won't abandon my family. I'm saying that I'll quit the position, but I'll still be holding 50% of the company's share. I'm still the chairman...it's just that for some personal reasons, I can't be working every day as I did for the past few years."

The executives were slightly relieved, but some were still puzzled.

"President Lin, are you being the chairman because you're too stressed from work?"

Lin Ruoxi smiled, "There are many reasons for this. I'm sure you guys have heard about it. I'm married and I have a child now. I want to spend more time with my daughter and watch her grow. My husband doesn't like it when I overwork myself. I should spend more time with my family. I'm really tired and I should give myself some time off. It's the golden age for Yu Lei now and I don't have much left to do anymore. I might as well retire and have someone else succeed me."

The executives whispered among themselves. They could understand her grounds since they were also parents.

“But President Lin, if you’re quitting, who will be your successor? The successor has to be familiar with Yu Lei and has sufficient work experience in Yu Lei. He or she has to be capable and be able to convince us.” Someone asked.

Lin Ruoxi looked at the clock and said, “The successor should be here soon, please wait for a while.”

Two minutes later, Yang Chen who was leaning on the door stood up...

He was dumbstruck when he saw the couple walking out of the elevator.

The man was dressed in a suit neatly with a red tie which made him look like he was in great spirits. The woman looked normal, but her reserved and graceful aura was equivalent to a businesswoman.

Xue Ming and Wu Yue?!

Yang Chen never saw this coming. The couple who went to the States was back?!

Everyone else was also dumbstruck when Xue Ming and Wu Yue appeared in the meeting room.

Xue Ming smiled at Yang Chen bashfully whereas Wu Yue nodded at him with a light stoop as if she was thanking him.

“Isn’t...isn’t this...Vice President Li?”

“Assistant Wu is here too. Didn’t they go to the States?”

The executives were shocked but Mo Qianni and Liu Mingyu’s faces were grave since they knew about the inside story.

Chapter 1220

Trick

“It’s been a while, Mister Yang. I hope you are not irked by our appearance.” Xue Minghe said carefully as if he was afraid to offend him.

Yang Chen looked at the couple back and forth before turning his gaze towards Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi looked at him anxiously, pleading with her gaze.

Yang Chen sighed helplessly and laughed self-deprecatingly before leaving for the elevator.

He wasn’t keen on talking to Xue Minghe nor was he interested in listening to the meeting.

No wonder Lin Ruoxi kept asking him if he would support her fully, the successor she had chosen was Xue Minghe!

Yang Chen was impressed.

Firstly, Xue Minghe had worked in Yu Lei for a long time and he was aware of his own abilities. He wouldn't dare to betray the company since he had witnessed Yang Chen's brutality. Lastly, Wu Yue's return would only strengthen their coordination in managing the company.

Most importantly, Xue Minghe was Lin Ruoxi's cousin so it was equivalent to handing the company over to her own family.

Lin Ruoxi wasn't willing to hand Yu Lei over to an outsider.

Yang Chen was impressed. His wife must have planned this long ago or else Xue Minghe and Wu Yue wouldn't be able to return so quickly. She must have been in contact with them without telling Yang Chen.

This wasn't her first time hiding things from him and it still made him feel uncomfortable. Yang Chen would rather get out of here so it wouldn't affect him further.

A flash of frustration and worry appeared in Lin Ruoxi's eyes, but she snapped out of it immediately and called Xue Minghe and Wu Yue into the room.

Xue Minghe and Wu Yue felt awkward at Yang Chen's reaction, but they still greeted everyone in a friendly manner.

Lin Ruoxi motioned everyone to sit down before introducing Xue Minghe and Wu Yue, "You guys are right, this is our ex-vice president, Mister Li Minghe. His original surname is Xue and he has changed his name to Xue Minghe. I'm sure everyone here is aware of his working abilities, thus his return to the company with Assistant Wu is a fortunate event for us. After my retirement, I'll only be part of the board. Mister Xue Minghe will be the President and Assistant Wu will be his assistant. My assistant Zhao Hongyan will take over Liu Mingyu's position as the head of Public Relations whereas Liu Mingyu will be promoted as the second Vice President. Her position will be equal to Mo Qianni..."

Lin Ruoxi listed the changes in positions quickly which took everyone by surprise.

Mo Qianni, Liu Mingyu and Zhao Hongyan were overwhelmed. Zhao Hongyan was especially surprised when she heard that she was being promoted. It all felt like a dream!

However, Lin Ruoxi had always been so decisive so there was no need to say anything else.

Once the meeting was over, Mo Qianni and Liu Mingyu went beside Lin Ruoxi.

"Ruoxi, did you tell Yang Chen before making this decision?" Mo Qianni was concerned.

Lin Ruoxi sighed, "He said he'll support everything I do but I think he's upset now."

"Of course he'd be upset. You know how they used to treat you and now you..."

Xue Minghe was ashamed, "I'm sorry, Vice President Mo. I know we're shameless for returning since we have done so many bad deeds."

"Hmph, glad you know. President Lin still treats you as her cousin or else Yang Chen would have killed you long ago." Liu Mingyu wasn't pleased.

Xue Minghe and Wu Yue smiled awkwardly, unable to refute her.

Lin Ruoxi smoothed things over, "Alright, enough about the past. Take care of Yu Lei when I'm not around. I just didn't want my mother's relative to wander far from home."

Mo Qianni and Liu Mingyu exchanged gazes and sighed internally.

"Ruoxi, there's no point for me to stay back and be the Vice President if you're leaving. I'll find a successor and quit too. You can't say no." Mo Qianni said.

Lin Ruoxi smiled, "I knew you would say that. How about Mingyu? Are you quitting too?"

Liu Mingyu nodded, "I'll take care of things before leaving. I don't want to fall behind you guys."

Xue Minghe and Wu Yue were confused as they couldn't understand what she meant by that.

Even though they had a rough patch, they still need to show some warm gestures to their return. Hence, under Liu Mingyu's suggestion, they decided to have lunch together.

However, when they arrived downstairs, Xue Minghe and Wu Yue walked to a café first.

"Why? Are you getting coffee?" Mo Qianni was puzzled.

Wu Yue felt abashed, "No, Vice President Mo, we have to bring our child along."

"Your child?" Mo Qianni was dumbstruck.

Lin Ruoxi explained to her, "Wu Yue was pregnant when they left the country. Their child was born in the States."

Mo Qianni and Liu Mingyu were flabbergasted but they could understand her intentions. After all, the child was Lin Ruoxi's nephew and even though his father had made mistakes, the child was innocent.

Lin Ruoxi hoped that her nephew could be proud of his parents.

When they reached the resting area, they saw Yang Chen standing there.

In front of him was a stroller and Yang Chen was playing with the child while smiling.

The child had thick hair with bright eyes. He was giggling non-stop from Yang Chen's gestures.

The employees working at the front desk were giggling while watching the child.

"Hubby..." Lin Ruoxi was startled, unable to comprehend why Yang Chen was here.

Yang Chen looked up and the smile was wiped off his face, "I guessed it correctly. This is Xue Minghe and Wu Yue's child, am I right?"

Lin Ruoxi nodded carefully, "How did you know that?"

"Who would push a stroller to the headquarters. They must have come in a hurry." Yang Chen looked at Xue Minghe and sighed, "He looks like you. Treat your family well and don't act foolishly anymore."

Even though Xue Minghe was much older than Yang Chen, he still nodded obediently. In fact, he was actually grateful towards Yang Chen.

Seeing that Yang Chen seemed to be feeling better, Lin Ruoxi asked carefully, "Hubby, come and join us for lunch? You can choose what to eat, we'll listen to you."

Yang Chen snorted and turned around to leave.

The employees of Yu Lei were astonished to see this. President Lin was afraid of her husband?!

Lin Ruoxi felt embarrassed and she cursed under her breath before chasing after Yang Chen. She grabbed his arm and muttered, "What are you doing? Didn't you say you'll always support me? I didn't ask you to give up on other women and this wouldn't bring any harm to us. Do you really want to let your nephew wander from home?"

Yang Chen pretended to be salty, "If I knew you were calling them back, why would I spend so much effort at that time? Your cousin will always be more important than your hubby..."

Lin Ruoxi caught on. He was trying to trick her into making promises, probably perverted stuff...

Her cheeks became flushed, "Fine, it's my fault. I was being unfair to you, what should I do so that you'll forgive me?"

Yang Chen snickered internally. He wasn't upset anymore when he saw the child. He just wanted to seize the chance to talk about their schedule.

"Alright, since you begged me...I'll be going to Sicily to accompany Rose and Ning'er next week ...I might not have time to accompany you and Lanlan...so..."

Yang Chen realized Lin Ruoxi's face had darkened before he could finish his sentence. He trailed off and sucked in a breath....