

## Chapter 281: Visitor

Me right now:

When Li Jingjing suddenly called over, Lin Ruoxi looked much happier. After chatting for a while, she seemed to have agreed to something before ending the call smilingly.

Yang Chen felt quite surprised. When has their relationship improved this much? Did they become good friends due to their common interest in volunteering in the orphanage?

He had purposely drawn the line between him and Li Jingjing because of her parents. Now that the two women became such great friends, he wouldn't ask too many questions.

"Miss, you look really happy. Did a friend call?" Wang Ma asked with a smile. She too hoped that Lin Ruoxi would walk out of the shadow sooner.

Lin Ruoxi nodded. "Yeah, the girl that I mentioned to you last time who's a teacher. She asked if she could visit our house tomorrow. Since it's a weekend, I agreed."

Wang Ma looked like she thought of something. She smiled weirdly as she glanced at Yang Chen before saying, "That's great, then I'll get more cooking ingredients tomorrow."

Yang Chen didn't understand why Wang Ma looked at him that way, but didn't think about it much as well. He was just hesitating if he should avoid Li Jingjing by staying out of the house.

However, when he thought about it more carefully, avoiding her wasn't the right choice. He would just be telling Li Jingjing that he had problems, much worse and direct than the time where he acted like a stranger in front of her.

When they reached their home at Dragon Garden, Wang Ma entered the kitchen as she busied herself while Lin Ruoxi silently walked upstairs out of exhaustion. She directly entered her bedroom instead of going to the study room like usual.

Yang Chen was considering if he wanted to sit down and watch TV while he waited for lunch to be prepared. However, his phone suddenly rang.

Looking at the number, Yang Chen recognized it was Molin, the team leader of Sea Eagles.

"Your Majesty Pluto, a lady who wishes to see you came to find us." Molin sounded rather helpless, like he ran into a problem.

Yang Chen was shocked. Since the lady wanted to meet him but looked for Sea Eagles instead, she was definitely displaying her power.

"What's she called?" Yang Chen asked as he frowned.

"The lady refused to tell us her name. She said you'd know her once you're here," Molin said, displeased.

Yang Chen ended the call and sat on the sofa for a while. He seemed to have guessed who it was.

Seeing the time, it was three hours away from lunch. Since he didn't have to rush, he ran into the kitchen and informed Wang Ma before going out.

Driving to the apartment where Sea Eagles was in, there stood Molin waiting for him at the entrance.

Although it was winter, Molin only wore a white short-sleeve shirt as he stood near the door. He didn't look like he felt cold at all.

"Don't you think you're dressed very weirdly?" Yang Chen asked.

Molin smiled until the wrinkles on his face appeared. "Your Majesty Pluto, the winter in China isn't cold."

Being a special agent who mostly acted in the Arctic Ocean, he wouldn't be affected unless the weather was colder than negative twenty degrees.

"I know it's not cold, I don't feel cold either. However, being an ordinary person, you have to act like a normal person after all. If you're seen wearing this less in the weather, people would think you're crazy," Yang Chen said.

Molin blinked a few times before nodding with a smile, but he evidently didn't look like he was going to change his behaviour.

Under Molin's guidance, Yang Chen reached the meeting room located at the top floor of the apartment. In the huge meeting hall, there sat a shadow who was enjoying coffee alone.

Yang Chen directly let Molin leave and not come with him. Molin knew that the two definitely had things to discuss and smartly left them alone.

Entering the meeting room, after making sure the lady's identity, he smiled weirdly. "Elder Lilith, haven't you gone back to Europe yet?"

The lady who came was Lilith whom he met yesterday night. He didn't feel surprised at all regarding her appearance at this place as the Dark Parliament's intelligence network had been expanding in the past tens of centuries. Naturally, it was all over the globe.

Lilith wore a casual beige cardigan with a pair of tight-fitting and light-colored jeans. With her blonde hair put down behind her head, her charming face didn't have any make-up on. Her natural smooth and white skin looked particularly alluring when shone upon.

To a person of the blood race like Lilith, sunlight could only limit a small portion of her ability.

Lilith didn't answer Yang Chen's greet question. She was just sitting on the leather seat beside the window as she enjoyed the warmth of the sunlight passing through the window.

"I haven't been exposed to the sunlight this relaxedly in a while. Your Majesty Pluto, I don't dare to go out during the day in Europe. The people of Rome Vatican are too detestable. They're more annoying than insects," Lilith complained.

Yang Chen wasn't surprised that Lilith found out his identity. Being intelligent, she should've guessed who he was last night. Pulling over a chair, he sat beside Lilith. Looking at her from the side, he could see exactly Lilith's busty bosom which looked like little mountains and her sharp facial features.

As he admired her body, he said, "Ordinary people must think that the blood race is afraid of sunlight and garlic. However, I bet someone like Lilith mustn't care about them at all."

Smiling, Lilith replied, "Those are the things only the cowardly would be afraid of. Your Majesty Pluto, let me tell you a secret. I love garlic-flavored potato chips, but my family hates the smell, so I always secretly eat them at home."

Yang Chen felt that talking about food with this female vampire was weird. So he swapped a topic. "Do you want to drink? I can ask someone to bring some decent grape wine over."

"No need, I rejected the offer earlier." Lilith turned her head over and looked at Yang Chen. "Your Majesty Pluto, aren't you going to ask why I came to look for you?"

"I guess that's something you should be rushing to say, since staying here would only involve the danger of being stared upon by Yellow Flame Iron Brigade. They seemed to have reached a common objective with the Vatican. While your ability is respectable, you won't be able to defeat them when you're surrounded by many," Yang Chen said.

Lilith said confidently, "Your Majesty Pluto doesn't have to worry about that for me. I still saved enough ability. Solely based on the few people in China from the Vatican combined with Yellow Flame Iron Brigade, they still have to put in a lot of effort to get me."

Yang Chen suddenly had a question. "Miss Lilith, may I ask which generation of the blood race you are?"

Smiling weirdly, Lilith answered, "Fourth generation. What is it? Is this something worth knowing?"

Yang Chen's face suddenly turned pale. He pouted. "As far as I'm concerned, the third generation is called the golden generation that could rival gods, but that's the blood race of tens of centuries ago. Miss Lilith, I suddenly regret on kissing you yesterday night. According to my estimation, you aren't very young anymore, being one of the fourth generation. I had been wondering how you became an elder at such a young age. It seems like your appearance is casted with spells."

Lilith laughed so hard that her back curved on the leather seat. "Although I'm from the fourth generation, I bring the pure royal bloodline as a result of being given birth through parturition by my mom. So I'm only a little more than 200 years old, still very young."

200 years old... still very young...

Yang Chen touched his face as he regretted for asking this many questions. Last night, he unknowingly kissed more than two centuries! Out of curiosity, he asked, "So the blood race can give birth just like us humans? I didn't know that back then."

"We can. The stronger we are, the harder it is for us to reproduce. Furthermore, through this method of giving birth, it would hurt our strength, especially women of the blood race. If my mom didn't have my dad's protection, she wouldn't have given birth to me," Lilith explained.

“Your parents are the third generation. Even if their strengths got deducted, I bet their enemies still wouldn’t dare to attack them,” Yang Chen said as he smiled faintly.

Lilith’s eyes shone. “Although my parents’ generation was seen as equivalent to gods, being a god yourself, Your Majesty Pluto should know that they still have an unfathomable distance with gods. Even our ancestor Cain could only be considered a demigod.”

This time, Yang Chen moved slightly. Squinting, he said, “Miss Lilith, you seem to know a lot about gods.”

Lilith answered proudly, “I inherited my mother’s bloodline. My mom is a pure descendant of the Lady Devil of the Night, our ancestor Lilith, also the wife of the devil god Satan.”

As Yang Chen’s finger tapped on the armrest, he said, “No wonder. In that case, it definitely makes sense for you guys to interact with something of that aspect.”

“That’s right. Last night when Elder Mobses disappeared out of thin air, having read various scrolls passed down by my family which recorded some information regarding gods, I could roughly guess the truth, not to mention your appearance and your angry reaction I saw.” This time, Lilith wasn’t acting carefreely anymore. The topic she was talking about was rather serious.

Looking dull, Yang Chen said, “Your guess is more or less correct. However, regarding how it happened specifically, I’m still perplexed. It definitely wasn’t done by someone I know.”

“I know. That’s why I came today with the hope of discussing another thing with Your Majesty Pluto,” Lilith said with a smile.

Yang Chen signalled her to continue speaking.

“Your Majesty Pluto, as far as I know, you came to China for personal reasons. However, I’m sure that you don’t wish your peaceful life is disturbed. For example last night, China didn’t look too safe. Especially since you’re here as well, the protective umbrella Yellow Flame Iron Brigade became exceptionally important. At least, their existence would free you from worrying,” Lilith said. “However, since the Vatican stepped in, Yellow Flame Iron Brigade seemed to have stood on our opposite side.”

“What do you want to say? Be straightforward,” Yang Chen said.

“We at Camarilla have always followed our seclusion treaty, but the people from the Vatican appear to be unappreciative towards our endurance. Therefore, after our elders at Camarilla discussed, with me being the representative, we decided to form an alliance with Your Majesty Pluto to stop Yellow Flame Iron Brigade from siding the Vatican when we fight in the east.” When Lilith finished speaking, she looked at Yang Chen with high expectations.

Yang Chen kept quiet for a short while. “I’m not against your idea, but ask Molin to hook you guys up. I don’t want to have too many interactions with you guys at Camarilla. I live in this country after all.”

“That’s more than enough. We only need a form of deterrence,” Lilith said happily.

After hesitating for a while, Lilith asked, “Your Majesty Pluto, I still have a question. Since it concerns the security of our blood race, I want to make a confirmation with you.”

“Do you want to ask if Mobses’s disappearance last night was because of his blood race origin or the Holy Grail?” Yang Chen asked.

“That’s right. Also, can the Holy Grail really grant people eternity?” Lilith asked the biggest question shrouded in mystery.

Chapter 282: Everything Is Eternal

Yang Chen recalled the scene where Mobses disappeared last night, and thought of the vague feeling he got when the Holy Grail landed in his hands. He felt rather worried.

“Lilith, do you know that every organism in the world is eternal?” Yang Chen asked.

Lilith widened her eyes and seemed like she refused to believe such a sentence just came out from Yang Chen’s mouth this seriously.

“How is it possible? When it comes to us in the blood race, although we’re eternal and indestructible in theory, we just grow old and die at an incredibly slow speed, and aren’t eternal at all. How are other organisms all eternal?” Lilith murmured.

Yang Chen stood up from his seat and walked to the window before staring at the dense roads, big and small, outside the apartment.

The stream of countless cars and people were endless.

“Lilith, do you know about the Russian roulette?” Yang Chen asked.

Lilith nodded. “I know. It’s a game testing on fate where two people load one bullet into a revolver capable of holding six bullets before taking turns to shoot themselves.”

“That’s right. In this game, one person will definitely be shot in the end.” Yang Chen let out a strange and vague smile at the corner of his lips. “However, if you believe in the theory of multiverse in quantum mechanics, then you can assume that no one would die in the end.”

Having lived for more than 200 years, Lilith had witnessed the development of the scientific theory of parallel universes and quantum mechanics.

That was because when Einstein died, Lilith was already old enough that her age could make her a grandmother already.

However, even if she was a vampire who had limitless experience, she still expressed astonishment when she heard Yang Chen’s unrealistic speech.

Yang Chen knew that Lilith wouldn’t necessarily understand. He continued explaining, “The theory of multiverse states that the world is formed by countless parallel universes folded together. This mean in any of the universes, there exists completely identical things. They are interrelated but exist as individuals. In quantum mechanics, this world is made of different microscopic particles. Including living and non-living things, the particles that form them are unstoppably in exercise.

“In other words, there are countless you’s, me’s and identical worlds. However, all of us and all of the parallel universes are folded together, while the matters that make up everything are microscopic

particles that are constantly changing places. Regarding what the particles are specifically, they're constantly changing as well," Yang Chen said.

Lilith seemed to have understood some of it. She asked, "However, what does this have to do with people not dying in the Russian roulette?"

Smiling, Yang Chen answered, "The Russian roulette is just one of the many examples. In fact, the moment any of the bullets shoots a fatal part, for example the temple, according to quantum mechanics and the theory of parallel universe, regardless of how low the possibility is, there will be one universe in which the bullet penetrates the place where microscopic particles coincidentally separate. As a result, in that universe, the bullet won't pass through the 'dead victim's temple, but will fly through the person's head instead without damaging his tissues. Thus, in that universe, the person is alive."

[TL note: Temple: the flat part of either side of the head between the forehead and the ear.]

Lilith widened her eyes as she felt incredible. If the person speaking wasn't Pluto whom she wouldn't resist against, she would've thought that the man was talking nonsense. Why does there exist such a terrifying and bizarre thing?!

"Your Majesty Pluto, according to what you said, why do the people in this world still die?" Lilith asked.

Yang Chen chuckled. "As you just said, the ones who die, are the people."

Lilith suddenly understood something. "Are you saying that gods really don't die?"

Yang Chen smiled rather bitterly.

The corners of Yang Chen's lips revealed bitterness. "I believe there are records in your family's historical literature regarding this topic, but you refuse to fully believe what's written. Actually, gods being eternal and indestructible isn't as impressive as it sounds. It doesn't signify the so-called divine power nor is it reincarnation. The reason gods can live forever is due to the existence of infinite parallel universes, if you look at it from a scientific standpoint. No matter what diseases or injuries we get, there will be one universe where we're perfectly fine.

"However, every other living organism other than gods isn't able to detach themselves from the universe they're initially in. As a result, they'll die after getting a fatal injury, while gods can gain a new life through the multiverse."

Lilith remained quiet for a long time, as if she was trying to digest what Yang Chen just said. Confused, she asked, "According to what Your Majesty Pluto just said, aren't all gods extremely old beings then? Even if they can avoid death through the multiverse, they shouldn't be able to get away from the decaying of the body."

"That's right, but this involves a field you don't need to know about. All I can tell you is, gods have their way of recovering youth," Yang Chen said. "You're more intelligent than I imagined. I only explained once, and you managed to understand it."

Lilith rolled her eyes at Yang Chen as she felt resentful. "I'm more than 200 years old already. I haven't been living for nothing." After thinking for a while, she continued saying, "I finally understand why gods

would form Treaty of Gods to limit the battles between themselves. Since all of them live eternally, battling is pretty much a meaningless act that may cause unnecessary damage.”

“You’re right, but gods don’t necessarily live eternally. They’d fall under certain conditions as well. However, that is overly complicated, and not something you need to know. In short, although damaging the parallel universes won’t affect gods, it’s a huge disaster towards other races,” Yang Chen said as he looked rather gloomy. “Mobses is a good example of a sacrifice.”

Lilith widened her eyes in shock. “Did Elder Mobses really disappear out of thin air because of cracked universe?!”

“I’ve been wondering even until now, on who damaged the parallel universe last night to snatch the Holy Grail in front of my eyes.” Yang Chen sighed. “It must have been done by a god. I have a feeling that he definitely isn’t weaker than me, and is even stronger than me. Even if I unsealed at that moment and used the same way of manipulating the parallel universe to track, I wouldn’t stand a chance on chasing him.”

“Did he snatch the Holy Grail away? But isn’t the Holy Grail still in your hands?” Lilith asked, confused.

Yang Chen shook his head. “That wasn’t the Holy Grail anymore. Although I’m not sure if the Holy Grail previously had any miraculous divine powers, I can guarantee that the one that dropped on the ground had something important stripped off of it, with the culprit being the robber god. The one that was left is merely a metal antique cup which doesn’t hold any value.”

Lilith finally relieved herself. “In other words, the god isn’t an enemy of the blood race, but only went for the Holy Grail.”

Yang Chen nodded. “That’s right. Having said this much, I just want to tell you that you guys can return to Europe without worries. The fellow isn’t coming for the blood race. Also, don’t worry too much about the legend where one can gain the so-called eternity by solely relying on the consumption of some holy water. If that’s the case, gods would be too invaluable.”

Lilith grinned. “Your Majesty Pluto, since you told me so much key information, do you possibly like me?”

Yang Chen waved his hands as he smiled stiffly. “Although I like beauties, Miss Lilith, you’re more than qualified to be my ancestor with your true age. I guess I’ll pass.”

“I hate you!” Lilith shouted in dissatisfaction before stomping on the ground. “See you next time!”

As soon as she finished speaking, Lilith rolled out of the meeting room like wind before disappearing away.

Yang Chen felt really helpless. He seemed to have triggered Lilith's sensitive part. Apparently, human and blood race included, women are all sensitive to age.

Lilith’s going made Yang Chen feel rather despondent. The god that appeared yesterday evidently had the ability of an Olympian. However, none of the remaining Olympians he knew had that kind of energy fluctuations...

Who would it be? Is he some ancient and nameless mighty god?

No, it's impossible. Ever since the world was created, the strongest gods have always been the Twelve Olympians. There are only a few of them that went missing. Could it be one of them?

However, if he's really an Olympian, why isn't he willing to reveal his face? Why did he snatch the Holy Grail away? Why did he publicly violate the Treaty of Gods and unseal the use of his divine power?!

Yang Chen felt a headache. It seems like I need to find time to discuss this with the others. I hope it isn't too terrible of a situation.

At this moment, Wang Ma sent a message over to ask Yang Chen if he was going home soon or not.

Yang Chen just realized that he stayed here for too long. He quickly replied the message, saying that he'd reach home very quickly.

After around twenty minutes, Yang Chen returned to the bungalow. In the living room, the freshly-cooked dishes were served. Lin Ruoxi and Wang Ma were seated and prepared to start eating.

After resting for a while, Lin Ruoxi appeared slightly better but still looked rather bleak. Seeing Yang Chen rush home after being out for the entire day once again, who didn't immediately sit down to eat, she said, "Wash your hands before eating. Take care of your hygiene."

It was Yang Chen's first time hearing Lin Ruoxi's request on good hygiene. Snickering, he ran into the washroom to wash his hands before coming out again.

Taking up a bowl of rice served by Wang Ma, Yang Chen started eating like a hungry wolf.

"Eat slower, no one's snatching the food from you," Lin Ruoxi complained as she frowned.

Yang Chen smiled awkwardly before slowing down. He too felt that he was rather uncultured, not to mention he was sitting beside two women.

After a short while, Lin Ruoxi seemed like she felt something wasn't right again. She said, "Why are you only eating meat? Have more vegetables. You need to replenish vitamins and water during the winter."

This time, Yang Chen really stopped everything he was doing. He felt like the dinner tonight was too weird. Raising his head, he stared at Lin Ruoxi as if he was doing a research.

Lin Ruoxi panicked as she got gazed upon. Frowning, she asked, "What is it? Why aren't you eating?"

"Wifey, you're behaving very weirdly today. Do you not feel well?" Yang Chen asked, concerned.

"No. Why do you ask?"

Wang Ma chuckled as she witnessed the behavior of this married couple. She understood what was going on, but remained silent as she lowered her head.

Shaking his head, Yang Chen said emotionally, "Why do I feel like you've suddenly become a housewife that's taking charge of everything? Your usual coldness is nowhere to be found, I'm not used to it!"

Lin Ruoxi's face turned cold. "Are you complaining that I'm restraining you too much?!"

"No, no!" Yang Chen instantly denied. Smiling, he said, "You're doing it correctly, this is how you should restrain me!"



As soon as he finished speaking, Yang Chen quickly pinched some cabbage into his bowl with a pair of chopsticks before eating away.

Lin Ruoxi stared at him as she refrained from smiling. Clearing her throat, she started chewing away as well.

Wang Ma witnessed the entire scene. She smiled faintly as she shook her head.

Chapter 283: Couldn't Be Cut Off

It was Sunday, the following day, also the day where Li Jingjing said she was coming over.

Wang Ma went out early in the morning to buy various types of meat and vegetable to prepare to properly treat the visitor.

Yang Chen didn't plan to intentionally avoid her. He sat in the living room downstairs and watched television as he waited for Li Jingjing's arrival.

However, Yang Chen felt extremely surprised since Lin Ruoxi wore an apron and helped Wang Ma in the kitchen with some tasks, like she wanted to cook as well.

Since Lin Ruoxi's culinary skill wasn't that great, Yang Chen treated her like a kid trying to have fun and didn't think much about it.

When it was almost noon, the doorbell rang.

Putting on furry slippers, Lin Ruoxi quickly ran to the door before opening it. Currently, Lin Ruoxi appeared much more lively than usual. Putting a smile on her face, she welcomed Li Jingjing into the house. Evidently, her relationship with Li Jingjing was exceptional.

Li Jingjing who wore a white down coat walked into the house gracefully. This lady looked more mature than before as she brought the natural aura of a teacher together with slight elegance.

Yang Chen saw Lin Ruoxi hold Li Jingjing's hands as she spoke intimately. He felt that it was rather unbelievable considering how quiet she normally behaved. He thought, Isn't their relationship developing a bit too quickly? However, he didn't know that Lin Ruoxi had been learning cooking techniques from Li Jingjing.

"Wow, Jingjing, why did you bring something here?" Lin Ruoxi complained when she saw the plastic bag Li Jingjing was holding. "Didn't I say I was going to treat you for lunch today? Why did you bring stuff here?"

"Since it's my first time here, I, of course, had to pay attention to my manners," Li Jingjing said with a smile. "Sister Lin, I guess you mustn't lack anything, so I only brought some dried vegetables that you can use to stew meat with."

After Lin Ruoxi listened to her, she happily let out a smile as she received the plastic bag, before bringing Li Jingjing to the sofa in the living room.

"Yang Chen, Jingjing is our visitor. Why aren't you standing up to greet her?" Lin Ruoxi asked. She was displeased when she saw Yang Chen mind his own business as he watched the news.

Yang Chen smiled faintly before greeting Li Jingjing, "Welcome, Miss Li."

Li Jingjing paled slightly when Yang Chen called her 'Miss Li'. She forced a smile before nodding.

Lin Ruoxi didn't notice anything abnormal, she just thought Li Jingjing was shy in front of strangers. She said, "I'll help Wang Ma out. The meal will be ready very soon."

"Do you want me to help out as well?"

When Li Jingjing wanted to stand up, Lin Ruoxi stopped her. "No need. I promised to cook for you today."

Seeing Lin Ruoxi's stubbornness, Li Jingjing didn't continue speaking, but sat down smilingly instead.

After Lin Ruoxi ran back to the kitchen, Li Jingjing and Yang Chen both sat on the sofa. While the distance between them was short, they appeared extraordinarily far at the same time.

Yang Chen grieved. Not long ago, the two of them still acted exceptionally intimately. However, he had brutally drawn a line between them for the sake of Old Li's family. He wouldn't have done so otherwise.

Li Jingjing stared on the screen that displayed the news, which she didn't pay attention to at all. Her mind was really messy while her eyes expressed a complex emotion.

The two quietly sat down for almost half an hour until Wang Ma served the dishes from the kitchen and called the two to start eating.

Yang Chen turned the television off before walking to the dining table himself. After keeping her gloomy look, Li Jingjing walked to the dining table before sitting down as well.

Wang Ma said politely, "Miss Li, since it's your first time here, please eat as much as you want."

Li Jingjing quietly smiled as she hummed in agreement. It couldn't be seen that she was behaving abnormally.

The sumptuous dishes on the table were really eye-catching. Without saying much, Yang Chen lowered his head, almost burying his head into the bowl, he stuffed big mouthfuls of rice and vegetables into his mouth.

Lin Ruoxi was elated when she saw how Yang Chen was eating pleasantly. She tried every dish as well and was rather satisfied with the taste.

At this moment, Yang Chen blurrily praised, "The dishes Wang Ma makes are always this delicious. You really can't blame me for eating so quickly. I truly can't stop eating."

Wang Ma giggled. "Young Master, I didn't cook the dishes today."

Yang Chen stunned before looking at Lin Ruoxi oddly. "Babe Ruoxi, did you possibly cook everything here?"

When she got called this way in front of Li Jingjing, Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but to blush. As she rebuked in her heart, she asked, "Do you have any objections?"

This time, Yang Chen really looked at her in a completely different way. "Did you improve this much in such a short time?"

Proudly, Lin Ruoxi answered, "Isn't it just cooking? Jingjing taught me a few times before. As long as I'm willing to learn seriously, it's actually not that hard."

Yang Chen felt rather warm in his heart. Behind his back, this woman secretly learned how to cook from Li Jingjing. Although it looked quite dumb, it was so foolish that it got cute at the same time.

No wonder she's this close with Li Jingjing. She even became her disciple in cooking already.

"Sister Lin is very talented. I actually didn't teach her much," Li Jingjing praised smilingly, but her eyes were containing bitterness. Evidently, she wasn't feeling too good looking at the intimacy between Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi.

After half an hour, lunch ended and Yang Chen pretended to yawn. Using afternoon nap as an excuse, he walked up to his bedroom.

Actually, he was feeling terrible when Li Jingjing glanced at him in sorrow occasionally.

Resented, Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes. "All you know is eat and sleep."

She seemed like she'd gotten addicted to doing housework. Lin Ruoxi entered the kitchen with Wang Ma to wash the bowls, chopsticks and cooking utensils. While she was doing that, she asked Li Jingjing to watch the television in the living room.

Li Jingjing obediently sat on the sofa for a while. After a few minutes, she seemed to have made a decision as she gathered courage. Taking a deep breath, she stood up and walked upstairs.

Coming to the second floor, Li Jingjing walked to the bedroom where Yang Chen earlier before knocking on the door.

A short while later, the door got opened. Yang Chen didn't go to sleep. He was still dressed in a thin sweater. When he saw Li Jingjing standing at the door, he didn't know what to say temporarily.

On Li Jingjing's beautiful face, it contained anguish. Looking at Yang Chen in the eyes, she asked, "Brother Yang, can I talk to you for a while?"

Yang Chen noticed how she looked at him with high hopes. His heart softened as he stepped backwards to allow Li Jingjing enter the room. Turning around to avoid looking at Li Jingjing's face, he said, "Say whatever you want quickly."

Li Jingjing entered the room and didn't shut the door. Sobbing faintly, she asked, "Brother Yang, do you really want to be this brutal?"

"I'm not being brutal. I'm making a choice that I feel is most appropriate. What your father said back then, I believe you understand it as well." Yang Chen sighed. "I know that you're a good girl, but I also know that you have parents who don't hope to see you that way."

“But Brother Yang, have you thought about it before? Even if you really cut off our relationship and act like a stranger, do you think I can make my parents live with satisfaction this way?” Li Jingjing said mournfully.

Yang Chen didn't turn back to look at her. Listening to what Li Jingjing said, Yang Chen remained silent as his mind went messy. He recalled too many interactions he had with Li Jingjing in the past.

Since he knew her after returning to the country, the shy college student who followed him around became an independent and mature teacher today. Although only one year had passed, the root of their relationship was just like a flame facing the wind, difficult to be suppressed.

He still remembered how the girl looked at him through the window when he walked home late at night.

He still remembered the smile on her face and the look in her eyes when he sang at the gathering he went with her.

“I just want love, I just want Brother Yang to only pay close attention to me, to love me and only me... However, the only thing that I want, is also the only thing that I'll never get...”

He still remembered that evening during the sunset, how soft and unpredictable Li Jingjing's words were, as if her sound was still echoing beside his ears.

When a million thoughts passed through Yang Chen's mind, he slowly forgot where he currently was. He felt a soft and delicate body pressed onto his back before a pair of slim arms crossed in front of his waist, hugging him from behind.

Li Jingjing placed her head on Yang Chen's back tightly as she murmured, “Brother Yang, I won't forget them. We've been through so much and you've done so much for me. How can I forget you? How can you choose to cut off my feelings for you?”

“I won't ever forget how you dealt with Chen Dehai and Chen Feng for me, how you brought me to buy clothes and told me I was your princess, and how you looked when you sang in front of me during the gathering you went with me...”

Yang Chen wanted Li Jingjing to withdraw her hands, but was afraid that such an action would only further hurt the girl's feelings, and bring an overly severe harm.

“Jingjing, let's talk properly. This isn't the matter of whether you want it or not.” Yang Chen sighed.

Li Jingjing suddenly got agitated. She shouted, “No! Brother Yang, how can you reject me?! Have you forgotten how you rushed into the toilet when I was bathing at home? You... How can you treat me this brutally?!”

Clink! Clink!

The sound of porcelain shattering on the ground resounded at the door.

Yang Chen suddenly regained awareness. When his mind was filled with various messy thoughts, he didn't realize that someone walked upstairs to his door!

When he slowly turned around, Yang Chen instantly stunned.

He saw Lin Ruoxi standing outside the room, covering her mouth with one arm and tightly gripping her apron with another, as she restrained her tears from dripping. Her face was filled with torment, horror and despair.

On the ground, a broken porcelain plate and freshly cut fruits scattered all over the floor, looking like a complete mess.

“Sister Lin...” Li Jingjing let go of her arms from Yang Chen’s body. Lowering her head, she shrank to the side like a child who had done something wrong.

“Ruoxi, we...”

“Stop talking! I don’t want to listen!”

Lin Ruoxi swiftly turned around and ran a while. The echoing of door slamming soon followed. Evidently, she ran back to her room and slammed the door.

Yang Chen stood in shock for a very long time. Turning around, he looked at Li Jingjing who seemed to have spent all her energy. With a complex expression, he said, “You did it on purpose, didn’t you?”

Chapter 284: Silent Chess

Listening to Yang Chen’s sudden question, Li Jingjing lightly shivered. She continued lowering her head and kept completely silent.

She requested to visit the house, and came to knock on his door and hug him before intentionally voicing out the ambiguous entanglements. Yang Chen quickly arrived at the conclusion that this definitely wasn’t a coincidence.

Yang Chen stared at her for a while before sighing deeply. He didn’t force her to say anything.

“I don’t know why you did that, but I believe the Li Jingjing I know isn’t someone wicked who would intentionally destroy people’s relationships,” Yang Chen said as he gazed upon Li Jingjing. “If you still don’t want to tell me now, I won’t ask any more questions. However, I hope that this is your first and your last time being someone who isn’t like yourself.”

When Yang Chen finished speaking, Li Jingjing finally couldn’t hold back anymore. Tears dripped onto the ground as she started sobbing.

Yang Chen didn’t go forward to comfort Li Jingjing, because there’s someone who needs to be consoled more waiting for him.

Walking to the door, Yang Chen looked at the shattered porcelain plate and scattered fruits as he vaguely felt a pain in his heart.

Her heart now should be the same as this porcelain plate, broken.

Yang Chen wasn’t an indifferent fool when it came to love. In the days where he interacted with Lin Ruoxi, she started talking more to him, restraining him in some ways, and asking about his past

occasionally. Today, he even saw that she had been learning cooking secretly to show him the hardworking and lady-like side of her.

Although these signs didn't show that this woman had fallen deeply in love with him, they were enough to prove that she had been working hard to accept him, and to become a qualified wife.

However, the words Li Jingjing said earlier when she hugged Yang Chen acted like a sharp knife which stabbed into the woman's arrogant and pure heart.

In front of Lin Ruoxi, Yang Chen acted like he didn't know Li Jingjing, who also concealed the fact that she knew him.

Lin Ruoxi trusted Li Jingjing so much and treated her as her good friend. However, she got a dual betrayal from her husband and good friend together in return.

Being a man who often upset his wife, Yang Chen hated his unfaithful personality when it came to love. However, this time, Yang Chen's hatred towards himself was much deeper than before.

Regardless if Li Jingjing did it on purpose or not, it was still his fault to some degree.

Yang Chen walked to Lin Ruoxi's bedroom door. His sensitive hearing allowed him to faintly listen to the sound of sobbing in the room, even when the room was nicely sound insulated.

Yang Chen reached out his arm and wanted to knock on the door. However, when his hand travelled half way, he withdrew it at last.

I want to explain, but what can I explain? I don't even know how the situation turned out this way.

After standing outside the door for a long time, Yang Chen returned to his room.

Currently, Li Jingjing was paralyzed on the ground. Her eyes were red and swollen as a result of crying. Seeing Yang Chen walk over, she didn't dare to look at Yang Chen in the eyes.

Yang Chen slowly sat down on his bed. After a short while, she said, "Jingjing, tell me why you did that. If you refuse to do so, then we may have to cut our friendship as well."

Li Jingjing raised her head and revealed her watery eyes. Looking at Yang Chen, she said, "Brother Yang, I'll tell you. But can you go to a place with me?"

"Where?"

"City Two Hospital."

Li Jingjing's words made Yang Chen feel that the matter wasn't so simple. Without asking more questions, he brought Li Jingjing out of the bungalow and quickly arrived at City Two Hospital by car.

Li Jingjing led the way and walked to an intensive care unit. Outside the room, Yang Chen looked through the window and saw the patient lying on a bed.

"Old Li?"

Yang Chen stunned. Unexpectedly, the one lying unconscious on the bed was Li Jingjing's father, his old friend Old Li!

Li Jingjing said softly, "Brother Yang, do you remember the day where I brought my father to the hospital and bumped into you?"

Yang Chen carefully recalled. Something like that definitely happened once. On that day, he purposely treated Li Jingjing coldly and even greeted Old Li before.

"During the time, my dad kept saying that he hadn't been feeling well. I brought him here for a medical check-up... and found out that..." Li Jingjing mumbled and sniveled, "it was a liver tumor..."

Yang Chen got serious. He seemed to have thought of something, but remained silent.

Li Jingjing continued speaking, "At that time our family was frightened. The doctor said if surgery wasn't done immediately and once cancer cells spread out in his body, he couldn't be saved anymore. However, we couldn't fork out that amount of money at all. I told Father that we could borrow from you, Brother Yang, but both my parents strongly opposed my suggestion and even scolded me loudly. Dad said he'd rather drink pesticides to die earlier if I trouble you again."

"I was really afraid at the moment, afraid that he'd leave us suddenly. But being a new teacher, even if I take a mortgage using the house and take up a bank loan, I still won't be able to gather enough money," Li Jingjing said. "When I felt hopeless, someone suddenly appeared, and said that he'd pay for all the costs induced for Father's surgery if I was willing to do as he said."

Yang Chen sighed in his heart. It was the same as he expected. He asked, "Who was it?"

Li Jingjing slowly raised her head. "Brother Yang, do you remember the guy we bumped into when you accompanied me to buy furniture?"

Yang Chen recalled and violently stood up straight. "Zeng Xinlin?!"

When he went to get furniture with Li Jingjing, they met Zeng Xinlin. Although he felt that his smile was really peculiar, nothing special happened afterwards. Unexpectedly, he had his eyes on Li Jingjing since then!

"Yes," Li Jingjing said. "He said he'd pay for the surgery fees if I follow his instructions."

"He's indeed very patient..." Yang Chen thought that Zeng Xinlin would withdraw from the war after getting defeated by Lin Ruoxi in the business world. Yang Chen didn't think that he'd use Li Jingjing as a chess move. Even if Zeng Xinlin lost in the business world, he didn't plan on letting Yang Chen live a good life with Lin Ruoxi.

The two slowly walked to a secluded corner of the hospital where Li Jingjing elaborated on what happened, to allow Yang Chen understand the entire situation.

When Zeng Xinlin noticed the intimacy between Yang Chen and Li Jingjing, he sent his men to check on Li Jingjing's family background. While he did that, he accidentally noticed that Li Jingjing always volunteered in the same orphanage as Lin Ruoxi. After a while, he got brutally struck by Lin Ruoxi, forcing him to leave Zhonghai. So he wasn't able to instantly use the information he got.

After Old Li got sick and stayed in the hospital, Zeng Xinlin appeared once again. He told Li Jingjing that the woman she often met at the orphanage was Yang Chen's wife, and asked her to improve her

relationship with Lin Ruoxi before finding an opportunity to cause a disturbance in the relationship of the married couple.

It was undoubtedly a partly inciting and threatening act towards Li Jingjing. Zeng Xinlin knew that Li Jingjing must be feeling envious towards Yang Chen's wife due to the sudden coldness Yang Chen gave her, and was worried about his father's operation fee.

Combining both reasons together, enduring the pain, she accepted the offer at last.

Furthermore, Li Jingjing was merely an ordinary young teacher. She wouldn't dare to go against a wealthy family like Zeng family. Zeng Xinlin only had to simply threaten Li Jingjing to prevent her from disclosing everything.

After that, concealing everything, Li Jingjing quickly got close to Lin Ruoxi, and found an opportunity to put up today's act when she said she wanted to learn cooking. This was also the result Zeng Xinlin had been waiting to see.

Zeng Xinlin wanted to use Yu Lei International as his base which he can firmly stand on. However, he got defeated in the business world and naturally lost hope in getting Lin Ruoxi. This time, his cunning act of putting Li Jingjing in between Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi successfully caused a disturbance in their relationship and did harm to everyone involved, even if doing this wouldn't earn him Lin Ruoxi.

He won something in the end, though he lost severely.

Yang Chen's facial expression changed for a long time. He said, "Jingjing, you should know that he's using you this way. You should've told me earlier."

Sorrowfully, Li Jingjing replied, "I know I did something wrong. Brother Yang, but I... I really lost my mind back then. Every time I notice that you ignore me completely and treat me so coldly, I would get a negative idea towards Sister Lin. I can't control myself no matter what... I now know that I'm wrong, but I hurt you and Sister Lin. I... I really don't know what I should do... Brother Yang, you won't forgive me anymore, will you?"

"There will be times where people make mistakes. It's my fault for treating you overly cold as well. If people were more understanding and forgiving, this matter probably could've been avoided. I won't allow Zeng Xinlin to do something like this anymore." Yang Chen sighed. "Since it ended up this way, you just have to take care of your father. Don't tell him what happened. Just say that an anonymous donated money. I'll be leaving now."

"Brother Yang!"

Li Jingjing shouted as she cried, stopping Yang Chen who was turning around.

"Is there anything else..." Yang Chen felt that his heart was exhausted.

"Do... do you... do you really not like me anymore..."

Listening to this stuttering question, Yang Chen stood still stiffly.



Li Jingjing saw that Yang Chen didn't have any reactions, tears dropped from her eyes once again. She felt like her heart turned into ashes. She mumbled, "Brother Yang, I know that you must hate me a lot now, for my stupidity and hypocritical acts. But please listen to what I have to say.

"Do you know how I've been living these days... I never have appetite to eat, and can't sleep at night. These are the most fundamental ones. After I fall asleep, it's common that I woke up in the middle of the night, because I didn't understand why the person I loved and was closest to suddenly became a stranger who wouldn't look me in the eyes even for once.

"I don't dare to talk to my parents or anyone else about it. I'm afraid of bothering them, so all I can do is to find a place with no one to cry at.

"But the most painful thing is... the one I cry for, seems to not think about me at all. I'm the only one doing this. That person seems to have forgotten about me, and is enjoying his life with another woman himself.

"I really want to die, but I can't, because I'm afraid... of not seeing that person anymore. I'm afraid of not seeing you anymore, Brother Yang..."

Yang Chen's clenched his fists tightly as they trembled. Slowly, they loosened up again. Exhaling a deep breath, he walked away with big steps without looking back.

Li Jingjing seemed to have finished all her energy. She kneeled on the ground with both her knees and she stared at Yang Chen's back which got further and further away. In the lonely winter night, she was just like a flower that couldn't withstand any damage, silently dying away...

#### Chapter 285: You're the Executioner

After leaving the hospital, Yang Chen walked back to his car and locked the door. Dropping the window down, he silently smoked a cigarette alone.

White smoke spread out into the air from the car window. At the deserted parking area, it was exceptionally quiet and peaceful.

Yang Chen tried his best to forget Li Jingjing's words and her painful expression. Sorting his mind out, he thought through what had happened, the current situation, and what would take place in the future.

Although it was Zeng Xinlin's retaliation, it was his mistake for letting it happen after all.

It couldn't be said that Yang Chen hated Zeng Xinlin. He would be looking up to him this way. Of course, he didn't like him either. However, in both the worlds of business and love, conspiring against each other was the most common thing. It wasn't too surprising that he got backstabbed this time.

Yang Chen also noticed that although Zeng Xinlin's company left Zhonghai, the problems related to him weren't necessarily cut off yet. It seemed like Yang Chen had to take some actions.

Of course, the most simple and direct method to solve the issue was to kill him. But Zeng Xinlin wasn't the only one in Beijing's Zeng family. While he could secretly kill him, based on Zeng family's ability, investigating the matter and discovering Yang Chen wasn't considered a difficult task.

Even if they didn't dare to face Yang Chen himself, they could totally take actions on the people around him.

A dog would jump the wall when it was nervous, even a rabbit would bite when it got anxious.

Since he returned to the country, he hoped to live a peaceful life comfortably. His past lifestyle of killing whoever he disliked couldn't be continued anymore.

Leaving other matters aside, although his brain was currently stable, once he held the intention to kill, he wasn't confident to keep himself in control.

If he lost consciousness, in addition to being with no one who knew him well, it was totally possible for him to do something terrifying which couldn't be undone.

Having thought the matter through, asking someone else to deal with Zeng Xinlin for him seemed most appropriate. Regarding who specifically was suited for the job, it was still a question that had to be thought through.

When Yang Chen was pondering, his phone vibrated.

Yang Chen looked at his phone, and saw it was the leader of Sea Eagles, Molin's call.

"Your Majesty Pluto, an unusual situation took place at your house," Molin said solemnly.

Frowning, Yang Chen replied, "Tell me in detail."

"Through our surveillance equipment and report from the members on shift, ten minutes ago, more than twenty people who seemed to have received professional training, should be some type of foreign mercenaries, have lurked in a place near your house. Also, a Lincoln sedan has stopped behind the place you stay. I can't determine the situation within their members, but they seem to be waiting for your return."

Yang Chen's facial expression turned cold. It seems like someone is getting anxious before I even take action. Is this the so-called taking action beforehand to gain advantage?

"Watch over them for me. You can't allow them to do anything dangerous."

"Yes, Your Majesty Pluto. As soon as you give us an order, our two members on shift will settle those mercenaries within five minutes. Their ability can only be considered second-class on the international level at most," Molin said with high anticipation.

Yang Chen smiled faintly. "No need, I know that your hands are itchy, but I want to take action myself this time."

"But they aren't qualified for you to get involved." Molin got rather surprised.

"Molin, sometimes the reason of taking action is far more important than the objective," Yang Chen said softly.

Molin stopped talking, he seemed to be able to tell that Yang Chen was feeling down.

After around ten minutes, Yang Chen returned to the bungalow in Dragon Garden. He acted like he didn't know there was ambush in his surroundings. He only walked into the house with an unhappy expression.

When Wang Ma who had noticed something wrong earlier saw Yang Chen's return, she asked out of concern, "Young Master, what happened just now? Why did Miss suddenly lock herself in the room?"

Yang Chen smiled gently. "Don't worry, the problem is quite complicated but I'll take care of it."

Wang Ma noticed that Yang Chen wasn't willing to explain, so she didn't ask more questions. But she was still extremely worried. Evidently, she couldn't put the matter down from her heart.

At this moment, the doorbell of the bungalow rang.

Wang Ma got slightly shocked and wanted to open the door, but was stopped by Yang Chen.

"Wang Ma, I'll open the door," Yang Chen said.

Yang Chen walked to the door before opening it., revealing two familiar faces. However, when he saw them currently, Yang Chen felt rather surprised.

One of them was naturally Zeng Xinlin, whom Yang Chen expected to come. Looking elegant as ever, he gazed at Yang Chen with a wicked smile.

Unexpectedly, the other person was Xu Zhihong who had hidden himself abroad so well that he wasn't caught after Dongxing got destroyed!

Xu Zhihong looked like he got a few years older. Being only around twenty years old, there were signs of aging on his face. His beard wasn't well-shaved, and his hair was much longer than before. He wore a western suit and wasn't tidily dressed. When he stared upon Yang Chen, he looked like a venomous snake which would go berzerk at any moment.

"Long time no see, Yang Chen," Xu Zhihong said as he sneered.

Holding a faint smile on his face, Yang Chen stepped aside in a neither happy nor sad manner. He made a hand gesture to invite the guests in. "Indeed, we haven't seen each other in a while. You look like you haven't been eating well. Aren't you going to come in?"

Zeng Xinlin said in a mocking manner, "It seems like you don't like the present I gave you very much. Or do you actually like it, but act like you don't?"

"What do you think?"

"I really don't know this time. Oh yeah, Ruoxi should be in the house now. Why isn't she out to welcome her senior?"

When he finished speaking, Lin Ruoxi's cold voice echoed from within the house.

"I just came down, I hope I'm on time to welcome Senior."

Lin Ruoxi could be seen slowly walking down the stairs while Wang Ma followed beside her. Evidently, Wang Ma must've called her upstairs when she saw the visitors.

Lin Ruoxi's eyes were rather red, but her emotion was finally stabilized. However, the cold look on her face seemed to have gone back to the time where Yang Chen initially knew her, just like an unmeltable ice.

Seeing Xu Zhihong, Lin Ruoxi wasn't very surprised. She asked in a dull manner, "You're still a wanted criminal. Aren't you afraid of getting caught?"

When Xu Zhihong saw the woman he used to go for, his eyes turned cold and fierce. "With Master Zeng here, I won't get caught that easily."

"You guys seem to have made some kind of deal," Lin Ruoxi said as she stared at Zeng Xinlin. "Senior, although I've done something merciless towards your company, on the personal level, I've always respect you. However, I want to ask you a question. Are you the one behind Jingjing's incident?"

Splendor flowed through Zeng Xinlin's eyes. He glanced at Yang Chen before looking back at Lin Ruoxi, saying, "Since I came today, I didn't plan on keeping it a secret. However, I still admire your keen senses for noticing this quickly that it was my scheme. But so what if that's the case? Although it was me who guided Li Jingjing, this plan wouldn't have worked out if Yang Chen didn't feel guilty for his unclear relationship with Miss Li. When there's a first, there will be a second one. I believe you understand this point as well. So, you should be thanking me for showing you what kind of a person your husband is."

"His behavior is none of your business. Zeng Xinlin, you're very hypocritical," Lin Ruoxi said without hesitation after gaining confirmation.

"Haha..." Zeng Xinlin acted like he heard a joke. "Hypocritical? Lin Ruoxi, I brought an opportunity for your Yu Lei International to develop, but you single handedly took down my Changlin Media and backstabbed Brother Xu beside me, annihilating the ten-year business of Xu family. Do you think you're qualified to call someone hypocritical?"

"In the business world, the strong feeds on the weak. Since you guys participated in the game, you should follow the game rules and silently accept your defeat. Applying hatred from the business world onto personal relationships is disdainful, not to mention your act of bewitching others without consideration. I'm very disgusted," Lin Ruoxi said mercilessly.

Zeng Xinlin and Xu Zhihong looked rather gloomy while Yang Chen lamented slightly. He seemed to have underestimated Lin Ruoxi's endurance psychologically. He didn't expect her to so quickly realize that Li Jingjing's incident wasn't as simple as it looked. However, even if that was the case, it was still difficult for him to forgive himself.

"You've always been this way. Haven't you yourself realized your arrogance and cruelty? Don't rationalize destroying people's family like they deserve it. Don't you know that you're the executioner in all of these? I hate Yang Chen, but he's merely your partner-in-crime. He's only a sacrifice dragged down by you!

"Lin Ruoxi, don't think that just because you're beautiful, good in doing business, and capable to defeat others in the business world, then people should silently endure everything. Let me tell you, you'll realize today just how ridiculously wrong you are!

Xu Zhihong couldn't control his emotions. After angrily complaining, he reached out to the pocket inside his coat before withdrawing a black automatic pistol and aiming at Lin Ruoxi's forehead!

Chapter 286: Undermined

Lin Ruoxi didn't panic nor did she dodge away while Xu Zhihong didn't look like he was going to pull the trigger immediately.

Yang Chen's nerves suddenly tightened for a split second, but didn't rush to disarm Xu Zhihong. The current situation was rather tricky.

"What is it? Do you finally know that you're wrong? But everything's too late, Xu family doesn't exist anymore. Because of you, my father and mother committed suicide by drinking pesticides. Do you know how I've been living abroad all this time? Although I have food, clothing and shelter, do you know how my heart has been feeling? I feel a knife shaving my heart away as blood never stops flowing." Xu Zhihong's eyes were filled with hatred. Loudly, he said, "Do you know I'm the only one who hates you? Think about it, during the development of Yu Lei International, how many competitors have you pushed down their horses, and families destroyed? Do you think they all would feel good? Today, I'll let you repay your debts."

"You want to kill me." Lin Ruoxi seemed like she was asking a question, or mumbling something to herself.

"Killing you would be to your advantage," Xu Zhihong said as he laughed. "Maybe before I kill you, we can play for a while. Anyhow, I've chased you for so many years."

Lin Ruoxi remained silent, like she wasn't concerned with this all. She only stood still fearlessly as she looked at Xu Zhihong.

Xu Zhihong saw the look on her face and got so mad that he sneered. "It's still the same look. Do you know that I hate this look of yours the most? Do you think you're a goddess?! Who are you to look at me like that!"

Zeng Xinlin tapped on Xu Zhihong's shoulder and sighed. He said, "Master Xu, everything will be solved today. You don't have to get this emotional. After I finish dealing with the things, you can do whatever you want to this woman."

[TL note: 少爷 (Young Master) is how the young people in wealthy families are called. I shortened it to one word.]

As he finished speaking, Zeng Xinlin received a stack of documents from an assistant behind him. Smiling at Lin Ruoxi, he said, "Boss Lin, before you get brought away by Master Xu, I hope you can patiently read through these documents. This way, your company will be majorly benefited as well."

"What?" Lin Ruoxi asked.

"This is the transfer of ownership of Yu Lei International's shares. Since you'll leave this world very quickly, instead of passing your ninety percent of Yu Lei's shares and your tens of billions of assets to the country, you may pass them to me. I'll properly take care of the business you built for sure," Zeng Xinlin said with an evil smile.

Lin Ruoxi taunted, "It sure seems like you haven't been living well. You don't even care about your reputation anymore, and want to force me into transferring my shares to you. Is it because you've lost the support of your family after I defeated you, and you have no other choice but to team up with Xu Zhihong?"

Zeng Xinlin turned mad. He said, "Do you know that Xu Zhihong and I hate women like you who can think of a lot but usually remain silent? Your words humiliate me a lot."

After Changlin Media's utter failure, Zeng Xinlin indeed lost the support of Zeng clan from Beijing. While some seniors still trusted him, most of them started doubting his ability, causing his prestige to fall to rock bottom instantly. Naturally, he wouldn't be taken care of by his family anymore.

Bearing hatred in heart, Zeng Xinlin managed to contact Xu Zhihong who was in another country. Forming a common objective of revenging Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi, Zeng Xinlin used his connection with certain agencies at the customs to allow Xu Zhihong bring people and huge amounts of cash into the country.

After receiving funds, Zeng Xinlin relied on Zeng family to cover Xu Zhihong's identity before silently waiting for this day to come.

"I'm really happy that you don't like me," Lin Ruoxi said coldly. "I agree to transfer my shares and other assets to you, but you have to promise me something."

Frowning, Zeng Xinlin said, "Say."

"Since you hate me, you can kill me, but not Yang Chen. Killing him won't do you any good," Lin Ruoxi said.

Yang Chen violently raised his head as he couldn't believe what just happened, looking at Lin Ruoxi who was expressionless.

At such a situation, the first thing this woman thinks of is saving me?!

Doesn't she hate me for hurting her so many times? Doesn't she mind that I hid so many things from her, and lied to her this many times?

"Haha, what a loving husband and wife," Zeng Xinlin said as he looked at Yang Chen fiercely. He then turned to Xu Zhihong, asked, "Master Xu, what do you think?"

Xu Zhihong smiled oddly. "She really sees merely a mutton skewer seller as a treasure. Humph, I can let him live, but at the very least, he can't be allowed to live as a man for the rest of his life..."

Malice appeared in Zeng Xinlin's eyes. "This is a good suggestion."

"No," Lin Ruoxi said resentfully. "I'm the one who left you no choice and defeat your businesses, not Yang Chen. If you guys hurt him, I won't sign on the document even if I die."

"Fucking bitch, if you don't want to sign, we can take your thumbprint after you die!"

Xu Zhihong couldn't endure anymore and suddenly pulled the trigger!

Bang!

The sound of gunshot echoed in the hall. Wang Ma who had been standing behind Lin Ruoxi nervously shouted in shock.

However, the bullet didn't follow the trajectory towards Lin Ruoxi's forehead!

Apparently, the gun Xu Zhihong held got bounced away by an enormous force. The bullet hit the ceiling and ignited a spark.

Lin Ruoxi originally closed her eyes as she waited for her death. Unexpectedly, the matter was suddenly changed, causing her to open her eyes again out of confusion.

She saw that Xu Zhihong turned his head to look at Yang Chen at a side.

"Yang Chen, do you think you guys can be left alive after hitting my gun away? There are twenty mercenaries outside hired by me who would kill without even blinking. You guys won't be able to escape."

"You may try," Yang Chen said in a dull manner.

Xu Zhihong snorted before waving his hand.

Hairy Ball who had been witnessing the scene while he stood behind Xu Zhihong walked over happily. He still had a messy hairstyle, a moustache that looked like weed, and wore a dirty coat.

This perverted-looking, tall, strong and filthy man was extremely loyal to his master Xu Zhihong. Regardless of his past identity of being the young master of Xu family, or today's of being a wanted criminal, Hairy Ball was still willing to follow him.

Xu Zhihong smiled coldly. He said, "Hairy Ball, haven't you always wanted to fight Yang Chen? Before he dies today, you can play with him."

Hairy Ball snickered and said to Yang Chen, "I knew that you were rather good in fighting long ago, but Young Master had always stopped me from approaching you. Not long ago, the two of you made him a wanted criminal, which caused him to suffer heavily. Now that you're going to die soon, we'll play for a while."

Lin Ruoxi regained awareness and understood that she was saved by Yang Chen out of the blue. As she felt a complex emotion, seeing that Yang Chen was going to fight with Hairy Ball, she hurriedly shouted, "No way! He was a special agent back then. You won't be able to defeat him!"

"Humph, why can't he? It's not like he can run away. Today, we're the boss here," Xu Zhihong said with a smile.

Yang Chen faintly smiled at Lin Ruoxi and signalled her to stop getting worried.

Having reached this day, there were things that he simply couldn't continue hiding from Lin Ruoxi anymore. No matter what would happen to the two in the future, the fact that he concealed his past made him seem selfish.

Lin Ruoxi looked at Yang Chen with a confused expression as her heartbeat swiftly quickened. She had a feeling that something unbelievable was going to take place.

Taking his coat off, Hairy Ball was left with a black sweater which tightly wrapped around his muscular body. Posing a fighting stance, he winked at Yang Chen.

Yang Chen looked at him and said, "Although you're quite solvent, you're genuinely loyal to your master. Looking at your stance, you should be an expert on Aikido, but you're still not someone who can go against me. If you surrender now, I'll let you live if you agree to tidy up the corpse of your master."

Hairy Ball stunned. He seemed to be surprised that Yang Chen managed to see through him with a simple glance. However, he still sneered and said, "You yourself said that I was loyal to my master. Since my life is given by Master, I have to use my life to fight you even if I'm really going to lose today."

"Alright then." Yang Chen sighed and reached his right arm at Hairy Ball's neck.

He planned to execute him with a single strike, to leave Hairy Ball die without too much pain.

On the side, Lin Ruoxi and Wang Ma saw Yang Chen who suddenly seemed like another person as he acted in a domineering manner steadily. This feeling made the two stand on the ground stiffly. With their blurry eyes, they gazed upon Yang Chen as they felt unfamiliar with this man who was with them almost all the time.

At the same time, Hairy Ball felt an extremely strong pressure when he saw Yang Chen's attack which looked extremely slow, causing him to get difficult in breathing.

He was indeed a master in Aikido who emphasized on countering hard attacks with soft ones and borrowing force to counter force. Facing Yang Chen's slow-motion attack, he got a bit anxious and tried to dodge the strike.

Unexpectedly, Yang Chen's arms suddenly hastened. Following Hairy Ball's movement trajectory, he quickly grasped Hairy Ball's neck!

Both of Hairy Ball's arms posed into a blocking stance as he tried to withstand Yang Chen's arms.

However, when his attack almost reached Yang Chen's arms, Hairy Ball horrifyingly felt that Yang Chen's arms were just like the coldest composite metal. When his forceful attack from both directions landed, Yang Chen's arms didn't move the slightest!

How is it possible?! Hairy Ball got terrified. Having known Yang Chen for so long, he thought that he could hold a playful attitude while facing Yang Chen. At this moment, he outrageously noticed just how wrong he was! Has he never been on the same level with me?! he thought. However, the next moment, he lost the opportunity to think.

Crack! Crack!

Yang Chen didn't give much time to Hairy Ball. As he lightly pinched using his hand, Hairy Ball immediately stopped breathing.

He had interacted with this dirty man ever since he met Xu Zhihong the first time. After so long, he finally used such a simple yet direct method to send him away from this world.

Xu Zhihong shouted in fear. He seemed like he refused to believe that his most loyal servant died under such a short moment, being crushed on the neck by Yang Chen using only one arm!



Zeng Xinlin used to be an outstanding special agent and briefly knew the power level of Hairy Ball. He finally noticed that the situation in front wasn't so easy to be dealt with. Violently pulling Xu Zhihong out of the house, he waved his hand outside. The twenty masked mercenaries lurked around the bungalow and armed with submachine guns appeared from each dark corner and the groves as they rushed out before aiming at the entrance!

Two bodyguards stood in front of Zeng Xinlin and Xu Zhihong as they nervously looked at Yang Chen who stood beside the door.

Inside the door, Lin Ruoxi, who witnessed Yang Chen kill someone in the blink of an eye, widened her big eyes in shock. She couldn't speak a word. Everything that happened in front of her undermined all her senses towards Yang Chen, like she came to another world.

Regarding Wang Ma, she had fainted on the ground since the moment Hairy Ball was killed.

"Open fire! Open fire! Kill this man immediately!" Zeng Xinlin couldn't care about snatching Lin Ruoxi's assets anymore. At this moment, he only wanted to eradicate this dangerous man!

Chapter 287: Do You like This Way of Dying

Much love,

Dad

All the twenty mercenaries were brought into the country by Xu Zhihong from abroad. Although they weren't top-notch or even first-class ones, being born in the military from countries of South Asia, they were valiant criminals who often go on missions in the international waters and territorial disputes. At this moment when they saw that Yang Chen was rather strong, they weren't the slightest bit afraid.

Everyone held a Type 56 semi-automatic assault rifle which they had owned for years. Although they were full of scratches and battle damages, they fired fatal sparks without hesitation!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The twenty guns with a shooting range of near 300 meters fired together, aiming at each part of Yang Chen's body, with the firepower incredibly focused.

The firing sound of the machine guns resounded throughout the sky, like it was loud enough to shake the entire land.

The faces of Zeng Xinlin and Xu Zhihong held a ferocious and crazy smile, since they were sure that Yang Chen would definitely get broken into pieces a short moment later.

Due to seeing Yang Chen kill, Lin Ruoxi who had been standing stiffly on the ground as she got dumbstruck suddenly regained awareness.

At this moment, her panic and blurriness instantly vanished, leaving only her unbelievably cold palpitation!

However, the bloody scene that she expected didn't come. After the twenty mercenaries took aim and shot, not even a trace of blood splattered!

Everyone present felt that their vision blurred. There was no one at the original position where Yang Chen stood earlier while the black-colored luxury water dispenser at the hall behind Yang Chen got bombarded so terribly that it became a lump of trash!

The mercenaries suddenly felt dazed. Following closely, an overwhelming killing aura caused them to suffocate, even when they had gone through countless battles!

Slap!

A slapping sound echoed, causing everyone to look to the edge.

They didn't know when Yang Chen moved to their left. Standing beside the leftmost mercenary, Yang Chen struck a slap which looked slow but was in fact incredibly fast, hitting on the strong mercenary's skull!

The soldier didn't get the chance to defend himself. His skull received a direct impact from the slap.

Just like a crispy watermelon that got hit by a huge sheet of iron, it instantly got crushed into pieces!

Red and white objects connected to various parts of flesh and head organs looked just like blood rain as they dispersed to the surroundings, splashing onto the faces of the mercenaries around and falling onto the green lawn...

Everyone widened their eyes in shock. Even if they were mercenaries who wouldn't feel a thing when they killed, they couldn't imagine such a direct but exceptionally violent way of ending someone's life.

When the mercenary whose skull didn't exist anymore slowly fell, Yang Chen's slightly reddened eyes swept across the others before the corners of his lips revealed a trace of brutal smile.

"Do you like this way of dying..."

This question which felt like the netherworld sent chills up everyone's spine, almost urging them to escape the scene!

Inside the house, Lin Ruoxi who had newly relieved herself covered her mouth with one of her hands as she forced herself to not scream out loud. Just like watching a scene in a horror movie, she forgot to breathe, and even didn't dare to look at the man who seemed familiar!

Everyone was stunned after witnessing Yang Chen's bloody and vicious means, Yang Chen's figure moved again.

Yang Chen's trajectory was too difficult to be grasped. He moved so fast that he left an afterimage at the place he previously stood at. However, every time he stopped moving, he arrived beside the nearest mercenary to him. Using an angle which couldn't be blocked, he crushed their skulls with merely a slap each!

The slapping sounds created a rhythm. Within the blink of an eye, another seven to eight fighters got easily turned into headless corpses by Yang Chen!

Devil... devil! Everyone only had this word in their hearts. Their legs and feet started softening, because the speed of this man even made them lose the courage to escape.

The utter helplessness and weakness made them forget to express their fears!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

A rather competent soldier opened fire at Yang Chen's afterimage. Unexpectedly, he shot hundreds of holes on one of his teammate's body!

The next moment, Yang Chen appeared behind the shooter and waved his left palm again, harvesting yet another human life!

The fairly wide lawn became just like a violent battleground. Corpses and bloody flesh were all over the place. The scarlet blood water irrigated the yellowish lawn, making it extraordinarily eye-catching during winter!

Within less than half a minute, among the tens of people previously standing on the lawn, only Yang Chen was left. Bringing his red palms that slowly dripped blood together with his reddish shirt, he stood in front of Zeng Xinlin and Xu Zhihong with a vague smile.

Zeng Xinlin finally noticed that the two bodyguards in front of him had their heads crushed like watermelons by Yang Chen as well. They didn't even get the chance to react. On his face, there was even the smell of blood due to its splashing.

"You guys shouldn't have come back. Otherwise I would've asked someone else to kill you. This way, you won't die until your heads are gone."

There was slight sympathy on Yang Chen's face. The scarlet in his eyes became more and more dense. Using relatively slow footsteps, he walked towards Zeng Xinlin and Xu Zhihong.

Although Zeng Xinlin was a special agent, he had never seen such a superhero-type array. His legs felt weak. He wanted to shout for help but he didn't even have the courage for that.

Xu Zhihong basically opened his eyeballs wide as he lost the ability to think. In fact, the moment Hairy Ball died, he felt incredibly worried. Currently, he acted just like a stake.

Witnessing the entire scene, Lin Ruoxi subconsciously shed tears. She initially felt frightened, but for unknown reasons, she currently only felt slightly disgusted and wasn't afraid anymore, even if the air was filled with the strong smell of blood.

This man's back view looked cold and dignified, like pale lights shone upon his figure on a dark stage. That kind of unfamiliarity would arouse pity.

"Yang Chen! Stop it!"

A hasty sound of a lady resounded from not too far away. A black BMW 5-series could be seen approaching the house at a speed of 150 to 160 kilometers per hour. After an emergency stop, three panicked people ran down from the car.

Indifferent, Yang Chen glanced at them, only to discover Cai Ning, Sky Dragon whom he hadn't seen in a while, and another skinny and tall guy with an unfamiliar face.

“Yang Chen, I’m from Beijing’s Group of Eight, Mo Feng!” the skinny guy shouted. “You cannot kill Zeng Xinlin. Opposing Zeng clan will only bring you a more severe trouble!”

Frowning, Sky Dragon said, “Yang Chen, keep calm for a while. This isn’t something that can be completely dealt with by killing.”

Yang Chen looked unconcerned. The scarlet color in his eyes hadn’t disappeared yet.

Zeng Xinlin who previously felt that he would die suddenly shouted in surprise, “Cousin Mo Feng, you’re finally here! Quickly, save me!”

Mo Feng solemnly nodded. He said, “Yang Chen, you should feel contented killing this many people already. Back off now, General sent us here from Beijing to stop you from killing Zeng Xinlin. It’s for your own good. He’s the most highly regarded grandson of the master of Zeng clan. They won’t let you go if you kill him.”

“Contented...” Yang Chen suddenly burst into laughter as he looked at Mo Feng jokingly. “You’re Zeng Xinlin’s cousin right...”

“That’s right, but my suggestion is for your benefit as well. Once you kill him, are you able to kill everyone from Zeng clan as well?” Mo Feng asked.

Yang Chen looked like he realized something. Coldly, he said, “Whether or not I can kill everyone is none of your business. However, since you’re his cousin and you came over yourself, I’ll kill you first before killing him if you dare to stop me.”

“You! You musn’t get too defiant!”

Mo Feng got so pissed that his face turned red. Due to his arrogance, he wanted to immediately attack Yang Chen.

However, knowing how terrifying Yang Chen was, Sky Dragon instantly grabbed onto Mo Feng when he felt Yang Chen’s upsurge of killing aura. He shouted, “You can’t give your life away!”

Since Sky Dragon was the strongest in Group of Eight, Mo Feng couldn’t break away from him even if he wanted to.

Yang Chen didn’t care about Mo Feng who came to interrupt anymore. His body teleported again before appearing in front of Zeng Xinlin and Xu Zhihong.

“Since you guys came to give revenge to me together, you may die together as well.”

As soon as he finished speaking, his left and right arms rushed towards the two skulls at the same time. Just like the others who died previously, bringing their final looks of despair, the two proud individuals had their skulls beaten into two groups of blood mist under Yang Chen’s palms!

Cai Ning shut her eyes as she turned her head away, not daring to witness this scene.

Sky Dragon let go of Mo Feng who was completely stunned. Mo Feng’s eyes shed tears and turned red as his body got stiff, as if he didn’t dare to believe what happened in front of him.

Yang Chen turned back and looked at Mo Feng, saying, "What do you think? I killed him already. If you want to follow him go, I'll help you do that."

Mo Feng's lips violently jumped. Using a hoarse and low voice, he said, "You're an animal, an animal..."

"I'm an animal, so I kill animals as well," Yang Chen said with a smile. "If you want to fight me, do it quick. If you want to scold me, I won't keep you company anymore. If it isn't because of the friendship I have with the two beside you, I would kill you right away. So, you better vanish quickly if you want to live."

Sky Dragon gave Yang Chen a helpless and complicated look. Pulling Mo Feng, he said, "Let's go, your cousin's death cannot be stopped by you. General didn't order you to take action. We can't go back now."

Mo Feng vigorously held his fists. Looking at Yang Chen for the last time, he walked back to the car together with Sky Dragon.

Cai Ning sighed as she glanced at Lin Ruoxi who looked inattentive and soulless. She said, "We've temporarily sealed off this region. No one will come here and I'll ask people to cover up the battle traces here. However, Zeng clan will definitely not let this go. You better make some preparations. If you cause an overly huge disturbance, even if we don't want to do it, we'll certainly show up to stop you."

Yang Chen remained silent.

Cai Ning pondered for awhile and said, "It must be hard for her to accept this. You should console her."

After she finished speaking, Cai Ning silently entered the car and left the place.

Yang Chen took out a small medicine container and poured two pills out before quietly swallowing them. After painfully shutting his eyes for a while, he opened his eyes again before the scarlet in his eyes slowly dissipated.

Taking a deep breath, Yang Chen turned around and walked back into the house. He felt heavier than when he killed earlier.

Chapter 288: Scorpion

Lin Ruoxi stood still on the ground. Since Yang Chen started killing, she hadn't even moved half a step. Currently, when she saw the guy covered in red whose palms were soaked in fresh blood as if he bathed in blood, Lin Ruoxi subconsciously took half a step back.

Yang Chen raised his previously lowered head and smiled as he noticed the panic in Lin Ruoxi's eyes.

"You're scared," Yang Chen said with a low voice.

Lin Ruoxi balled up her white hands while her knuckles paled. As her body shivered lightly, she answered after a long time, "Sti—still okay..."

Yang Chen mocked at himself. "You don't have to force yourself to say that. Sooner or later you will witness such a scene, such a me. Back then, I intentionally avoided showing this side of me, but having

come till this day, I guess I don't have to hide anymore. Any ordinary woman, no, any ordinary person wouldn't hope to see this side of me."

Lin Ruoxi's slightly wet eyes gazed upon Yang Chen. When she heard what Yang Chen said, her heart felt an intense ache. She wanted to open her mouth to console him, but she held too many doubts, and too many complicated thoughts. When she wanted to voice out, no words seemed to come out from her mouth.

Who is he in the past? Why would he kill in such a violent manner? How many people has he killed in the past?

Is he a wanted murderer? An internationally wanted criminal? A terrorist? Or is he... something else...

Lin Ruoxi suddenly felt afraid. The man in front of him looked the same as before, but felt exceptionally unfamiliar at the same time. Although he was smiling at her, there seemed to be a wide gap between them which didn't have visible ends.

Except heartache and fear, this kind of feeling didn't include the slightest bit of rejoicing, even if the only reason she managed to survive was because of his competence.

As Yang Chen observed Lin Ruoxi's silence, a feeling of sorrow and a sense of relief arose.

He had to eventually face everything. It was a type of punishment, and a kind of redemption as well.

Silence continued for a while more before Yang Chen tidied up his thoughts. Sincerely, he said, "Ruoxi, I know that you must be hoping for my instant disappearance now. Tonight, you should be getting nightmares. I'm sorry, I don't want this to happen as well. However, Jingjing's incident that took place today... although it was done by Zeng Xinlin himself, I'm at fault as well. I've definitely done a lot of things that I feel sorry to you for.

"I'm not a competent husband. Up until now, I'm still not able to give up on the other women who similarly love me with their lives for you. There are some who you know, and some who you don't. However, to me, they're the same. Although they're third parties, they're still people whom I like and care for. I admit that I'm greedy and detestable. I don't want to lose you, but I don't want to lose any of them as well.

"Earlier today, when I saw you running back to your room, I looked at myself with contempt. So, although I didn't have to take action myself against the people earlier, I still did it in front of you.

"If I choose to continue staying here, I should tell you who I truly am. As you can see, this pair of filthy hands drenched in blood are my real hands. In the past ten years or so, I myself lost count of how many lives I've taken away. I have more brutal means of doing it than the ones bef—"

"Stop talking! I don't want to listen!"

Lin Ruoxi suddenly shouted loudly and cut off Yang Chen's sentence. When this woman who was as calm as a robot shouted emotionally, Yang Chen stunned in shock.

"I didn't ask you to say, you're not allowed to speak. Who wants to know about your past? You're someone who used to sell mutton skewers! Do you think I'd believe the story you made up?! I don't want to listen!"

Lin Ruoxi turned around and squatted down. Somehow, she had the strength to carry Wang Ma who fainted on the floor up and dragged her to lean against the sofa. She turned said to Yang Chen, "What are you standing there for? Your entire body is very dirty. Aren't you going to bathe yet?"

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. "Ruoxi, I've chosen to confess, you don't have to evade the matter for me. To be honest, I'm very thankful that you haven't escaped away after seeing me like this, I'm serious."

Lin Ruoxi's body lightly shivered. Turning her head away, she said coldly, "I have no idea what you're talking about..."

"Regardless if you understand or not, I've shown you what I originally hoped that you would never see eternally. I know that you can't accept it, but who would be able to?" Yang Chen asked softly. "I'm thankful that you've tried to accept me, but I guess it's time for me to leave already. At the very least, you won't feel the kind of threat earlier because of me..."

When she heard the word 'leave', Lin Ruoxi's face revealed panic. Seeing Yang Chen's decisive look, he didn't look like he was joking.

"You mustn't be too arrogant, Yang Chen," Lin Ruoxi said coldly after turning around vigorously. "When have I ever said that I wanted to accept you? What does the fact that you have other women have to do with me?! Do you really think I'd fall for you?! Don't think that I like you just because I started treating you slightly better. My attitude would turn slightly better even if it's a dog or a cat, as long as it stays at my house for a rather long time. Yang Chen, let me tell you, our marriage is through a contract. Before the contract ends! I don't allow you to leave! Can you hear me?!"

Staring at Lin Ruoxi who shouted as her reddened eyes teared, Yang Chen was astonished and couldn't speak a word.

"Aren't you just good at killing people? Aren't you just slightly violent?! Didn't you hear what they said earlier? Ever since I took over Yu Lei International in my twenties, I have stepped over the corpses of other businesses, the loss of countless jobs and the devastation of endless families to finally stand at where I am today, just like the times where I used you and Qianni and destroyed Changlin Media and Xu family with a conspiracy! If you want to talk about brutality, am I that much better than you? There are lots of people in Zhonghai who want to make a hole in my forehead using a gun like Xu Zhihong! But so what if that's the case? I've grown up this way, if I haven't done this, there wouldn't be Lin Ruoxi standing in front of you alive... You destroy the lives of people while I destroy the competitors in the market, and the future of families. Do you think you're any more impressive in front of me?!"

"Ruoxi..." Yang Chen said softly, dumbfounded.

Lin Ruoxi shut her eyes to stop her tears from flowing. Since she got overly emotional, she was heavily panting. Keeping silence for a while, she continued speaking in a recalling manner, "Before my grandma passed away, lying on the sickbed, she told me a story..."

"Once upon a time, there was a poisonous scorpion. He wanted to cross a fast-flowing river but he didn't know how to swim. So, he asked for the help of a frog.

"The frog declined his request, as he thought the scorpion would sting him. But the scorpion said, If I stung you, I would drown in the river as well, why would I do that?"

“The frog thought it was very logical, so he accepted the request.

“However, when the frog carried the scorpion to the centre of the river, the current of the river suddenly sped up. The scorpion got afraid and stung the frog once.

“The frog immediately got poisoned and was at the edge of falling into the river.

“Baffled, the frog asked the scorpion, why did you sting me? Won’t you die this way as well?

“To which the scorpion replied, I didn’t want to do it, but this is how I live. Knowing I won’t end up well, I still stung like like crazy. This... is my instinct that I can’t resist!”

Yang Chen felt an electric current up his brain and his body lightly quivered.

Lin Ruoxi bit her lips miserably as she gazed upon Yang Chen’s face. Smiling coldly, she said, “Now, do you understand why I’ve always been distanced from people? Do you finally understand why I’m always alone? Just like what you think, you’re afraid of me dying because of your instinct, the same goes to me, my instinct will kill other people.

“You and I, are both poisonous scorpions. Because of our instincts, people see us as crazy, living monsters who live ridiculously. None of us can sting each other to death, only we, would kill ourselves...”

Chapter 289: How About Shortening It

After Lin Ruoxi finished speaking, the two once again fell into long silence.

After a long time, Yang Chen smiled sadly and raised his head, asking, “Dear, how much time do we have until the contract expires?”

Lin Ruoxi’s eyes became clear and bright. She said, “One and a half years.”

“How about shortening it? Make it six months,” Yang Chen said. “Let the two of us scorpions stay for six months more. At that time, even if we’re one of the same kind, we should be tired already, since there’s a gap between our levels after all.”

Lin Ruoxi said calmly, “I accept.”

Yang Chen nodded smilingly. “I’ll go upstairs to bathe. I’ll clean the blood on the ground later, you may take care of Wang Ma and give her consolation.”

“Understood.”

After looking at Yang Chen walk upstairs, Lin Ruoxi felt immensely exhausted and walked back to the sofa. The conversation earlier made her feel weak.

In her mind, she recalled various scenes in the past. Finally, Lin Ruoxi could calmly analyze and solve the mysteries.

Back then at the balcony of the cafe, when she wanted to jump down from the building, why he was able to appear behind her back instantly and hug her from behind.

When he faced the gangsters hired by Lin Kun, how he could easily beat them off.



When she and Mo Qianni was kidnapped, how he could smilingly talk the bandits out and save the two away from them alone.

Also, the time where he went on the business trip in Hong Kong, how he could bring Mo Qianni back safely after going through so many dangerous incidents.

Recently, she and Wang Ma got kidnapped and got tied up at a hidden place, the police managed to rescue them using coordinates provided by an anonymous source...

Everything that she hadn't carefully thought through was apparently related to this man!

Has he always been silently protecting me and shielding this small family?

Lin Ruoxi felt afraid. Luckily, she managed to think of the story of the scorpion earlier and keep Yang Chen from immediately leaving, even if it was only six months. Maybe, after six months, I can calmly accept everything. Since... I may just be not used to his sudden departure. I won't truly like him, this must be the case, Lin Ruoxi told herself in her mind.

After the terrifying and bloody battle, a bunch of professionals quickly rushed over to clean up the scene.

On the lawn of the bungalow, the corpses and blood got carefully concealed. After half an hour, the outside of the house looked as clear as usual.

Wang Ma got severely frightened. She woke up an hour later since she fainted. After she woke up, cold sweat got her body moist.

When she saw Lin Ruoxi sitting beside her undamaged, Wang Ma got happy and sad at the same time. When Lin Ruoxi smiled at her, she hugged her and cried away once again.

When Wang Ma asked what happened earlier, Lin Ruoxi didn't tell the truth. She merely said that someone came to their rescue while Yang Chen only killed Hairy Ball, but due to righteous self defense, the police didn't ask too many questions when they came.

Although Wang Ma had many doubts, she didn't ask further questions since she knew that Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen were fine. She was a wise elder after all, she didn't have to understand everything too clearly. The thing Wang Ma was most concerned with was the safety of her juniors.

After Yang Chen cleaned the blood from his body, he changed into clean clothing and walked downstairs. Seeing Wang Ma who regained consciousness, he said with a smile, "Wang Ma, you must be frightened earlier. I won't do it next time."

Regretfully, Wang Ma said, "It's nothing major that I'm terrified. Luckily Miss and Young Master are both fine, these people are too daring to rush here in broad daylight. Miss, why don't we move to a safer place? I heard that Huarong Residence is the east is much safer than this place. Although the houses there aren't as good, the security guards are very diligent. They're all retired special agents."

Lin Ruoxi advised, "We'll be fine, Wang Ma. This only happened because of Xu Zhihong. He's dead now, we can live in peace like before from now on. We've stayed here for this long already, haven't we been fine all this time?"

Wang Ma sighed a few times before finally saying, "I knew that we needed a man in the house. If it wasn't for Young Master today, we wouldn't have lasted until someone came to our rescue. Sigh..."

Lin Ruoxi recalled the times where Yang Chen saved her. She subconsciously turned to look at Yang Chen with a complicated expression.

Yang Chen didn't manage to think this much. He took Lin Ruoxi as she was, still frightened in a half-conscious state. He smiled apologetically and bitterly.

After Wang Ma went upstairs to rest, Lin Ruoxi didn't follow her up. Although she was immensely tired, she still stayed downstairs and started asking questions to Yang Chen who was watching television like nothing ever happened.

"Yang Chen, regarding Jingjing, what happened specifically?"

Yang Chen felt rather surprised. Lin Ruoxi knew that he would confess his past, but she didn't seem like she was going to ask anything about it, and unexpectedly asked about Li Jingjing instead.

Yang Chen didn't plan to hide it as well. He told her everything from how he started knowing Li Jingjing and her family, to whatever happened afterwards, including his relationship with her and Zeng Xinlin's scheme.

After Lin Ruoxi listened to him, she pondered for a while and said, "That means during the first time I met her in the orphanage, she had no idea who I was."

"This should be the case. It was Zeng Xinlin who told her our relationship," Yang Chen said.

Lin Ruoxi suddenly seemed elated. She said, "I knew that she was a kind lady."

Confused, Yang Chen asked, "Don't you hate her for using and lying to you?"

Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes. "Why should I hate her? She was forced after all. Furthermore, why should a young girl be punished for your flirty behaviour? Do you think I'd get jealous for you?"

Yang Chen pouted. Evidently, Lin Ruoxi was back to her own self. She started criticizing him again.

"Oh ya, how's Jingjing's father doing? No, since Zeng Xinlin is dead, she should be facing problems with her dad's operation fee. I'll have to check her out," Lin Ruoxi said, worried.

Yang Chen got speechless. Li Jingjing should be very fitting to Lin Ruoxi's appetite. Regardless of what happened earlier, she still cares about her family this much.

Lin Ruoxi immediately asked Yang Chen for Old Li's hospital and room number before immediately making preparations to leave the house.

Yang Chen couldn't help but to laugh. "Do you have to be this rushing? You newly walked on the circle of life and death this afternoon, and you're getting worried for someone else's life already?"

"Do you think I'm this heartless to let the girl suffer? Jingjing must be depressed already, she is kind in nature. I'll go over now and tell her earlier that I don't blame her. At least she can walk out of misery quicker. Things like this will only get more terrible as time passes," Lin Ruoxi said. When she put on a pair of heels and wanted to leave, she turned around and asked, "Aren't you coming with me?"

Smiling bitterly, Yang Chen replied, "The effect might be worse if I'm there."

Lowering her head, Lin Ruoxi thought for a while. She said, "You're right, although we're not what she imagines, going there together will definitely sadden her."

It was Yang Chen's turn to roll his eyes. Really, she only cares about Li Jingjing. He said, "You should just get her as your sworn sister. I can see your brilliance of motherhood."

Lin Ruoxi gave him a death stare. "I'm not coming back for dinner," she said before running out of the house and ignoring him completely.

After Lin Ruoxi left, Yang Chen lay down on the sofa and stared at the ceiling stupidly. Countless thoughts surged up his mind. At last, he mocked himself. Lin Ruoxi as a woman has already jumped out this quickly, while I'm still holding onto what happened today. Life goes on as usual. I'll say whatever I have to, and do whatever I want.

Don't I still have six months left? I'll cross the bridge when I come to it. Who knows what our future lies?

After watching the television for a while, Yang Chen felt that he was rather hungry. Waking Wang Ma up for that sounded absurd. As he contemplated on whether he should touch on his long-absent culinary skills, his phone vibrated.

When Yang Chen looked at his phone, he got pleased. It was Tangtang who was in love, it was rare for her to call over.

Since the kid realized her feelings for Yuan Ye, he had only talked to her a few times online before. She didn't even call once. It wasn't clear as to why she phoned Yang Chen this late at night.

#### Chapter 290: Laying Hands

"Uncle..." As soon as he picked up the call, he heard Tangtang's sad voice. "Are you free now?"

Yang Chen stunned. "Yes, what is it?"

"I'm at the commercial street beside the crossroad of Third Central Road. Can you come and pick me up?" Tangtang asked.

Yang Chen didn't know to cry or to laugh. "What show are you putting up now? Did you leave the house again?"

"It's not like I wanted to do it... Uncle, I'm very cold and don't have any money with me. Quickly come and save me."

"You should learn from your mistakes after so many times. Why do you always leave the house without bringing money with you? Also, why did you call me? You should've called Yuan Ye!" Yang Chen said, displeased.

Wronged, Tangtang replied, "I... I had a fight with Brother Yuan Ye..."

Yang Chen felt a headache. I thought this kid grew up a bit, I must've judged wrongly!

Without any choice, Yang Chen drove out of the house and sped up to the place Tangtang mentioned.

In the cheerful night, both sides of the commercial street were filled with lustrous glimmers. Beside the lively street, Yang Chen saw Tangtang who was standing alone beside a chair and waving at him excitedly.

Although she wore a down coat and had the hood put on her head, under the night of less than zero degree celcius, having sat outside for a long time, she still felt cold.

Seeing Tangtang's red nose, Yang Chen couldn't help but to push her forehead with a finger. "Are you addicted to leaving the house already? Haven't I lectured you not long ago? You have to be appreciative, don't always think of picking on your mother."

Pouting, Tangtang said, "Uncle, don't lecture me for now. I haven't even had lunch today. My chest is almost touching my back already, bring me to something i can eat first."

Gloomy, Yang Chen said, "I think I'm not your uncle, but your dad instead."

"Hehe, I'm fine with that as well, as long as you feed me," Tangtang said before sticking her tongue out.

Yang Chen felt really helpless towards this odd girl. Looking at the surroundings, he brought Tangtang to the nearest dumpling restaurant from the northeast. At such a chilly night, eating boiling-hot dumplings was considered a good choice.

After the aromatic and white bowl of dumplings was served, Tangtang started chewing away regardless of how hot they were.

Frowning, Yang Chen asked, "Aren't you afraid of getting burnt?"

As she chewed, Tangtang replied, "It's best to eat dumplings when they're still hot, not to mention I'm very hungry now."

Yang Chen didn't continue to disturb this kid who had starved for half a day. After waiting for Tangtang to devour the big bowl of dumplings, she burped before he asked, "Tell me, why did you leave the house this time again?"

Tangtang blinked her eyes a few times as she expressed sorrow on her face. "Uncle, you mustn't know that my dad has been coming to meet my mom these two days for whatever reason, and accused my mom of simply looking for guys. He even said more terrible things after that. My mom got really mad and argued with my dad. At last, the two of them stayed in a bad mood..."

Yang Chen knew that Tangtang's father was Fang Zhongping, but he didn't expect him to have such a side. Yang Chen wondered what kind of man Tangtang's mother found, that she pissed Fang Zhongping this much.

"What does that have to do with you leaving the house?" Yang Chen asked.

Tangtang snorted. "Of course it's related to me. I live with Mom, once she gets into a bad mood, she'd see me as if I was her enemy. I only made a small joke with her earlier, and she said I acted like my dad who always told nonsense and gave her trouble..."

Frowning, Yang Chen asked, "Can't you bear with it when your mom isn't in a good mood?"

"I did, but I can't always tolerate! I called Brother Yuan Ye after that, he's now treating my mom better than Aunt Yang, much more intimate than his own mother. I asked him to rescue me, but he suddenly went on my mom's side, and helped my mom say that I was wrong..." Tangtang explained angrily.

Yang Chen quickly understood the situation. Yuan Ye is really interesting, he's trying to please his mother-in-law this early in the game.

"So you left the house?" Yang Chen asked with a smile.

"Yeah... I don't want to see Mom nor do I want to entertain Brother Yuan Ye. All they know is to bully me," Tangtang said as her eyes got wet. One would feel heartache when her pitiful look was seen.

Yang Chen didn't know how he could persuade her. After paying the bill, he brought Tangtang and walked around the street.

When they reached the end of the commercial street at a mini park, Tangtang suddenly stopped moving and asked, "Uncle, can we go in and sit there?"

"Are you tired?"

"No, I just want to sit here for a while."

Yang Chen looked at the time, it was eight o'clock at night, rather early for him to return home. So he agreed on the lost girl's request and looked for a wooden bench in the park to sit on.

Tangtang moved closer to Yang Chen. Since it was winter, the temperature at night was very low..

Seeing her upsetting look, Yang Chen felt rather compassionate. He removed his coat and put it around Tangtang.

Tangtang immediately rejected, saying, "Uncle, you yourself would catch a cold this way."

"I won't catch a cold." Yang Chen was actually being honest.

"Why won't you catch a cold?" Tangtang didn't believe him and pushed the coat back to Yang Chen. Smiling, she said, "Uncle, just let me lean on you. I won't feel as cold sitting with someone."

Yang Chen thought for a while and opened his coat wide before using it to cover both his and Tangtang's body as he allowed her to lean on his shoulder.

Tangtang enjoyed it very much. Leaning her head onto Yang Chen's shoulder, she yawned.

Smiling bitterly, Yang Chen said, "Kid, you better not fall asleep. You'll really catch a cold that way."

"I'm not sleeping for sure, I'm looking at the stars," Tangtang replied before pouting.

Yang Chen raised his head to look. The sky of tonight was rather clear. Although there weren't many stars in the galaxy, there were still some scattered around. In the city, such a scene was incredibly rare.

"At such a romantic moment, you're wasting your time with an old man like me. It should be more appropriate for you to ask Yuan Ye here," Yang Chen said jokingly.

Tangtang wrinkled her nose and said, "No way, a lover is a lover, and an uncle is an uncle."

Yang Chen chuckled lightly and kept quiet.

“Uncle, I used to come to this park with Mom often. She wasn’t as busy back then, I haven’t walked here with her for a while already,” Tangtang said softly.

Yang Chen silently lowered his head to look at the girl. No wonder she suddenly said she wanted to sit here for a while.

“How long more do you plan to sit here for? I’ll send you back a short while later,” Yang Chen said.

“No, Uncle, can I stay at your place tonight? I don’t want to go home. I’d get upset when I see Mom,” Tangtang begged.

Yang Chen frowned and sighed. Pointing at the stars in the sky, he said, “Kid, do you know what I always think about when I look at the stars?”

“What?”

“I think of the term ‘miracle’,” Yang Chen said. “In this vast universe, we humans coincidentally live on this planet called ‘Earth’ out of so many stars. Every one of us is as small as dust when compared to the universe. However, dust like us would still meet in this enormous universe, to become husbands and wives, sons and daughters, teachers and students, friends... Every single relationship between people is a type of miraculous fate. The fact that your mom gave birth to you and you became her daughter cannot be changed nor can it be replicated.

“Think about it, the matter took place despite having such a small possibility. Isn’t this a miracle? You told me you were upset, but just how significant do you feel it is, when it’s put in the scale of the entire universe? Will it be as precious as your relationship with your mom? See yourself less significantly and look at the stars in the sky. Don’t you feel that your behaviour is very childish?”

Tangtang kept quiet. After a long time, embarrassed, she said, “I know that I’m wrong now. Uncle, please send me back then...”

Yang Chen reached his arm out to pat on the girl’s head, saying, “Get up quickly then. I bet your mom is looking for you anxiously now.”

“Yes!”

The two stood up from the bench and turned around as they prepared to leave the park. On the small walkway of the park in front, an evidently restless and slender figure walked towards them.

With her long and curly hair stretched to her back, she wore a brown cotton wool coat and a pair of high boots made of sheepskin. Dressed in a stylish manner, the graceful lady with a busty and curvy body arrived in front of the two people.

A familiar, delicate and charming face entered Yang Chen’s vision. She was the lady he met two days ago at the banquet—Tang Wan!

Tang Wan’s face displayed anxiety. When she saw Yang Chen unexpectedly, she stunned for a while. As she felt surprised, she looked down and saw Tangtang who was clinging to Yang Chen.

Having Yang Chen's coat on her, Tangtang leaned closely to Yang Chen. When she saw Tang Wan's sudden appearance, she panicked for a while. Softly and cowardly, she said, "Mom... why did you come here..."

Yang Chen violently turned his head to look at Tangtang as he suspected that he heard something wrong. However, Tang Wan's angry and loud voice soon followed!

"Why are you guys together?!" When Tang Wan saw that Tangtang was together with Yang Chen and had his coat on, she got reminded of Yang Chen's flirty behaviour and instantly thought that Yang Chen had something going on with her daughter. Her maternal protective sense immediately rose to its peak!

Did this man intentionally get close to me, and secretly do something to my daughter?!

Tangtang felt that it was unbelievable. Curious, she asked, "Mom, you guys know each other?"

Before Yang Chen could speak, Tang Wan struck with another question. "Why are you wearing his clothing?! Kid, I don't want to lecture you for leaving the house now. How can you simply lean on a man's body?! Do you want to piss Mom off to death?!"

Tangtang quickly panicked and didn't know what to say.

Yang Chen knew that Tang Wan must've misunderstood the situation. "Tang Wan, it isn't what you think."

"Then what else can it be?! Yang Chen, my daughter is merely a senior third-year student, and you still lay your hands on her?! How can you do this! You... you really disappoint me..."

Tang Wan was feeling extremely emotional. Her eyes were filled with flames of anger. Walking forward, she forcefully pulled Tangtang's arm, causing Yang Chen's coat to fall onto the ground.

"Go! Follow me home immediately! Just wait for me to ground you for three months!"

Ignoring Tangtang's cry and explanation, Tang Wan who wasn't able to control her volcano-eruption-like anger and sorrow immediately brought Tangtang out of the park.

Yang Chen stunned for a long time before picking his clothing up from the ground. Sigh, such bad luck. I really didn't expect Tangtang's mother to be Tang Wan. No wonder I met her in Li Jingjing's office a while ago, and Tangtang is coincidentally Li Jingjing's student, he thought. He finally understood why the girl felt so similar to Tangtang when Tang Wan talked about her daughter.

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. He was greatly wronged this time. No matter how calm and dignified Tang Wan usually was, she looked like a completely different person when she acted like a caring mother.

Why not put it this way? In this world, except men and women, there's a third type of human—mothers.

However, Yang Chen didn't plan on giving Tang Wan a call to explain. She must still be pissed at this time. When she finally calmed down, she naturally could distinguish the truth from the falsehood.

Wandering around alone was dull and boring. Yang Chen picked up his coat and quickly walked back to the parking area. It was Monday tomorrow, it was more practical for him to go home and sleep.