

Chapter 271: Not Injured

“Mrs. Ge is Platoon Leader Ge’s lover, initially, she didn’t meet the conditions to reside here. However, Platoon Leader Ge was injured when he was on a mission with me, and adding on some other reasons and their family’s situation, the platoon allowed Mrs Ge to bring her daughter to reside here. She’s been here less than a month, you just have to greet her if you see her around for the time you’re here. Even though Platoon Leader Ge is my underling, he’s my senior and has been enlisted far longer than me. So, just greet her when you see her, but you don’t have to say much of anything else other than that.”

Lu Xingzhi was not the kind of person who would talk bad about others behind their backs, so while it was obvious he disliked Mrs. Ge, he would not say much on the negative things about her. He merely reminded Jiang Yao to greet her if she did see her during her stay here, and be courteous, and that was enough.

Jiang Yao hummed in agreement, and did not think too much about it. She was going to Kyoto the next day with Lu Xingzhi, and would probably stay for about two days. She would not be spending too much time in the platoon, and probably would not have many chances to bump into the other residences here anyway. Naturally, she did not put too much thought into the neighbours in the building.

But when she heard Lu Xingzhi mentioned that he and Platoon Leader Ge had been injured on a mission, she forcefully pulled up Lu Xingzhi, who was bent down arranging her clothes in the small cabinet in front of him.

“Are you injured?” Although Lu Xingzhi had assured her that he was not injured on the phone, hearing that Platoon Leader Ge, who had been on the mission with him, had been injured, she could not help but still be concerned.

Lu Xingzhi shook his head without hesitation, assuring her, “Do you think anyone would be able to hurt me, with my capabilities?”

If Lu Xingzhi had not been so quick and confident to answer her, Jiang Yao would have believed him. Adding on the fact that he had denied it so quickly, putting on the image that he was indestructible, she felt even more suspicious.

‘System Admin, scan his physical condition.’ Jiang Yao gave the order as her eyes swept over Lu Xingzhi, who had lied with a straight face, as she tried to find out which part of his body had been injured.

‘Understood, Master!’ the System Admin’s response was fast, and a few seconds later, a message appeared in Jiang Yao’s mind.

Jiang Yao looked Lu Xingzhi dead in the eyes, and she said, “You’re sure you’re not injured anywhere?”

Lu Xingzhi nodded, not giving away anything. She frowned as she pressed her hand directly on the wound on his abdomen. The results that she got from the System Admin was that there was a cut of almost five centimeters long on that area that had just started to scab over, which indicated that it was a recent injury.

Lu Xingzhi was unprepared for the pressure, as he did not expect Jiang Yao to press on the wound so accurately. His first reaction was a sharp inhale of air, and then releasing it shakily, slightly tensed.

“Haha, that tickles. My darling, please don’t stir up any trouble.” Lu Xingzhi hurriedly removed Jiang Yao’s hand, glaring at her slightly as he pulled her into his arms, “I’ve already said that I’m not injured, why won’t you believe me?”

The more Lu Xingzhi denied it, the more Jiang Yao was unhappy. She already knew that his injury was not serious, but the fact that he was still hiding it from her made her angry!

“Take off your clothes and let me see it.” Jiang Yao demanded crossly, looking at Lu Xingzhi in the eyes. She was prepared to pull out the medicine that she had made with the System’s laboratory in order to use on his injuries.

Lu Xingzhi had vehemently denied that he was injured, so it was natural that he would not follow the demand to shed his clothes for her to examine him either. He shook his head, saying solemnly, “I already said I’m not injured, so how could I show you any wounds? Let’s just forget about this, alright?”

Chapter 272: Accomodation

Lu Xingzhi had originally thought that such a wound would be healed in a few days’ time, but he was over-enthusiastic in training the other day, and had reopened the wound. The wound had just begun to scab over today, and it still looked quite ugly, the skin around it also looked horrifying. If he were to take off his clothes, he was afraid that Jiang Yao would cry and feel disgusted by it. He would not be able to cope with her reaction if that were the case, hence he was doing his best to keep it from her.

When it was night-time, he thought that with the lights off, she would not be able to see it.

Jiang Yao did not expect that after all they had been through, he would still try to hide something like this. She felt her heart clench uncomfortably at the thought.

She let out a dissatisfied sound in his arms, her heart a wave of anger as she pushed away from him angrily, huffing, “Fine, try your hardest to keep up your lies then! Don’t take off your clothes even when we sleep tonight, if you can do that!”

Lu Xingzhi could not understand why Jiang Yao was so confident that he was injured, he thought that he had been flawless in covering up since the moment they met up. Even when she had touched it by accident a short while ago, he thought that his cover up had been perfect.

Seeing that Jiang Yao had really lost her temper, Lu Xingzhi regretted that he had so vehemently denied his injury, now he could no longer change the act he started.

While he was wondering how to handle the sleeping arrangements later, Jiang Yao left the bedroom and had wandered into the living room.

“How long have you been living here? It feels very empty and bare.” The kitchen looked untouched, not even a single bowl in it. There was a dining table in the living room, and a few fairly old chairs. The only other thing in the room was the radio that he had placed on it previously.

The other room had a few more things, and it seemed to have been turned into a study. There were rows of books on the shelves, mostly military-related books, but there were also some fairly famous novels and other books mixed in it.

If you did not know anything, you would think that Lu Xingzhi was a poor man with no money, looking at the rooms. The rooms were casual, whether inside or outside. He really was not picky about the place that he lived in.

Jiang Yao picked up a book and turned a few pages, glancing at the words on the page, she said, "I didn't think that you'd like these kinds of books, can't see a speck of literary art in your bones at all."

"I haven't read it, when I was browsing for books in the city, I picked it up because I remembered that you like those." Lu Xingzhi replied, his answer sincere this time.

Even though it was indirect, he was telling Jiang Yao that the books were bought for her.

"I moved in about half a year ago, at that time, I was thinking that you would be studying in Jindo City, and we could stay here over the weekends. I didn't really bother furnishing the place, I'd thought that you'd want to arrange it to your liking when you came over."

That was the reason why the bedroom did not even have any curtains, Lu Xingzhi had thought that Jiang Yao could furnish and decorate the place according to her liking when she came over.

That was why, when he came in, all he did was paint the walls and fix the floor tiles. Nothing else was done in terms of renovations or decorations, even the furniture had been moved over from the old dormitory he had been staying in.

"When the platoon was assigning the accommodations to me, they assigned me to the older place." Lu Xingzhi thought about it, and Jiang Yao would eventually hear about it anyway, so he decided to explain, "The older place is basically joint houses beside each other, one for each family. Although there is a large yard, and you even have space to plant vegetables in the backyard, the sound proofing isn't great. It's always noisy, and dirty, and there are also insects, mosquitoes and even rats. There were some arguments at that time that the assignments were unfair, so I simply requested to swap the accommodations, asking for the newer building instead."

Chapter 273: His Anticipation

Jiang Yao nodded, she could understand these facts. Many of the military members with not-so-ideal conditions would prefer the older housing, with one family per house and a yard area. You could rear chickens and ducks in the yard, and then grow your own produce in the vacant yard. That would save quite a sum of money on buying food, and naturally that would be why people preferred those kinds of accommodations.

"I had first picked which unit I wanted in the new building, and I chose the fifth floor, but not for the reasons that others would have thought. It wasn't because I was nice or bullied into it, but because I thought you'd want a more quiet environment. The fifth floor is a bit higher, and would be quieter, and although it's tiring to climb five floors everyday, it's still better than climbing seven floors. It's also good training on the body to climb the stairs everyday."

When Lu Xingzhi was choosing the accommodation to move in, he had placed priority on Jiang Yao's preference. Thinking back to the tree that had been cut down in the yard of the house, he also knew that she did not like the noise during summer. That was the reason he had chosen the fifth floor,

specifically the unit on the right hand side where there were no big trees. The fifth floor was too high for most people who were lazy to climb, but Lu Xingzhi thought that it was just right.

There would be too many insects and mosquitoes for units in the third floor and below, while once summer hits, those insects that made noise the entire night in the trees would contribute to poor sleep throughout the night.

At that time, Lu Xingzhi was not sure that Jiang Yao would come over and stay for the weekend while she was studying in Jindo City, but he wanted to make sure he could avoid all of the above.

What if Jiang Yao had come on the rare occasion, but was instead annoyed by the environment in the platoon?

Once he had received the accommodations, he did not rush to renovate it or make any big changes either. All he did was sort out the necessary things, and he hoped that once Jiang Yao comes, they could sort out the details in a place that could possibly be their home for a very long time in the future.

Just like how the furnishing had been done in their new home, he hoped to see her picking the curtains, furniture, and decorate every corner of this house with his own eyes. He wanted to see her shadows and belonging in every nook and cranny of the house.

Every day after he had moved in, Lu Xingzhi had always been waiting for the day that Jiang Yao would receive the admission notice into Jindo Medical University.

Jiang Yao could not hear all the bits and pieces that Lu Xingzhi had thought of in his heart, but she could understand his feelings, and her guilt inside swelled bigger.

When she had enrolled in Nanjiang Medical University without telling anyone, the one that had most anticipated her presence in Jindo City had also been the first one to stand and speak up for her, and even lied to his parents that it had been done with his blessing.

This man had always hidden his anticipation and desire within himself, never telling her or letting her know. And yet, he had been enduring the hurt that she piled on him over and over again.

“Xingzhi~” Jiang Yao sang out, her voice slightly shaky as she gently embraced Lu Xingzhi, who was still rambling, “I’m sorry.”

The word ‘sorry’ was too light, too weightless, but apart from it, she did not know what other words could be used to express her feelings.

If she had never come here, to stand in this drab and empty house, she would never be able to personally experience the depth of anticipation that Lu Xingzhi had for her. She would never have been able to feel how much Lu Xingzhi desired for her to reciprocate these feelings and this marriage.

That he yearned and longed for her to be by his side, to integrate into his life and world, to be a warm and loving couple together with him.

“What’s with the apology all of a sudden?” Lu Xingzhi said, a rare smile on his face.

When he had initially seen the admission notice thrown in her face by Lu Yuqing, it was not that he did not feel a spark of anger inside, and it was not like he was not disappointed. Only, when he saw how crestfallen she had looked, he could not bear to blame her or make things difficult for her.

Chapter 274: Muddled

He was a man, and he should be able to stand his ground. He should be able to shoulder all the abuse, and she, as long as she was happy, that was enough.

“After we attend your older brother’s wedding in Jindo City, I’ll go into the city and spend all the money you’ve given me! I’ll buy a sky blue curtain to hang in the bedroom, and another layer of sheer curtains on top of it, also sky blue of course, preferably the kind that is imported. Oh, and another large wardrobe!”

Jiang Yao stood on the tip of her toes to make the comparison, “It has to be taller than the one we have in the house, and even bigger than that. It has to be as tall and wide as the wall, and only a small corner in it will be for your clothes. The rest will be all for my clothes! Spring, summer, autumn, winter, all year round! After I graduate and stay on base with you, I’ll dress in beautiful clothes everyday to show you!”

“And a big bed! Large enough for both of us to roll around in! We’ll need to get orange duvet covers, the warm kind of orange that’s similar to the shade of the sun that will make people feel good!” Jiang Yao chattered on as she pulled Lu Xingzhi along, pointing at the doorway, “A shoe cabinet here, a customized one that’s as tall as my waist so I can fill it with all my shoes! Don’t worry, I’ll of course make some space in a corner for your shoes!”

“And a dining table! The one we have now is just too ugly! We’ll have to replace it! To a European style one, a beautiful cream-white dining table!” Jiang Yao said, a look of disgust aimed at the table in front of her, “And a couple of matching chairs too!”

“Just replace it all to your heart’s content! Spend all the money you need, darling. If there isn’t enough, then your man is not capable enough! If you don’t spend it all, then your standards are just too low.”

Jiang Yao’s words filled Lu Xingzhi’s eyes, lips, heart and all of his limbs with warmth, it slowly seeped into him, making its way through his entire being.

His smile grew deeper as her words flowed, the warmth radiating from him was even warmer than the sun outside the window.

“Also, darling, you’ve said something wrong previously. We’re going to attend our older brother’s wedding tomorrow, not your older brother.” His smile was more restrained, but it was unbelievably happy. “Although the bed is smaller than the one we have back home, do you want to test it out? It’s big enough for us to roll around to our heart’s content.”

“No way! Put me down! I’m not done yet!” Jiang Yao said as she struggled in his arms, “There’s still the kitchen! I’ll need to buy a bunch of pots and pans! I’ll be staying here for a few days, and over winter break, and even New Years. I can’t do without all those!”

“We’ll do everything that you have just said.” Lu Xingzhi said as he carried her toward the bed, placing her gently on the mattress and pressing down on her directly after. Seeing the enthusiasm that Jiang Yao

had been displaying, he did not interrupt her, but he pressed as close as he could and smiled, asking, “Is there anything else?”

“I’m still not done!” Jiang Yao pouted, “After we get all the cooking ware, you have to cook! I can’t be going to the platoon canteen everyday to eat when I’m here, I’ll be ridiculed by everyone! But, I can’t cook, so, you have to cook for me!”

Jiang Yao was not being deliberately unreasonable, it was just a fact that she could not cook.

In the Jiang family, if it were not because she studied in a boarding school, she would not even have to wash her clothes herself.

Even so, when she left for boarding school, her mother asked that she return home each week, to not wash her clothes when she was at school and instead bring them back home for her mother to wash. Her mother was afraid that washing the clothes would tire her out.

Whereas for cooking, her mother was even more reluctant to let her do anything. There was no need to even mention about lighting a fire in the kitchen, even if she tried to help out with washing the dishes, her mother would nag at her for a long time.

Because there were so many people who spoiled her, Jiang Yao’s cooking skills did not improve even after she had left to live on her own.

Lu Xingzhi chuckled lowly, “If you’re willing to eat, I’m willing to do it.”

Even if he was exhausted from his training, if he could see her satisfied and happy face because of his cooking, he would be willing to do it even if he was tired to death.

Seeing that Jiang Yao was giving him a dubious look, Lu Xingzhi pinched her nose lightly, “Is there anything else?”

Chapter 275: Ugly

“Ah, but if you’re really tired, I’ll cook once or twice. But if it’s not delicious, I don’t want to hear a word of complaint from you!” Jiang Yao threatened, “If you dare to complain, don’t expect me to cook a second time!”

At the look that she was sending him, Lu Xingzhi could not help but press his lips against hers. Whatever she made, even if she had added arsenic in it, he would eat without any hesitation, how could he even think of expressing any disgust at it?

“Whatever you make, I’ll eat it.” Lu Xingzhi promised.

Jiang Yao nodded her head in satisfaction, and she tried to shove him off her. Yet, he clung even closer to her, and his energetic little brother was poking at her belly, which she could not ignore even if she tried. Hence, she could only keep talking in order to distract herself from it.

“You’ll have to remind me to buy some good potted flowers, like cacti or devil’s ivy. Placing it at home would be beautiful and nice to look at, are there any that have nice flowers that can grow well? Sunflowers are good too, if planted on the balcony, maybe daffodils...” Seeing that the man on her was insistently moving his hands all over her body, Jiang Yao slowly trailed off.

Yet, the someone still continued on like there was nothing wrong, his hands still moving, and he even continued her line of thought.

“Daffodils are ugly! I think bean flowers look better, it flowers and bears fruits too, and I like to eat beans. Strawberry flowers are beautiful too, and you love to eat strawberries.”

“...”

Talk about being a male chauvinist.

“Are you planning to have a vegetable garden or a fruit garden?” Jiang Yao grabbed Lu Xingzhi’s hand that had been slowly making its way under her clothes, glaring at the man while trying to deter his hands.

“Shh, don’t be like that. I haven’t seen you in half a month, and I’m just checking if you’ve been eating well.” Lu Xingzhi used one hand to press down on this disobedient woman, while his other hand slipped under the material of her dress, leaving feathery touches on her smooth white skin, pinching the softness underneath his hands gently.

As though the dress was an annoying obstacle, he pushed the material up with the same hand, displaying a satisfied look on his face as he sat up to observe her without the hindrance, and commented, “It seems to have grown a bit bigger, hasn’t it?”

Jiang Yao had been rendered speechless by his shameless behaviour!

Feeling the dissatisfaction radiating like waves from his wife, the cheeky man then thought back to the topic they were discussing, and continued the line again, “Whether it’s a vegetable or fruit garden, I’m fine with either, as long as you like it.”

After a few seconds had passed without any answer to his words, he raised his head to look at her. Jiang Yao was biting her lip, her eyes a spark of emotion and fond affection in them. There was not a trace of anger or annoyance in them, and she kept staring at his face.

“If we’re done with the topic, let’s move on to something else.” He said, his voice a bit strained as he hastily kicked off his slippers and began to undress.

Jiang Yao quickly recovered, snapping out of her dazedness, “No! It’s still daytime, and there are no curtains!”

“It’s fine, there’s no one living in the front unit.” Lu Xingzhi slid forward, his lips caressing the outer part of her ear as he said in a low voice, “Your heart is beating so fast, you needn’t hold back so much.”

Barbarian! Savage! When he was in bed, it was like he would change into a completely different person, a bad boy!

“What did I say just now? Don’t take off your clothes if you are able to do so, hmph, you’ll let me see the wound if you do!” Jiang Yao felt a surge of courage swell up in her as she said this, her hands reaching out, not to push him away, but instead starting to unbutton his shirt.

Lu Xingzhi halted his actions for a moment, hearing the bite in her words. He did not expect her to still remember his injury at this point in time.

Looking at how proud she was with a smile on her face, he grasped her hands that were undoing the buttons on his shirt. If she had taken this initiative to undo his clothes while under normal circumstances, he would have been happy even in his dreams.

Chapter 276: Interference

He did not have the right to receive the blessings of a good person right now. It was either his clothes, or slowly explaining himself.

However, he would not let her get one over him for long.

“That’s fine, then I won’t take off my shirt. It’s not like I use my upper body to love you anyway.” Lu Xingzhi grinned, his eyes darkened with lust as he said huskily, “It’s enough to take yours off.”

Jiang Yao had probably thought that she had outsmarted him this time, and Lu Xingzhi resumed his undressing of her clothes while she was stunned for a moment.

However, reality was that, neither of them got to undress the other.

The bedroom door was not closed, so the sound of someone knocking on the main door carried over like a harsh deafening sound.

“Sergeant! Sergeant! Supreme Commander sent me to inform you and Sister-in-Law that there’ll be a welcome feast tonight for Sister-in-Law at the cafeteria!”

Jiang Yao glanced at Lu Xingzhi, whose face had twisted into something unsightly, and she could not help but let out a hearty laugh at his expression. As she laughed, she proceeded to button up the buttons that he had previously unbuttoned.

“Ignore them, let’s continue!” Lu Xingzhi hissed through his gritted teeth. Hearing the voice that floated in from the outside, he knew that it was that little idiot, Chen Feibai.

Jiang Yao did not have the chance to respond before the voice outside continued to sound.

“Sergeant, Sister-in-Law, I know you’re in there, hurry up and come on out! It’s broad daylight right now, what are you guys up to in there, hmm?”

Jiang Yao could not help but continue to laugh, holding her stomach which was hurting slightly for laughing so hard. The person outside the door was clearly aware what the people inside were up to, hence he was talking so loudly.

“Lu Xingzhi, Lu Xingzhi, just look at that, take a good look at yourself!”

Lu Xingzhi let out an agitated sigh, grabbing the quilt and covering Jiang Yao with it, as she was still not dressed properly.

“Cover up and straighten your clothes, wait for me inside, don’t come out.”

Then, he slammed the bedroom door, stomping his way out to the living room and wrenching the door open angrily. Seeing the person stumble forward after losing his balance, he hauled the person up none too gently.

“Chen Feibai, don’t think for a second that I won’t hesitate to deal with you.” At this moment, the one thing that Lu Xingzhi dearly wanted to do was to throw this fresh egghead recruit out of the platoon and make it so that he would never be accepted back in ever again!

“Sergeant, it’s broad daylight right now, where is this anger coming from? I heard that our sister-in-law has arrived, yeah? Has Sister-in-Law annoyed you? Even if she did, you can’t be taking it out on us fresh recruits, ya know? It doesn’t reflect well on you.”

Chen Feibai was one of the few people in the entire army that dared to butt heads with Hades Lu. Although Lu Xingzhi was holding onto his collar, there was not a trace of fear on his face at all. His eyes were instead scanning the room, as though looking for someone, and then he opened his mouth to shout, a tinge of fear in his voice, “Sister-in-Law, Sister-in-Law! Come quick, Sergeant is beating me up!”

Lu Xingzhi had already told her earlier on to wait for him inside, and so Jiang Yao pretended that she did not hear anything. She had straightened up her clothes by now. However, her face was still flushed red, and if anyone were to see her now, they would clearly know what Lu Xingzhi and she had been up to behind closed doors.

Lu Xingzhi’s brows furrowed together and he gave a shout through the doors, “Darling, I’m taking someone out to have a chat.”

Not waiting for Jiang Yao’s response as he was afraid she would come out, he dragged Chen Feibai out toward the door, giving him a harsh kick at the same time to boot him out faster.

He knew how captivating his wife looked when she was aroused, her already charming eyes would stand out even more, as though able to suck in a soul when you gazed into them. Her sultry voice would wash over his entire being and make him quiver shamelessly.

If the usual Jiang Yao were likened to a fairy, then she would be a devilish imp when she was aroused.

Normally, she was like a plain white lotus, and just now, when she was lying beneath him, she was a blood red poppy.

Such a sight was only allowed to be seen by him alone.

Chapter 277: Thorn in Their Side

Lu Xingzhi dragged Chen Feibai all the way downstairs, loosening his hold only when they had reached the ground floor. He gently pushed Chen Feibai away, with the latter glaring at him.

“What’s with you, Sergeant Lu, you’re so imposing! I’m just a messenger, why did you make a move against a new recruit! Such strength, so impressive!” Chen Feibai adjusted his collar as he said sarcastically, his face an annoyed expression.

“You? A messenger?” Lu Xingzhi sneered coldly, he would not believe Chen Feibai’s words unless his brain had been damaged irreparably by a cannon.

“How many others in the entire platoon can you order around, Master Chen? Even if the Supreme Commander has given you a command, you think I’d believe you? Believe that the Supreme Commander chose you to relay a message to me?” Chen Feibai’s admission to the military was basically a thorn in everyone’s side. He was the third generation of military members in his family, and his connections were

excellent. It was simply a disaster for the entire army when he enlisted, one that nobody was able to avoid.

Although in the end he was arranged to be under Lu Xingzhi, he was indifferent and could not be bothered about Chen Feibai, who relied on connections to go through life.

Lu Xingzhi was also well aware that people like Chen Feibai would not stay long in the army, he would at most last about two to three years. The Chen family would naturally arrange for Chen Feibai to transfer out of the army after making arrangements for a bright future for him.

Seeing that Chen Feibai was giving him a look that was normally reserved for enemies, Lu Xingzhi felt his heart waver a little.

“Chen Feibai, I can tolerate your presence in the army.” Lu Xingzhi said coldly, his eyes hardening, “In the platoon, you can tease whoever you want, and if something happens, you’re on your own, I won’t care. However, I’m warning you, Jiang Yao is my wife. If you dare to do anything untoward toward her, I have my own ways to ensure that you will not be able to stay in this platoon!”

“Lu Xingzhi, don’t think you’re all that great just because people call you Master Lu!” Chen Feibai said through clenched teeth, clenching his fists tightly.

It was not that he was not afraid facing the threat of Lu Xingzhi head on. However, apart from fearing Hades Lu, he was feeling unwilling mostly due to his own ego and pride, which did not allow him to display any fear on the outside.

“You can try my hand, test out how many ways I can deal with you!” Lu Xingzhi said, the corner of his mouth lifting slightly. “Whatever I say, I can also do.”

“You...” The murderous aura exuding from the man in front of him rendered him speechless for a moment, his face paling at the air that was getting heavier, making it hard to breathe. At this moment, a stab of fear raced through his entire body.

In the end, Lu Xingzhi was a completely different person than Chen Feibai was. Apart from some helping hands from a few brothers, the position and where Lu Xingzhi stood today was mainly due to his own strength.

He had been in the army for many years, and was different from Chen Feibai, a young boy who had never seen the horrors of the bloody storms. His hands were drenched in blood and lives of others, the number innumerable.

He had slit the throats of criminals with a dagger in his hands, felt the warm liquid of life spew out from the neck of another human being. His marksmanship was excellent, and he had been dubbed the God of guns. His bullets had ended countless lives, and he had probably seen the end of too many lives.

His murderous aura was similar to that of a grim reaper from hell, and this was Lu Xingzhi, the one in the platoon who had been dubbed Hades Lu.

Before entering the army, Chen Feibai had heard countless praises about this person in the compound. His grandfather, his father, and all his family members only had compliments and nothing but respect for this person. He himself had never been acknowledged to this extent by his family, and here was a

person who had no relations to the Chen family, winning the respect and praise of his grandfather and father.

Chapter 278: Weakness

After enrolling in the army, Chen Feibai saw Lu Xingzhi in person for the first time. At first glance, Lu Xingzhi was as the world had described him, a silent man who never smiled. The only difference that was out of Chen Feibai's expectation was probably his looks.

Chen Feibai had investigated Lu Xingzhi before that, and knew that Lu Xingzhi had close relations with the Liang family, calling each other brothers, and were as close as blood siblings.

However, Chen Feibai also knew that Lu Xingzhi was just a kid from a small country town. Although there was no shortage of money in the Lu family, from Chen Feibai's point of view, Lu Xingzhi was nothing more than an upstart in the world of wealth and power.

That was why, before meeting Lu Xingzhi in person, his investigation combined with the rumors that he had heard, Chen Feibai had expected that Lu Xingzhi would be someone with unremarkable looks, or even ugly, resembling a bear with no education, a vulgar and rough person.

This impression changed after Chen Feibai saw Lu Xingzhi.

The cold, expressionless face, it was hard to deny that it was handsome. It was no wonder that many girls in the compound had wistful looks of longing and lust when they talked about him.

"Sergeant Lu, it looks like she's your weak spot!" It was difficult to describe his feelings right now, erasing the impression that Lu Xingzhi was just another upstart, Chen Feibai had never admitted that Lu Xingzhi was a strong man. However, it was clear in his heart, Lu Xingzhi was indeed a strong man, and one that he grudgingly respected.

"That's right." Lu Xingzhi admitted without any hesitation whatsoever, "Since you understand that now, get out of my sight!"

Chen Feibai sneered, "Can't believe that you have a weak spot, as such a strong man."

"As long as you're human, you will have a weak spot. It's no different if you're strong or weak." Lu Xingzhi knew what Chen Feibai was thinking, and his notion made Lu Xingzhi want to laugh at the sheer ridiculousness of it.

Lu Xingzhi had seen many kinds of people, what type had he not seen before?

Even those criminals who could kill without blinking an eye had weaknesses, no one could escape from emotions or desires. No one could easily let go of family or friendship or love!

Without these passions, would they even be human beings? They would be machines, of course.

Although Lu Xingzhi wanted to be strong, he had never thought of being a strong man without weaknesses. On the contrary, he held many people close to his heart.

For example, several of his brothers, his family, and the love of his life, Jiang Yao.

He could not let it go, and he could not put it down. That was the reason he was willing to shoulder all these weaknesses, and he would bear it all happily.

Lu Xingzhi watched Chen Feibai walk away from him with an air of reluctance and resentment, but the stiffness in his body remained unchanged.

“Why don’t you come out here instead of standing there?” The nonchalant words that tumbled out of his mouth made the young man who had been standing a way back for a long while shiver slightly at the tone.

The young man opened his mouth, looking as though he would start crying.

“Sergeant, I... I met Chen Feibai on the way here. He knew that I was coming, and he insisted on following me.” The young man’s eyes were red, and it was not because he was tormented or anything, but because of pure fear of Lu Xingzhi.

“Haven’t you been weaned off yet? Do you still need to go home and be nursed before returning to the platoon?” Lu Xingzhi’s expression was an ugly one, and his tone was not friendly either.

The young man shook his head hurriedly before understanding what he meant, “Supreme Commander asked for you to drop by to see him after seeing to Sister-in-Law.”

“If you don’t want to be chased out of the platoon by Chen Feibai’s attitude, then you should smarten up.” Lu Xingzhi spat before turning around and heading upstairs. He did not care whether the youth who looked close to tears understood his advice or not.

Chapter 279: Socialise

In Lu Xingzhi’s point of view, Chen Feibai was basically rat droppings in the army. However, there were still people who had his back.

Climbing five floors for someone like Lu Xingzhi only took seconds, and thinking of Jiang Yao who was waiting for him at home, his steps were light as though he was walking on air.

Reaching the door, he stood outside for a few seconds, collecting himself and smoothing out his emotions and expression, before raising his hand to knock on the door.

When Jiang Yao opened the door, he walked straight in. There was no trace of the cold anger and tenseness in his person that he had displayed downstairs when he was reprimanding the people just now.

“You’re back.” Jiang Yao said, tilting her head to look outside. Not seeing anyone else there, she did not ask further either.

“The head is looking for me, so I’ll be out for a while. I’ll be back before dinner to bring you to the cafeteria, there’s going to be a welcome feast for you.” His voice was low and hoarse as usual, but it was laced with gentleness. It was hard to hide the fondness and the affection in his words when he spoke to her.

Jiang Yao was well aware of how busy Lu Xingzhi was, and she was not expecting him to be able to be by her side 24/7 for the duration of her stay here.

“Go on, go. I’ll find something to pass the time in my own home.” Jiang Yao said, nodding her head. After that small exchange in the room with Lu Xingzhi, her hair was still in a mess.

Moreover, Lu Xingzhi particularly liked to play with her hair. She had hurriedly combed down her hair before rushing out just now, so she did not know whether she looked strange or not at the moment.

Hearing her say ‘her own home’, Lu Xingzhi could not help the chuckle that escaped his mouth as he smiled. That she was well aware of what the place was meant to be, made him absolutely satisfied.

After Lu Xingzhi had left, the first thing Jiang Yao did was comb her hair. In the month that she let her hair grow out, the length was at an awkward length right now. Tying it up would look weird, letting it down would be too messy. With the thought that she would be heading out at night, she needed to settle on a style for it. Curling the front portion of her hair, and letting the rest down, it did not feel as messy as it did.

Jiang Yao noticed that the clothes Lu Xingzhi had worn yesterday were placed on the side in the bathroom, indicating that he probably did not have enough time to wash it.

Since she was here today and had nothing to do, she proceeded to head in with the intention to wash it. She did not expect the doorbell to ring just as she had taken the clothes to the balcony.

Opening the door, she saw that it was Mrs. Ge who was holding her daughter, Wenwen’s, hand in hers. She was also holding some vegetables in her other hand.

“I remember Sergeant Lu saying that your name is Jiang Yao, yes? You’ve just arrived today, and wouldn’t have had time to get some groceries, right? Here’s some vegetables, don’t worry about it. Sergeant Lu knows about the situation in my home, and I can’t bring anything better.”

Mrs. Ge did not wait for Jiang Yao to invite her in when she proceeded to walk in, seeing that the house was fairly bare, she was surprised.

In the Ge family’s house, the floor and the walls were not painted or tiled, and they barely had any furniture, and was similarly empty. However, that was natural given that the Ge family was not well off. However, Mrs. Ge had been in the base for a couple of months, and she already knew that Sergeant Lu’s family was wealthy. She had also heard that his wife was studying in college, and had thought that his house would have a lot of good things.

It was a pity that Sergeant Lu’s personality was so cold, and he basically did not socialise much with anyone, so Mrs. Ge had not had a chance to visit his place ever since she had moved in.

With the salary and condition of Sergeant Lu’s family, she had expected the house to be beautifully decorated.

So when she walked in the place, she had quite a surprise. The walls and floors were definitely better than her own, but it really was quite empty.

Jiang Yao looked at Mrs. Ge who was still holding the vegetables in her hand and had invited herself in, truthfully she was feeling dumbfounded at the situation, as she had never dealt with people like Mrs. Ge before.

Chapter 280: Petty

In her previous life, her interactions with others were very simple. After graduating from college, she went on to work in the hospital, which meant she only had to get along with her colleagues. Their interactions were limited to nods in greetings, and no one knew her identity or family background.

After that, she left for the small mountain village, most of the people there were simple and had a great amount of respect for her and Wen Xuehui, and had even been very careful when dealing with them.

Feeling uncomfortable with Mrs. Ge suddenly barging in like this, Jiang Yao was at a loss for what to do for a while.

“Mrs. Ge, it’s not that I don’t want to accept your goodwill, but you may not know the situation in my house at the moment. There isn’t any cooking ware in the house, and there isn’t any place to cook. There’s a welcome feast in the cafeteria later in the evening so I don’t need to prepare anything. I’ll be leaving with my husband to Jindo City tomorrow to attend his friend’s wedding, and probably won’t be home for a couple of days. Giving this to us would be a waste.” Jiang Yao was not deliberately rejecting it, but there was no better chance for her to voice out.

“Oh? A welcome feast? There’s going to be a welcome feast in the cafeteria for you?” Mrs. Ge focused on this point, and then muttered under her breath, “When I first came with Wenwen, the cafeteria didn’t prepare any kind of welcome feast for us at all.”

Hearing that, Jiang Yao felt slightly awkward. It seemed that she had said too much, and probably the wrong thing too.

She could see that Mrs. Ge was a petty person, because the explanation that had come out from her mouth indicated that she held some resentment toward some people.

Once she understood that, she was slightly regretful of what she had said. But it was too late, and Jiang Yao could only pretend that she did not hear Mrs. Ge’s mutterings as she stood in awkward silence.

Mrs. Ge looked at Jiang Yao, feeling that the difference in treatment between them was unfair, and also secretly thinking that Sergeant Lu’s wife was someone who did not know how to be a decent person. Should she not extend the invitation to the mother and daughter to eat in the cafeteria?

After waiting for a few seconds and Jiang Yao not extending the invitation, Mrs. Ge felt dissatisfied. She felt that Sergeant Lu’s wife was just a young woman who did not know how to be a decent human being.

But she did not speak her mind, and she did not feel good saying that she and her daughter would like to have a good meal either.

Mrs. Ge and Jiang Yao were both silent, and in order to avoid the awkwardness, she raised her hand to caress her daughter’s head. Looking at Wenwen, Jiang Yao thought of another adorable little girl, Huang Chenchen.

Ge Wenwen and Huang Chenchen were incomparable, with one look at Huang Chenchen, you could tell that she was from a wealthy family. She was dressed neatly and smartly, her face and hands were also clean, and was even a little bit of a neat freak.

The clothes that Ge Wenwen was wearing had patches over patches, and even in this weather, her clothes were dirty. Jiang Yao sneaked a glance at Mrs. Ge, and secretly thought that for a child to be dirty and not paying attention to hygiene, was it because of the adults in her life? Mrs. Ge herself was not dressed any cleaner either.

“Aunt Lu, do you have anything to eat? I’m hungry.”

Just as Jiang Yao was about to open her mouth to say something, Ge Wenwen suddenly asked her a question, and it sent Jiang Yao into a stunned silence once again.

“Ay! Such an ignorant child, how can you ask someone else for food!” Mrs. Ge slapped the back of Wenwen’s head, although it was done lightly, the little girl started to cry loudly.

“But I’m hungry! I’m hungry! Didn’t you say that Aunt Lu comes from a big city, and she would definitely have brought a lot of good things!” Ge Wenwen said as she cried, and she pulled on Jiang Yao’s hand insistently. “Aunt Lu, I’m hungry!”