

Chapter 41:

Even If It Wasn't Yaoyao, Why Would It Be You

Ning Yao left and Xu Junxi looked at Ning Qing with his cold glare. Then, Xiao Zhou ran over.

Xiao Zhou was stunned when she saw Xu Junxi. She spoke into Ning Qing's ear, "Ning Qing, I heard that CEO of Huayi Entertainment and the American director voted for you, but the other two voted Ning Yao. It is only Xu Junxi left that has yet to vote. In other words, Xu Junxi's vote is crucial. If you really need the money, discuss it with Xu Junxi."

Ning Qing was shocked that the CEO of Huayi Entertainment voted for her.

The three American directors and producers were invited by Xu Junxi. They more or less had to look at Xu Junxi's favor as an investor. Ning Yao was publicly announced as his girlfriend, so the two Americans voted because of Xu Junxi.

Hence, it was already fortunate enough that she got two votes.

Xiao Zhou left and Ning Qing hesitated. She really needed the money urgently but Xu Junxi was hard to negotiate with. Unless she begs him?

Xu Junxi looked at Ning Qing's face. He then humphed and left.

Ning Qing quickly caught up.

...

Xu Junxi walked into a room but he didn't close the door. It was as though he was waiting for her.

Ning Qing pushed the door and entered. Xu Junxi stood by the French window. He was smoking while he put his other hand on his waist.

She walked forward and said straightforwardly, "Xu Junxi, I need the opportunity of Pink Lady. You've watched my performance earlier. I am stronger than Ning Yao and I can bring about a great benefit to you."

Xu Junxi ashed his cigarette in the ashtray. When he heard that "I'm stronger than Ning Yao", it sounded like what she said earlier, "I'll be pretty while all of you be jealous". She's as confident and calm as three years ago.

"The last part of what you told Ning Yao was for me to hear?"

Xu Junxi's throat was dry. He didn't know what happened to him. After he watched her performance playing the role of Zhao Feiyan, a tinge of melancholy arose within him. It was an upsetting feeling. It was like there was a chunk of him that was taken away.

Ning Qing felt disdain. She understood that he knew the Xu family. Hence, she was obviously saying it to him. She wanted to sow discord between them and for him to weigh it with Ning Yao's relationship.

What else did he think it was for?

But as she was under his roof, she had no choice but to tone it down and took a gentle approach, "Yes, we knew each other for so many years. Even if you do not take my advice, I should at least give you a gentle reminder."

Gentle reminder?

Xu Junxi suddenly lost his interest to smoke. He extended his hand to put out the cigarette butt in the ashtray. He thought she would say, "Xu Junxi, I am more suitable to be your wife compared to Ning Yao."

Heh, he started daydreaming again.

Even though he knew that Ning Yao was just as she had mentioned, too immature, Ning Yao was pure and innocent. She was willing to do anything for him.

As for her? She's filthy and cunning.

Recalling her interaction with the CEO of Huayi Entertainment, Xu Junxi's eyes grew dim. This kind of woman, is only for fooling around.

Xu Junxi turned around and looked Ning Qing up and down. Three years ago, how much he loved her. Her body's shape started developing when she was eighteen. Her chest popped up more and more day by day but he loathed to look at it.

When she was dancing earlier, that was when he realized how great her body was. Her almost 32C chest, extremely flexible small waist... The S curve that was extremely tempting.

He suddenly recalled the seduction videos where those young models wet themselves. If it were to be her...

He walked closer to her. She tied her hair up because she was still feeling hot from the dance earlier. There was a strand of hair that hung low on her white delicate neck.

"There are many people who can benefit me. Even if it wasn't Yaoyao, why would it be you?" His voice was hoarse.

Chapter 42: Come Here, If You Need One Million

Ning Qing was forced into the corner and she supported herself against the wall, that's how she restrained herself from pushing him away. There was always a whiff of woman's perfume on him. It was the young model's the previous time and it should be Ning Yao's this time. She was disgusted.

There was no memory and feelings in his voice. The imposing tone left no space for discussion.

Ning Qing closed her eyes and when she opened them, there was a tinge of gentleness and she plead, "Xu Junxi, I need the money urgently. My mother's kidney transplant surgery requires a million... Even if we already broke up, think about how much my mother used to like you, you... Please help us and vote for me."

Xu Junxi smirked, laughing to himself. She was fighting so ferociously with him in the lobby earlier but then she needed money urgently and treated him so gently.

Heh, power.

She opened and closed her seductive lips while Xu Junxi gulped. The rage in his body that yet to subside continued to burn his body, while the boiling blood started rushing downwards.

He let go of Ning Qing. Then, he turned around and walked to sit at the side of the bed.

"Come here!" His hoarse voice sounded like he was giving a command.

Ning Qing didn't know what he was doing but the way he looked at her was strange. It seemed too deep, too... hot.

"I don't want to repeat the third time. Come here, if you need that one million!" He emphasized.

Ning Qing had no choice but to walk before him.

Xu Junxi extended his hand to pull her wrist. Her skin was slightly cool and it was nice to touch. Her soft skin was as smooth as silk, which drove the person who touched her restless at heart.

He couldn't help but rub her skin gently.

"Xun Junxi, speak but don't touch me!" Ning Qing swung his hand away.

The very next second, her arms were locked. The man exerted strength and she fell into his embrace directly.

"Xu Junxi!" Ning Qing struggled vigorously.

Xu Junxi clamped her down with his pair of long legs and suppressed her forcefully. He held her waist with one of his arms and he looked at his watch, "Don't you want money? I'll give you half an hour. I'll pay one million to sleep with you. Isn't this price high enough?"

Ning Qing fell deep down into the abyss. She was utterly disappointed. How could he make such request to buy her out with money?

She looked at his familiar yet strange handsome face. He was pushing a new limit each time, "Heh, half an hour? The time's ticking? Let's sleep here then, how do you want to do this?"

Xu Junxi thought she agreed so he touched her delicate face and rubbed her lips with his thumb. He gave out a flighty and nasty gaze, "There have been so many men who thought of you. Give me your all and make me happy for a few times in this half an hour. I shall give you a few million."

"Heh... Hehe..." Ning Qing chuckled, she was almost going to applaud his generosity. She played with her hair while she asked flirtatiously, "Did you forget that Ning Yao is still outside?"

Xu Junxi was stunned when he heard Ning Yao's name.

Then, his gaze met Ning Qing's again. She smiled so coldly and waited for his answer.

She was making fun of him.

There was anger raging inside Xu Junxi. He turned sideways and threw Ning Qing onto the bed. He pressed against her body as he clenched her face, "Yaoyao would understand that men have some fun outside. Plus, she wouldn't know if I slept with you."

His lips covered hers.

Can't wait any more.

Chapter 43: Take Your Filthy Money With You And F*ck Off!

Ning Qing turned her head and avoided his kiss. His breath was burning against her cheeks.

"You're not willing to? Don't worry. You'll be begging me to satisfy you later. You're just a flighty b*tch," He cursed.

Suddenly, he felt something sharp against his waist, with a slight cold sensation.

Xu Junxi sat straight and looked. Ning Qing held a small knife that she kept for self-defense. The sharp tip of the blade was already against his abdomen.

"Ning Qing, you kept a knife on you? What are you trying to do?" Xu Junxi opened his eyes and stared. Why would a girl hide a knife on her? Did she know that it's dangerous as she might hurt herself?

Ning Qing pushed the sharp blade on his abdomen and Xu Junxi retreated. Ning Qing shook off his control as she wished and she left the bed.

She kept the knife calmly and flashed a smile at the man, "Oh, I hide the knife for self-protection against perverts. There are many men out there who want to rape me, like you. I have to protect myself."

Xu Junxi was dumbfounded.

Ning Qing stole a glance at his slacks and she crossed her arms. She chuckled and said, "Is the price to sleep with me for half an hour at one million a high price? It seems like CEO Xu doesn't know my market. There was once a billionaire who invited me to his private party, I was in a bikini and he offered two million for ten minutes. There was a rich second gen who was after me. He gave me the same Lamborghini that you're driving right now as a present. There was also this one time where someone

offered me five million to serve him by putting my head down. Tsk tsk. CEO Xu how can you afford me at this price?"

Xu Junxi looked even more at a loss. Ning Qing laughed even more happily, "CEO Xu, how could you be smart your whole life but so dumb now? Everyone could see this but you're so blinded. If I were to really sell myself, would I still need you? If I really have so many men around me, why have I been leading such a tough life for the past three years? Now, I even have to beg you for my mother's medical fees..."

Then, Ning Qing lifted her head. Her eyes were welled up with tears and she suddenly lost her interest in forcing a smile. She shook her head and muttered to herself, "Forget it. What's the point? There's no use talking to a beast."

Ning Qing turned and opened the door to the room. She then walked out.

She met Xiao Zhou when she walked at the corridor. Xiao Zhou ran over in a hurry, "Ning Qing, where did you go? In the over ten minutes you were gone, Xu Junxi's secretary voted on his behalf. The female lead role for Pretty Woman was taken away by Ning Yao."

Ning Qing nodded. She was very calm then. If it was not mistaken, Xu Junxi held the casting for Pretty Woman for Ning Yao.

She was quite the dumbass for still coming to fight for the female lead role.

Just now before Xu Junxi entered the room, he should have told his secretary to vote on his behalf. The half an hour deal wasn't a lie. He would give her one million if she were to sell her body.

"Xiao Zhou, let's go," Ning Qing led Xiao Zhou to the main entrance. Heaven never bars one's way. She could get one million by other means.

Her phone rang after she took a few steps forward. It was Xu Junxi.

She answered the call but she didn't speak.

"Hey, Ning Qing... If you really wanted a million, come to my office tonight and I will give it to you."

Ning Qing hung up the phone expressionlessly. She really wanted to spit, Xu Junxi, take your filthy money with you and f*ck off.

Chapter 44: I Can't Accept This

Half an hour later, the meeting ended. The attendant opened the door and Lu Shaoming walked out.

Zhu Rui ran over and spoke directly into Lu Shaoming's ears, "President, the female lead role for Pretty Woman was taken by Ning Yao. Miss Ning was in a room alone with Xu Junxi for thirteen minutes then she left."

Lu Shaoming listened quietly. Three seconds later, he took out his phone and spoke in his low magnetic voice, "Hey, Director Wang. Didn't you want me to invest in your movie previously? I'm suddenly interested..."

Ning Qing returned to the hospital and kept Yue Wanqing company for the entire afternoon. Her mother wasn't in a good condition and she kept wanting to fall asleep.

Ning Qing covered her with the blanket and sighed. It didn't matter how much humiliation she had to bare outside, as long as her mother could recover and stay with her forever.

As Ning Qing frequently visits the hospital, she was close to the doctors. The doctor let her stay in a vacant room at night for free so she could sleep in the hospital while she takes care of her mother.

Ning Qing thanked the doctor. She then sat at the edge of the bed and called Ning Zhenguo.

Everything else aside, she was still Ning's daughter. Her mother was sick and her father should help. One million was nothing to Ning's family anyway.

"Ring ring" Then, someone answered the phone. Somehow or other, Ning Qing wasn't sure if she was sensitive or what not, she heard a burst of faint flirtatious laughter over the phone and some abnormal noises. But, it stopped very quickly.

"Hello, Qingqing, why did you call Daddy at this hour for?"

"Dad, Mom's nephrosis gone from bad to worse. She needs to go through a liver transplant in two days and it would cost a million dollars. I don't have that much money, can you pay on my behalf for now? I will return it to you as I earn it."

Ning Zhenguo kept quiet for a while and coughed lightly before he said, "Alright. Let's meet up tomorrow. I made a booking in Haoge Hotel. Let's have dinner together."

Dinner?

Since when has he become so nice?

Ning Qing was suspicious. When she wanted to reply, Ning Zhenguo already hung up the phone.

Ning Qing put down her phone and there was a knock at the door. "Ning Qing, it's me," Kong Yang's voice was heard.

She got up to open the door.

Kong Yang passed Ning Qing a bank card and smiled gently, "Ning Qing, I heard from the doctor about Aunt Yue going for a liver transplant surgery. There's two hundred thousand on this card. Take it for now. If it isn't enough, I will figure out a way tomorrow."

Ning Qing looked at the card and shook her head, "Kong Yang, I can't take this."

Kong Yang was not from a rich family. The two hundred thousand was most likely Kong family's savings. Don't take a reward if it's not deserved. The hardest debt to pay is a favor.

Kong Yang wanted to speak but Ning Qing cut him off and said with a smile, "I called my dad. He prepared a cheque for me and I will collect it tomorrow. So Kong Yang, thank you. I've taken care of the surgery fees."

Kong Yang saw that she looked sincere, and it didn't look like she was lying. So, he retrieved his card and scratched his head, "It's great that you took care of the surgery fees. If you need any help, do let me know."

"Okay." Ning Qing nodded.

...

Ning's villa.

Ning Yao changed into room slippers and threw her branded bag on the sofa in the living room, "Mom..." She ran upstairs to look for Li Meiling.

When she reached her bedroom, she looked at the half-opened room door. There was a dim light in the room and there was a seductive noise from the room. So, she peeped into the room.

Chapter 45: A Woman Only Has To Conquer The Man

There were two figures entangled by the edge of the dressing table. There were makeup products all over the carpet. Li Meiling sat on the dressing table while Ning Zhenguo panted as he hugged her waist.

Li Meiling hugged Ning Zhenguo's neck and spoke flirtatiously as she bit Ning Zhenguo's ears. Her full and fair figure swayed and she spoke in a seductive voice, "Husband, do you agree with what I told you about Qingqing? It's for Qingqing's own good."

"Lingling, don't move. Didn't I listen to you? I asked Qingqing for dinner tomorrow," Ning Zhenguo was burning with desire.

Li Meiling flashed a satisfied smile as she glided her finger across Ning Zhenguo's chest, "You're nice to Lingling. I shall reward you today and let you enjoy."

Li Meiling lowered her body gradually.

Ning Yao blushed with embarrassment and her eyes were rippling. She closed the door and ran downstairs to get herself a glass of warm water.

...

Ning Yao was reading a fashion magazine the living room. She waited for an hour until Li Meiling walked down in her sleeping gown.

“Mom, that’s bad. During the casting for Pink Lady, Ning Qing that b*tch revealed the truth about you and dad. Many say that you’re a mistress. You’re definitely going to be in the headlines tomorrow. Your image is ruined.”

Li Meiling sipped on the beauty tea that the maid brought to her. She extended her finger and tapped Ning Yao’s forehead, “It’s all your doing! I told you long ago. You just returned, pay full attention to taking care of Xu Junxi. Let him bring you into the entertainment circle and let him marry you. I will take care of Ning Qing but you just won’t listen.”

“Mom, I was upset. What do we do for your trouble then?” Ning Yao shook Li Meiling’s shoulder as she acted like a spoilt kid.

“I’ve found out about today’s trouble. It is just a matter of time until it is exposed. Danger means a turn for better. Xu Junxi was nice to you. He told his PR team to contact me and already came up with a countermeasure. So, don’t bother.”

“Really?” Ning Yao beamed with joy. She knew that if her mother were to take charge, she could relax. At the same time, she also felt a surge of sweetness as she knew that Xu Junxi did love her.

With protection by Xu Junxi and her mother, she would be famous in the entertainment circle in no time.

“Yaoyao, why did you return so early? Didn’t you say you were going to have a candlelight dinner with Xu Junxi?”

“Mom, Junxi sent me back. He said that he’s busy with the company and he had to work overtime in the office tonight. Hence, the candlelight dinner is canceled.” Then, Ning Yao asked hesitantly, “Mom, What were you and dad talking about... Regarding Ning Qing?”

Li Meiling looked towards Ning Yao, “You peeped by the door?”

Ning Yao blushed and lowered her head.

“Yaoyao, don’t bother with these things next time. I was trying to get your dad to sleep before I came downstairs. A woman doesn’t need to do much in life but only need to conquer the man. The moment you conquer the man, you can use him to fight for the throne for you.”

Ning Yao heard and her face blushed in embarrassment. She nodded confidently, “Mom, don’t worry. I will make sure Junxi will be dead set on me.”

“Mm,” Li Meiling nodded with satisfaction. She extended her hand and hugged Ning Yao.

...

Ning Qing took care of her mom in the hospital during day time and she went to Haoge Hotel at night. She asked the front desk and she walked into the private room under Ning Zhenguo’s reservation.

She walked in and there was another man in his forties besides Ning Zhenguo.

Ning Qing kept her guard up.

Chapter 46: Miss Ning, You Can't Escape

"Qingqing, you're here," Ning Zhenguo saw Ning Qing and he quickly waved, "Come here and sit." He pointed at the seat next to him.

Ning Qing walked over and took a seat. The man opposite flashed a kind and honest smile at her, but Ning Qing saw that he kept eyeing her chest which was a very boorish act.

"Dad, mom's liver transplant surgery is tomorrow. The one million I was telling you about last night..."

"Qingqing, don't worry. I didn't say that I won't give you that one million," Ning Zhenguo cut her off and poured her a glass of fruit juice, "But daddy can't take care of you and your mom forever. You're not young anymore. It's time for you to consider your wedding. Find a good man and get married, then daddy wouldn't need to worry."

Ning Qing smiled coldly. So, this is a meeting for a prospective mate?

The man opposite was at least forty years old. Either his body condition wasn't working so he didn't get married or maybe he divorced for a few times...

Is she not young?

It was going to be her twenty-first birthday the following month. For the past three years, her father didn't bother with her and now he was pretending to be a loving father. That's enough.

Ning Qing maintained a faint smile and said, "Dad, lend me a million and I'll return it to you with interest charged. I will write up an agreement."

"Qingqing, what are you talking about?" Ning Zhenguo's face grew grave and he slammed his wine glass on the table, "Am I the kind of father that would make no effort to save somebody else's life?"

"Then, lend me the money now!" Ning Qing answered elegantly.

"You..." Ning Zhenguo's fingertip was shivering; it was a stalemate situation.

There was a ringing tone. Ning Zhenguo's phone was ringing.

He apologized to the man opposite and humphed at Ning Qing before he got up to answer the phone outside.

When Ning Zhenguo left the private room, a waitress happened to send in the dishes. It was sirloin steak with a pink candle on it. The waitress lit up the candle.

Ning Qing smelled a faint fragrance.

Until the waitress left, Ning Qing was considering if she should wait for Ning Zhenguo. As she was thinking, the man opposite got up and sat next to her, "Miss Ning, seeing is believing. You're so beautiful. My surname is Shi. I am your dad's business partner. I fell in love with you at first sight. I hope you can be my girlfriend."

Ning Qing saw that he took Ning Zhenguo's seat, she knew that Ning Zhenguo wouldn't return. She's so naive that she placed any hope in her dad.

She looked at the man with a gentle smile, "With your age, you could already be my father. You, how do you qualify to hunt for someone way out of your league?"

There was a flash of embarrassment on the man's face. He stopped pretending, and a vicious gaze measured Ning Qing up and down. He then extended his hand to touch Ning Qing's thigh, "Miss Ning, don't you want money? Your dad couldn't be bothered with you. Follow me and I'll give you money."

Ning Qing quickly stood up but didn't let the man touch her. She picked up the fruit juice that Ning Zhenguo gave her earlier and splashed it on the man's face, "Why don't you go home and look at yourself in the mirror."

She turned around and walked towards the door.

Her hand reached for the doorknob but the door was locked.

She felt lightheaded, then her legs grew weak and she had no strength at all. She immediately realized that she was set up. There was a drug in the pink candle earlier.

"Miss Ning, don't run. You can't run anyway tonight. Just obey me," the man took the serviette on the table to wipe his face. Then, he walked towards Ning Qing. He was already taking off his belt.

Chapter 47: No, Help

Ning Qing leaned against the door. She felt physically unwell and she felt heartache too. The last time she felt this way, Xu Junxi fooled around with some young model, and now her father tried to sell her off...

"Who instructed you? Even if my father didn't want to bother with me, it was impossible that he ask someone to drug me and let you rape me."

"Hahaha, I never thought Miss Ning would be so smart. It's okay that I tell you, you'll be mine later on anyway... It's your stepmother. Your stepmom told me that you're fierce and you wouldn't submit if there was no measure taken."

Then, the man touched Ning Qing's face, "Look at your skin. You live up your name as the no.1 socialite in T town. Any man would love to press down on your body. I am hunting someone out of my league. You shall follow me then. I want everyone else to be green with envy, to be jealous. I want to have fun with you every day. Haha."

Ning Qing pinched her palm and tried very hard to let herself faint. It was really Li Meiling's doing.

She was utterly disappointed with Ning Zhenguo. Actually, there was no difference between Li Meiling and Ning Zhenguo. After Ning Zhenguo left, he let her stay alone with the disgusting man!

The man leaped at her like a jaguar. He pushed Ning Qing by her neck to the wall and he tore her clothes. His was rude and direct.

"D*mn. I never thought I would be able to have fun with you one day. I could only dream about it... You better listen to me. Otherwise, I shall proceed with SM," the man rubbed his lips at Ning Qing's face.

"F*ck off, you pervert!" Ning Qing took out the knife that was for self-protection from her pocket and stabbed at the man's heart.

The man dodged swiftly and cursed. He extended his hand to take away the knife in Ning Qing's hand. Pak! He slapped Ning Qing.

Ning Qing felt weak all over. After her knife was taken away, she felt light-headed from the man's slap. She stumbled and hit her head on the wall.

The man grabbed her hair and hit her head on the wall continuously for five to six times ferociously. He cursed as he slammed her head at the wall, "Who let you run wild? You won't be obedient if you don't learn your lesson."

Ning Qing went numb with pain. She couldn't feel the ache but there was a warm thick liquid flowing down her forehead while a pungent scent of blood filled her nose.

She was bleeding.

The man threw her onto the sofa in the room and threatened, "There's more coming for you if you still refuse to obey."

Ning Qing curled up in the sofa, "If you were to touch me, I'll charge you for sexual violation."

The man leaped over and pulled Ning Qing's jeans, "Haha, go ahead. Go and tell the whole world who did you. Haha..."

Ning Qing's vision grew blurry as she fumbled around on the sofa. She was trying to look for a wine bottle or any sharp object. She wanted to kill the man.

Even if she couldn't kill him, she would kill herself. At least it'd be better than being raped and humiliated.

However, she couldn't find anything. The dining table was so far away from her, she wanted to crawl over.

But she suddenly felt cold on her thighs. Her jeans were already pulled down to her ankles. She couldn't fight back her tears any more, and they flowed down her cheeks, "No... No... Help..."

She knew that "help" was the weakest and the most useless word. No one had saved her nor rescued her for the past three years. She relied on herself.

She was used to relying on herself too.

However, she was scared in this moment. She felt hopeless. She could only cry for help, wishing that someone could save her.

Looking at Ning Qing's smooth fair skin, the man's eyes grew red. As he was extremely excited, Kacha! The locked door suddenly opened.

Chapter 48: Thank You For Saving Me

The man stopped and turned to look. He saw the waiter who was serving the dishes earlier standing by the door with a bunch of keys.

The man was angry. He got off the sofa and ran to the door. He scolded, "What are you doing? How dare you spoil my mood? Is the money that I gave you not enough?"

The waiter stepped back but didn't reply.

The man wanted to continue to scold him but there was a person who walked out behind the waiter. Zhu Rui looked at the man and smiled politely, "I told him to do so."

"Who the hell are you?"

Zhu Rui didn't reply but took out a name card and passed it to him.

He took over the name card and glanced at it. However, his facial expression suddenly changed. He looked at Zhu Rui in terror, "You, you..."

Zhu Rui beckoned to two bodyguards and they came forward to seize control of the man, "This is a society governed by law. I will send you to the police station to cool down the fire within you. You can return whenever you realize your mistake. Otherwise, you can stay there for the rest of your life."

The man quivered in fear and he pleaded, "No. I didn't intend to offend Young Master Lu. Please, let me go. I don't want to go to jail."

The man was dragged away by the bodyguards.

Ning Qing quickly pulled up her jeans after she shook him off. The pervasive man's wailing sound went grew distant. Then, there were footsteps getting closing in on her.

“Who are you, don’t come here,” Ning Qing curled up on the sofa. She was like an injured porcupine, skeptical of everyone.

She heard a bottle cap screw open and there was a refreshing mint scent. She was so frightened that she started fanning, “What are you making me smell? What are you trying to do?”

“Miss, don’t panic. I have no bad intentions. This is medicine that refreshes one’s mind. Do you feel better now?”

Ning Qing felt that the discomfort in her body was dismissed slowly and her vision became clearer. She lifted her eyes and looked at the person before her. It was a gentleman in a suit.

“You saved me? Thank you,” It was really someone who saved her. Ning Qing forced a smile and thanked him.

“You’re welcome. Miss, rest for a while. I’ll ask someone to bring you some water to wash your face and take care of your injury on your forehead.”

Ning Qing got up but she didn’t have much strength. She staggered to the dining table and wiped the blood on her forehead away with a piece of wet towel. She shook her head and said, “It’s okay. Thank you. I’ll make a move first.”

She just made a narrow escape from a disaster but she didn’t even have the time to bemoan the hard times and the misery that’s befallen her. There’s a problem in reality that was still waiting to be solved. Her mother was going in for the operation the next day and she needed money.

Ning Qing walked out of the hotel. She attracted much attention on her way out as many people were talking about her behind her back.

Standing outside the hotel door, she looked at herself in the revolving glass door. There was a blood stain on her forehead, her hair was messy, a few buttons on her shirt were gone, and her jeans were torn.

She smirked as she laughed at herself. She lifted her head so her tears would stay in her eyes. She didn’t feel aggrieved but she thought she shouldn’t appear before her mother in that state. She should return to her dorm that night and raise the funds elsewhere the next morning. She would definitely take revenge that night.

She felt extremely pathetic.

She turned around and wanted to leave.

Her foot paused in the mid-air when she was walking down the stairs. There were a few luxurious cars parked at the entrance of the hotel. There were a bunch of businessmen standing below the retro festive lanterns. One of them smiled faintly, looking extremely elegant.

Chapter 49: Why Did You Run When You Saw Me?

The man was wearing a light blue shirt and a pair of slim fit khakis. It wasn't formal wear but semi-casual. He didn't look as serious as he normally would but rather clean and beautiful.

He was surrounded by industry seniors and everyone was talking to him delightedly. He listened attentively and replied occasionally. In Ning Qing's eyes, she saw half of his face. A handsome sculpted face with significant sideburns...

Strangely attractive.

His broad shoulders and small waist gave his semi-casual fashion a charming appeal. He had one of his hands in his pocket. His elegant yet composed manner of speech reflected his honorable identity. The dim lighting of the lanterns shone and he caught her attention.

"Miss..." Then, Zhu Rui caught up to her from the hotel. His voice woke Ning Qing with a start, as well as the people by the cars.

Then, Ning Qing's eyes met the pair of bright and clear eyes. Lu Shaoming looked at her, she couldn't tell if he was happy or angry from his eyes.

However, Ning Qing could clearly see that he measured her up and down while the seniors around him looked shocked. They revealed sympathy in their gazes.

Ning Qing didn't know what was wrong with her. The exit was right behind them after the stairs but she suddenly had no strength to walk.

She quickly turned around and jumped off by the side of the stairs. She took a smaller route. There was this one small route in between the hotel wall and the fountain that was so narrow that it could only fit one person.

There wouldn't be any guests who use that route. It was probably for the waitresses and other staff.

However, she didn't care. She merely wanted to leave the place as soon as possible. She didn't want to show herself in a fix before the man who once comforted her gently in the hotel room, the man who parked his car below her dorm a few days ago to send her medicine.

She knew how in a mess she looked.

Those people in the business circle were sharp, especially him. He could probably guess what happened to her with one glance. She wanted to retain some dignity.

But she was so silly. She also knew how much worse it could be if she were to take the narrow route out.

She should have listened to the gentleman's advice. She should wash her face, change into clean clothes and clean herself up. After all, he looked so decent.

Ning Qing felt her face hot and moist. She wiped with her hand and it was covered in tears.

She felt that she was a joke. She cried and laughed as she ran on the street. She took out her phone from her bag, "Hey, Xiao Zhou, find me a man. The rich kind..."

She hung up the phone and she stumbled on a rock. She was caught off guard. She fell and sat on the ground. She didn't feel like standing up again.

She curled up and hugged her knees. She buried her face on her knees. She didn't worry about the passersby nor did she think about the next day but simply started wailing in tears.

Ning Qing wanted to cry heartily but not long after she cried, she felt a weight on her shoulders. Her cold body suddenly felt the warmth, there was someone who covered her with a piece of clothing.

She quivered and looked with the corner of her eyes. It was a grey woolen jacket with a whiff of a refreshing yet warm manly scent.

The scent... She was familiar with.

She looked down and saw a pair of leather shoes, in a color that was lighter than his khakis.

It's him.

He's here.

Ning Qing was at loss of what to do. She was already in the mess and she was then sitting on the floor crying, disregarding her image. She bit her lips so that she wouldn't make any noise as she cried but her tears beads were falling uncontrollably.

She felt a sudden warmth in her hair. He ran his hand in her hair and said in a deep voice calmly, "Why did you run when you saw me, hmm?"

Chapter 50: Let Go Of Me

His "hmm" was a soft hum from his chest which was extremely sexy. Ning Qing quivered when she heard it. She wondered if it was because of what he said or if it was because of his hands in her hair. Such a gentle touch.

Ning Qing lowered her head even more as she didn't want him to see her injured forehead. She didn't dare to see his face either.

In Lu Shaoming's eyes, it was just a little girl's shoulder that was billowing. She was still crying and her tears were flowing in a rapid flow. However, she stubbornly refused to make any noise.

This silly girl, doesn't she know how heart ached she looks now?

Ning Qing's tears continued to fall. Then, she felt that someone kicked the tip of her foot. She lifted her eyes and saw that there was a leather shoe near her white sneakers. He was kicking her with his leather shoe.

What is he trying to do?

Ning Qing subconsciously parted her closed-toe feet to dodge his leather shoe but he seized the opportunity to put his leather shoe in between her feet.

She was still sitting on the floor but he moved his leg forward. His long leg moved closer to her in an imposing manner. Her head was only at his knee.

“What are you doing?” Ning Qing joined her feet together and stopped his leather shoe from moving forward.

Lu Shaoming saw that the girl finally lifted her head and stared at him with her tearful eyes in grievance and grumbled in a flirtatious manner. Her voice was hoarse and there was a faint sobbing sound to her.

He suddenly recalled a saying, “A weeping beauty, so pitiful.”

“Come on, let go. Don’t squeeze me,” Lu Shaoming smirked and said in a hip yet gentle tone.

Ning Qing’s face suddenly flushed with embarrassment. Although she wasn’t in a relationship before, there was nothing she hadn’t heard before. The man said that kind of nonsense to her.

She parted her legs.

Lu Shaoming’s right leg straight away split her curled up legs and he combed her hair with his palm. He asked, “Can’t you tell what I’m trying to do? I’m comforting you. Do you still want to cry? I’ll lend you my thighs and you can hug them for a while.”

Ning Qing was going to throw tantrum because of his ridiculous behavior but he acted the fool and she found it funny.

She clenched her hand into a fist and slammed the thigh before her eyes. She pouted and complained as she cried, “Do you know how to comfort people? Who would let people hug their thigh like you do?”

Lu Shaoming let go of her hair and touched the tears on her face. He said, “Honestly, I do not know how to comfort people. You’re the first.”

Ning Qing heard and couldn’t help but laugh. She wiped her tears and snot on his expensive slacks. She rested her forehead on his thigh. Just as she imagined, his thigh is as hard as a rock. It wasn’t comfortable but she just lied against it for a bit.

Her sorrow earlier calmed down somehow. She let out a breath of relief. She stopped tearing and spat, “glibly in speech.”

Lu Shaoming put one of his hand in his pocket, frowned then smiled at her comment.

“Tell me, why did you cry today, huh?”

Ning Qing blinked and her long eyelashes fanned, “Because... My dad sent me to a b*stard... Actually, we had our good times. Even if my parents divorced, I still wanted to be his daughter...”

Then, Ning Qing creased her eyebrows and her tears started flowing again. "For the past three years, I've had a tough time. I have never had a break, physically or mentally... I didn't dare to relax, I didn't dare to think. Why did they leave me and abandon me... I turned around and looked, then I realized that I am very far ahead in the lonely journey..."

Chapter 51: Sorry, I Was Late

Three years ago, her family had gone through an upheaval. She had experienced her boyfriend's betrayal, her father's abandonment, and she'd fallen from the status as the richest socialite to being everyone's laughing stock. Through life's pressures, she stepped forward bravely and steadily, but in her heart, she could not accept nor understand it.

She was clearly the innocent one.

Three years ago, she was only 18 years old, a child who had not yet grown up.

As she wept, the man in front of her squatted down. He curled his rough fingers and gently scraped the tears on her face with the pads of his fingers. "Don't cry, those who don't want you will not come back even if you keep crying."

"..." Ning Qing raised her head. This man was beyond terrible at comforting people!

She wanted to complain about him, but the man's deep, bright black eyes flickered with the reflected light from the street lamp. His eyes shone extremely brightly. His gaze was very gentle, and also laced with a little heartache and pity.

"Those who don't want you are not worth your tears. Those who want you won't make you cry for them. So don't cry. You won't look pretty if you cry until you look like a little patterned kitten."

This was probably the greatest word of comfort the man could give her.

Ning Qing wiped her tears with her little hands. Yes, neither Ning Zhenguo nor Xu Junxi nor Ning Yao deserved her tears.

She hadn't actually wanted to cry, but when she saw this man, and after being treated so gently by him, she was simply full of grief and felt compelled to pour her sorrows out.

"Alright, I won't cry anymore. Thanks for today." Ning Qing stood up slowly. She had just wanted to cry and let off steam. She still needed to fight and work hard tomorrow. She would not be defeated. She would not punish herself with other people's mistakes. "I'll go back."

When her feet had just landed on the floor, only then did Ning Qing realized that she had sat on the ground for too long. Her feet were cramping. She hissed and twisted her eyebrows in pain.

“Where do you want to go? I’ll drive you.” Lu Shaoming supported the girl’s slender arm. Three years ago, he had known that she was a tough girl. She would only be braver in the face of harsh realities.

“There’s no need, I...” This was her third time coming into contact with him. No matter how good he was, he was still a stranger. She couldn’t let herself depend on him.

But the next second, her world spun as the man carried her in his arms. A black Cayenne was parked on the roadside and he carried her to the car.

“Don’t put up a strong front. You’re a girl. You can be a little weak.” His mellow voice was like a warm spring breeze.

Ning Qing, in order not to let herself fall, had to hold onto his shirt in front of his chest with her two small hands. He was already carrying her. If she twisted around in his arms, it would be a bit pretentious.

Zhu Rui stood by the door and respectfully opened the door. “President, the first aid kit has been placed in the back seat.”

Ning Qing was surprised to see Zhu Rui. Wasn’t this the gentleman who had just saved her? “Is this your subordinate? You were the one who saved me in the hotel room...”

Lu Shaoming gently placed Ning Qing in the front passenger’s seat. He nodded and explained, “Yes, Zhu Rui is my secretary. I had dinner with some important men today and happened to see you when I entered the hotel. Sorry, that was your father, so I was late.”

Ning Qing was very moved as she looked at his sculpted face. He had only met her a few times but had saved her twice. She was eating with her father so she didn’t have her guard up. He certainly had little reason to keep his guard up.

But he had said sorry to her because he was late to save her.

He really is a good man.

...

Lu Shaoming sat in the driver’s seat and opened the first aid kit. He took out a bamboo Q-Tip to wipe away the bloodstains on her forehead. His movements were gentle. He occasionally asked her if there was any pain.

Ning Qing was embarrassed but dared not move. They were very close. His handsome body tipped over, and her nostrils filled with the scent of pure masculinity.

The first time she met him, they kissed. The second time, she sat on his lap. And the third time, he saved her from being used by strangers.

Chapter 52: Let Him Kiss, Don’t Let Him Kiss

The first time they met, she kissed him. The second time they met, she sat on his lap. The third time they met, this happened. All the intimate actions between her and the stranger, she initiated.

“The person in the private room hit your head?” Lu Shaoming blew her wound and asked.

Ning Qing tucked her hair behind her ear and replied, “Oh, no, I hit myself on the wall when I fought back.”

Somehow or other, she didn’t want to show herself in a mess before him. Actually, she never cared about how others may view her, but... He was different.

Although she didn’t know what was so different about him.

Lu Shaoming paused and held the cotton. He looked down at her face.

The girl never lied before. He saw that she blushed and didn’t dare to look him in the eye.

Lu Shaoming put the cotton in the first aid kit. Then, he took out a gauze to bandage the wound on her forehead. He laughed lightly and teased, “Your forehead was knocked on the wall at least six or seven times. The person tried to sexually harass you and you tried to kill yourself by hitting your head against the wall?”

Ning Qing was embarrassed. She lied and she had to fill the lie with countless other lies. The man could tell the truth but he teased her. She laughed dryly and nodded, “Yes.”

Lu Shaoming used white tape to tape the gauze in place. Then, he moved and let her fringe down. He smiled and continued to ask, “Why did you run when you saw me at the hotel entrance?”

He asked again.

What could she say?

Because... He looked well dressed and she looked in a fix... The seniors looked at her pitifully and he looked at her coldly too. She felt aggrieved.

More aggrieved than when her dad gave her up.

“Because I didn’t talk to you and you felt aggrieved? Miss Ning, why do you want to pretend to be strong before everyone else and then you became a little girl before me?”

The man was too sharp. His deep serene eyes showed his rich experience. He could look through someone with one glance. She was a piece of white paper before him.

She can’t hide anything.

“Miss Ning, we’ve only met a few times. We aren’t close but why do you want me to comfort you when you’re injured? Why do you have expectations from me?”

The man got closer to her when he spoke. He was tall and it didn't require any effort for him to get closer to her from the driver seat. Ning Qing dodged to the back, "No... No, I... I didn't want to see you then."

Ning Qing stuttered when she tried to explain. Her back was against the seat and she had nowhere to retreat to. The man supported himself on his left palm that was slammed next to her body.

He didn't approach her impolitely. However, the twenty centimeters distance wasn't enough. He hemmed her in between his chest and the seat. The air was filled with the man's refreshing yet enchanting scent.

"You... What are you doing?" Ning Qing extended his hand to push his arm but he didn't move at all. She blushed and stole a glance at the man. His bright and gentle eyes were eyeing her lips.

Ning Qing was burning. He... Did he want to kiss her?"

As she was making wild guesses, there was a sudden darkness as the man lowered his body.

"Ah..." Ning Qing shouted and closed her eyes instinctually.

Lu Shaoming found it funny. The girl fanned her long eyelashes like butterfly wings helplessly as her face grew red. She looked like the last time when she was drunk. She looked innocent as though she was afraid that he was going to kiss her yet she looked bashful as though she was waiting for him to kiss her.

That very moment, Ning Qing was counting flower petals in her head. Let him kiss, don't let him kiss...

Chapter 53: You Were the One Who Took Advantage of Me

At this moment Ning Qing's heart is counting the petals. let him kiss, don't let him kiss?

With a "click" in her ear, she opened her eyes. The man fastened the seat belt for her intimately. The clear breath pulled away. The man started the car. "It's half an hour away from school. When she's tired, she shuts her eyes and sleeps for a while."

Ning Qing, "... Go on!

Next time, make love to yourself and jump out of a building!

She didn't want to live. She had no face to live.

...

Along the way, Ning Qing was unwilling to speak. The man watched the road attentively and did not speak. Ning Qing was bored. In addition, she was really tired on this day. She was too worried about her mother's medical expenses. She had suffered from insomnia, so she was a little sleepy now.

She closed her eyes, curled up in a small ball on her seat, and fell asleep quickly.

Lu Shaoming watched her fall asleep and stretched out his long arm to take the light grey tweed coat from the back seat and cover her.

The girl felt the warmth, her small jaw gently rubbed the collar of the coat, her cherry pink lips murmured, and she buried her whole face in the coat.

Lu Shaoming lifted his lips. She was indeed a 21-year-old girl. She shed her hedgehog suit. She was a little soft pink girl, just like any ordinary girl her age.

Looking back, he continued driving.

At an intersection, he hit the blinker and turned right. Ning Qing was unstable because of inertia, and her head fell on his thigh.

Lu Shaoming's bright eyes were spoiled. His right palm touched her little face and tried to straighten her up.

"Uh..." Ning Qing, in her sleep, refused his hand. She leaned over, curled up her two thin legs in the passenger's seat, moved her head upward to a very warm place, and found a very comfortable position to continue sleeping.

Lu Shaoming's body suddenly stiffened, the steering wheel slanted, the sharp horn behind the car sounded, and the Cayenne had occupied two lanes.

Straightening the steering wheel, he looked down at the sleeping girl thrust against his third leg. Her mouth was dry.

"Ningqing..."

He wanted to wake her up.

But Ning Qing did not wake up.

Lu Shaoming's eyes were dark. The emergency stop light was on and he pulled over.

He was very hot and tense. This feeling was strange and uncomfortable. He opened the window and was afraid that she would be cold, so he only left a crack.

As a cool wind blew outside, his big palm wrapped around the cigarette box. He took out the lighter and lit a cigarette.

The girl only met him three times, and each time he was igniting a cigarette.

...

Ning Qing did not know how long she had slept, and then she opened her eyes.

As soon as she opened her eyes, she realized that she had slept on the man's lap, and that one of her little hands was still around his waist and belly.

"Ah!" Ning Qing screamed. She stood up straight like lightning and stepped back.

Bang!

Her injured forehead hit the roof of the car. Pain hit her and tears flowed through her eyes.

Lu Shaoming quickly extinguished the smoke, and his voice was as calm as ever, with little difference, except for some hoarseness.

“Stay still, or your forehead will bleed again.”

Ningqing couldn't move if she wanted to. She had a headache and felt the nerves in her brain.

Lu Shaoming grabbed the medicine box, uncovered the gauze that had oozed blood, and cleaned up the wound for her again. “What's so funny is that you took advantage of me, not the other way around!”

He didn't say it was okay, but Ning Qing wanted to drill a hole in the ground.

What did she do just now?

But she didn't want to lose momentum, and then she retorted, “I'm asleep, why don't you look at me? This kind of thing is a woman's loss, you are clearly very happy, but also blame me me, hypocrisy.”

When she finished, she felt the man's movements stop.

She looked up at him, only to see the man half-eyed with narrow black eyes, always dark and bright while jumping a few dangerous flames, quietly looking at her.

“You... You...” Ning Qing's uneasy shoulder shrunk, after all, she took the initiative. He has been a gentleman, so she is open-minded.

“Why do you look at me like this, I...I'm wrong. I shouldn't say you're hypocritical.”

“Am I refreshed?” Lu Shaoming lifted his thin lips and interrupted her with a few words.

Ning Qing, “...” How can he ask that? He's playing coy and taking advantage of her with words.

When she didn't want to answer, the man approached her.

At such a close distance, the girl is beautiful. Her palm-sized face is carved with fine powder and jade. It is very elastic. Her pink rhombus lips are bright and colorful, like rose petals.

Her forehead was covered with gauze, with the charm of three-point sick Xishi. Her small face was held by two big hands, and the skin on her face was rubbed by her thin cocooned thumb.

Ning Qing was frightened and shrunk away. In her understanding, he was a deep and graceful man. He controlled everything very well. He would not make her uncomfortable if he did not overstep it.

But now there are some implications. He is close to her, the duo's posture is very close, breathing entangled together, he smoked a cigarette so there is a slight tobacco flavor.

She looked at him with a red face. The street lamp outside the window reflected on his handsome face through the glass window. His three-dimensional features were vividly charming. He was really quite the looker.

“Don’t do that. Don’t tease me any more.” Just now she thought he was going to kiss her. She remembered how embarrassed she was.

She reached out her little hand to push him away, but the next second, her lips were sealed.

He really kissed her.

Ning Qing collapsed into a pool of water in an instant. His pale hands touched her and tried to push her away, but his fingertips curled up. His body was full of cold and charming elite charm, light nicotine smoke. The taste of male maturity was very heavy.

The fingertips seem to emit some electric current in a series. How good is he? The fingertips can feel it. The strong and tense muscles are full of male aggression.

Lu Shaoming did not make her close her eyes. The girl was silly. She could not blink or breathe.

Opening her mouth, her voice snapped, “No kiss, eh?”

Ning Qing returned to her mind, a little shy and somewhat embarrassed. Her voice was sweet and soft, unlike her true self. “You laughed at me!”

Lu Shaoming’s meaningful eyebrows rippled with a happy smile. He was very satisfied with her answer, a very clean girl.

Do you laugh at her? A silly girl knows nothing.

“Close your eyes, open your mouth and breathe.” Lu Shaoming rolled the knot in her throat and clasped the back of her head with his big palm.

I don’t know how long it took him to let her go.

His lips loosened, but his strong arm buckled her little waist. He seemed to be measuring her waist. Her thin waist was not enough for half of his strong arm circle.

Lu Shaoming buried his head in her pink neck. Her cold girly breath was sweet. She remembered the crystal disc dance she had performed that day, and her palms touched her soft waist more uncontrollably.

Where can a girl be as elegant as her?

Ning Qing twisted and pinched twice, but she could not overcome his strength. After a few seconds, she finally could not help but make a green and astringent response.

“Giggle...” She laughed like a crisp bell. “It’s itchy...”

Do you feel itchy when someone touches your waist?

His question makes Ningqing very uncomfortable. Does he think she’s easy?

Ning Qing raised her head and picked out a pair of willow-eyebrows. His beautiful autumn pupils were somewhat clever. “Nobody has touched me. All the men who wanted to touch me would be slapped.”

Lu Shaoming's handsome eyebrows were wrinkled and his clear and bright black eyes were precious. "So what?"

Ning Qing: So you can enjoy it secretly

Before the words were spoken, he jaw was pinned by the man's two fingers. He was very gentle, but he easily controlled her. "Ningqing, you like me."

Not interrogative sentences, but declarative sentences.

Ningqing's pupils shrank sharply and her head exploded like fireworks. It felt like a little secret in her heart had been punctured. Her heart should be careful not to jump out of her chest.

She likes him?!

She hadn't thought about it yet, as they had only met three times and she didn't even know his name.

But she has to admit that he is different. She can shed all worry in front of him and return to the demeanor of a simple 18-year-old girl. She will care about his ideas, not wanting to see him dejected because he lost his dignity and timidity.

Running away from the hotel door just now is a good example.

Ning Qing's heart was in a mess. She put out her small hand to push him and laughed at him. "Why are you so conceited? Don't stink. I don't like you anymore."

"Well, Ningqing, then I like you." Lu Shaoming wiped his thin lips, word by word, and uttered it very clearly.

Ning Qing was directly stunned. His thinking jumped too fast and was quite direct. She was totally unprepared.

"Stop fussing, it's not fun at all..." Ning Qing wanted to get rid of him.

"I'm serious," Lu Shaoming said, holding her slim waist in one hand and touching her little face with the other. He spoke calmly in her bewildered eyes. "Ningqing, let's get married."

Ning Qing blinked her eyes hard to make sure it wasn't a dream. She still could not accept that she had been proposed to again.

"For... Why?" Ning Qing stumbled and asked.

"For no reason, isn't marriage about meeting the right person at the right time? Ning Qing, I like you. It happens that I need a wife, so I want to marry you. And now you need a man to rely on and to accompany you, so that you are no longer lonely. You have a good feeling about me; you marry me, we can form a family."

Chapter 54: Beauty, I Can't Wait

"There's no question. Doesn't marriage mean meeting the right person at the right time? Ning Qing, I like you. I happen to need a wife so I want to marry you. You need a man to rely on and keep you

company, so you wouldn't feel lonely. You like me so you marry me. The two of us can become a family."

The man's deep and serene eyes reflected the resplendent lights outside the window. It was as though she looked into two pool of beautiful yet dangerous whirlpools.

The handsome sculpted face, elegant temperament, great personality, and self-control... The man was very attractive. Ning Qing admitted that she liked this type.

But...

Ning Qing shook her head, "No way... We've only known each other for such a short time. I don't know you yet... And I'm not ready to get married yet. My life is a mess... Maybe you will regret it in the future. I'm not as good as you may think..."

Lu Shaoming touched Ning Qing's hair pitifully and said lightly, "You're like this. How great do you want me to imagine you to be?"

"You!" Even though he said it in a jokingly manner, Ning Qing was upset. Was that how he'd propose? She extended her fist and punched his shoulders, "Then, why do you talk about getting married?"

Lu Shaoming pulled her into his embrace and kissed her face, "But Ning Qing, the person I like and want to marry is you."

Hence, there was no imagination.

Ning Qing felt touched. The man's embrace was comforting and warm. Even the lips that kissed her cheeks gave a light peck, with no sexual desire. It was as though she was his most precious treasure.

How did she come across such a man?

She felt delighted. She felt his gentility and consideration at his every action. She believed that any woman couldn't refuse such a man.

However, after Xu Junxi's betrayal, she was suspicious and against love.

Plus, her life was really in a mess. She was worried that he would really forsake her when he knew more about her.

I need time to think about it," Ning Qing was careful in his embrace as she tugged his shirt and said.

Lu Shaoming, "Alright. You need time, I can wait. But Ning Qing, I, Lu Shaoming, am thirty this year. I am healthy in mind and body. I have great qualities. I am really considering marrying you very seriously, I hope you could consider seriously too."

"Mm."

...

Ning Qing woke up very early the next morning. The night before, she twisted and turned but couldn't fall asleep. She kept reciting the man's name, Lu Shaoming.

His confession and proposal on the previous night was like a dream. For the past three years, the men who approached her never lacked money but they were all greedy and perverse. Among, it included Xu Junxi. However, Lu Shaoming was like a pure jade that warmed her heart.

She shook her head and swung out Lu Shaoming's flawless and handsome face. She quickly got off her bed, washed her face and brushed teeth. She still had to earn her mother's surgery fees.

After she left her bedroom door, she took out her phone to read the message that Xiao Zhou sent to her. The message showed her the hotel room number that she was going to.

Ning Qing sat on the public bus and read the headline for entertainment.

It was expected. It was news about Xu Junxi's public announcement of Ning Yao as his girlfriend. The headlines included the fact that Ning Yao got the role of the Pink Lady, as well as Li Meiling's scandal as a mistress.

Ning Qing smirked. She didn't understand what Xu Junxi was doing. He could easily suppress the news about Li Meiling's scandal if he wished.

But, he just let her be exposed.

She read through Li Meiling's column. As Li Meiling was low profile for the past few years, the media hardly had any other news. Besides Li Meiling married into the Ning family three years ago, there was no other valuable information.

The scandal stirred a commotion. However, Li Meiling didn't respond at all. What's ridiculous was that Li Meiling was supported by the digital citizens for her tough personality. Everyone started leaving comments about how Ning Yao wasn't Ning Zhenguo's daughter and every woman deserves their right to go after happiness.

Such a joke. Everyone forgot the fact that Li Meiling chased after her happiness while she and her mother became the price to pay.

With the headlines, Li Meiling and Ning Yao suddenly became the top topic on the search engine and Weibo hit topic.

Ning Qing understood that, as Li Meiling's daughter and Xu Junxi's girlfriend, Ning Yao's first exposure was done nicely. They treated danger as an opportunity. The two of them successfully made Ning Yao famous.

Ning Yao got famous.

Ning Qing kept her phone and looked outside the window. She couldn't believe that Li Meiling's incident was only the beginning. If she was not mistaken, Xu Junxi would take action soon.

She chuckled. The world was simply either black or white. The public will not be deceived forever. Go ahead. She shall see how they going to fix the lie where Ning Yao wasn't Ning Zhenguo's daughter.

...

Ning Qing got off the public bus and walked into the hotel.

Ning Qing didn't know that there was a luxurious car parked by the road and Ning Yao took out her phone to take a photo of Ning Qing walking into the hotel.

Ning Yao's assistant Xiao Lin stood next to her. Xiao Lin was chosen by Xu Junxi carefully. There was intelligence in her eyes. She walked forward and asked Ning Yao gently, "Yaoyao, you suddenly stopped the car to take a photo of Ning Qing? You just entered the entertainment circle. You'd better not be involved in any negative news."

Ning Yao looked at the photo in her phone delightedly. She was on the way to Xu Junxi's office. She never thought she would run into such a scene.

"Xiao Lin, don't you worry. This photo is nothing. I'm not that dumb to send the photo to the media," she merely wanted to show the photo to Xu Junxi. Ha.

Xiao Lin nodded and ingratiate herself with Ning Yao, "Yaoyao, you're famous now and you have a good image. Ning Qing is simply in a mud pool compared to you. She's nowhere near you."

Ning Yao was happy to hear what she said. She then revealed a proud face, "Let's go and look for Junxi."

...

Ning Qing pushed the hotel room door open. It was early in the morning and there should be brilliant sunlight pouring in the room but the room curtain was tightly shut.

She walked in and the door was shut by the man who was hiding behind the door. The man couldn't wait and hugged Ning Qing's waist from behind. He said excitedly, "My little beauty, you're finally here. I've been waiting."

Ning Qing had goosebumps all over. She held back her discomfort and disgust, she laughed, "CEO Kong, why are you in a hurry? I'm here, aren't I?"

"The most precious time is priceless. When I received your invitation last night, I was excited all night long. How can I not be in a hurry?" The man carried Ning Qing and threw her on the bed.

She saw the fat bald man going to press down on her, she quickly stopped him and tucked her hair behind her ears. She blinked her beautiful eyes bashfully and said in a flirtatious manner, "CEO Kong, take off your clothes first."

CEO Kong laughed, "I never thought the little beauty would be even more in a hurry than I am. Alright, let's go straight to the point. Don't worry, as long as you serve me well, the one million will be yours."

Ning Qing watched as CEO Kong took off his clothes. He was in a hurry and when he failed to open his button, he tore it apart. She found him rather absurd.

"CEO Kong, I heard that you have many mistresses. How do they serve you normally?"

CEO Kong took off his pants and said proudly, "I'm not showing off. I have at least twenty mistresses. As to how they serve me..." CEO Kong eyes Ning Qing's nice body and leaped forward, "Little beauty, let's give it a try and you'll find out."

Ning Qing flipped to the other side of the bed so CEO Kong didn't manage to catch her.

CEO Kong stiffened.

Ning Qing saw and she slowly crawled. She knelt on the bed and glanced at CEO Kong flirtatiously. She slowly yet seductively took off the black stockings that she intentionally wore that morning.

CEO Kong's unhappy emotions were swept away. Looking at how her black stockings slid down slowly and revealed her flat tummy and fair smooth skin, he nearly drooled.

Ning Qing then quickly pulled it back again. She bit her red lips with her white teeth and said timidly, "CEO Kong, I heard that your wife is very amazing. Would she find us and beat me up?"

"Don't bring up the tigress with me. If it wasn't because her family was wealthy back then and they'd be able to help me in my career, I wouldn't have married her. Little beauty, don't you worry. She's old now. After I slowly transfer all my property in the company to my overseas account, I will kick her out and bring you with me."

Just then, the door swung open.

CEO Kong was shocked. He found that he was interrupted and he wanted to curse. But two bodyguards who came from the door and tied him up.

"What are you doing? Let go of me..." CEO Kong struggled. Then, a rich lady who dressed extravagantly walked in and CEO Kong's face grew grave, "Wife..."

"Humph, old?" The rich lady slapped CEO Kong twice.

CEO Kong didn't dare to fight back. He looked at Ning Qing on the bed and wailed, "Wife, it's the bitch that seduced me. I was possessed... Wife, I love you. Give me another chance..."

Ning Qing got off the bed, her clothing all on. She walked before the rich lady and took out a recording pen, "Mrs Kong, I completed my task. This is the evidence of your husband cheating."

CEO Kong was shocked. This...

The rich lady took the pen and "pfft" at CEO Kong. She rolled her eyes in disdain and said, "You thought only you wanted to get a divorce? There are so many young men outside. I'm the one who doesn't like you old! You're such an old fox. You don't leave any evidence behind when you cheat. I had no choice but to work with Miss Ning. You're possessed and let your guard down. That's great. We can divorce now and the shared properties are now all mine. Haha."

"You!" CEO Kong stared and wanted to scold her. However, his wife waved and her bodyguard stuffed a paper ball into his mouth then dragged him out.

Chapter 55: Ning Qing, Are You Addicted?

When the door was closed, only Ning Qing and his wife remained in the room. Ning Qing said, "Mrs. Kong, what about the one million dollar reward we agreed on beforehand?"

The rich wife took out a few cheques from the bag she was carrying. Ning Qing reached out to accept them happily.

But the rich wife's hand shrank back, not allowing Ning Qing to receive it.

"What's the meaning of this, Mrs. Kong?" Ning Qing's dainty eyebrows knitted together.

"Miss Ning, don't be nervous. I have no other intentions. This one million is yours." The rich wife looked at the beautiful young face in front of her with hatred as she slowly raised her hand. The cheque floated in front of Ning Qing's face before falling down to the carpet.

"You can squat down and pick it up now, hmph, seductress." The rich wife scolded, as she stalked away in her high heels.

Seeing the rich wife had left, Ning Qing squatted down and reached for the cheque. She didn't know what was the matter with that woman. She'd helped her, right?

A million dollars was clearly an amount that could be settled and given in the form of a cheque, but this woman had given her 10 \$100000 cheques; she probably just wanted to humiliate her.

But Ning Qing would not be humiliated, she would not care about the term "seductress", she'd earned money through her wisdom and labor, her conscience was clear.

This President Kong had started being friendly to her about a year ago. She'd never paid attention to him. Later, she heard about his family situation piece by piece. So last night, she had a sudden idea and asked Xiao Zhou to help her find him.

And unexpectedly, this thing was settled.

Ning Qing picked up the cheque and held it in her hands. She was so overwhelmed her eyes brimmed with tears. She'd finally raised enough money for the operation fees for her mother. Her mother was saved and would not leave her.

She was just about to take out her mobile phone to call Dr. Luo when Xu Junxi called.

What was Xu Junxi calling her for? She suddenly remembered that he had asked her to go and find him the night before. Hah, did he still want to buy her with a million dollars?

After picking up the phone, Xu Junxi's gloomy voice sounded, "Ning Qing, did you go to a hotel with a man early in the morning? Which man were you with? Ning Qing, you're really a cheap person. I've already promised to give you money at night. Why didn't you come? Are you addicted to selling your body?"

Ning Qing's dainty brows furrowed. There were quite a few people who'd gotten up on the wrong side of the bed today.

She smiled as she said, her voice clear and elegant. "What's the matter, what does it matter to you, President Xu, if I'd become addicted to selling my body? Don't act like a bitter woman. Your tone will make me think that you're jealous just because I didn't sell my body to you. Oh, by the way, I just don't want to sell it to you, President Xu. Haha, what are you going to do?"

The party at the other end of the phone immediately went silent. Ning Qing could hear the man's suppressed breathing clearly, one breath after another, nearly exploding.

After a long time, Xu Junxi gritted his teeth and said, "Ning Qing, you'd better not be unappreciative when I'm giving you face!"

Ning Qing stood up slowly with the cheque in her hand. She straightened her beautiful back, her eyes clear as she said in an absolute tone. "Xu Junxi, I didn't want you to give me face, so don't be so sentimental. Hurry up and take your cheap face back!"

"Oh, by the way, you asked me to go to your company the night before. I didn't go and let you bed me. Are you angry about that? Hah, I'm so sorry, but even if I wanted to sell it to anyone, I'd have to be the one to choose who I wanted to sell it to. And didn't Ning Zhenguo want to sell me and count the money? I'm sorry about that too, but I'll have to count the money that I got from selling my body myself!"

"Xu Junxi, you guys better listen clearly. From today on, you are nothing in my, Ning Qing's, life. Don't mess with me, and please just scam and leave to the end of the world!"

After saying all that, Ning Qing hung up.

She'd despaired of Ning Zhenguo, Xu Junxi, the two most important men in her life and waved goodbye to them in her heart.

In the future, she should protect her mother and live her life splendidly. She'd never waste her emotions on those scum again.

Ning Qing dialed Dr. Luo's number as she went out. "Dr. Luo, I've already raised enough money for the operation fees, is mum about to go into the operating room? Okay, I'll be right there."

Ning Qing rushed out of the hotel and stood on the street waving and trying to flag down a taxi, but it was 9 a.m now, when the traffic was heavy. She'd waited for 10 minutes, but not a single car was willing to stop.

While she was waiting anxiously, a BMW stopped in front of her and the window of the BMW slid down. Ning Qing saw a familiar gentlemanly face.

It was Lu Shaoming's secretary, Zhu Rui.

"Miss Ning, where are you going too in a hurry? I'll get you there."

Ning Qing had the same intention. Her mother was still waiting for her in the hospital so she just pulled the door open and said. "To XX Hospital, thank you very much, Secretary Zhu."

...

In Emperor Entertainment Group.

Xu Junxi stood in front of the window overlooking the city with his arms on his hips. His chest fluctuated violently, his face was black as his jaws clamped down and flexed fiercely.

Never had he been so out of control. He was trying very hard to suppress himself. He was afraid that he would kill that woman. He wanted to die together with her.

She said that day that her market price was very high, her subtext was that she hadn't sold her body, he'd believed her, he'd asked her to meet in the evening to give her a million dollars.

But she...

She'd asked him to scram!

Ning Yao stood behind Xu Junxi. She was very smug. Xu Junxi had indeed looked at the photos and then called Ning Qing to scold her for being "shameless". His disgust for Ning Qing had increased.

But his temper was so hot that she could feel his violent panting, and he said on the phone that he wanted to meet Ning Qing to give her money the other night. She suddenly remembered the advice that his secretary had just said in her ear -- President Xu had been sleeping in the company for the past two nights and had not left even during the day.

She suddenly remembered that when she called these two days, he'd kept saying he was busy and couldn't go on date with her. Had he been waiting for Ning Qing all that time?

Even if Ning Qing had broken his appointment the night before, he might not have called Ning Qing because of a man's self respect, but he'd waited. Had he been waiting for Ning Qing to come all along?

Ning Yao's eyes flashed. She was jealous and hated Ning Qing, but she was smart and did not show it. It was impossible for Xu Junxi and Ning Qing to be together. She should get his heart.

As she stepped forward, she took Xu Junxi's big palm and entwined her fingers with his.

"Junxi, don't be angry. Maybe you've misunderstood older sister. She's not that kind of person."

"She's not that kind of person? She even admitted to selling her body herself, and she's proud of it." Xu Junxi growled and began to shake Ning Yao's hand away.

"Ah..." Ning Yao cried out, staggering backward several steps, as she turned sideways and deliberately banged her forehead against the landing window.

"Yao Yao..." Xu Junxi's pupils dilated. As he rushed forward and hugged Ning Yao's delicate little body in his arms. He apologized, "Sorry, Yao Yao, it's my fault! I was in a bad mood and I'd hurt you, is it painful?"

While he was speaking, Xu Junxi carefully lifted the bangs on her forehead. There was a pink scar on her widow's peak, which she'd gotten three years ago while saving him.

Xu Junxi would feel guilty every time he saw the scar. It was a disfigurement to a beautiful girl. Ning Yao had been hiding it with a fringe all these years.

Ning Yao loves him wholeheartedly and was even willing to sacrifice her life.

Feeling the man caressing her scar with his fingertips heartachingly and pitifully, she quickly pushed his big palm away with her small hand gently and let go of her bangs.

She looked at Xu Junxi tenderly, innocently and strongly, tears sparkling in her eyes because of the accident just now. Junxi, I'm fine, as long as you're not angry. You and older sister are both my relatives. I hope you are all well."

She did not mention a word about scars and bruises, she was even afraid that he'd feel guilty and hastily put down her fringe, Xu Junxi was touched, as he held her face and kissed her gently.

"Yao Yao, don't mention Ning Qing anymore. If she wants to fall, let her fall. From now on, we'll have nothing to do with her. Yao Yao, I'm sorry for just now. I love you."

Since Ning Qing's words were so absolute, he would not care whether she was dead or alive after that, that dirty woman, he disdained the thought of caring about her.

Only Ning Yao was his true love.

Ning Yao saw that the plan had succeeded, and had been confessed to by him. Her heart was filled with joy and sweetness, and the corners of her mouth lifted up sweetly.

...

After getting off the BMW and thanking Zhu Rui, Ning Qing dashed hurriedly into the hospital.

Dr. Luo, who was wearing a white coat, had been waiting outside the operating room. Ning Qing ran towards him and gasped, "Dr. Luo, where's my mother, I'm going to pay now..."

Dr. Luo stopped Ning Qing's movements, as he sighed solemnly.

"What's wrong?" Ning Qing once again had an ominous feeling.

"Your mother's condition is getting worse and worse and she has to be operated on today. We have already pushed her into the operating room. However, we've just learned that the kidney donor has a history of drug abuse and does not meet the requirements for donation, so..."

Ning Qing's entire body was shaking as she listened, her ears were buzzing, her eyes vacant but stunned, "Dr. Luo, so what, I do not understand."

Dr. Luo couldn't bear to look at the girl's eyes, which were on the verge of breaking down. "So that means that there's no kidney, and we can't have surgery today. It will take a long time to find a new kidney source. With your mother's current situation, she can't last for more than three days."

Chapter 56: Bring Your Household Registration And Identification Card

Doctor Luo didn't have the heart to watch the girl's hopeless looking eyes, "Hence, there aren't any sources so she couldn't have the surgery today. It would require a long time to look for a new source. According to your mother's current situation, she wouldn't be able to live for more than three days."

Ning Qing took a few steps back. She shook her head in disbelief as she gripped the few cheques in her hand tightly. That was ridiculous.

The hospital said that they wanted money and she went to get it. She was humiliated by Xu

Junxi, she was sold by Ning Zhenguo, she was hit really hard in the private room by the man, just to get the one million dollars. But she couldn't cry.

She didn't ask for much. She only hoped for her mom to go through her surgery successfully and stay by her side forever.

Why would God pull such a joke on her? She only had her mom and why couldn't she save her mom in the end?

What else could she do then?

Why must she be that helpless?

Ning Qing walked forward and pulled Doctor Luo's white robe. She said in a hurry, "Doctor Luo, send me my mother's liver report. I will go and try to look for one in the other hospitals. If not, I will go to the streets. There are so many people on the street. There must be a match somewhere. Give me three days. There must be someone who is willing to save my mom..."

"Ning, calm down..." Looking at the tears flowing down the girl's cheek as she babbled, Doctor Luo held her shoulder and tried to calm her down.

Ning Qing pushed away his hand and ran forward. She persisted for so long but she was defeated. There was no focus in her eyes, her face was as pale as a sheet. She muttered to herself, "No, there's no time... There's no time..."

She ran two steps and suddenly her vision turned dark, she fainted on the ground.

"Ning, Ning, hurry up. Help her..."

...

When Ning Qing opened her eyes again, she felt light-headed and weak all over. She couldn't move her body.

There was a flash of brightness in her eyes and her nose was filled with the scent of disinfectant. She was in the ward.

“Mom!” She suddenly thought of her mom and she had a cold sweat. She suddenly shot up from the sick bed but then nearly stumbled and fall again due to her failing energy.

A pair of hands supported her in time. She lifted her eyes and saw the gentleman again, Zhu Rui.

Zhu Rui smiled politely, “Miss Ning, don’t panic. Your mom already did her liver transplant surgery. The surgery went really well.”

“What?” Ning Qing’s eyes were wide opened. She was surprised.

She couldn’t believe it. For the past three years, the pair of mother and daughter were in bad shape. She never once hoped for such a stroke of great luck to fall upon them.

Zhu Rui nodded to reassure, “Yes, Miss Ning. I didn’t lie to you. This morning when I follow you to the hospital, you fainted. I call my president after I learned of the situation. The president helped you. We found a donor and did the surgery.”

Lu Shaoming?

The handsome face popped up in Ning Qing’s head again. Somehow, her racing heart suddenly calmed down. Whenever he was around, she felt an unexplainable sense of security.

She never thought that he would help her once again.

“How about my mom? I want to see her.”

“She just had the surgery and we arranged for her to stay in the Intensive Care Unit. She hasn’t woken up yet. There are doctors and nurses who look after her. So, Miss Ning doesn’t have to worry. On the contrary, the doctor said that you are too stressed out and your body isn’t in good condition. Hence, you fainted. You have to sleep and rest up.”

Ning Qing nodded. She pushed away the blanket and got off the bed, “I’m okay. I want to see my mom.”

Ning Qing stood by the door and looked inside through the window. Her mom was lying down on the bed with her eyes closed. There were two professional nurses looking after her. Her ECG looked normal.

She blinked and felt a tingling sensation at the tip of her nose. No one knew how hopeless she felt before she fainted. Actually, she was very lonely. She only had her mom.

Her mom had not been the happiest during her life. She’s a traditional woman and dedicated all her life to the Ning family and her daughter. She was abandoned by her husband and tortured by sickness. Her mom was suffering too.

If she were to let her mom die due to sickness... Her mom’s life was too sad. She would die of self-blame, she would die of guilt, she would die of heartache...

Luckily, mom was saved. Luckily... There’s Lu Shaoming...

She didn’t know how Lu Shaoming found a suitable donor in such a short time. But she didn’t find it weird as the rich could take care of any problem very quickly.

It would cost more than a thousand a days of special care. She even had a professional caretaker... Lu Shaoming was very considerate and he helped her to take care of all the concern.

Why would he do that for her?

She's only a stranger.

"Miss Ning, don't worry. The surgery went really well. I believe she will wake up very soon. If the treatment was done well, she will live for a long time."

"Mm..." Ning Qing nodded. She looked at Zhu Rui and said hesitantly, "Lu..." She didn't know how to refer to Lu Shaoming. She was embarrassed, "Where's President Lu now? I want to thank him personally."

"President Lu has an important meeting and he couldn't leave. Hence, he sent me here to take care of the situation. If you have anything to tell the president, you can call him."

Ning Qing tucked her hair behind her ear and she blushed in embarrassment, "Mm... I shall give him a call."

...

Ning Qing returned to her room and took out her phone. He called the other day so she still had his number.

She pressed the call button and someone answered as soon as it rang, "Hello..." His distinct low magnetic voice was just like him. It was like a glass of wine that was aged for a hundred years. It gave her goosebumps.

Ning Qing put her hand into the baggy ward uniform. There was a maple tree outside and the autumn leaves grew luxuriantly. It was covered in brilliant redness.

"Hello, President Lu. About my mom, thank you," Ning Qing weighed her choice of words and spoke carefully, "And, tell me how much you spend for my mother. Although I can't afford to pay you back now, I can write up an agreement and I will return it to you with interest when I have the money."

The man on the other side was quiet. His breathing was so light that Ning Qing was suspicious as to whether he was even listening.

She felt restless. He helped her but she'd rather measure their relationship with money. She didn't have money but she couldn't afford anything else besides money.

Was he upset?

A minute later, he spoke slowly as he smiled, "President Lu, huh? Are you my staff? Are you so much in a hurry to make our relationship clear? Alright, no need to return my money. We don't keep in touch anymore."

"You!" Ning Qing was at loss of words. Her hand in the pocket was gripped into a fist. She kept quiet.

She merely just said a word and he cut her off. Such a cunning man.

“Why? Are you loathe to leave me?” The man asked. In his deep voice, he was like twittering yet rather flirtatiously, “A liar who meant contrary to what is spoken.”

Who, who’s the liar?

Ning Qing pouted but she couldn’t help but smile. She thought, he must be a man who’s good at flirting.

“Ning Qing,” Lu Shaoming called her name on the other side of the phone. It sounded especially nice, proper and respectful when he called her name. “I am not short of money but I am in need of a wife. Bring your household registration and identification card. I’ll wait for you.”

Chapter 57: Getting Their Marriage Certificate

Household registration and identification Card?!

Ning Qing’s heart skipped a beat. “Where...Where to?”

“To the Bureau of Civil Affairs, before 5 p.m.” Lu Shaoming answered naturally, this girl was as slow as a crawling tortoise. If he did not stimulate her, she would always be running in place. “Ning Qing, I have a flight to London after 5 o’clock. If you don’t come, I won’t come back to T city. That’s it, bye-bye...”

The man hung up the phone?

He’d actually hung up the phone just like that!

Ning Qing looked at her cell phone and stamped her feet with hate. Was he forcing her to marry him? How could someone force her into marriage like that?

After putting her phone away, Ning Qing sat back on the bed with her pink lips pouted. He can leave if he wanted to, they were not familiar with each other to begin with. Since he didn’t want her to return the money, she’d just keep it with ease.

Although this was what she was thinking in her head, Ning Qing felt as if her heart was being fried in a frying pan, bubbling anxiously and torturously.

She stood up suddenly and decided not to think about it. She went out of the ward to get a breath of fresh air.

...

When she went to the hospital service desk, she saw several little nurses chatting happily there.

“Xiao Fang, I heard that you had a lightning marriage two days ago. You’d met your husband through blind dates right, getting married so fast after only meeting a few times? You’re so bold.”

“Bold?” You’ve been dating your boyfriend for four years but why don’t you dare to marry him? Because you’re afraid. In fact, marriage for a woman is just a gamble. It has nothing to do with time. I believe in my sixth sense, there’s a voice in my heart telling me, yes, it’s him. I’m afraid of losing him, so I got married.

Ning Qing was listening as Zhu Rui went behind her and asked, “Miss Ning, why aren’t you resting in bed?”

Ning Qing turned around and her beautiful eyes rippled like pools of honey as they sparkled like scattered stars, shining brightly. Her lips curled up as she smiled sweetly. “Secretary Zhu, I was about to go find you. Can you take me somewhere?”

...

Zhu Rui brought Ning Qing to the lobby of her dormitory. She ran upstairs, opened the door and took out her household registration from the drawer.

She placed her household registration and ID card in her bag. She looked at herself and saw that she was still wearing the hospital gown, so she changed her clothes.

When she was back in the BMW again, she said to Zhu Rui, “Take me to President Lu.”

...

Ning Qing stood in front of the Guang Qing Company. Guang Qing was located in the most prosperous area of the city. It was six administrative buildings linked together. Looking at the shiny golden “Guang Qing” plaque that was 66-stories high, Ning Qing could hardly open her eyes due to the blinding light.

She was starting to feel shy and timid then.

But Zhu Rui had already opened the door. “Miss Ning, after you.” He made the “after you” gesture.

Ning Qing held her sling bag tightly in her small hands, set her heart, and bravely stepped out and entered.

She walked into the hall, which was decked in blue, white and black, concise and generous, the hall was heated, but the temperature was a little cold, the air was very fresh, a bonsai could be seen every five steps, the place was filled with a rigorous and solemn atmosphere.

In the past three years, Ning Qing’s life had been just circulating around the entertainment industry, school, and hospital. These places were all quite noisy, and upon suddenly coming here, the visual shock was quite absolute.

Along the way, employees wearing professional suits passed by, “Secretary Zhu...” Employees bowed their heads as they greeted him.

Receiving everyone’s curious gazes, Ning Qing straightened up her slim back, looking natural and poised while politely and gently returning their gazes, her attitude open and honest.

The employees felt a little embarrassed then.

Zhu Rui escorted Ning Qing to the elevator. At that moment, the door of the elevator opened with a “ding”.

Ning Qing watched as a group of people came out.

Lu Shaoming was right at the front. He was wearing a white shirt, a dark blue striped tie with a black handmade suit, the classic match made him look handsome and elegant.

The sharp knife-like cutting of the trousers wrapped around his long, straight legs, black leather shoes gave off a cold and powerful aura against the clean, reflective marble floor.

He eyes were downcast as he looked at the papers in the hands of the person beside him, and he spoke in a low voice.

His expression was serious, with a slight frown of his jet black brows, his chiseled and handsome face immersed in cold perseverance.

This was Ning Qing’s first time seeing him at work. This was the charm of a mature 30-year-old man. His elegant bowed head while discussing matters exuded pride and control.

“President...” Zhu Rui called out while Ning Qing was still in a daze.

So Ning Qing looked up as the men in suits all turned to look at her.

Ning Qing was a little afraid to look back at them. This was a serious work office. She’d dressed casually and looked like an alien intruder, which was embarrassing.

If she’d known. She would’ve just stayed in the car just now and called him to ask him to come down and meet her.

However, this embarrassment only lasted for mere seconds, because Lu Shaoming strode towards with his long legs, his broad body blocking her sight, which happened to block others from looking at her.

Ning Qing’s heart was warm and happy. This man was smart and thoughtful. He would care about every tiny feeling of hers when she was with him.

“You’re here?” Lu Shaoming stopped in front of her and his seriousness before faded away. He raised his sharp brows and looked like he was in a good mood.

“Yep...” Ning Qing’s small face turned red.

She was here, here to get their marriage certificate.

The girl was wearing a maple leaf-colored sweater today. The round collar of the sweater was wide and big, revealing her two delicate and beautiful collar bones. Her beautifully dark and glossy hair hung on her cream-white skin and fine pink neck.

Pure and tender like a rose that almost dripped with water.

“Let’s go.” Lu Shaoming put his strong arm around her shoulder and turned around with her.

Ning Qing was coaxed forward in his embrace. She blushed and asked in a low voice, “Don’t you have to work?”

“I’ve already taken care of what should be taken care of, what’s left is their business,” the man said, looked at her suddenly and smiled while saying. “Now, we’re going to take care of our future.”

Ning Qing relaxed her body and slowly leaned into his embrace. The employees all bowed and called out respectfully as they walked towards the gate, “President...”

He walked without looking askance, and Ning Qing, who was receiving the crowd’s envious gazes, lifted the corners of her lips up quietly. He’d embraced her so intimately in front of so many people, meaning that he’d already disclosed her identity.

Some men talk more than they do, but he’d only do and not talk, silly.

But she likes his silliness.

...

The two of them arrived at the Bureau of Civil Affairs. There were a lot of people who’d come to get married today. They needed to get a queue number and wait for their turn. Lu Shaoming had obviously not done something like waiting before. He went to smoke a cigarette by the door.

Ning Qing sat in her seat and waited. Beside her, a friendly older woman was struck conversation.

“Young girl, is that your husband? He’s so handsome, will you feel insecure after your marriage?”

Ning Qing looked at Lu Shaoming. He was leaning languidly by the door, holding the cigarette between his two skilled fingers. His temperament was one in ten thousand among the seas of the people there.

As if telepathically, when she looked at him, he happened to look at her too. His brows knitted tightly together, as he narrowed his eyes and puffed a circle of smoke from his sexy thin lips, showing some of a man’s wild side.

Ning Qing quickly took back her gaze and blushed. “I’m not afraid. He’s 10 years older than me. If he doesn’t want me, I can find even younger ones.”

The older woman laughed and thought she was childish. Ning Qing knew that the man by the door had heard her, because she saw him laugh, with some helplessness.

When he laughed, deep lines rippled from the corners of his eyes. Ning Qing never knew that a man could be so amorous.

...

An hour later, they’d gotten their certificates and returned to the car.

Ning Qing took a deep breath and looked at the red booklet in her little hand. She still could not believe that she had married herself off like this, to a man whom she had only met four times, at that.

“It’s about time for my flight, Ning Qing. I’m leaving.” The man beside her was speaking.

Ning Qing raised her head and nodded in embarrassment and answered, “Oh...” They were newlywed, and she doesn’t know how other married couples said farewell, so she was very awkward, “When...When will you come back?”

As soon as her voice fell, her slim waist was gripped onto. Lu Shaoming easily held her in his arms.

“Ning Qing, call me.” His voice was deep and soft.

“Oh, call you what? Let go of me first.” Her nose was filled with the refreshing and charming manly scent of his body. Ning Qing quickly sprang away like a frightened bird in his arms.

Lu Shaoming was amused. The creamy and tender skin on her was red, and the red halo spread all the way to her crystal-like little earlobes. Her cherry mouth was tender and lovely. Perhaps she did not know how enticing her ‘Oh’ was, and the fluttering eyelashes that were like butterfly’s wings were beautiful and lovely.

“Ning Qing, what are you thinking about? There’s not enough time to go into the nuptial chamber, I did not ask you to call me your husband. Shaoming, call me by my name.”

Ning Qing’s hands were stiff, she’d really thought that he’d wanted her to call him her husband.

Now, he was the gentleman and she the despicable one.

But she was a reasonable despicable person, they were married, it was his right to touch her if he couldn’t wait, but she was not ready for it.

“... Shao... Ming...” He refused to let her go. She could only bury her tender little face into his stiff, tactile collar and cried out so softly it was as if a mosquito was buzzing.

“Ah...” Lu Shaoming smiled and said, “Ning Qing, I do not require anything from you. The only thing is that you can only have me in your heart.”

He did not want her to call out ‘Xu Junxi’ in sleep again.

What was he spouting?

It was not that he did not have any requirements, it was totally because he’d found such a wonderful and perfect woman like her, all right?

He doesn’t even know how to make her happy.

“Since you can make requirements, I can too. You, you have to treat me well, give me your salary, and split the housework with me. Ning Qing repeated what the enthusiastic older woman had just said.

Lu Shaoming smiled as he pulled her into his arms. The more he looked at her, the more lovely his little wife was.

He leaned down and whispered into her ear, with some pleasure and indulgence, “We are married, my money is your money, common property between husband and wife. Also, I might be busy with work and won’t be able to take care of much housework for you, but I will work harder. There are cleaning ladies in my house, so you don’t have to do it.”

Ning Qing finally realized how childish her requests were. He was not in the same class as her at all.

Chapter 58: Director Wang Invited You For Screen Test

Ning Qing finally understood how childish her request was. They weren't on the same level.

Ning Qing wanted to push him away.

...

After the deep kiss, Ning Qing heard his heart beating fast.

Lu Shaoming pursed his lips satisfyingly then he touched her hair gently and said, "Ning Qing, I'm leaving, most likely for three days."

Ning Qing lifted her head in his embrace. His shirt crumpled due to her grip. She extended her hand to smooth it out but didn't know what to say. She only responded with an "mm."

The atmosphere was quiet yet sweet. Lu Shaoming leaned forward to give her a quick peck on her cheek. He spoke when his lips were against her skin, "I'm leaving now."

"Come back soon!" Ning Qing let out a reply without much thinking when she saw him leaving but yet to leave.

The moment she said that she regretted it, because the man was smiling. It was as though he were laughing at a wife who was loath to be apart from her newlywed husband.

She felt resentful but suddenly the door opened and Lu Shaoming left the car.

Ning Qing lifted her head to watch his back. There was another luxurious car waiting for him while Zhu Rui waited by the door with a jacket in one hand and a briefcase in the other. Lu Shaoming took the jacket and briefcase before he got in the car.

The car went from close to far after the door was closed.

Ning Qing couldn't tell how she felt. Someone was missing by her side and something was missing in her heart, she felt as though she were suffocating.

Zhu Rui entered the car and asked, "Madam, where do we go?"

Zhu Rui already changed the way she addressed her.

"To the hospital."

...

Yue Wanqing woke up at night and the doctor came to do a quick check. Her body was in normal condition. Ning Qing fed her mom warm water and chatted with her for a bit.

Ning Qing didn't tell her mom that she got married. She was worried that her mother couldn't accept it. Plus, Lu Shaoming was not around. She wanted her mom to recover before she introduced her mom to Lu Shaoming.

She was confident that her mom would like a good man like Lu Shaoming.

Ning Qing returned to her room after her mom fell asleep.

She lied on the bed but tossed and turned. She couldn't sleep. She extended her hand to reach for her phone. He should have arrived in London, right?

Should I text him?

She thought a lot earlier. Strictly speaking, they didn't get married because of love. There wasn't any solemn pledge of love. She couldn't understand the status of their marriage and she didn't know how to get along with him in the future.

She lied prostate on the bed and typed a message.

Firstly, she was already wondering how to address him. But she put that thought aside and got to the point straight away.

[I'd like to ask if you have any request for our marriage? Such as, how long you want to be married for? Do we or don't we involve ourselves in one another's personal life? Of course, due to your great contribution in our relationship, I can won't have any boyfriends but I won't stop you from getting a girlfriend. Finally... I want to take care of my mom. You do your own thing while I stay with my mom.]

Ning Qing amended the message a few times before she sent it.

She didn't know how he'd reply and she fixed her gaze on the screen.

Five minutes later, "ding", he replied.

[I do not plan to have an extramarital affair nor do I plan to divorce. After Mom gets discharged from the hospital, move in and stay with me.]

His message was short and direct, just like his usual self.

Ning Qing blushed as she read the message. He meant clearly that he wanted to spend his whole life with her and he made a promise.

For the past three years, she had seen many people who walked in the hall of marriage. Actually, marriage was very mundane. Many people break up due to material factors like cars and properties.

She once thought that she would definitely want to bring her mom along and take care of her mom if she were to get married. If the man were to be unhappy about it, she'd rather not get married.

However, the way he addressed her mom as his own comforts all her insecurities.

As for... stay with me...

Ning Qing flipped over and lied on the bed. The table light shone on her beautiful eyes and her eyes felt extremely bright. She bit her lower lip and smiled.

She slept on her side and composed another message.

[Actually, I broke your watch.]

It's time for her to be honest.

The man replied very quickly. Her phone flashed in a few seconds and she unlocked it to read the message.

[Silly girl. What excuse would I have had to call you if there wasn't the watch? I just got to London and I need to work. Be a good girl and go to bed. Good night.]

Ning Qing sat up on her bed. What did he mean?

He purposely left the watch in the room so that he could call her and date her?

This man planned it. Naughty!

So naughty.

Ning Qing fell back into her bed and she pulled the blanket over her face. She couldn't help but chuckle. Why wasn't he just straightforward about the fact that he wanted to chase after her?

To be burdened by the watch repair fees out of nowhere, did he know how long she felt stressed out for?

Actually, she wanted to reply "good night" with "take care" but she was worried that she would disturb him so she didn't.

She put her phone next to her pillow and closed her eyes. Her mom recovered and she was going to start working wholeheartedly. Oh, and, Mrs. Lu, all the best.

Ning Qing lifted the corners of her lips and went to bed happily.

...

After a good night's sleep, Ning Qing woke up feeling fully charged. She felt alive again. She went to see her mom after she washed her face and rinsed her mouth.

She put a pillow behind her mom's back as she leaned against the bed because the doctor said that she could consume food. Hence, the hospital provided her a bowl of porridge. The professional nurse was feeding her mom.

Ning Qing thought of Lu Shaoming again. She was moved to an ensuite room from a normal ward. The hospital even provided food. Her mom was so well taken care of because of him.

However, she could hardly bring herself to mention paying him back for all his help. Firstly, she was afraid that he would reply and she would be at lost for words again. Secondly, they were married after all. She had her troubles and he was nice to her nonetheless. If he were to be in trouble in the future, she would be nice to him.

The two of them had so much time to spend together.

The rest of their lives should be enough.

“Qing Qing, don't you need to go to school today? Mom is feeling much better. I don't need you to keep me company. Hurry up and go to school for your piano lessons.” Yue Wanqing always thought Ning Qing was in the top school playing piano like a girl from a wealthy and influential family should.

Ning Qing leaned forward and pecked her mom's soft cheek. “Mom, rest well. I'll visit you again at night.”

Yue Wanqing blushed in embarrassment. She waved and pushed her daughter away, “You're such a silly girl. Aren't you shy? There are people around. Hurry and go. Be careful and take care.”

“Bye, Mom.” Ning Qing waved goodbye and left the ward.

...

After she left the ward, Zhu Rui walked over. He was carrying a breakfast tray, “Madam, have breakfast. President says that you might like a girly spread. I told the kitchen to prepare this.”

Ning Qing looked at the breakfast tray. There were colorful sandwich biscuits, a yogurt mousse cake, thin vanilla pancakes, a glass of hot milk, and a sunny side up egg.

Ning Qing smiled, how did that man know that she likes all those?

Must have been on that rainy day. He noticed the plush bear on her bed in her room after all.

Honestly, Lu Shaoming got it right. When she was the daughter of the Ning family, she was picky. She liked buttery sweet treats. Unfortunately, she hadn't lived well for these past three years; she almost forget her preferences.

She was in the hospital yet everything was so simple. He's... Spoiling her?

Upon seeing her delicious breakfast, Ning Qing felt a great appetite. It would be unreasonable to refuse so she took over the breakfast tray and said, “Thanks...”

She turned and walked back into her room. She walked in and her phone rang.

She picked up the phone and there was a sweet female voice on the other end. “Hello, is this Miss Ning? Hello. Wang Zhangping, Director Wang is preparing to film a movie set during the early years of the Chinese Republic, Street Walker. Director Wang invites Miss Ning for a screen test in the studio today.”

Wang Zhangping, Director Wang?

Ning Qing forgot to respond as she was still too amazed.

Wang Zhangping was known as the Father of Taiwanese Film. He came to China to invest his first suspenseful spy movie in 1997, it was famous across China. Since then, he became the double guarantor of movies' reputations and box office sales.

Director Wang continuously produced a few major films and each one would elevate a new famous actress to the limelight, and they'd always become a big shot in the movie scene.

It was a pity that Director Wang had a weird temper and he didn't produce many movies. For the past two years, he had been silent and made an effort to lay low. Ning Qing couldn't believe that she was invited by Director Wang for a screen test.

"Hello, Miss Ning, are you there? Do you have time for the screen test today? Hello, hello..."

"I, I'm free," Ning Qing came back to reality. She was delighted, "Where's the studio, I'll rush over now."

...

Xu Junxi brought Ning Yao to Street Walkers' studio. Director Wang wore his glasses as he discussed the script with the producer.

"Hello, Director Wang." Xu Junxi came forward and greeted him politely.

The producer stopped while Director Wang removed his glasses and stood up slowly.

Director Wang was sixty that year. Although he had a head of white hair, he looked energetic. He wore an outfit consisting of grey sportswear and gave out an artistic aura.

Chapter 59: Kissing Scene

Director Wang is 60 years old. Although he has white hair, he is very spry. His tall frame is clothed in gray sportswear. He exudes literary and artistic flavor from his bones.

"Xu Zong, long time no see, I just came to the mainland, didn't expect your news so soon." Director Wang showed a slight smile.

"Director Wang's arrival in mainland China is not only good news, but also your first job five years after you left the mainland film circle. The media are watching closely."

For Xu Junxi's smooth flattery, Wang shrugged and laughed.

When Xu Junxi saw the time was ripe, he introduced Ning Yao, who was close in his arms, to Director Wang. "Director Wang, this is Ning Yao, my girlfriend."

Ning Yao's eyes were burning with the ember of hope, and she stooped down to show respect. She complimented him sweetly, "Hello, Director Wang, I grew up watching your movies. I have always worshipped you. Today I have the honor to see Director Wang. I hope I can learn from Director Wang in the future."

Director Wang's turbid and sharp eyes swept Ning Yao's eyes and smiled at Xu Junxi. "Xu always has a good eye."

Having been praised by Director Wang, Ning Yao immediately showed a sly and shy smile and looked at Xu Junxi with warmth in her eyes.

Everyone in this circle knows that Director Wang is strict and seldom praises others. Xu Junxi also feels bright in the face and looks back at Ning Yao with more affection and sweetness.

Director Wang looked at the interaction between the two and added, "Xu always has a good eye and found a girlfriend who is full of drama."

Xu Junxi and Ning Yao froze.

"Xu Zong, just look around. I have something to do, so I won't be accompanied." As Wang said this, he sighed and continued to discuss the work with the producer.

Xu Junxi's had an ugly expression on his face. What did he mean by "full of drama"? No big man in the entertainment circle dares stir this much conflict with someone of his status.

But, as he needed a favor, Xu Junxi had to cough a little, pull the corner of his mouth and say, "Director Wang, I heard that your film Wind and Dust is the heroine-film of the selection. Ning Yao will debut, I wonder if you can give her a chance?"

He spoke in a low voice.

Wang looked at the script in his hand, but did not look up. "Didn't your girlfriend just take the role of Pink Beauty? If she wanted to make a big splash, I'm afraid my movie would disappoint her."

It's all a pretext!

No one realizes it, but all the protagonists who have acted in Wang Jiao's films have quickly become popular. His films have excellent production value. Looking at the mainland film scene, no others stand up to his work.

If he is willing to sell face, Xu Junxi is fully confident that Ning Yao will be pushed into the ranks of the first-tier actresses as soon as possible with his directorial success.

"Director Wang, I..." Xu Junxi wanted to fight for it.

But Wang took the script, looked up at the door and smiled, "Sorry, Xu Zong, the heroine I invited, she's here."

Xu Junxi and Ning Yao turned their heads to the door at the same time. At that moment, their pupils shrank and their bodies stiffened.

It's Ning Qing.

...

Ning Qing rushed to the studio. She didn't expect to meet Xu Junxi and Ning Yao. The world is so small; it's as coincidental as it is hostile.

She was curious. She didn't know what Ning Yao had suffered. Her hands were clenched into fists, and her undisguised eyes of resentment and hatred were anxious to cut her with a thousand knives.

Looking at Xu Junxi's pig liver hue, Ning Qing understood that this dastardly duo probably wanted to work something out with Director Wang, but met a closed door.

Ning Qing lifted her head, raised her chest, and went to Director Wang. She was generous and reverent. She called out, "Hello, Director Wang, my name is Ning Qing. I'm going to audition."

Director Wang looked up and down at Ning Qing and nodded. He pointed to Ning Yao with his eyes. "Xu came with his girlfriend just now to get her a role as the main protagonist of Wind and Dust. When Ning Qing came in, you should have seen the way the crew looked at her. Now you tell Xu, why don't I agree that his girlfriend should play the protagonist?"

Ning Qing's heart is burning, Director Wang is summoning her hatred.

But, she knew that Director Wang also took the opportunity to test her understanding of Wind and Dust.

Ning Qing looked straight at Ning Yao, and the bright watery eyes seemed to be saying – Director Wang asked, so I'm not going to be polite.

Wind and Dust is mostly about a simple and kind 17-year-old Mengyao who became the chief dispatcher of Shanghai Beach and fell in love with an officer. Later, when the war broke out, the officer went to the battlefield and the woman waited for forty years, from the age of 24 to 64.

"First of all, Xu's girlfriend is not beautiful enough. She can't compete for the pure beauty of Mengyao without Fandai doing her delicate makeup and wardrobe on weekdays. Second, Xu's girlfriend is not temperamental enough. The character is noble and cold, and her heart is lonely. Xu's girlfriend is too vulgar. Finally, one who waits 40 years is not someone who desires fame and wealth, who acts full of expectations. It's all about interpretation."

"The woman has no face, no aura, and no self-cultivation. She is not only unsuitable for playing Mengyao, but actually at a disadvantage," Ning Qing concluded.

Ning Qing got this all out in barely a single breath. She brazenly took the opportunity to criticize Ning Yao in front of so many people.

She could see the staff in the studio peeking at her, everyone passing their eyes, obviously watching her.

Wang Zhangping, a "girlfriend of Xu Zongguo" who despises her fakeness, was watching.

Ning Yao was shaking all over. "Ning Qing!" Xu Junxi said in a calm voice.

Ning Qing looked at him frankly.

"Haha..." Director Wang laughed twice and waved, "Xu Zong, why are you so agitated? When your girlfriend enters the entertainment circle and acts in movies and TV productions, she's going to make comments on others in the future. Truly powerful people speak for their works."

As Director Wang spoke, Xu Junxi had to take a deep breath to recover his composure.

"Ning Qing, let's go. Let's go for an audition."

Now? "Director Wang, I don't know which role you want me to play?"

With a quick step and a sharp glance at Ning Qing's face, Wang asked with a meaningful smile, "Ning Qing, which role do you think you can play?"

Ning Qing was somewhat shy. "Director Wang, I know I'm not experienced enough, and I don't have any works that I can handle..."

Ning Yao noticed this slight hiccup.

But Ning Qing bravely welcomed Director Wang's eyes. "But please give me a chance. I think the role of Mengyao, the female lead in Wind and Dust, is very suitable for me. I will interpret it with my heart."

The girl's crisp voice echoed in the studio, and the whole room was quiet. Everyone looked at the beautiful girl.

Her face was full of vigor and the vitality of youth, and her eyes were full of calm self-confidence.

What she needs is an opportunity.

Xu Junxi was staring at Ning Qing, who was standing under the steps. The rising red sun outside the landing window covered her with warm and gorgeous brilliance. She had bright and pious eyes, and shining eyebrows. Her powdered face was like a dazzling glow of sunshine.

Xu Junxi is familiar with Ning Qing. At the age of 18, she was so confident and arbitrary. She was lively and cheerful, and treated people warmly. She had endless vitality.

Later, she changed.

He was disgusted with the way she was now.

But why did he find the shadow of the past in her again today? Did she get the chance from Director Wang? How did she get to this point?

"Okay," Wang said, nodding. "Then try the role of Mengyao. The man will be there in a minute. You'll have another on set with you."

The male protagonist?

Director Wang has called over the male lead.

Ning Qing was overjoyed. Director Wang was willing to give her a chance. At the same time, she was curious. Who would be the male lead?

Then there was a commotion at the door. The assistant in front opened the door, and a slender and handsome figure crowded in behind.

The man wore a long black thin leather jacket with dark blue jeans. The actor's delicate outline and exquisite facial features formed a cold face.

Ning Yao hates it. Her whole heart is in pain. Is it him? The domestic popular young student, the face of the show, acting against the sky, Ou Luo Xi.

Ou Luo Xi came to stardom at the age of 18. He had a more beautiful face than a woman, but it was like that of Medusa. His gaze could freeze passers-by in minutes.

He was unambiguous in the film and television drama. He was recognized by the industry, and won the film academy's highest award on the international stage at the age of 20.

The number of fans on his micro-blog are in hundreds of millions, and those crazy fans are always moved to tears at all of his performances, whether it be in film, tv drama, on stage, etc.

His whole act is to hook you in with his charm, and pretend not to worry about the box office.

Director Wang invited him to be the lead male.

Ning Qing was equally surprised to see him here.

He's 21, a little younger than her. His skin is white and creamy.

He's very cold, grinning, and he resembles Yang Yang Yang, the younger brother in the latest hit drama Tomb Piracy Notes. He looks a little more mature than 21 years old on the whole.

All the girls were gossiping. Ning Qing shifted her focus, and directed her eyes at Ou Luo Xi. The delicate and beautiful young man, if not cold-faced, gave out an aura of natural suffering.

Entertainment is the most complex and dirty place. I wonder how many questionable people think about him?

Ning Qing sighed in her heart.

At that moment she felt a cold look, and noticed Ou Luo Xi staring at her.

Ning Qing felt a chill.

When he was caught, Ning Qing openly gave him an apologetic look. She nodded slightly and gave him a friendly greeting.

He turned away and chose to ignore it.

Rude child.

"Ou Luo Xi, you're here. Let me introduce you. This is Ning Qing, a candidate for the role of Mengyao. Let's wait for you to audition and act alongside Ning Qing."

He bore no expression. He looked at Ning Qing and said, "Okay, let's have a kiss."

Chapter 60: Do You Know Any Powerful Officials in Finance

Ou Luo Xi didn't have many expressions. He looked at Ning Qing and spoke, "Alright, a kissing scene then."

He spoke and there was a flash in Ning Qing's eyes. There was a designated dub for the movies and drama that he starred in and she didn't know Ou Luo Xi's voice was like this.

His voice was gentle.

And, kissing... kissing scene?

Ning Qing nearly choked on her own saliva. D*mn, do we have to go all the way right at the beginning?

She suspected the boy wanted to take revenge on her gaze earlier. Petty-minded.

“Okay,” Director Wang agreed, “Ning Qing, do you have any problem?”

Ning Qing thought of Lu Shaoming. They were married and she wondered if he would mind if she had a kissing scene?

It seemed that she had to talk to him after he returned.

Ning Qing shook her head and stood straight. “No problem at all.”

...

Then, Ning Yao was like a cat on a hot tin roof. How does Ning Qing qualify?

Why did she receive recognition by Director Wang? Why did Ou Luo Xi, who normally pushes people aside, not forsake her but wanted to try a kissing scene with her?

Why does fate care for her all the time?

“Junxi, let’s go,” Ning Yao shook Xu Junxi’s shoulders.

Xu Junxi fixed his gaze on Ning Qing and Ou Luo Xi who walked next to one another. He replied, “As we’re already here, let’s see how capable she is,” He sat on the rattan chair that the crew members brought for him.

Ning Yao saw that he wasn’t willing to leave; she had no choice but to sit next to him.

...

Ning Qing was extremely focused as she read the script. Regarding the pair of man and woman who stayed to watch, she only had one comment, busybodies.

The scene was mainly portraying how Meng Yao, who was seventeen, got to know a righteous officer by chance and they had their first kiss.

Director Wang shouted “Action!” and the screen test began.

Ou Luo Xi, who was cold to her earlier, turned into a gentleman with tender feelings. The pair of black leather boots that he was wearing gave out awe-inspiring righteousness. He moved forward and lifted the corners of his mouth, “Miss Meng Yao, from the first time I saw you, I fell in love with you. Please be with me.”

Ning Qing complimented Ou Luo Xi’s acting ability in silence. She also thought that the smiling Ou Luo Xi was even prettier.

She turned around and looked down. There was a young girl’s frail and bashfulness across her face, “Who wants to be with you? I’m only seventeen this year.”

Then, Ou Luo Xi walked forward and extended both his hands to cup Ning Qing's face. He suddenly lowered his face.

Both their lips touched and the cameraman zoomed in. Ning Qing punched Ou Luo Xi's shoulders and she mumbled. She performed the bashfulness and panic of a young girl's kiss thoroughly.

Director Wang nodded in satisfaction and he raised his hand to shout "cut".

But Ning Qing felt a sharp pain on her lips. Ou Luo Xi bit her.

Ning Qing's eyes shot open, this boy didn't act according to the script!

She pushed Ou Luo Xi and he fell back. She walked forward as her face blushed in embarrassment. She slapped him, "You, shameless!"

"Cut!" Director Wang shouted and laughed, "Ning Qing, you adjusted according to changing circumstances. Very well. You have yet to start working together but you are so well-coordinated."

Director Wang was referring to the slap earlier. She didn't really slap him but the two of them took advantage of positioning. When she slapped, Ou Luo Xi leaned his head sideways.

Ning Qing sighed a breath a relief after she received Director Wang's recognition. She looked at Ou Luo Xi in suspicion. His lips were cold when they kissed. Even when he bit her, there was no manner of violation or humiliation.

She suspected that he bit her to help her. Ou Luo Xi seemed to be helping her to receive recognition from Director Wang.

Ning Qing wanted to talk to Ou Luo Xi but he didn't bother to look at her before he walked to his assistant. He took over the grey and white striped fringed scarf to wear it around his neck. He then said faintly, "That's it, I'm leaving."

He then walked out surrounded by a bunch of people.

Ning Qing watched as the man left. She was thankful yet she found it funny. As she reined back her sight, she met a pair of cold-looking eyes that belonged to Xu Junxi.

She didn't know what she did wrong. Xu Junxi's eyes were like a fire that was dying to swallow her up.

She found it ridiculously funny.

Xu Junxi grumbled and stood up from the rattan chair. He then left angrily.

He then seemed to have forgotten about Ning Yao, "Junxi, wait for me," Ning Yao was wearing a pair of high heels and she was chasing after him.

...

Everyone left and the studio became quiet. Director Wang passed Ning Qing a contract, "Ning Qing, I will use you for the role as Meng Yao in Street Walker. Here's the contract. Read it through and sign if there's no problem."

Ning Yao flipped through the contract then picked up the pen to sign her name. Her hands were trembling when she signed the document. She finally had this day.

It was like a dream.

“Director Wang, thank you for this opportunity. I will give my all,” Her pair of beautiful eyes were twinkling with excitement and gratefulness tears.

“I have confidence in you, and also in Street Walker. Yeah, Ning Qing, you need your own assistant when you film a movie. Do you have any suitable person in your mind?”

Ning Qing thought of Xiao Zhou, “Yes.”

“Alright then. Bring your assistant, the entire crew will gather in the bar tonight. We shall start filming in two days.”

...

In the bar

Ning Qing and Xiao Zhou speak together as they each held a cocktail glass. Xiao Zhou said in excitement emotionally, “Ning Qing, that’s great. You finally have the chance. When you called me, I immediately quit my job. Don’t worry. I will be your best, most caring assistant.”

Ning Qing knew that she couldn’t really drink. She was worried that she would be drunk so she only took a sip on her cocktail. “Xiao Zhou, we’ll work hard together in the future. Our life just reached smooth sailing.”

“Alright,” Xiao Zhou chugged her glass of drink.

Xiao Zhou pushed Ning Qing curiously as she asked softly, “Ning Qing, be honest with me, are you in any way connected to Director Wang?”

“Why do you ask?”

Xiao Zhou put down the wine bottle and blinked, “Ning Qing, do you really not know? Before Director Wang’s Street Walker starts filming, there were news leaks in the entertainment circle. Do you know how many big shots wanted to participate? For instance, the next-gen goddess, Xia Xiaofu, her assistant got in touch with Director Wang long ago. But you eliminated her and took the role. I don’t think you didn’t take any measure.”

Hearing Xia Xiaofu’s name, Ning Qing’s eyes shot open. Xia Xiaofu is the daughter of the Xia family. She starred in an immortal heroes drama when she was sixteen and she got really famous.

For the past few years, she was dressed in maxi dresses with wavy long hair. Her image was mysterious yet elegant. Hence, her name of “National Goddess”.

Ning Qing met her once at a ball. Xia Xiaofu was refined and remarkable in an artistic manner. She definitely lives up to her name of “Goddess”.

Ning Qing liked her a lot.

“I eliminated Xia Xiaofu?” Ning Qing was confused. Although she believed in her capability, why did Director Wang invite her for a screen test? “Xiao Zhou, I really didn’t take any unique measure. If I did, I would definitely tell you.”

Xiao Zhou looked at Ning Qing and she didn’t look like she was lying. So, she said, “Then, besides Director Wang, did you get to know any powerful officials in finance? Huge merchants?”

Ning Qing then thought of Lu Shaoming.

But she quickly denied anything. She just got married to Lu Shaoming the day before. If it was really him, it happened before they got married.

They only met four times before their marriage, how many men were willing to spend so much time and effort for a woman that he only met four times? To help her in her career?

Plus, he never brought it up.

“Xiao Zhou, stop making wild guesses. We only need to do well in the movie. Director Wang said that capable people speak with their final products.”

“Mm,” Xiao Zhou nodded. The chance had arrived and they only need to grab it.

“Oh yeah, Xiao Zhou, do you know about Ou Luo Xi?” Ning Qing asked.

“Not much. Ou Luo Xi started his career three years ago and he was quite low profile. Besides acting, he never joins any talk show or banquet. His assistant takes full control to talk to the media too. Oh, yeah, Ning Qing, Ou Luo Xi is the second son of T City’s Ou family. The Ou family and T City’s mayor Zhou family are old family friends.”

Ning Qing nodded but she wasn’t interested in the Ou family or Zhou family that she was talking about.

She got up, “Xiao Zhou, I’m going to the washroom.”

...

Ning Qing walked out from the washroom and walked along the corridor. She didn’t drink much but her face was red so she touched her cheeks with her hands that were wet with the cold tap water.

There was a person who walked before her.

Ning Qing’s heart ached. They came into an unavoidable confrontation. It was Xu Junxi.

Xu Junxi saw her too. His originally calm eyes were suddenly covered in a haze. He glared at Ning Qing then he turned around. He walked past Ning Qing expressionlessly.

Ning Qing was more than happy with his action. They shall be silent strangers.

She walked past Xu Junxi, turned at the corner. But then, there was a sudden breeze and someone held Ning Qing’s wrist.

Xu Junxi tugged and Ning Qing’s back hit the cold wall. She felt hurt and suddenly his body appeared before her.

Ning Qing rolled her eyes impatiently and at the same time, there was anger that soared in her. The more angry she was, the calmer her expression was, "What do you want?"

Xu Junxi watched her expression and he smirked as he said, "Why? You want to pretend that we don't know each other?"

"Do we know each other?" Ning Qing asked in reply.

Xu Junxi's face grew grave. He looked at her face which was rosy because she drank and her cherry lips were red like as though masked in lipstick.

He recalled the scene where Ou Luo Xi bit her in the studio. He gulped and his Adam's apple rolled. At the same time, he exerted strength in his palm and gripped her wrist.

She didn't know him but she could kiss a total stranger.

"Let go, you're hurting me!" Ning Qing creased her eyebrows because of his rude actions but she spoke calmly.

Xu Junxi pretended not to hear and he wasn't willing to let go.

"Ning Tao, you came," Ning Qing looked behind him and said.