

Chapter 391: Making Things Up

Noticing Director Lee's strained expression, Jiang Yao continued, "To be frank, Director Lee, my husband's surgery was a gamble. I was lucky and won the bet."

Director Lee was quite unhappy hearing Jiang Yao's refusal, seeing her as a young and egoistical lady. Listening to her explanation though, his expression softened. Especially when Jiang Yao addressed him in a polite manner and used respectful language. Maybe Mrs. Lu really had her dilemmas, Director Lee thought to himself.

Even though Jiang Yao's explanation was fabricated, a fake excuse had to have its audience for it to work.

Seeing that Director Lee had accepted her explanation, she continued, "The most critical part of my husband's injuries was the bullet that grazed the heart and tore the pericardium. To be honest with you, if the patient were someone else, and I was the head surgeon on that day, I would have given up on the surgery too."

"Yet, the patient on the stretcher was my husband, I could not have given up so easily. Coincidentally, I was involved in a research on the treating and repairing of the injured pericardium at a research institute. The research is currently on hold, but I was able to use whatever I studied on my husband. I was extremely lucky, also maybe he was not supposed to die, he lived. Director Lee, even my husband might now become a research subject. With so many uncertainties around his operation, that would be rather irresponsible of me to share what happened in the operation, don't you think?"

Jiang Yao was in awe at her ability to spin stories and make them seem believable. Creating a research institute out of thin air and pushing all the credit of her surgeries on the institute was a genius move on her part. Director Lee would let her off the hook after hearing her reasoning.

No matter how legitimate her explanation was, if the uncertainties actually existed in the surgery, why would somebody share the results and the progress of their research, for which they spent huge sums of money and a large amount of tedious effort, with people outside the organization?

"Sorry for troubling you, Mrs. Lu!" Director Lee accepted her reasons, and felt a little embarrassed, for having misunderstood the young lady.

"Mrs. Lu, you are very young, right?" He realized he might have said something wrong, and quickly explained, "I am not looking down on your age, but I just wanted to remark how much talent and potential the medical field has from people like you! Even though you are still young and fresh, you are exceptional and even better than plenty of the doctors here in our hospital, who have been in the field for decades. I am really pleased to see your immense potential in the profession, and I wish for your continued success!"

Or maybe, Director Lee was more interested in the research institute mentioned by Jiang Yao. He would have to check them out through his vast network of people and see if he could join them on this research.

Gu Haoyu and Chen Xuyao accompanied Jiang Yao to Lu Xingzhi's ward after she left the director's office.

They were extremely curious and wanted to learn more about this research institute that Jiang Yao was talking about.

Chapter 392: Not Found

“Jiang Yao, Director Lee is a man of integrity. He will keep your secret, do not worry about that. Although, I feel like he wants to find out more about the research institute that you mentioned,” Chen Xuyao suggested, after they arrived at Lu Xingzhi’s ward.

He wanted to prepare her, in the off-chance that Director Lee got in touch with the research institute, to think of an action plan. Would she allow the director to join or would she intervene and refuse entry to him?

“He would not be able to find it.” Jiang Yao could not contain her smile.

She already had an idea. The first thing she wanted to do when she returned to Nanjiang City was to create a research institute under the authority of Shengqi Hospital. This was a power move as it allowed Jiang Yao to do whatever she wanted without raising suspicions as the research institute would be the perfect cover.

Seeing Jiang Yao’s confidence in the matter, Chen Xuyao decided not to ask any more questions. He was amazed at Jiang Yao; the wife of his Brother Lu was a strong and capable character.

“You have been here for a few days. I will ask Weiqi to send you home for the night and get some rest. Xuyao and I will be here tonight looking after Xingzhi.” A brief pause later, Gu Haoyu asked, “Did you talk to Xingzhi about informing his parents?”

“Not right now. We don’t want to worry them just yet.” Jiang Yao shook her head. “I will stay, it is fine. By the way, I talked to Weiqi on the phone and he mentioned that Brother Gu is going back in a few days’ time?”

“I had it postponed.” Gu Haoyu smiled. “I have some free time now, if you cannot handle it, let us help you. We are all here.”

“Do I look that weak and fragile?” Jiang Yao winked at Gu Haoyu.

He looked at her in a serious manner, trying to analyze her. She looked lively and tireless. He laughed in relief. It seemed that she was taking care of Lu Xingzhi and herself very well.

Jiang Yao was younger than Mrs. Lin, but much calmer when faced with adversities. She was also very adept at caring for others. Gu Haoyu thought to himself, maybe he should leave earlier, there was nothing else for him to worry about here in Jindo City.

After sending Gu Haoyu and Chen Xuyao off, Jiang Yao returned to the ward. Dinner arrived a short while later, courtesy of the Liang family.

Lu Xingzhi was fast asleep, so Jiang Yao took her dinner and went over to Colonel Lin’s ward.

Mrs. Lin greeted Jiang Yao when she came in. After hearing that Lu Xingzhi was fast asleep, Colonel Lin chuckled, “All he knows is to sleep his day away!”

It was not until Mrs. Lin gave him a punch in the shoulders that Colonel Lin laughed and continued eating.

The Lin family and the Liang family were distantly related. Even though Colonel Lin's father did not have any relationship with the Liang family, Colonel Lin and Liang Yueze were very close to each other. Knowing the Lin family's condition, the Liang family also sent them meals along with Jiang Yao's. Knowing his father and stepmother, nobody expected them to prepare their meals.

They were eating when they heard a big commotion going on outside their ward. All three of them could hear hurried footsteps from the doctors and the nurses.

Chapter 393: Sergeant Ge is in Trouble

"What is going on out there?" Jiang Yao murmured confusedly.

"Maybe someone is in critical condition needing surgery and they are reshuffling the doctors and nurses," Mrs. Lin guessed.

Jiang Yao did not continue on with the conversation; she was not too bothered by it. After a few mouthfuls of food, she started chatting up Mrs. Lin, asking when they should go over to the Liang family and learn some cooking skills from their chef.

Mrs. Lin laughed hearing it. "My mum knew since young that I would never be able to cook."

Colonel Lin nodded, and added, "Remember that day when your mother came to visit? She said if it wasn't for my lack of taste, you would still be single!"

The couple kept bickering on, not noticing that Jiang Yao had left the room.

She shook her head, Colonel Lin and Mrs. Lin were as talkative as they could be, a source of joy and entertainment for their friends and families.

For which Lu Xingzhi was miles behind. He was very careful with his words and could go days without talking.

When Jiang Yao returned to the ward, Lu Xingzhi's cell phone was ringing. She grabbed it from his room back in the platoon in case he would need it to contact people after he had woken up.

The cell phone had been silent for a few days so it was quite surprising to hear it ringing now. Jiang Yao answered the call, even though it was an unfamiliar number from Jindo City.

Who would have thought it was Zhou Junmin, who was supposed to be on duty at the platoon in Jin City, on the other end of the call? Weird. The origin of the phone call did not match its caller.

"Jiang Yao? This is Zhou Junmin! Are you here at the military hospital?"

He seemed to be in a hurry, Jiang Yao assumed that he was in a rush to see Lu Xingzhi. "Yes, the room number is..."

Even before Jiang Yao could finish her sentence, Zhou Junmin cut her off. "Jiang Yao, Brother Ge is now at the hospital undergoing an emergency operation. He was just wheeled into the operating room, the

hospital wants us to pay a deposit. We left in a hurry and do not have enough money on us, can you pay for us first?"

Startled, Jiang Yao said, "Of course! I will see you at the payment counter in a minute!"

Jiang Yan ran outside after hanging up. Coincidentally, Mrs. Lin was outside in the corridor washing the dishes. She saw a hurried Jiang Yao and pulled her back. "What is going on?"

"Zhou Junmin called. Sergeant Ge is undergoing an emergency operation right here at the hospital, I am going over to help pay for the deposit first since they do not have enough cash with them." Having said that, Jiang Yao dashed away. Mrs. Lin quickly followed suit.

Jiang Yao ran all the way to the payment counter. Zhou Junmin, anxious and unsettled, was waiting for her. He forgot about his manners and called out, "Jiang Yao, the hospital wants us to pay at least two hundred yuan before they can start the operation. Wu Pengxin and I left in a hurry, and we forgot to bring cash with us!"

Jiang Yao greeted him and went over to the counter to pay up. Fortunately, she had enough cash on her since Lu Xingzhi had been hospitalized. She was holding on to a little more money than usual just in case.

Chapter 394: Private Matters

It was after Jiang Yao had finalized the payment when Mrs. Lin arrived, short of breath. "I say Jiang Yao, you ran like the wind! In just a moment, you disappeared! What happened to Sergeant Ge? Why was he suddenly sent here to Jindo City?"

It must have been severe, if not the hospitals in Jin City would have done their job.

"Why did we have to pay a deposit for the operation?" Mrs. Lin was confused. For Lu Xingzhi and Colonel Lin, their hospitalization fees were paid for by the platoon.

"Brother Ge's matters were caused by events outside the platoon's jurisdiction." Zhou Junmin could not hold himself in. "That tramp, Sun Cuimei!"

"What is going on? I thought that they were finalizing their divorce?" Jiang Yao was puzzled. Were Sergeant Ge's injuries caused by Sun Cuimei?

"All of that was done two days ago! This afternoon she wanted to visit her daughter in the platoon. Brother Ge was pleased. Seeing that even after the divorce that lady still has the heart to visit her daughter."

It seemed like everything was fine, except that, it was just the first half of the story.

"Who would have thought, Sun Cuimei bought Ge Wenwen many new clothes and snacks. She must have said something to her in private as Wenwen suddenly changed her mind and wanted to leave with her mother. Of course, Brother Ge would not allow that to happen. That was when they started quarrelling. Oh, that woman Sun Cuimei! She had the audacity to tussle with and push Brother Ge. He lost his footing and fell headfirst down the stairs. He has not woken up since!"

Zhou Junmin almost broke down in tears. “We hurriedly sent him to the hospital at Jin City but the doctors over there said that his condition was too critical and asked us to send him here instead. I gave you a call after he was wheeled into the operating room.”

His hands were balled up into fists, rage and shock engulfed his conscience.

“You ladies did not see how much blood was spewing out after Brother Ge fell down the stairs. His legs were...” They looked like they were devoid of any bones, dangling like cooked spaghetti. Zhou Junmin could not bear to relive what he saw. “He fainted out of sheer pain.”

Jiang Yao and Mrs. Lin looked at each other, no words escaped their mouths.

It was a while later when Jiang Yao spoke. “Let us go to the operating room and check things out.”

Jiang Yao speculated that since Sergeant Ge already had an injury on his leg, the fall down the stairs was only going to worsen his injury. He seemed to have also hurt his head from the fall.

Wu Pengxin was the only one outside the operating room when they arrived. He greeted Jiang Yao and Mrs. Lin, “Brother Ge is already undergoing operation, I don’t know what the situation is like.”

He sighed, “I hope he is alright.”

“Do you have the examination report from the hospital in Jin City?” Now, this was a tricky situation. Lu Xingzhi would go into an enraged trance if he were to wake up and hear the news.

Chapter 395: Where are You Going?

“Right here!” Wu Pengxin handed the documents over to Jiang Yao. “After he was sent here, they did another examination. The results are similar. I overheard the doctors saying that they may have to do an open brain surgery on him.”

Jiang Yao immediately looked at the documents and found out that Sergeant Ge’s condition was indeed critical.

There was internal bleeding in his brain. If the extravasated blood—blood leaked into the surrounding tissues—was not removed in time, they would compress the nerves in the brain, causing a lower-body paralysis. He dislocated his left hand, fractured his right thumb, and further aggravated his existent injury. Looking at the scanned results, the broken bones had almost protruded out of his skin, including his kneecap, which was found to be in a state of comminuted fracture—bone shattered into three or more pieces.

Jiang Yao swiftly returned the documents to Wu Pengxin, and told Mrs. Lin, “Let Zhou Junmin and Wu Pengxin stand guard here. You cannot leave Colonel Lin alone for too long, he needs constant care. Can you help me look after Xingzhi as well? In case he wakes up and asks for me, just say that I went home to get some of his things. You know how his condition is, his body cannot take anymore stress, please help me hide what is going on here from him.”

“Where are you going?” Mrs. Lin asked.

"I need to see Director Lee immediately; I have some matters to discuss with him." Jiang Yao left immediately and went to a secluded spot. She dialed up Director Lee's office, explained her intention to participate in Sergeant Ge's surgery, and asked for his help in arranging her immediate involvement.

Jiang Yao knew full well that if she were not there handling the operation, Sergeant Ge would become a cripple. This was not including the risks associated with his open brain surgery.

Director Lee was aware of the fact that a patient was transferred here from the hospital in Jin City. Knowing that he was a military personnel and hearing Jiang Yao's request to participate in the operation, Director Lee had no good reason to refuse her offer, having recognized her capabilities. He quickly called for the head nurse to prepare a set of sterilized surgical scrubs for Jiang Yao.

When Jiang Yao entered the operating room, the doctors were working on the open brain surgery. Two orthopedic surgeons were preparing for the surgery on Sergeant Ge's leg.

She immediately stopped their approach of fixing the fractures with metal plates but allowed the open brain surgery to continue. After it was done, she had all the surgeons leave the operating room while she resumed the rest of the operation.

Fortunately, Sergeant Ge was sent here with time to spare. The open brain surgery was a success, with the extravasated blood cleaned and removed, paralysis of the lower body was mitigated.

With Colonel Lin's surgery as a precedent, Jiang Yao completed the rest of the operation rapidly.

Jiang Yao came out of the operating room after an hour and a half. She was still energetic, with no signs of exhaustion on her face. She was surprised, could it be that the more she worked on higher-level surgeries, the better she was at resisting the exhaustion that came with it?

After finishing all she could do, she had the doctors and the nurses handle the rest. Removing her scrub, she came out to see Sergeant Ge being wheeled to the care ward, along with Zhou Junmin and Wu Pengxin.

She first returned to Lu Xingzhi's room. Seeing him fast asleep, she breathed a sigh of relief. Sergeant Ge's incident would no doubt infuriate Lu Xingzhi, necessitating the need to hide all related information from him.

Chapter 396:

They Ran Away

She was not concerned whether Lu Xingzhi would do anything to Sun Cuimei, instead, she was worried that he would hurt his body in his fits of anger.

"You are back! How did it go?" Mrs. Lin already knew what Jiang Yao wanted to do when she said she was going to see Director Lee. She did not say anything to Wu Pengxin and Zhou Junmin since Jiang Yao did not disclose it herself.

"It went well. Sergeant Ge was badly hurt this time, it would be a while until he can regain his health again." Jiang Yao shook her head regrettably.

“Major Zhu just arrived as well. The platoon has already informed his family members and asked for them to come and take care of Sergeant Ge. Major Zhu ran into a huge argument with the superiors just for the platoon to pay for all of his medical expenses,” Mrs. Lin said.

Jiang Yao nodded. No wonder only Zhou Junmin and Wu Pengxin were seen here, even when Sergeant Ge had gotten into such a serious incident. Major Zhu was fighting for Sergeant Ge’s interest behind the scenes.

“Saying Major Zhu was enraged was an understatement. According to him, Sun Cuimei and Ge Wenwen had already left when the rest returned to their senses. None of Ge Wenwen’s possessions were to be found; they probably packed and took everything with them.” Mrs. Lin was infuriated talking about Sun Cuimei. “In all my years alive, I have never seen such a horrendous and unashamed woman. How foolish was Ge Wenwen to follow her mother!”

Jiang Yao had a feeling that something was off hearing Sun Cuimei’s persistence in bringing Ge Wenwen away with her. She returned to Lu Xingzhi’s ward, seeing that he was still fast asleep, she called Zhou Weiqi and told him everything.

“Can you check why Sun Cuimei wanted to take Ge Wenwen away? Also, have someone keep an eye on Sun Cuimei and her beau. With Brother Lu’s temper, he would definitely take them to military court once he finds out what happened.”

Jiang Yao continued, “Have someone monitor them, in case they are planning to flee Jin City.”

Any regular person with a sound mind would definitely leave the city after causing such a huge commotion.

“Of course! I will do the best I can!” Zhou Weiqi asserted, having also understood Jiang Yao’s intention to leave Lu Xingzhi out of the loop as long as possible.

Zhou Weiqi knew plenty of people in Jin City and had a vast network of acquaintances and friends. With just a single phone call, he received news in less than half an hour. However, it was not the information that he wanted to hear.

Jiang Yao was frustrated receiving Zhou Weiqi’s message.

“She ran away?” Livid, she was at her wit’s end. “I should have called you earlier.”

She actually thought of calling Zhou Weiqi once she knew what happened. However, Sergeant Ge’s condition was very critical, and she did not have the time to make that phone call. Who would have thought that was all Sun Cuimei needed to disappear from their sights?

Sun Cuimei fled with Ge Wenwen and her man. When Zhou Weiqi’s men found their temporary accommodation, it was already empty. According to the neighbors, they left an hour earlier after hurriedly packing away their possessions.

Chapter 397: When Did You Wake Up?

With an hour plus of head start, they could be anywhere now.

It would be a while until they receive any news about them. Sun Cuimei was not dumb, she would not come to Jindo City. The only thing to do now was to have Zhou Weiqi's men keep an eye around in Jin City, in case Sun Cuimei were to return after the commotion had died down.

After hanging up the phone, Jiang Yao's mind was full of questions. Why would a selfish woman like Sun Cuimei suddenly decide to bring Ge Wenwen along with her?

That man would never marry Sun Cuimei, let alone care for her daughter.

Anyway, the people in question were nowhere to be found. Jiang Yao knew that all efforts to figure out Sun Cuimei's motives were futile.

The dinner was left on the table when she ran out of the room. It was now cold and looked unappetizing. Having lost her appetite, she tossed them into the trash can and washed the dishes. It was almost eight o'clock, time for Jiang Yao to wipe Lu Xingzhi clean. She also needed a shower as she smelled of medicine from the operation earlier.

The ward was wonderful, having en-suite facilities. She had Zhou Weiqi deliver a heating rod over, now she could heat the water up for bathing.

The hospital provided for the family members of patients with an extra bed in case they wanted to stay the night. Jiang Yao had been sleeping on it the past few nights.

After the water had been heated, Jiang Yao had it mixed with cold water to a pleasant temperature and prepared a cloth to wipe down Lu Xingzhi.

It was only a few days ago that he underwent surgery. Jiang Yao was not able to give him a thorough wipe down given his frail state.

Jiang Yao's actions were gentle. She wiped his fingers one by one before removing his gown. His stomach was flat and toned, she could not help but give them a good rub. She was pleased with how his body looked.

Maneuvering around his incision wounds and other delicate spots, she spent a little more time on his stomach before setting the cloth back into the basin. She was preparing to button his shirt when she heard his voice.

"Dear, you have to wipe the bottom parts too. You can't just wipe wherever you want," Lu Xingzhi complained.

Jiang Yao jumped in surprise. "When did you wake up?"

"When you were wiping my right hand," Lu Xingzhi replied earnestly.

"So, you woke up and did not bother to let me know? You must really be enjoying yourself, huh?" Jiang Yao rolled her eyes at Lu Xingzhi. She actually planned to wipe his lower body, but now that he had woken up, she could not do it out of embarrassment.

"Of course, I did!" Lu Xingzhi smiled. "If you feel that it is not fair, let me wipe you down too. From top to bottom, I will not miss any nook and cranny of your body."

He continued, "As I said, you will have to do the same for me, wipe every part of my body, and make sure it is clean."

Jiang Yao looked at Lu Xingzhi, who was laying down his end of the bargain. There was nothing wrong with wiping his body, however...

Why were his eyes twinkling?

Chapter 398: Inconvenience

Why did he look at his crotch when he was talking to her?

Did he mean for her to wipe his nether regions?

"Lu Xingzhi!" Jiang Yao was incensed. "Will you stop being a brat?!"

"What did I do, Dear?" Lu Xingzhi looked at her bewildered. "If you don't want to do it, we can have the care worker do it instead."

Hold on, what did he mean by that?

If she really called for the care worker, would he let her do it?

No!

"Dear, I am not embarrassed showing it all. Why would you, who is the one looking, be embarrassed?" Lu Xingzhi asked calmly. "Now, now, we are a married couple. We have seen each other's private parts, what is there to hide?"

A brief pause later, he continued, "Remember the time where I bathed you after you were knocked out exhausted?"

"When was it?!" Jiang Yao rebutted instinctively.

"There, there." Lu Xingzhi moved his hands and clasped them on Jiang Yao's fingers. "It was the night of our wedding. You fell asleep after an exhausting day; I was the one who carried you into the bathroom. Oh, and the time when I went back home for a visit during your summer holidays, that was when I was on a business trip to Nanjiang City."

Right now, she would rather turn blind and deaf than to hear another word from him.

"As a married and loving couple, we have to support each other. The things I did for you, you should do the same for me too." Lu Xingzhi sighed. "Of course, if you don't feel like it, I don't want to force you."

Once a man had fixed his sights on teasing his woman, nothing could be done to stop him.

Jiang Yao stared intently at Lu Xingzhi and stood up with the basin in her hands.

"Are you..."

"I am changing the water!" Jiang Yao replied bluntly.

Lu Xingzhi was interrupted before he could finish his sentence. He wanted to say, 'Are you mad? I was just kidding.'

He purely wanted to mess with his wife; he loved seeing her tantrums and her tolerance toward his shenanigans.

Would she have done the same if she did not love him that much?

Since that Jiang Yao had agreed to it, he kept his mouth shut, not wanting to sabotage his hard-earned benefit.

Jiang Yao went into the bathroom to change the basin's water. Only she knew how flustered she looked; her face was blushing like a ripened tomato.

She was not used to touching Lu Xingzhi under a circumstance like this.

Even when they were fooling around on bed, if she could get away with not touching it, she would.

When she came out of the bathroom, Lu Xingzhi instructed her to lock the door. Instinctively, she wanted to cuss him out, but held it in.

Chapter 399: Don't Be Too Hard on Yourself

What else could she do? She chose him after all.

After locking the door, she walked toward him and removed his blanket. Folding it into a neat rectangle, she placed it on his chest. The weather had been chilly, she did not want him to catch a cold.

She chose to ignore his chuckling and removed his pants in one go. Squeezing the towel, she looked at his nether regions, steadied her hands and started wiping.

Hearing Lu Xingzhi's weird breathing, she quickly wiped him clean and changed a pair of clean underwear for him.

Thank goodness for the underwear, for now Jiang Yao was a little more comfortable with it covering his private parts.

Even though she had the honor of using his member, she did not have the privilege to see it up close until today. It was very embarrassing for Jiang Yao, nonetheless.

Looking at his bulge, she could not help it as she started poking at it, while muttering, "Hideous thing! What a hideous thing!"

Remembering how Lu Xingzhi used to give her a hard time in bed, she added, "Why do you have to be so big?"

She did not realize what was happening until she heard Lu Xingzhi's light moans. It was only then did she realize that her poking had stirred the dragon.

Swiftly, she put on his pants for him and left with the basin!

It was such a torment having Jiang Yao clean him, he decided then and there that the care worker would be the better option.

He did all he could to hold himself in when Jiang Yao was wiping him, only for everything to go down the drain when she started poking.

Jiang Yao hid herself in the bathroom until she was done showering and had done Lu Xingzhi's laundry. Looking at the patient half-covered with the blanket, she cursed at herself for being such a klutz.

"Are you dumb? Why didn't you let me know that the blanket was not properly covering you? What if you catch a cold?" Jiang Yao was furious at herself for not taking good care of Lu Xingzhi.

"I thought you were petrified at seeing my big, hideous member." Lu Xingzhi managed to tease her before smiling at her, saying, "It's okay, it's pretty warm in here."

"Lu Xingzhi, I am warning you! If you verbally harass me again, I will ignore you forever!" Jiang Yao berated Lu Xingzhi. She was easily embarrassed, especially after a little taunting by him. Flustered, she would lose her focus and overlook the tiny details.

Plenty of times, tiny details were fatal.

Fortunately, she did not spend too much time in the bathroom. If he actually did catch a cold, things would be really bad.

"You look better now!" Jiang Yao made her bed and reminded Lu Xingzhi, "If you are feeling sleepy, go to sleep! Don't keep yourself awake, it's not good for your recovery."

Chapter 400: Yaoyao

She waited for a few seconds before hearing his hum in acknowledgement. Stealing a look at Lu Xingzhi, Jiang Yao turned back and prepared her bed for the night.

"Call Weiqi and ask him to send you home. The bed here is not clean, who knows how many people have slept on it?" He knew his wife very well, knowing that she was slightly germophobic. It was actually a common trait between doctors, or more particularly, the older doctors.

"I am not as bad as you think," Jiang Yao muttered. "Under circumstances and conditions that allow it, I would be as picky as I can. But, if the circumstance does not allow for it, I can be very flexible and easygoing."

She paused, seeing Lu Xingzhi's frigid expression, she laughed and lay down on her bed while assuring him that she was perfectly okay being here.

"You need constant care here. I did not tell your parents about your injury yet, so I must be here to make sure that you make a speedy recovery. Zhou Weiqi actually offered to do shifts with me, but I cannot be rest assured being away from you," Jiang Yao explained.

She looked around and found the light switch. Turning it off, she said, "Close your eyes and go to sleep." With a click, the lights were switched off, plunging the entire room into darkness.

The hospital was quiet, especially the intensive care ward, which received less foot traffic.

Jiang Yao felt that her hearing had been improving. Once the room became silent, she could clearly hear Lu Xingzhi's breathing.

Listening to his breathing told her that he was not asleep.

Amidst the silence, nobody said a word. Jiang Yao assumed that Lu Xingzhi was trying to go to sleep, just like she was.

The gentle autumn winds were blowing outside. The moon, with its seductive curves, looked down with its bright light, like a playful child searching for her seashells by the beach. Jiang Yao turned her body away from the window and looked at the patient in the room.

Suddenly, he called out.

“Yaoyao.”

Hearing that, she was stunned.

Lu Xingzhi always called her by her full name—Jiang Yao. Likewise, she would do the same to Lu Xingzhi as well.

She did not feel strange that a pair of married couple would address each other by their names in its entirety. Maybe they were used to it, maybe her name was too short—a character shorter than regular names. It was perfectly normal to call her with her family name attached.

Yaoyao was her nickname at home. Everyone in her family would call her by that name. However, it was her first-time hearing Lu Xingzhi say it. She did not expect it but found it to be adorable.

The same two words felt different uttered by him.

Maybe because he had a nice voice, or maybe, because he was Lu Xingzhi.