

Chapter 421: A Trick Used on Children

Quite a lot of events had occurred at night, but to Yang Chen, it was just another day. People who should be punished should be taught a severe lesson, but the people who deserved recognition should be recognized, while he wouldn't care about things that didn't deserve attention.

Lin Ruoxi and Guo Xuehua, however, found it hard to fall asleep that night. Lin Ruoxi felt that her identity as a daughter-in-law had deepened significantly. She was worried about how she would continue interacting with Guo Xuehua, and how she was supposed to call her 'Mom'.

Guo Xuehua didn't need any complicated descriptions. Except excitement, all she was feeling was still excitement!

Having waited for so long, her wish had finally come true, just like a traveller on the edge of dehydration who newly discovered an oasis in front. When she thought about how her son and daughter-in-law kneeled down together and called her 'Mom', she would have no regrets even if was to die now.

At the same time, Guo Xuehua had planned much more for the lives of Yang Chen and his wife, mainly about urging Lin Ruoxi to give birth to grandchildren. She found it necessary to plan out this matter. She couldn't wait for too long, not to mention Yang Chen couldn't be left to suffer for too long.

Regarding the fact that Yang Chen was horny, she had long forgotten about it. Mothers were all selfish; their son was more important than the daughter-in-law, who was destined to suffer slightly at the end of the day.

Guo Xuehua was even considering arranging a meeting for Yang Chen and his younger brother Yang Lie, so that they could improve their brotherhood. Unfortunately, Guo Xuehua was unaware that Yang Lie had developed an intense hatred for Yang Chen. He only returned to Kunlun Sect temporarily because he wasn't able to take revenge for now.

The next morning, the long awaited vacation day for Hui Lin had arrived.

The sky was brighter than ever. Although the weather was still rather cold, it was at least a sunny day.

Early in the morning, Yang Chen was preparing to leave home, but was stopped by Lin Ruoxi. "Are the three of us the only ones going today?" she asked.

Embarrassed, Yang Chen smiled and answered, "I promised An Xin to pick her up later."

"Are you sure you want to go through with this" Little Sister Lin's gaze was obviously filled with dissatisfaction.

Yang Chen waved his hand. "Please don't be so petty. You're the CEO of Yu Lei International, while An Xin is merely a secretary. Why should you be afraid of her?"

"Humph. Your provocation won't work on me," Lin Ruoxi said as she stared at Yang Chen furiously. She felt contempt for the trick Yang Chen used. "Since there are four of us, go and get another car. It'd be packed otherwise once the stuff is loaded in."

Yang Chen was stunned. "Do you have luggages to bring?"

“Tomorrow and the day after are both weekends. If we have nothing urgent, staying in the resort for two days isn’t too bad of an idea. Hui Lin will be allowed to enjoy the resort a little more,” Lin Ruoxi said without allowing room for negotiations. “Go into the garage and get the Lexus SUV out.”

Yang Chen didn’t remember what cars Lin Ruoxi stored in her garage, because there were simply too many cars there. It was rumored that Lin Ruoxi even had a few luxury cars stored elsewhere because her house couldn’t contain them all. Since Lin Ruoxi suggested to get a large SUV, there was no reason for him to say no.

After Yang Chen entered the underground garage, Lin Ruoxi summoned Hui Lin over. Hui Lin was pulling two small luggages. She looked around curiously before asking, “Elder Sister, where is Brother Yang?”

Lin Ruoxi received her own luggage from Hui Lin as she said, “I asked him to change our current car into a slightly bigger car so that we can sit more comfortably.”

Hui Lin evidently had no opinions in front of her elder sister. She would never object anything Lin Ruoxi said. “Oh,” she answered.

After a while, Yang Chen was still inside. Hui Lin said softly, “Elder Sister, you guys don’t actually have to bring me out... I know that you’re busy. I’ll be fine, really.”

Lin Ruoxi remained quiet as she touched Hui Lin’s hair.

Hui Lin seemed to have felt something. She let out a warm smile as she looked at Lin Ruoxi.

Vroom! A loud noise of the engine resounded. Yang Chen finally got the car out of the garage.

The black Lexus LX570 was just like a beast which had broken out of a cage when it was shone upon by sunlight. It crossed a field before arriving in front of the two ladies.

The five-meter-long and two-meter-wide car made the two ladies look incredibly petite.

The car window was put down. Yang Chen said to Lin Ruoxi, “Wife, you’re straight-up showing off your wealth to An Xin. This car costs around two million bucks in China, isn’t it? We don’t even need such a huge SUV for only four people.”

The 5.7 litre, V8 engine with 381 horsepower, which was a hundred more than ordinary SUV’s. This wasn’t a car that could be driven just because one had money.

“Who are you to judge? I like this car. Also, how is it possible that the princess of the An clan can’t afford this type of cars?” Lin Ruoxi didn’t mind what Yang Chen said. She pulled Hui Lin and placed the luggage to the last row of the car.

Lin Ruoxi had originally planned to sit with Hui Lin behind. However, this would mean that she was letting the vixen An Xin sit upfront with Yang Chen? Thus, she got out of the car and before opening the front door to sit at the front passenger seat.

Yang Chen couldn’t help but find it funny when he witnessed all of Lin Ruoxi’s actions. However, he didn’t call her out on her actions.

When he arrived at a coffee shop nearby Yu Lei where he agreed to pick up An Xin from, An Xin could be seen in a white down jacket with a pair of huge, orange headphones. On the cold streets, she appeared particularly bright.

There was a small luggage in front of An Xin as well. She had evidently made preparations for this day, leaving Yang Chen to be the only one who had brought nothing.

An Xin appeared to be avoiding pissing off Lin Ruoxi. She wore no make-up at all. Possibly due to a lack of sleep recently, she had slight panda eyes, causing her to look a little more adorable.

After making sure Yang Chen was inside the huge SUV parked in front of her, An Xin opened her mouth slightly in shock, before entering the car to the middle row.

“Good morning, Elder Sister Ruoxi.” An Xin greeted Lin Ruoxi first upon entering the car, and even called her in an intimate manner.

Lin Ruoxi frowned slightly. One does not give a smiling person a slap. Since An Xin behaved in such a manner, there was no reason for Lin Ruoxi to be rude in return.

An Xin had only managed to be this adaptive after becoming a stewardess for years. She had to put down her pride as the miss of a major clan to serve flight passengers. Thus, she was completely different from all the other ladies who were born in major clans.

An Xin was aware that she would never win against Lin Ruoxi, so she decided to act obedient and always take a step back when necessary. Pleasing the legitimate wife was her top priority.

“Am I very old? Why did you call me elder sister?” Lin Ruoxi asked.

An Xin seemed wronged. Softly, she asked, “Then... then do I call you Younger Sister Ruoxi?”

Lin Ruoxi instantly felt uneasy throughout her body. She remained quiet for a short while before saying, “Forget about it. Elder sister will do.”

When Lin Ruoxi pouted helplessly, Yang Chen who was driving refrained himself from bursting into laughter.

An Xin who sat behind winked at Hui Lin, and made a victorious gesture.

Hui Lin covered her smile with her hand. An Xin could be considered her first true friend in Zhonghai. Although she felt slightly sorry to Lin Ruoxi, she didn't hope to see An Xin get bullied by Lin Ruoxi.

The journey to the spa resort was give or take an hour or two. The three ladies couldn't just sleep all the way this early in the morning.

At some point in the trip, An Xin had started to talk to Hui Lin about the latest drama. They discussed about how touching the dialogues were, which mother inside was evil, which actress was brave, and stuff like that...

Lin Ruoxi originally wasn't very willing to chat with An Xin. However, she soon noticed that her younger sister Hui Lin had become a betrayer, as she chatted happily away with the vixen An Xin.

To make the matter worse, the Korean drama the two ladies were discussing about was the one Lin Ruoxi loved the most, among the ones she had watched during the holidays!

Occasionally, Lin Ruoxi would eavesdrop on their conversation. When she heard something she felt wasn't right, she would almost fail to lose control over her mouth.

Finally, when An Xin discussed with Hui Lin about a problem of the story which was difficult to be understood, Hui Lin said to Lin Ruoxi, "Elder Sister, you've watched this show as well. Tell us your evaluation on whether the supporting actress was more suited for the main actor."

Lin Ruoxi blushed a little. The fact that she loved watching Korean drama had always been kept a secret. She felt uncomfortable to let An Xin know about it just like that.

However, Lin Ruoxi finally found an opportunity to join their discussion. She quickly spat out everything she had wanted to say much earlier in an energetic manner.

It didn't take long for the three ladies to start their passionate discussions, as if they were in a fan club. Lin Ruoxi had long lost control of her cold aura. Now, she was no different from another little girl gushing on her romance plots.

It should be mentioned that her current behavior finally matched her real age.

A faint smile could be spotted on the corners of Yang Chen's lips. The little vixen must've asked Hui Lin about Ruoxi's interests beforehand before making detailed preparations on the discussion topics, so that she can talk about them in the car when Ruoxi is present, he thought.

He had never heard An Xin talk about Korean drama with Hui Lin before. She had zero interest in such dramas. Evidently, this was what An Xin had prepared to improve her relationship with Lin Ruoxi.

After the car arrived at the spa resort owned by Yu Lei International, the three finally got down the car as they felt thirsty, before pulling their luggages into the guesthouse.

An Xin grasped the opportunity when Lin Ruoxi was speaking to the hotel manager. She leaned forward to Yang Chen before saying, "Hubby, the empress's mental age is straight-up younger than Hui Lin's. I swear on behalf of my woman's instinct!"

[TL note: In the Chinese imperial harem, the empress is the wife of the emperor, while the emperor's other women are called concubines.]

Yang Chen rubbed his nose as he looked at Lin Ruoxi who had turned cold and strict again upon returning to her working state. Softly, he said, "Really? I don't think so. She's just more passionate when it comes to Korean drama."

"Haven't you noticed the flame in her eyes when Younger Sister Ruoxi talked about the story of the Korean drama?" An Xin asked as she pouted.

Yang Chen smiled strangely as he asked, "Why are you calling her younger sister again? Isn't she an elder sister?"

“Humph,” An Xin snorted in dissatisfaction. “It’s just a trick used on children. She only deserves to be my younger sister based on her mental age. I guess she’s even younger than the experienced middle schoolers. She’s nothing but a little girl!”

At this moment, Lin Ruoxi had finished discussing about certain things regarding work. She turned around and said, “Don’t stand there idly. Go and check in your luggages first.”

“Roger that! Elder Sister Ruoxi!”

An Xin immediately held a sweet smile before obediently following behind Lin Ruoxi.

Chapter 422: Whom Have I Married

Yang Chen wasn’t surprised by An Xin’s cunning behavior anymore. Even he himself was fooled by her cunning behaviour when he first met her.

Lin Ruoxi on the other hand was basically new to everything that is not business based. She was incredibly naive when it came to romance, which An Xin unsurprisingly was a veteran at. However, the wilful An Xin didn’t aim to replace Lin Ruoxi as the wife. All she did was make small reports about Lin Ruoxi behind her back to Yang Chen, who wasn’t bothered about it at all.

After coming to the lobby, Lin Ruoxi received two door cards from the manager. The two rooms should’ve been booked beforehand.

Lin Ruoxi passed one of them to An Xin. Since they had somewhat bonded in the car earlier, she decided to play nice. “You’ll stay with Hui Lin while I’ll be in the same room with Yang Chen.”

Not only was Yang Chen astonished, even Hui Lin was dumbstruck.

Did Lin Ruoxi just say she wanted to stay with Yang Chen, i the same room?!

An Xin seemed to have noticed the unusual atmosphere, but didn’t say much as she smilingly received the card.

Yang Chen giggled as he leaned forward to Lin Ruoxi. “Wife, are we really staying together?”

“Why? Do you have any objections? Or would you rather stay with someone else?” Lin Ruoxi asked without hesitation while her eyes narrowed and shot two icy glares back at him.

An Xin felt a little embarrassed. Even if she knows our relationship, she can’t just refer to it so obviously. She’s indeed a little girl who’s so harsh in solving relationship problems, she thought.

Replying both ‘yes’ or ‘no’ would piss his woman off, so Yang Chen forced a laugh to survive the test.

Hui Lin felt indifferent. She originally thought she would share a room with Lin Ruoxi. Now that An Xin became her sister-like, close friend, she was fine with staying together with her. On the contrary, Hui Lin felt concerned if any problems would arise after Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen slept in the same room.

When the four came to the highest floor of the building, Yang Chen realized both of these rooms were for VIPs. Each of them could easily house four people.

It was no wonder that Lin Ruoxi was willing to stay with Yang Chen. Even if they were inside the same room, they would be miles apart from each other.

Lin Ruoxi felt joyous to see the disappointment on Yang Chen's face.

"Let's rest in the room for a while. We'll head out for lunch later," Lin Ruoxi informed before walking into her room.

The room was clean and nicely decorated. It was painted white with warm colors for contrast. A vague rose scent filled the room. There were delicate, wooden furnitures and a 43-inch television which hung on the wall, even a laptop was provided on the office table.

The room done in such a way the bedroom and living room took up most of the space. Sofas made of real leather were placed in the living room whose floor was covered by soft, wool carpet, while two single beds were in the bedroom.

Yang Chen picked the one by the window and lay down with his body facing the ceiling, before quickly starting to snore.

Lin Ruoxi frowned a little. A pink patch surfaced on her white face. In fact, the main reason she did so was to stop Yang Chen from having the opportunity to secretly have fun with An Xin, otherwise she wouldn't have dared to share a room with him.

Currently, Lin Ruoxi realized she had no clue how she was supposed to interact with Yang Chen who was in the same room as her. Ever since their marriage, they hadn't had much chance to interact intimately, let alone share a bedroom.

"Babe Ruoxi, stop daydreaming. Sitting in the car is tiring. Come and lie beside me for a while. It's so comfortable here," Yang Chen said with a wicked smile as he slanted his head to look at Lin Ruoxi.

"I'm not tired," Lin Ruoxi answered resolutely.

"Aye, what's there to be shy about? I'm your husband, not your tiger. I've never forced you to get along with me. Are you possibly afraid of me taking the bow by force?"

"Haven't you thought of doing so before?" Lin Ruoxi said as she refrained from smiling.

"Erm..." Yang Chen recalled the night where he secretly entered Lin Ruoxi's room to do just that, which he had much regretted, since it became the evidence of his 'attempted crime'.

"You shall not hold onto your husband's past mistakes all the time. You know that our mom is still waiting for us to give birth to children. If you're this shy, even I'm embarrassed to sow seeds," Yang Chen said. Since they were the only ones in the room, there was no need for him to hide anything.

Lin Ruoxi's face immediately reddened. "N—no one wants your seeds! Why are you always this rude when you speak?!"

"I wasn't raised a cultured man. I haven't even attended a primary school before. Going to work is like hanging myself. Now that I've gotten the chance to have some fun, do you still want me to put on a mask?" Yang Chen said as he happily raised his calves. Giggling, he said, "Let me tell you. I've had much

more freedom to speak when I was selling mutton skewers. You haven't even heard the half of it. Do you want me to tell you?"

"You're welcome to listen to yourself." Lin Ruoxi gave him an angry stare before turning around and leaving to the washroom. Bang! She slammed the door as she left.

After a short while, An Xin and Hui Lin came to knock on their door. Yang Chen opened it for them, only to find Hui Lin who was dressed in white sportswear. Her hair was tied in a ponytail, causing her to look lively and adorable.

An Xin on the other hand changed into an extra-thick, Korean-style hoodie and a pair of tight-fitting jeans, displaying her alluring and curvy backside. She had applied a light layer of makeup on her face. Since Lin Ruoxi was nowhere to be seen, she gave Yang Chen a seductive glance.

Yang Chen felt that his sister-in-law and lover had drastically different styles. At this moment, Lin Ruoxi who had returned to normal came out from the washroom.

"Elder Sister, let's go downstairs. I have had a look at the map of this resort. There's even a lake here! I believe it's beautiful. I want to go and have a look," Hui Lin said. She hadn't been to many places before. To her, coming out for a vacation was an extremely rare event.

Naturally, Lin Ruoxi wouldn't turn her down, not to mention she had come here to let Hui Lin relax. Smiling, she said, "Alright. I'll ask someone to send cooking ingredients there. We can barbecue by the lake, so let's just have lunch there."

"Barbecue?"

Yang Chen slapped his chest. "How dare you ask another person to barbecue? You have a professional right here."

Lin Ruoxi frowned slightly. She almost forgot that her husband used to do barbecue for a living.

"Brother Yang knows how to do it? Alright, it should be fun." Hui Lin's eyes looked like they contained numerous stars, while her expression became the deciding factor.

The tools needed for a barbecue was naturally prepared by the workers there. The resort manager offered to send the four of them to the lake using a golf cart, but Lin Ruoxi turned down his offer as she had decided to walk.

In fact, being the CEO, it was rare for Lin Ruoxi to come here. Most people working at the resort were trying to get on her good side. Unfortunately, she had an aura which would reject people from miles away since young, making it hard for them to try and curry favour.

The weather was rather cold since it was the beginning of spring. There were still numerous guests in the spa resort. Yang Chen who was walking with three stunning beauties easily attracted countless gazes.

Hui Lin wanted to see the deepest part of the manmade lake. It could be said to be a small reservoir built on high grounds. They still had quite a distance to travel before arriving there.

As they walked, the trees swayed gently in the wind allowing for the yellowed leaves to float onto the ground. The conifer trees were particularly green, while the Chinese parasol trees and camphor trees were bare. This scene looked a little weird, but the fresh air made the four subconsciously slow down their footsteps.

An Xin discussed something softly with Hui Lin once in a while, causing Lin Ruoxi who was walking in front to reveal displeasure on her face. Hui Lin was her younger sister after all. She felt a little isolated.

Yang Chen smiled and whispered to Lin Ruoxi, "Little Ruoxi, if you're feeling lonely, why don't we hold hands as we walk?"

Lin Ruoxi instantly turned her head away and acted like she heard nothing.

It was noon when they finally arrived by the lake. The lake was reflective when shone upon by the sun. The oncoming wind was moist and cold, causing Lin Ruoxi and An Xin to lightly shiver. Hui Lin was completely unaffected as she practiced internal energy. She looked incredibly cute when she immersed herself in the scenery around the lake.

An Xin walked toward Yang Chen's back and whispered, "Hubby, I'm hungry now. Quickly grill some food for us."

"I believe you just want to eat," Yang Chen said before reaching out to An Xin's firm backside and pinching it.

An Xin's eyes looked like it would release water when squeezed. Lin Ruoxi was standing less than a meter away. She found it fun and exciting when Yang Chen touched her buttocks like that.

"How naughty. You're only bullying me. I dare you to touch Younger Sister Ruoxi," An Xin said as she licked her lips.

Yang Chen took a deep breath as he suppressed the flame in his heart. He glanced at Lin Ruoxi who hadn't noticed anything before clearing his voice. "Let's have lunch now. It's pretty cold here. It'll be too bad to get sick on this trip because of the wind."

Yang Chen was worried that he would fail to stop himself from touching Lin Ruoxi and An Xin together.

Since the area they were headed to was not very far, Hui Lin who was in love with the landscape wasn't against the idea. Delighted she came to the rest area with the others.

The servers had prepared a large number of barbecue utensils together with lamb, beef, sausages, and other ingredients. Yang Chen only had to ignite the coals before he could cook.

Having walked such a long distance, the three ladies were actually rather hungry. Yang Chen removed his outer coat and ignited the coals. He continuously increased the heat before placing the barbecue net on top of the coals.

The cold surrounding the stove had been dismissed. Yang Chen stood the nearest to the stove, so it didn't take long before he had started to sweat.

Yang Chen felt his upper body start to sweat too. Without hesitation, he removed his sweater as well, making him half-naked!

An Xin was rather open-minded, so she found it interesting that Yang Chen was this focused on grilling. Hui Lin was so shy that she didn't dare to look at Yang Chen's strong and lean upper body anymore.

Lin Ruoxi was shocked and annoyed. There are so many guests passing by. Who in his right mind would remove his clothing like that?! she thought.

It should be mentioned that being half-naked in public was illegal.

"Quickly put your clothes on. Are you aware of how you look right now?!" Lin Ruoxi complained in dissatisfaction.

Yang Chen smiled and explained, "I'm not trying to show off my body. My clothes will be wet if I don't remove them. It'll be extremely uncomfortable for me to stand in the wind drenched with sweat."

"That still won't do it. Everyone passing by is looking at you. How embarrassing!" Lin Ruoxi felt embarrassed for Yang Chen.

"Who the heck cares about them? No one knows me here." Yang Chen pouted. Smiling, he said, "Don't you think your husband is very masculine?" he asked before flexing his muscles.

An Xin laughed as she clapped. "Hub—erm no. Director Yang, you're great!"

Lin Ruoxi gave An Xin a furious stare. Stupid vixen, she thought, before taking a look at Yang Chen who was smiling like nobody's business and painfully shutting her eyes...

Just whom have I married...

Chapter 423: The Serious and Crazy Woman

Yang Chen, An Xin, and Hui Lin all enjoyed their barbecue lunch. Yang Chen honestly felt more at home doing menial tasks like this, as he looked much more relaxed than working in the office.

Yang Chen was even considering convincing Lin Ruoxi to abandon Yu Lei International, and follow him to the market to sell mutton skewers. They could even rent a storefront. However, such a beautiful dream was in the end only a dream.

Lin Ruoxi on the other hand tasted nothing in her food.

She was contemplating about a novel she had read. The main actress was a professor who married an officer in the military. Due to the overly large difference in culture, the professor had always felt that her husband was unbearably vulgar, but failed to give up on that man. At the end of the novel, the professor was still with her husband, but she didn't manage to think of a reason to have been able to accept this 'vulgar' husband.

Lin Ruoxi used to feel that the professor was straight-up contradicting herself. Why wouldn't she divorce the man when he was so incompetent? Finally after all this time, she herself has come to the realization. When it came to matters between men and women, logical reasoning was often not the thing to turn to first.

Seeing the half-naked, farmer-looking man sitting on the wooden chair beside her who didn't even bother wiping his oily mouth with a tissue as he used his arm instead, Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but sigh deeply. She took a stack of tissue and passed to Yang Chen. "Don't use your hands. They're dirty now."

Yang Chen grinned. "I'm used to behaving this way. Even bowls were considered a luxury for me back then, let alone using tissues, so I subconsciously wiped my mouth with my hand."

Yang Chen received the tissue and vaguely wiped his lips.

Although Lin Ruoxi was curious about the life Yang Chen had lived in the past, she chose not to pry. She only knew a thing or two about him. She felt that Yang Chen would tell her if he felt the need for her to know. It should be mentioned that the fellow was a really talkative man.

Since he hasn't told me about it before, he may feel that there's no need for me to know.

Lin Ruoxi lowered her head as she smiled gently. Her goddess-like, elegant face looked particularly touching, but she was holding a half-eaten chicken wing in hand, causing her to look a little strange.

Unfortunately, no one had noticed her smile.

After having lunch, a bunch of passionate servers who had been ready to work came out of nowhere and cleaned all the trash.

Lin Ruoxi frowned and said to one of the servers, "Ask your manager to stop sending people to follow us. This is no different from being monitored. It makes me feel uncomfortable."

The server remained quiet for a while in fear. He bowed down and lowered his head before stammering, "Boss—boss Lin, please forgive us. It's not in our intention to monitor you. We just want to serve you as you almost never come here..."

Lin Ruoxi waved her hand to signal them to leave. She had to behave in a dignified manner in front of her employees.

"Elder Sister Ruoxi is so impressive," An Xin said softly.

Yang Chen looked at her in a playful manner. "Oh is this how you view her as well?"

"Of course," An Xin said seriously, but the intention to laugh in her eyes betrayed her.

After the meal, Yang Chen put on his outer coat. He actually enjoyed being half-naked while standing in the cold wind. He often did so when on missions in Siberia. During that period, he even had to draw messy lines on his body using black ink, to camouflage himself in the dark forest. Not only did it help him avoid certain beasts, he could also secure a kill in an ambush.

These moments felt like they had just happened yesterday. However, currently, he had gotten a stunning wife and multiple beautiful lovers, not to mention he had become an office worker.

Yang Chen didn't find his current life monotonous, to go to work every day and come home for dinner. He even felt more content this way.

Of course, it would've been perfect if his wife was willing to cooperate by getting along with his lovers.

The four slowly made their way along the lake with the winds sweeping through their hair. It smelt of mud and leaves, but the smile on Hui Lin's face had never dispersed. She described to An Xin and Lin Ruoxi regarding her experiences when she lived in Emei Mountain, so the three ladies were chatting unstoppably.

Judging from the situation, the decision to bring Hui Lin out was right.

There was a small rest station nearby, mainly for weary guests to rest before continuing. The mini store was selling steaming-hot herbal eggs, dried tofu and some beverages.

However, since it was still lunchtime, the rest area was pretty much empty. Only an old man wearing a tank top was left to tend the business.

There was a mini game station outside the store which had attracted the attention of the ladies.

The stairs used as a display were filled with cartoon dolls. It was a game where if the participant managed to hit a doll down from the stairs using plastic balls, it was theirs.

Such a game was basically everywhere in a playground, but Lin Ruoxi, Hui Lin, and An Xin hadn't seen it very often, so this particular one peaked their interests.

At the top of the stairs stood a snow-white, huge polar bear doll which looked incredibly eye-catching due to its round feature.

An Xin wasn't too excited, unlike the child-like Lin Ruoxi and Hui Lin. This was especially the case with Lin Ruoxi. Back then, she had taken a good interest in the dumpling back at the store, which led to Yang Chen taking part in the challenge. Now that she had noticed the huge polar bear, Younger Sister Lin's eyes illuminated.

Yang Chen knew that Lin Ruoxi was too embarrassed to suggest participating in the game, so he said, "The game looks quite interesting. Since we have time, why not we have a go at it?"

Elation filled Lin Ruoxi's eyes, but she still remained expressionless. "I'm fine with anything. Hui Lin, do you want to play?"

Hui Lin nodded her head forcefully of course. Thus, they approached the old man before Yang Chen asked, "Grandpa, how much do you charge for this game?"

The old man pointed at a small, wooden signboard. There were words written by a writing brush: Five bucks for two tries, ten bucks for five tries.

"Then I'll pay 30 bucks for now. Each of you can have five tries," Yang Chen said as he took out a fifty-yuan note from his pocket.

The old man appeared to be feeling cold. He shivered lightly as he received the money. After giving Yang Chen a twenty-yuan change, he then passed a basket to each of the ladies.

"Girls, stand behind this table to throw. Whether or not you hit one depends on your luck. I recommend you to aim for the small ones, and leave the big ones untouched. It's very unlikely that they fall even if you managed to hit one," the old man advised.

The plastic balls were hollow, so the force that it exerted when thrown was very low. In addition to that, their weight made it so that the wind was able to push it much easier. So, it was quite tough to hit a doll at the seemingly short distance.

Hui Lin was the first one who stood behind the table. She practised martial arts. Although she didn't excel in using hidden weapons, her strength and accuracy were still extraordinary.

Whoosh! The first ball she threw managed to hit a small teddy bear at the center down.

Shocked, the old man clapped and praised, "Wow, not bad at all!"

Hui Lin smiled sweetly as she waited for the old man to pass the teddy bear to her. She then threw three more balls, but missed all of them. With her fifth and final ball, she hit a doll yet another time which was a little pony. The grandpa picked it up and gave it to Hui Lin.

Yang Chen could tell that Hui Lin intentionally missed most of her attempts. Softly, he whispered to Hui Lin, "Why didn't you aim for the huge polar bear? You only had to use a little internal energy to hit it down."

Out of shyness, Hui Lin blushed when Yang Chen's hot breath hit on her ear. She carefully glanced at Lin Ruoxi who wasn't paying attention to her, before saying, "I'll leave the huge bear to Elder Sister. She seems to like it more than I do. Also, it's difficult for the grandpa to take care of a store in such a cold weather. I have the gift of martial arts. I don't want to take advantage of him."

Yang Chen revealed a so-I-see expression. He simply touched Hui Lin's ponytail and said, "Only you would be so kind."

Hui Lin felt that a deer was banging around in her heart after Yang Chen touched her hair. To her, such an action was incredibly intimate.

However, Yang Chen failed to notice her response. He was focused on An Xin who was the second one to play.

An Xin wasn't as strong and accurate as Hui Lin. She failed to hit a single doll after five tries. Pouting, she said to the old man, "Grandpa, I want five more balls," as she took out a ten-yuan note from her leather purse.

The old man was naturally pleased. After receiving the money, he passed five more balls to An Xin.

An Xin wasn't disappointed this time. She managed to hit the smallest *teru teru bōzu* and was satisfied enough, so she didn't plan on playing more.

"Good luck Elder Sister Ruoxi." An Xin didn't forget to put up an act to encourage Lin Ruoxi when she came down from the platform.

Lin Ruoxi hummed in acknowledgement. She wasn't bothered to reply An Xin. Taking a deep breath, she took her basket and came to the table, looking rather nervous. Her huge, watery eyes were fixed on the huge polar bear at the highest spot.

"Elder Sister is really serious," Hui Lin said.

An Xin walked over and said softly, “Her gaze doesn’t look like she wants to hit the polar bear door, but shows her bloodlust for polar bears instead. Sigh... she looks more and more like a little girl.”

At this moment, Lin Ruoxi had finally finished preparing her combat emotion. Taking out a plastic ball, aiming at the polar bear, she released it with all her strength!

Whoosh! The force was sufficient, but her ball flew to a different direction.

Lin Ruoxi’s cheeks instantly turned as red as a mature apple. Evidently, missing her attempts in front of her love rival, husband, and younger sister was something embarrassing to her.

Lin Ruoxi chose to avoid looking at the expressions of the people standing around. She took out yet another ball and forcefully threw it at the polar bear.

Unfortunately, after throwing all of her five balls, none of them even touched the polar bear, let alone hitting it down.

Without hesitation, she took out a fifty-yuan bill from her purse and gave it to the old man. “I want 25 balls.”

The old man happily accepted her money and gave her what she demanded before keeping the bank note into the pocket of his tank top.

With a basket full of balls, she continued throwing the balls forcefully at the polar bear. Unfortunately, no matter how she threw them, the balls either headed to the left or the right instead of the center. She didn’t even manage to hit any other dolls.

Having thrown all 25 balls, her face wasn’t red anymore, but appear a little pale instead. Her gaze revealed a frightening gaze of bloodlust toward the polar bear.

“Grandpa...” Lin Ruoxi called. Her voice was enough to freeze a person completely. Even if the weather was already cold, the old man felt the air around him fall ten more degrees .

“Gi—girl... are you actually asking for more?” The old man was actually astonished. He had never seen such an unfortunate customer before. Lin Ruoxi didn’t even manage to hit the smallest doll with any of her 30 balls.

Lin Ruoxi took out a hundred-yuan bill from her purse and said, “Give me 50 balls.”

The old man didn’t know whether to cry or laugh. “Girl, I’m starting to feel embarrassed seeing you throw like that and I’m not even the one that’s playing. Why don’t you keep your money, and I’ll give you a small one. Please don’t get mad, just treat today as your bad day.”

“No way!”

Lin Ruoxi’s face was freezing-cold when she yelled. She stared right into the old man’s eyes, which caused him to be horrified.

“I don’t believe I can’t even hit a small doll! Why is it that they can but I can’t? Grandpa, don’t talk about giving me one. I want to hit one myself!” Lin Ruoxi said in an agitated manner as she pointed at Hui Lin and An Xin.

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. He was well aware of Lin Ruoxi's personality, otherwise she wouldn't have worked so hard in Yu Lei just to prove that she was capable to lead the company.

Today, Yang Chen noticed he had underestimated Lin Ruoxi's desire to win. The girl was so determined just to get a small toy.

When one thought about it, Lin Ruoxi might've started treating An Xin as her enemy. She wasn't willing to lose to An Xin in any aspects. Moreover, she had never liked to admit defeat. She wouldn't give up so easily in getting the polar bear she liked.

The pitiful old man was dumbstruck. Judging from her gaze, she looks like she wants to murder someone instead of getting dolls!

However, there was not much the old man could say. Furthermore, it was more money for him. Thus, he gave Lin Ruoxi two huge baskets containing 50 balls in total while shaking his head.

Lin Ruoxi placed the two baskets in front of her as she continued launching attacks at the polar bear. She was basically firing cannons as she unstopably tossed the colorful plastic balls.

Unfortunately, no matter how hard Lin Ruoxi tried to aim, or how much strength she exerted, the balls failed to hit the dolls.

"Girl, please don't focus your attention on the big bear anymore. It looks like an easy target, but it's also the furthest one from you. Why don't you try aiming for the small ones? They're closer and easier to get," the old man suggested. He wasn't willing to see the beautiful girl throwing tantrums anymore.

Lin Ruoxi bit her lip as her eyes looked resolute. "No, I have to hit the big bear!"

At this moment, Lin Ruoxi had used up all her 50 balls. Thus, she took out 200 yuan from her purse and said, "Grandpa, I want 100 balls!"

The old man felt helpless, but there was nothing he could do. Therefore, he delivered a hundred balls to her.

It wasn't easy to finish throwing a hundred balls. Lin Ruoxi took a short break each time after throwing around ten balls. The cycle soon lasted for more than half an hour.

Hui Lin and An Xin almost cried during their wait. They found it unbelievable. Even if one had their eyes closed, wouldn't they have at least hit something, anything?! Even the closest ones would have been struck

When Lin Ruoxi finished throwing her balls again, she took out 400 yuan from her purse to ask for 200 balls. However, the old man was so terrified that he paled.

"Little Girl! I beg you. I'll give you the big bear and all the other dolls. All of their values combined total up to less than 400 yuan!" the old man confessed. He was petrified by Lin Ruoxi. Why must there be such horrifying customers in this world?! he thought.

"Ruoxi, do you want me to help you? Treat it as a gift from your husband," Yang Chen said after approaching her. If he allowed her to play again, the sky would've turned dark before they could return to the resort.

Lin Ruoxi looked at Yang Chen with disdain. "What is it? You don't believe that I could hit one as well? An Xin could hit one, so why can't I? I refuse to lose."

Yang Chen rubbed his face as he felt speechless. He couldn't just say something like, "But you've already lost," could he?

This time, Lin Ruoxi basically snatched 200 balls from the old man. She placed them all on the table, forming a little mountain.

Lin Ruoxi stretched her arms before continuing to cause the balls to fall like rain...

Nothing is absolute in the world. Just like how a man may survive a rain of bullets, Lin Ruoxi had failed to hit a single doll after four or five hundred balls.

In this season, the daylight hours weren't very long. After Lin Ruoxi finished throwing all 200 balls, the sun had started setting...

Lin Ruoxi looked sombre. A horrifying aura exuded from her gorgeous face, especially from her black pupils which looked like they could shoot fatal blazes.

The old man had hidden himself in the store. He wasn't willing to take any money from her anymore. He only hoped that the girl could leave as soon as possible.

Yang Chen saw that both Hui Lin and An Xin had started daydreaming together. This had to stop now. He walked forward and pulled Lin Ruoxi's arm. "Let's go, there's no need to play anymore. Who gets this pissed over a toy on a trip?"

Although Lin Ruoxi was still unwilling to give up, she knew that she had gone over the line. She stared at the unwavering polar bear angrily before nodding. "Wait for me."

Soon, being gazed upon by Yang Chen, Lin Ruoxi walked to the store and placed ten bucks on the table before saying to the old man who dare not stare her in the eye, "Grandpa, I'll use ten bucks to buy ten of your plastic balls."

"Ah?"

The old man doubted his hearing. He cried, "Girl, why are you still here? I'm an old man who may get a heart attack from your antics!"

"No, I want to buy your balls and go back to practise. I'll come again after I'm done practising," Lin Ruoxi said strictly. "Keep the big bear for me. I will get it no matter what."

This time, not only the old man was astonished, even Yang Chen, Hui Lin, and An Xin were all dumbstruck.

An Xin drew a cross in front of her and said softly behind Yang Chen, "Hubby, I will behave myself in the future. I don't want to compete with a crazy woman like this for a man... She's this horrifyingly serious just to get a toy, if I snatch her husband away, someone is going to die and that person will be me."

Dissatisfied, Yang Chen complained, "What 'crazy woman' are you talking about? Don't say it like that."

An Xin stuck her tongue out before pouting her mouth. Evidently, she didn't feel guilty for putting it this way. She secretly glanced at Lin Ruoxi who was carefully choosing plastic balls. It was the first time heartfelt fear had surfaced in her eyes.

Chapter 424: I Can Do It

After returning to the guesthouse, the manager of the resort had prepared a delectable meal, so Yang Chen didn't have the chance to show off his culinary skills.

An Xin occasionally poured fruit juice for Lin Ruoxi in an attempt to please her. She had truly feared Lin Ruoxi for the first time in her life.

Lin Ruoxi was still absent-minded currently. She looked like she was pondering about her inability to hit the doll. When she was peeling the shell of the prawn, she accidentally peeled some of the flesh off as well, causing the frugal Hui Lin to feel a heartache.

Yang Chen chewed on a Japanese grilled squid as he stared at the foolish-looking Lin Ruoxi. Smiling, he said, "Wife, be honest with me. When you were in school, except failing every music class, you managed to fail every physical examination class as well, didn't you? You have absolutely no talent in sports."

"How is this related to sports?" Lin Ruoxi blushed. Actually, she had indeed failed most of her physical education classes, but there was no way that she was going to reveal this in front of An Xin and Hui Lin.

An Xin blinked her eyes a few times. Out of curiosity, she asked, "Elder Sister Ruoxi, why didn't you pass your music class?"

Lin Ruoxi remained quiet as she acted like she heard nothing.

Yang Chen helped her out of the situation. "That's because she was too lazy to attend her classes and tests."

"Oh..." Although An Xin didn't believe that was the reason, she stopped prying further.

After the meal, the four of them didn't have plans on what they were going to do next. Lin Ruoxi silently returned to her room. When she walked upstairs, she brought a plastic container filled with plastic balls along with her. One would know what she was up to even if the toe was used to think instead of the brain.

"Hui Lin, your elder sister is horrifying," An Xin said softly as she shivered a little.

Helplessness surfaced on Hui Lin's face. Pouting, she said, "Elder Sister doesn't usually behave this way. I believe it's because you're here."

"I should've missed all my tries earlier, to prevent that from happening," An Xin said before pouting.

Yang Chen walked forward and pinched An Xin's cheek. "Stop overthinking. Go rest with Hui Lin. We'll wander about a little before going back to Zhonghai tomorrow."

After sending the two ladies back to their room, Yang Chen returned to the room shared by him and Lin Ruoxi.

Upon entering the room, Lin Ruoxi was seen stepping on cotton slippers and dressed in a thin, pink sweater as she had removed her coat. She was holding a few plastic balls while trying to shoot the small handbag she placed near the end of the bed.

Lin Ruoxi was slightly surprised to see Yang Chen enter the room. She shut her mouth tightly before quickly keeping the plastic balls into the container. She then started messing with her hair, as if nothing had happened.

Evidently, even Lin Ruoxi herself was aware that practising her throwing skills in the room was rather odd no matter how one looked at it.

"I'll go take a shower," Lin Ruoxi before taking her clothing and quickly running into the washroom.

Yang Chen didn't tease her. He sat on the sofa to watch the television. After around half an hour later, Lin Ruoxi walked out from the washroom before he asked, "Do you need me to sleep on the sofa tonight?"

Lin Ruoxi was holding a dry towel as she rubbed her soaking wet hair. Her cheeks were so pink that they looked like juice would be released when pinched. She felt curious about Yang Chen's question. "Why do you ask so?"

"I thought you would be afraid of me doing naughty things and forbid me from sleeping on the bed," Yang Chen said with a smile.

Lin Ruoxi suddenly felt a weird sourness and disappointment.

They were married, and as the husband, Yang Chen was expected to be called to sleep on the sofa, when there were clearly two beds in the room.

Have I been overly cruel to him all this time?

I have always blamed him for looking for women outside. Perhaps the reason is because I refuse to give it to him... she thought.

Lin Ruoxi slowly walked toward Yang Chen before sitting next to him on the sofa. Being shone upon by the warm-white light, she looked like an enchanting lotus born out of clear water, attracting Yang Chen's gaze.

Lin Ruoxi clenched her teeth. Resolutely, she asked, "Why don't we... try it tonight?"

Yang Chen didn't understand what she meant. "What do you mean by try it? What is it?"

Lin Ruoxi tried her best to not lower her head or voice. She blushed so hard that her neck had turned pinkish. "Try... try doing what married couples do..." she replied.

Yang Chen suddenly got it. He frowned as he found it hard to believe. He didn't know whether he should cry or laugh when he looked at Lin Ruoxi. "Babe Ruoxi, I only asked if I could sleep on the bed. I did not mean for it to be like that. You don't have to force yourself to do this. It's normal for Mom to expect grandchildren, but we don't have to give birth to one right away for her. I'll help you explain it to her, don't worry."

“No.” Lin Ruoxi shook her head. “It’s me who wants to try it once. Although I’m a little afraid, I can’t lose to anybody...”

Yang Chen almost fell off his chair. Is she comparing herself to other women even on this aspect? Is it because she’s upset today, so she wants to recover lost grounds somewhere else, so she suggested to try doing something so intimate?! he thought.

“What are you thinking about?” Lin Ruoxi asked, dissatisfied. “I’m not afraid of it as a woman. Aren’t you usually very open-minded? Why are you hesitating now?”

Yang Chen slapped his thigh. “What’s there for me to hesitate about? As long as you’re willing to do it, I have no qualms about doing my own wife!” Yang Chen said proudly.

“You... you’re really... Can you not be this rude all the time when you speak! What’s that about doing... doing something,” Lin Ruoxi complained while her cheeks flushed. Even if she had known that Yang Chen was vulgar from day one, she still couldn’t help but try to change him. Unfortunately, her attempts were proven ineffective.

Yang Chen laughed before saying, “I told you I wasn’t a cultured man. As my baby wife, you’ll have to bear with me a little. Shall we begin?”

“Aren’t you going to take a shower first?” Lin Ruoxi asked softly. Although she was nervous, she didn’t overlook hygiene.

“Oops, I almost forgot that my body is still covered with the smell of lamb. I’ll be back really soon. Go back to your nest and wait for me patiently.” Yang Chen’s heart heated up. He had never expected Lin Ruoxi to request to sleep with him tonight. He still thought he had to wait for at least six months. He suddenly felt so blessed.

Having gotten enough motivation, the time he took to shower made one wonder if he actually took a bath.

Within the next few minutes, Yang Chen rushed out of the washroom with a half-wet body. He wore a three-sided underwear because he was afraid of suddenly getting too excited.

Lin Ruoxi carefully crawled onto the bed. Dressed in only a thin layer of nightdress made of silk, her snow-white skin was vaguely exposed, while her curves looked extraordinarily alluring, especially the outline caused by her firm and rounded hip, causing Yang Chen’s lower body to immediately stiffen.

Yang Chen appreciated her movement as she crawled into her nest, while the passion in his heart started getting more violent.

Lin Ruoxi turned around and noticed Yang Chen’s fiery gaze before subconsciously shrinking away a little. But when she recalled that she was the one who had made the request, she clenched her teeth and spread out her body on the bed covered in a white sheet before closing her eyes.

Yang Chen inhaled a huge breath. From his point of view, Lin Ruoxi’s bosom formed a pair of snow mountains when she was lying on the bed. The proud, stream-and-mountain-like curvature, her fair-skinned neck, together with her black-ink-like hair made a combination so alluring that it would make any man excited with just a glance.

Slowly, Yang Chen got on the bed and scanned her from her naked feet to her waist which didn't even contain the slightest bit of fat. At the secret area, through her moon-white nightdress, a purple, laced underwear could be seen. Her seemingly snow-covered thighs made her seductive ravine particularly obvious, causing Yang Chen to have the urge to lose his self control.

Lin Ruoxi's figure was superior to Mo Qianni's and Rose's. She could qualify as the standard among models, while her abundance wasn't less than Yang Chen's other women.

Yang Chen couldn't help but be impressed for his persistence. He hadn't forced anything but put the treasure aside instead. Whenever he thought that he was the one who had taken the woman's first time, he would get a huge sense of accomplishment.

Yang Chen slowly pressed his body against hers before nearing Lin Ruoxi's neck with her nose to inhale her lovely jasmine-like fragrance. Lin Ruoxi was only teased by Yang Chen this way before she moaned lightly while her body quivered slightly.

"Relax, there's no need to feel so nervous. This isn't our first time anyway. You'll enjoy this, I promise," Yang Chen said beside Lin Ruoxi's ear while one of his arms reached to one side of her abundance slowly.

The soft texture filled his hand, causing him to involuntarily exert more force...

"Mmh..."

Lin Ruoxi's face was like a piece of red jade. Her big, watery eyes were open, as if her entire body almost melted in Yang Chen's hand.

Yang Chen noticed the tears in Lin Ruoxi's eyes. He thought she might be suffering, so he said, "Why don't we... Nevermind. I don't think you are ready for that yet."

To be honest, Yang Chen was already impressed that she had made it this far into the process.

Lin Ruoxi, however, shook her head. "I... I can do it. You... continue..."

Yang Chen didn't say more. He kissed her deeply as he searched for Lin Ruoxi's clumsy, scented tongue. He tried to dissolve the nervousness and awkwardness of his inexperienced wife by kissing. At the same time, his other free hand moved to the gap between Lin Ruoxi's white-jade-like thighs.

He touched Lin Ruoxi's purple, laced underwear a little and immediately noticed it had gotten ridiculously soaked. Lin Ruoxi's was very sensitive. Far beyond what Yang Chen had expected

However, such things were sought after by many men. Without hesitation, he started removing her nightdress from the bottom. Slowly, the area under her waist was exposed in the air...

He reluctantly removed his lips from hers. Shocked, her delicate mouth was half open, revealing her tongue a little. When their lips separated, a crystal-like silk chain was pulled from within.

Yang Chen took a deep breath. All he could smell was Lin Ruoxi's thick scent. He finally grabbed one side of the underwear and slowly removed the innermost cover to the most mysterious area, revealing the much desired garden...

Lin Ruoxi shut her eyes while her heart rapidly throbbed in her body. Her body quivered for a bit when her most precious part was exposed in the air. The snow-white skin throughout her entire body soon dyed in an alluring pink. She could even feel mountain spring gushing out from her elegant stream...

Chapter 425: Series

Yang Chen's breath became heavier and heavier as he slowly felt himself turn into an insane beast, when suddenly, a deafening noise echoed throughout the entire building of the resort!

Bweee! Bweee!

It was so loud that it could shatter a person's eardrums, which immediately notified Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi who were in bed that something was up.

It's the fire alarm?!

Yang Chen jumped down from the bed instinctively before putting on his clothes and coat. At the same time, he threw Lin Ruoxi's pants and coat onto the bed before asking her to wear them.

The sudden turn of events made Lin Ruoxi forget what she was supposed to do. Fortunately, Yang Chen didn't panic in the disaster, and he pulled her back to reality.

This fire alarm couldn't have come at a worse time... Yang Chen smiled bitterly. What the heck is going on? I've been waiting for the past six months to finally sleep with my wife, but some part of this place suddenly caught on fire somehow?!

If it wasn't because he knew it was impossible, he might even suspect this to be a doing of the little vixen An Xin.

"Guests, please pay attention. Guests, please pay attention. A few areas have caught fire due to a short circuit in the heater of our guesthouse. Please watch out for the fires and leave in an orderly fashion..."

Lin Ruoxi quickly put on her coat. While the pink on her face was still present, her eyes had become clear. She didn't know why she was currently less nervous than when she was being 'attacked' by Yang Chen.

Subconsciously, she touched her chest before exhaling as she felt relieved.

It actually made sense. No women in the world would pass their body to a husband who messed around with other women outside all day.

Having worn her sports shoes, Lin Ruoxi came to Yang Chen and said, "Let's get out quickly. I bet Hui Lin and An Xin are anxious now as well."

Yang Chen naturally was aware this incident was odd. But he wasn't too worried, as Hui Lin practised martial arts. With her presence, An Xin should be safe as well.

He pulled Lin Ruoxi and walked to the door. Bang! Bang! Bang! Before he opened it, the door was knocked on.

"Sir! Sir! Please open the door! It's an emergency!"

Yang Chen opened the door before seeing a young man dressed in a uniform of the guesthouse. He seemed relieved after noticing Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi were coming out. Hurriedly, he said, "Sir, Miss, please leave from the exit on the left. It's really dangerous here. An explosion might occur at any time."

The fire alarm shone violently in the walkway. Many of the guests staying on the same floor were running to the staircase.

Yang Chen nodded. Holding Lin Ruoxi's soft hand, he walked out of the room.

He only proceeded a few steps before suddenly pulling Lin Ruoxi's body to him.

"Ah." She didn't know why Yang Chen had pulled on her this hard.

However, before Lin Ruoxi could ask, a light suddenly stabbed through the place where Lin Ruoxi was originally standing!

It's a knife?!

Before Lin Ruoxi could think about it, Yang Chen had made his next move. He use his left arm to launch a lightning-fast strike on the server's face, caving in the face of the young man who intended to stab Lin Ruoxi.

Yang Chen then turned around to look at the face of his assailant. His heavy blow was not to be taken lightly. The face of the killer disguised as a server had sunk in, while blood flowed out from his mouth. He looked like he received a concussion, or his brain had bled from the inside, causing him to unable to stand up again.

No matter how calm Lin Ruoxi was, having witnessed this series of events, she was stunned into silence.

Frowning, Yang Chen pulled Lin Ruoxi and walked to Hui Lin's and An Xin's room without hesitation. He wanted to kick the door open, but it was opened from the inside.

Hui Lin who was dressed in a pink cotton pyjamas stood there with a messy hair. She looked rather worried as she held a long dagger in hand whose ownership was unknown.

"Brother Yang, Elder Sister, are you guys fine?"

"That's what I should ask you. Where's An Xin?" Yang Chen asked.

"I... I'm here." An Xin looked terrified as she walked out of the washroom. Pressing onto her chest, she looked like she had received some form of stimulation.

Yang Chen felt at ease. He looked inside the room, and noticed a man dressed in a server's uniform lying on the ground unconsciously. He was dealt with by Hui Lin already, but it wasn't known if he was still alive or not.

"When the fire alarm rang, we wanted to leave the room, but that guy suddenly rushed in with a dagger and wanted to kill us. So I resisted and ushered An Xin into the bathroom. Brother Yang, why is there a murderer out of nowhere?" Hui Lin had had experience in a couple of violent battles, so she managed to calm herself down very quickly.

Yang Chen turned to look at Lin Ruoxi. "They must've been sent by one of your opposition parties. If they wanted to come for me, there's no way they would have done it like so. They would at least get something other than a single knife."

Lin Ruoxi's cheeks turned cold. The shyness and panic in her beautiful eyes earlier in her room had dispersed. Currently, she behaved like she was filled with a violent snowstorm, even the way she talked revealed darkness.

"There's an ambush after a fire alarm. I guess they're not done yet. This should be a planned conspiracy," Lin Ruoxi said as she frowned. "Their objective should be complicated. We'll return to Zhonghai now and pass this to the police to take care of."

Yang Chen was naturally fine with it. All he wanted was the safety of his family. Hui Lin and An Xin obeyed Lin Ruoxi as well. All of them quickly packed their luggages.

Yang Chen followed Lin Ruoxi back to her room to get her luggage. No matter how urgent the situation was, they couldn't afford to panic now.

"How did you know the person was a murderer?" Lin Ruoxi asked as she felt curious.

"Everyone from the guesthouse knows you're the CEO. He called me 'Sir' first, before calling you 'Miss'. Furthermore, the fire alarm only rang for such a short while but there was already a server knocking on our door. They have made flaws on the fundamental level," Yang Chen said with a vague smile. "Most importantly, he's a low-level killer. His killing aura was extremely prominent."

A strange light flowed through Lin Ruoxi's eyes. "How are you so sensitive to killing aura?"

Yang Chen smiled and answered, "Do you really want to know?"

"Yes. I feel that if I want to pass everything to you, perhaps I should understand more of your past," Lin Ruoxi replied. In fact, she had avoided talking about Yang Chen's past since the day Zeng Xinlin and Xu Zhihong were killed. However, she couldn't stay away from mentioning it now.

She felt that this was the final barrier that obstructed her from connecting with Yang Chen.

Yang Chen squinted as he seriously gazed upon Lin Ruoxi. After a short while, he said, "When we have time, I'll bring you to a place. Treat it as a vacation while I tell you about my past."

"Alright then," Lin Ruoxi answered in an indifferent manner.. After she finished packing, she walked toward the door alone.

"Wait!"

Yang Chen walked closer to her. Dissatisfied, he said, "What are you getting mad for? Walk beside me obediently at such a moment. Do you only think that they had sent two killers to kill you?"

After being pulled forcefully by Yang Chen, Lin Ruoxi bit her lower lip as she felt discontent for Yang Chen's rough movement. But he was just trying to protect her, so there was nothing much she could say.

Lin Ruoxi informed the important details to the manager of the resort, before leaving to her giant Lexus with the others.

Yang Chen took out his phone before turning on the engine as he made a phone call home.

The phone rang for a very long time, but the call wasn't picked up by anyone.

"Are you making a call home?" Lin Ruoxi asked.

Yang Chen nodded. "Why isn't anyone picking up the call?"

He didn't think that the people at home were under attack. If that was the case, the members from Sea Eagles in charge of the safety of the house should send him a notice.

"Have you forgotten that Wang Ma will contact a moving company to carry the stuff back to the old house?" Lin Ruoxi asked.

Yang Chen finally thought of it. Hurriedly, he asked, "What's the phone number of the old house?"

"I already called them. Wang Ma said she was fine, and asked us to take care of our own safety." Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes. "You even forgot about moving home. I think you certainly didn't intend to go back."

As soon as she finished speaking, her phone started ringing. It was a call from her assistant Wu Yue.

"Boss Lin, this is bad." Wu Yue sounded impatient. She usually behaved like Lin Ruoxi as she didn't talk or laugh often, but she currently couldn't hold herself back anymore.

Calmly, Lin Ruoxi said, "Speak slowly."

"A few of the processing plants in Zhonghai owned by Yu Lei are all on fire simultaneously. Quite a number of employees working the night shift had died in the fire. The police have requested a representative from our company to aid in their investigations. I heard it was a safety problem with our factories, but I feel that this was planned by someone. All our factories are kept strictly under review. They wouldn't catch fire so suddenly at the same time. Also, these workers all died in their departments. How is it possible that none of them escape..."

Lin Ruoxi's eyes turned cold. "Are they the factories that manufacture the new material?"

"Yes, Boss. I feel that someone is trying to delay us from launching the new material into the market, and thus messed up our supply chain. And... it looks like they have a strong hatred for us that they had even taken lives this time round. They obviously want to go against us face-to-face. But... but I really don't know whom we're faced with," Wu Yue said, worried.

Lin Ruoxi looked dull. Indeed, she had no clue who tried to harm her company. She had too many enemies, while a lot of them were influential and powerful. Under such a fierce competition, she found it hard to strike back effectively.

As Lin Ruoxi wanted to inform Wu Yue about certain solutions, An Xin who was at the back seat shouted.

"Be careful!!!"

Lin Ruoxi violently turned her head to look to the front, only to find a huge truck rushing directly towards her car with its headlights on high beam!

It was a single lane. This truck was going in the wrong direction.

Lin Ruoxi's eyes were widened to maximum as she got anxious, while Yang Chen who was on the driver's seat didn't look relaxed anymore. With his eyes squinted, they exuded a thick killing aura...

"Yang Chen! Turn around now!"

Lin Ruoxi shouted as she looked at Yang Chen remove his seat belts.

"Wh—what are you trying to do?"

At this critical moment, all Yang Chen did was turn his head to give a soothing smile to Lin Ruoxi. It even looked a little mischievous. He then pushed the door open!

Chapter 426: Hidden Undercurrent

The bone-piercing wind of the night blew violently into the car, causing the three ladies to shiver in their seats.

Remaining quiet, Yang Chen calmly and forcefully stepped on the brake before changing the transmission to the parking gear and pulled the handbrake!

Screech!

The enormous tractive force generated by the Lexus caused it to slide down the road quite a bit before finally coming to a halt. White smoke then covered the entire car.

The oncoming truck was only 50 meters away. Under the cover of the night, it looked like a monster coming to devour the four of them.

At this moment, Yang Chen left his driver's seat. He flashed before appearing 5 meters in front of the Lexus.

He stretched his arms out as he raised his head to look at the sky, as if he was enjoying the moment, just like the classic scene from Titanic. However, the person who did this in the movie was a woman, while the one currently posing this way was a man.

"Yang Chen!!!"

"Brother Yang!!!"

The three ladies in the car shouted in unison. Lin Ruoxi tried to stretch her arm out to stop Yang Chen, but she failed to even get a hold of his shirt.

They stared at Yang Chen who was standing in front of a truck like a suicidal martyr as he planned to block the steel monster with only his body.

Shocked and petrified, they tried but failed to understand the situation that was before them!

Is this man crazy?!

Hui Lin understood Yang Chen the best. But even she didn't think a person could stop a truck with only their body. It was something only made possible by using cinematic special effects. She clasped her hands so tight that her fingers had turned pale!

Whether or not they would be crushed by the truck after Yang Chen was run over was no longer their concern.

Vroom!

Following the roar of the diesel engine, deafening sounds of explosions echoed in the sky!

Bang! Bang! Clunk! Boom!

Dust was kicked up from the ground. At the moment the truck collided with Yang Chen's body, it appeared to have crashed into an invisible wall. Following closely, it received an enormous blow back, which crushed the entire truck like a tin can!

The thick and heavy metal plates got violently distorted while various parts of the truck's body were bent and broken. The gear-grinding-like sound could damage one's eardrums, while the noise that followed was the blast of the engine and the rupturing of the magnetic belts!

Due to the overwhelming impact, the rear of the truck was thrown up, flipping in the sky together with its front before falling into the green belt by the road!

[TL note: Green belt: an area of open land around a city, on which building is restricted.]

The metal plates and the part fragments together with shattered glass and the truck body gave rise to a huge crack on the ground.

The soil and plants were smashed beyond repair, as if an excavator had gone berserk, making it a sight for sore eyes.

Having noticed that nothing dangerous had taken place, the three women carefully poked their heads out to take a look at the aftermath. The truck somehow ended up by the road and appeared crushed.

On the other hand, the man who had frightened them was walking toward the crushed truck as if he was walking in the park. Dust and smoke filled the place, while the charred smell of the soil was sharp.

Expressionlessly, Yang Chen stretched his arm out to remove the heavily bent door before throwing the half-dead driver out whose head was full of blood.

He was a rather well-built man. As he was being pulled out of the car by Yang Chen, his breath was coincidentally cut off.

"How unlucky," Yang Chen murmured. He was too lazy to take care of the aftermath, so he walked back to his car.

An Xin and Hui Lin were fine. They didn't find it hard to accept what they had observed, since they had witnessed Yang Chen's extraordinary background before. Lin Ruoxi however, was different. Although she had seen him kill before, she would never expect a human being to be able to block a truck with just their body.

Thus, when Yang Chen boarded the car, Lin Ruoxi subconsciously shrank away her body a little.

Yang Chen noticed her reaction, and felt a hint of bitterness in his heart.

After reaching Full Cycle of Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture, he was able to restrain his post-killing headache, so he didn't have to take the medication provided by Jane to prevent himself from going insane.

However, this didn't mean his killing aura was going to disperse that easily. Every time he took action, he wasn't able to control the cruel soul in his body, which resulted in him exuding the horrifying aura of his killing intent.

Yang Chen was aware that his chronic illness hadn't fully recovered yet. In other words, his body was no different than that of an atom bomb. He didn't know if he would turn into a bloodthirsty monster one day.

He tried his best to retract his killing aura before forcing a smile. "Did I frighten you?"

Lin Ruoxi was rather regretful. She had seen the sorrow revealed on Yang Chen's face earlier. Shaking her said, she answered, "I... I was just not used to it then. I'm fine now."

Yang Chen nodded. He then started the car engine before remaining in silence for a while. "I hope that you'll never have a chance to get used to it, even if... it isn't very possible."

Lin Ruoxi stayed quiet, while Hui Lin and An Xin had felt something unusual as well, so they decided not to speak.

They didn't face anything else on their journey home. Lin Ruoxi's phone kept ringing and each and every one of them was about news regarding the fires. The police had also gotten involved in the investigation. This case had costed the lives of more than ten people after all.

Lin Ruoxi contemplated over an issue before making a call to Mo Qianni. "Qianni, where are you now?"

"I've been in the company for quite a while already. I was going to call you soon if you didn't call me first. The situation is terrible now." Mo Qianni sounded busy. Shouts and other noises could be heard repeatedly. Orders were being thrown left right centre.

Lin Ruoxi took a deep breath. "Wu Yue told me about what had happened in the factories. Leave them aside for now. I suspect our enemy this time is just trying to distract us on the factories' side. They sent killers after me. I believe they might send someone after you and the other core members as well. Take care of your safety. Gather the security team immediately..."

"Killers?!" Mo Qianni exclaimed. Hurriedly, she asked, "Then... then are you guys fine?"

"Yeah..." Lin Ruoxi glanced at Yang Chen who was quietly driving. "We're fine, don't worry. Look into finding out the responsible party first."

Mo Qianni answered, "I believe... I can't get away now."

"Why?" Lin Ruoxi frowned.

“Five minutes ago, there was suddenly an influx of overseas buyers purchasing our stocks like crazy. Our branch in the USA is occupied now. I’m trying to remotely give orders for us to cooperate as well as we can. If this continues, we have to move funds from other sources. They’re deliberately suppressing us economically and physically, to cause a crash in the stock market and make our stocks suffer...”

Lin Ruoxi shut her eyes. Coldly, she asked, “Are we still holding up now?”

“It’s really dangerous...” Mo Qianni talked to her subordinates for a while, before coming back to the phone call. “Ruoxi... I think... we should ask for help from Athena Team. I believe we’re faced with top-notch traders. They may even turn out to be well known traders. We’re now having troubles internally and externally, I don’t think we can afford anymore losses. If Athena Team takes action, we can focus on moving funds to fight back.”

The Athena Team mentioned by Mo Qianni was the group which had defeated Changlin Media and the Xu clan back then. They were a team directly controlled by Lin Ruoxi. All of them were world-class actuaries and traders, so the cost to hire them was incredibly high, as a result, they were only used in very significant business battles. Since the team would only listen to Lin Ruoxi’s command, Mo Qianni had to ask her first.

Lin Ruoxi pondered for a while. “I’ll be heading to the Athena Team’s base at the resort. Qianni, take over my position for now and deal with the recent, important tasks. Let Mingyu work with you, and bring the other department heads together to stabilize our situation. We must not panic in situations like this. I’ll also pass problems regarding finance to Wu Yue. She’s closer with the banks. Oh yeah, don’t delay the bidding for the new material taking place tomorrow and the day after. Based on our estimations, we should have enough funds to buy over those factories. Don’t lose this opportunity just because we’re in a bad position.”

“Understood. I won’t back down on the bidding and negotiations,” Mo Qianni answered before ending the call. She had had enough headaches just by dealing with the troubles in the company, so she felt rather stressed out.

Soon, Lin Ruoxi immediately made a phone call to gather the members of Athena Team to their base at the resort before asking Yang Chen to drive there, so the others weren’t able to go home for now.

Judging by the current situation, the person who was behind this was most likely Ning Guodong. But he didn’t appear to have such a large influence. Even if the Ning clan had enough power and funds, they wouldn’t give everything to him just to go against Yu Lei International. Who else would it be then?

Lin Ruoxi had more candidates in her heart, but she failed to identify any of them who would actually do something so drastic, so she decided not to voice them out for now.

Hui Lin and An Xin listened to Lin Ruoxi pass down a bunch of orders, and understood how and the situation was. An Xin was in contemplation, while Hui Lin had no clue about business operations. Worried, she asked, “Elder Sister, did something bad happen? Can... can I be of your help?”

Lin Ruoxi turned her head around to look at Hui Lin’s naive and kind face. She immediately felt warmth as she looked at her eyes. Smiling, she answered, “Everything is under control, trust me.”

Hui Lin nodded her head obediently. She knew that she actually couldn't help Lin Ruoxi much, but she couldn't help but feel anxious.

"If you're having trouble gathering finance, the An clan can help," An Xin suddenly said.

Lin Ruoxi was slightly surprised. She gave An Xin a complex gaze before saying, "Thank you."

An Xin smiled. "What are you thanking me for? You're my elder sister, not to mention I'm one of Yu Lei now."

Lin Ruoxi subconsciously shut her lips together as her gaze met with An Xin's. She looked like she had something to say, but certain things didn't have to be stated to be understood.

As the car approached the base of the Athena Team, Wu Yue called over again. However, the news that she had brought over had caused further distress to Lin Ruoxi...

Chapter 427: I Am

"Boss Lin, this situation is unlike anything we have seen or heard of before. I've made calls to five bank presidents, but they either refused to pick up the call, or gave us various absurd reasons. They're not willing to fork out a single cent to us at all, despite us having no issues with our past records," Wu Yue said, frustrated.

Lin Ruoxi stroked her hair quietly. It couldn't be seen from her look how she was currently feeling. "Understood. Continue calling the other banks that we have a partnership with, and at the same time withdraw some cash from the few major funds under our company."

"Yes, Boss Lin."

Wu Yue wanted to end the call, but Lin Ruoxi suddenly asked, "Has Muyun Corporation been informed about this yet?"

"I sent them the news half an hour ago. Actually, they must've realized that something is wrong. A lot of people have started paying attention to us since Yu Lei is majorly affected by the American stock exchange. I bet Muyun Corporation will ask us about it as well. Vice President Li Minghe is having a discussion with their CEO Li Muhua. By my estimations, we should be getting an answer to all this soon"

"Alright. Muyun Corporation has a share in the launch of our new material as well. It's impossible for Li Muhua to step aside from this. Ask Vice President Li to directly contact me after the discussion is done."

At this moment, the car had entered the resort where the Athena Team was based at. Similar to the last time they came, there was basically no one in the resort, as if it was an abandoned place. Only a handful of people were aware that this place was built for the internal operations of Yu Lei.

After exiting the car, Lin Ruoxi asked the manager to bring Hui Lin and An Xin to rest.

"It's very late now. You guys may rest at the guest rooms for now. I'll send someone over to ensure your return by tomorrow morning" Lin Ruoxi said to the two ladies.

Hui Lin shook her head. She begged, "Elder Sister, please let me follow you. I want to be by your side."

“Kid, you’re not supposed to be worried about stuff like this. What you have to do now is take care of your own safety, and go home tomorrow morning... I know that you can fight well. Mom and Wang Ma will need you,” Lin Ruoxi advised coldly.

Hui Lin still looked rather reluctant. An Xin pulled her arm gently and said, “Hui Lin, your elder sister is right. You won’t be of much help in the world of business. I only found out today that you’re so good in martial arts. Can you stay with me? I’m really afraid now.”

Hui Lin pouted her mouth. Although she knew that An Xin’s fearful look was only an act, she was aware that she indeed couldn’t help Lin Ruoxi on anything in the business world. Thus, she nodded and said, “Then I’ll make my return by dawn. Elder Sister, I’ll take care of the house. Don’t worry.”

“Alright. Someone will send you home tomorrow.” Lin Ruoxi then looked at An Xin before sighing slightly. “Miss An, I didn’t expect the situation to turn out this way when we’re out for a trip. Regardless of what happened between us, I don’t hope that you’re harmed because of me. If you want, you may call the bodyguards of the An clan to come over to grant you protection and send you back. This isn’t a secret place.”

An Xin smiled as she shook her head. “No need. Their target is Yu Lei, not the An clan. I’ll be fine as I return to Zhonghai City tomorrow morning.”

Lin Ruoxi had nothing else to say. At last, she turned her head to look at Yang Chen in doubt.

Yang Chen waved his hand with a strange smile. “Do you possibly want to get rid of your husband? I’ll smack your butt if you suggest that.”

“I don’t have time to joke around now,” Lin Ruoxi said coldly.

“I also am not joking around,” Yang Chen said innocently.

Lin Ruoxi opened her mouth and looked like she wanted to say something, but gave up. She turned around and walked toward the building Athena Team worked in before saying, “Do whatever you want.”

Yang Chen felt rather helpless in times like this. Why can’t she learn to ask for my help, and say something like ‘hubby I’m really afraid’. If she does that, both of my two legs will soften, while the middle ‘leg’ will harden to shoot all the bad guys to death with my missiles, he thought.

Yang Chen turned around with a smile and said to Hui Lin and An Xin, “Don’t look so solemn. Everything will be fine with me here. Babe An Xin, I think you should listen to Ruoxi and ask your dad to send bodyguards to escort you back. You never know what might happen next.”

An Xin looked at Lin Ruoxi who was walking away. Smiling, she said, “Is Athena Team a specially built group by Lin Ruoxi? I’ve never heard of such organization in Yu Lei. I really want to have a look, but it seems to be heavily guarded.”

Yang Chen pinched An Xin’s cheek. “Stop thinking nonsense. She’s not your enemy. You won’t gain anything by looking into her.”

“Who says she isn’t...” An Xin stuck her tongue out. She gazed upon Yang Chen resentfully as she said, “You’re the only one who’s this petty. I’m not even allowed to guess your wife’s secret. Alright, I’ll leave in the morning. You’re here anyway, I don’t think anything will happen with you around.”

"I'm glad that you know," Yang Chen said before taking out a cigarette from his pocket and putting it in his mouth. He then slowly walked to the direction Lin Ruoxi went.

He had come to the base of Athena Team before, so he was familiar with the place. After taking a few turns, he stepped into an office guarded by bodyguards.

Lin Ruoxi must've informed them before, so Yang Chen wasn't stopped from entering the place.

A dazzling display of calculators and screens could be found there. Different types of sounds that one could hear in an office filled the place. There were around seven to eight young elites from all over the world typing incredibly fast on their keyboards.

Since they were urgently summoned, two of the western ladies were wearing silk pyjamas. Fortunately, the heater in the office was turned on, so they wouldn't catch a cold while working.

"Damn it. We encountered the enemy," a man with messy hair said with an Irish accent. Pushing his spectacles up, he said to Lin Ruoxi who was looking at the screen which displayed the stock market, "Boss, this is bad. Not only are they very experienced, have executed their plan so perfectly that there is nowhere for us to counter their attacks. Their speed is similar to ours."

"I spent a lot of money to hire you to work, not to state the obvious," Lin Ruoxi said without turning her head.

The Irish young guy made a stupid face, but continued to busy himself with the task happily. Evidently, he was used to Lin Ruoxi's personality, and was extremely confident in his ability.

Lin Ruoxi was immersed in looking at the data displayed on the screen. She suddenly detected the smell of smoke which was getting stronger. Frowning, she turned her head to look behind, only to find Yang Chen who was seated on a swivel chair, leisurely smoking a poor-quality cigarette with both his legs placed on the railing.

"Who allowed you to smoke in here?" Lin Ruoxi had been in a bad mood from the start. She couldn't help but get frustrated to see Yang Chen calmly smoking in the workplace.

Yang Chen was focused in seeing the large number of data in red and green. After he was called by Lin Ruoxi, he noticed that he had subconsciously lit up a cigarette. Smiling awkwardly, he pinched on the cigarette end before keeping it in his shirt pocket. He wasn't bothered that the ash had gotten into it. "I'm sorry Babe. It wasn't intentional. I only wanted to put it in my mouth, but I accidentally lit it up."

Lin Ruoxi refrained her anger as she took a deep breath. She didn't have energy to get mad anymore. "My mind is in a mess right now. If you want to be with me, please don't behave this way. At least don't make me feel that you're watching a movie."

"I'm not watching a movie." Yang Chen pointed at the screen which was repeatedly changing. "I'm analysing the situation."

Lin Ruoxi felt a little better now. She asked, "Enlighten me then, what do you think of the situation?"

"I don't know," Yang Chen replied.

"Aren't you looking at the data?" Lin Ruoxi asked as she frowned.

Yang Chen waved his hand. "I am, but I fail to understand a single thing."

"You..."

Lin Ruoxi had the urge to take a few bites off Yang Chen's meat, but the situation was critical now, so she decided to leave him aside. She had long gotten used to this man's senseless behavior. She murmured, "I have to stay calm... I have to stay calm..." as she looked away.

At this moment, Yang Chen stood up smilingly and walked to Lin Ruoxi's back. When she wasn't paying attention, he used one of his arms to hug her waist.

Lin Ruoxi felt that the skin of her waist had been covered by a warmth. She shivered a little in shock. She looked behind and noticed Yang Chen's weird gaze.

Although it wasn't enough to be noticed by the other people in the room, Lin Ruoxi was still really nervous. She flushed as she tried to struggle off Yang Chen. Softly, she said, "Let me go. Why are you doing this suddenly..."

Yang Chen said beside her ear, "I can tell that you're nervous, so I want to help you relax."

"I told you I don't have time to joke around." Anger filled Lin Ruoxi's eyes. She was trying to come up with a solution for Yu Lei's difficulty, but this man was still playing games. He wasn't trying to relax her, but was pissing her off instead.

"You should be most aware that anger won't solve the problem," Yang Chen said with a smile.

"Can you solve the problem by messing around?" Lin Ruoxi asked as she stared at him angrily.

Yang Chen held a complex expression. He contemplated for quite a while, before finally opening his mouth. "Miss Lin Ruoxi, I'm now offering you a deal, not as your husband, not as your employee, not as your family, but merely as a man called Yang Chen. What do you think?"

Chapter 428: Maiden

As dawn broke, the American Nasdaq stock market had finally come to a close.

Yu Lei International was in a really difficult predicament and it was only due to the Athena Team's unwavering effort that they managed to stabilize the situation and haven't yet lost the fight.

Even so, anyone came to the same realization that Yu Lei would once again be given fresh new challenges the next day when the stock market had reopened. If Yu Lei wasn't able to gather enough capital to join the fight, then they would have truly been considered to have lost the fight with the last of their defences torn apart.

The war without smoke and jolting metal projectiles had only just begun.

Within one of the presidential suites of a five-star hotel in Zhonghai through the wide glass doors and the mist, the rising sun could be seen.

The gentle light of dawn gently and gradually covered the busy city.

An energetic old man with whitening hair, clad in white silk pajamas, stood in front of the window. He had just finished his morning wash up routine.

The old man turned back and sat by a round glass table, on which a large basket of fruits was placed, as well as a cup of steaming-hot milk and a few slices of garlic-flavored toasts.

Before the old man could pick up a piece of bread, someone had knocked on the room door and reported, "Master, Mr Gao is here."

The old man furrowed his brow, annoyed that his breakfast had been disrupted. But still he said, "Let him in."

Through the door came a smart-looking man in a suit . However, he wore a sleazy smile as he bowed and said, "Apologies for disturbing your meal, Elder Mao. I, Guoxiong, really shouldn't have done so. Perhaps I should come back at a better time."

The old man known as Mao put his bread down and placed his hands against his arm rest. With an expression that bordered on a smile, he looked at Gao Guoxiong and said, "You sound like you bring good news."

Gao Guoxiong seemed as if his eyes flared up. "That's right. The stock market had just closed and the southeast-asian brokers we hired got the initiative. Yu Lei would have lost about three billion by now."

"This time, you have managed to catch Yu Lei off guard. That isn't anything worth gloating about," the old man said, as if speaking to himself, "The real fight will begin in two days. In terms of capital, the tycoons from Singapore and Malaysia you contacted are definitely better than the financially tight Yu Lei. Additionally, I've already applied some pressure, so Yu Lei will find it hard-pressed to borrow funds from the bank. If nothing goes wrong, that little girl Lin Ruoxi's surrender is at hand. It is only a matter of time."

"Elder Mao truly is wise. That really is the key. Otherwise, I would still be behind bars thanks to that sinister woman Lin Ruoxi. And even if I were able to borrow enough funds, competing with her would still prove to be a difficult task," Gao Guoxiong said with a savage look, "Don't worry, Elder Mao. Even if Lin Ruoxi has any other business tricks up her sleeve, she wouldn't have enough capital to execute them. There is nothing left that she can do. Additionally, this is only part of our strategy on the stock market. We still haven't used our other trump cards yet. When we successfully bury that mine in Yu Lei, there's no way that Lin Ruoxi will be able to hold on."

"Why, aren't you a harsh one..." Elder Mao laughed coldly as he looked at the thick stack of documents not far away and sighed. "I didn't think that Lin Ruoxi would have that kind of background. It's pretty impressive for you to have been able to obtain that information. While those things might not be too useful usually, they would be able to deal her a fatal blow at a crucial time like this."

Gao Guoxiong snickered and thought, Lin Ruoxi, I will make sure that retribution will be served for the humiliation that you have caused me... I will make you suffer. I will make you beg for death's sweet release.

Right at that moment, the bodyguard outside the door gave another knock. "Master, Mr Ning Guodong of the Ning clan wishes to see you."

"Ning Guodong?" Elder Mao revealed a doubtful look. "Let him in."

Ning Guodong looked handsome and gentle clad in a suit by Versace. He stepped into the room unhurriedly without giving the slightest look at Gao Guoxiong, as if he couldn't be bothered to spare him even a look.

"Elder Mao, you really are unpredictable. You've come to Zhonghai all of a sudden from Beijing and even secretly drummed up chaos in the process," Ning Guodong said with a sinister smile.

The old man drummed on the chair with his fingers. "Child of the Nings, I'm truly curious. Even though Premier Ning hasn't said a word, you were able to realize the problem so soon. What in the world is going on?"

"It's simple," Ning Guodong said as he picked up a small banana from the table and peeled it, "Recently, I've taken an interest in Yu Lei International's Lin Ruoxi. So, I began to take note of the things surrounding her. When the war took place at the American stock exchange yesterday night, I sent my people to check the situation out and someone reported to me during dawn that Elder Mao was pulling some strings in the background. Oh, it was also reported that there was a mess of people involved.

"After that, I checked out why you would do something like that and I only just realized that Lin Ruoxi actually had that kind of grudge with your family. Elder Mao, you're still a senior in every regard. How could you bully a weak girl like her? This is not appropriate for someone in your standing."

"Stop wasting your words with me. You're no different from that father of yours," said Elder Mao as he shook his head, "Tell me the real reason you came."

Ning Guodong bit into his banana and laughed. "Well, there's nothing, really. It's something I have to deal with, but it's nothing too serious. Yu Lei is being suppressed right now because they lack any political backing. Right now, the banks are being pressured by you to not lend them any funds. But, you should be well aware that the face of the Ning clan is worth more than yours."

Something flashed through that old man's eyes. "So?"

"I don't really care who runs Yu Lei or whether it's destroyed or not," said Ning Guodong as he took a few steps forward. "All I want now is that woman to be the mistress of the Ning clan. So, I can't let anything happen to Lin Ruoxi. However, I want to make her submit to me completely."

Elder Mao gave it some thought and shot a glance at Gao Guoxiong.

Gao Guoxiong didn't hesitate at all and obediently moved to the side and brought Ning Guodong the copied documents.

Ning Guodong received them and gave them a casual flip-through. At first, he looked doubtful, before he froze completely.

Elder Mao squinted and said, "If it hadn't been for this, I wouldn't have come to Zhonghai all the way from Beijing. It's because of this that I can truly be considered victorious. I came here only with the aim of harvesting my fruits of triumph. But since you like that girlie so much, I'll leave that with you. You may hold her life in your hands when the time comes."

Ning Guodong's hands shivered as he rolled up the document.

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At the old, western district of Zhonghai beside a quiet river stood a rather old row of villas.

Those villas were decorated with 19th-century-style, floral-patterned gates. Beyond the gates were all sorts of overgrowth and bushes with some small red flowers amidst them and beyond them was a patch of grass that was just greening as well as some other small plants.

Within one of the villas at a corner of the river, Guo Xuehua woke up early in the morning and went to the yard to start trimming the branches there.

Even though the villa was cleaned regularly, the plants which bordered the house were seldom tended to. As Wang Ma and Zhenxiu were preparing breakfast in the kitchen, Guo Xuehua stepped out alone to help with the work.

When she walked on the path beside the neighboring villa, Guo Xuehua saw that there was a girl of a tender age bending down to water some plants.

She looked to be around 23 to 24 years of age. Her skin was fair and clear and her long, wavy hair glistened under the first light of dawn. Her curvy figure could be seen vaguely underneath the loose, flowy cotton dress she wore.

Guo Xuehua looked at the young girl amidst the dawn and could feel her slightly laid-back aura. She couldn't help but stare for a little longer.

At that moment, that girl seemed to have noticed someone's gaze on her. She looked up and met Guo Xuehua's eyes.

She had no makeup on. Her quiet, elegant look carried a sense of grace and charm like beautiful mountains in the distance, ever so attracting.

She truly is a beautiful young lady, thought Guo Xuehua with awe. She smiled in a friendly fashion and said, "Good morning."

The girl seemed rather surprised, but she still bowed and said, "Good morning to you too."

"We've just moved here not long ago. Looks like we're neighbors," said Guo Xuehua with a smile.

The girl widened her eyes with realization and casually said, "Actually, I've just moved here not long ago too. This is my old home, but I haven't lived here for quite a while. I have only decided to move back into this house after I had someone to accompany me."

"Is that so? It seems we have a rather fateful connection," said Guo Xuehua. The more she looked at the girl, the more she found herself liking her. For some reason, she thought about her cold daughter-in-law. If my son Yang Chen had married this girl before Ruoxi, I would probably have a grandchild by now, huh? She's so well-kempt and sincere. Even though the girl was far from comparison to Lin Ruoxi in terms of looks, she gave off a familiar aura and didn't make others feel the need to distance themselves.

However, Guo Xuehua then mocked herself, Haha, a mother who has no right to speak, shouldn't be criticizing my son's choice of a partner.

Right at that moment, outside the iron gates of Guo Xuehua's villa, a motorcycle spulled up. A slender middle-aged man dressed in a large green overcoat took out a stack of letters from his sack and shouted, "Delivery! Please come collect your letters."

There wasn't anybody else on the streets right then. The postman's voice rang clear.

Guo Xuehua gave the postman a look and furrowed her brow before she complained, "Can't he just put it in the mailbox? Seriously..." However, she still put her cutters down and stepped towards the gate.

The woman in the other yard looked at the postman before her brows twitched. An odd look could be seen in her eyes.

Guo Xuehua soon arrived at the gate and unlocked it. She pushed the latch of the old-style gate aside and pushed it open.

"Why are there so many letters? I've only just recently moved in not too long ago," asked Guo Xuehua as she looked suspiciously at the thick stack of papers in the postman's hand.

The postman lowered his head without saying a single word. He took two steps forward to approach her and leaped all of a sudden!

A white handcuff appeared in the 'postman's' hand and he sent it straight for Guo Xuehua's nose!

Guo Xuehua paled in shock. Though she wanted to evade it, she wasn't able to keep up with the speed of that man!

Bam!

A loud sound rang out as the man leaping for Guo Xuehua was knocked back and sent flying into the gates before he passed out.

"Madam, are you alright?"

The girl had appeared beside Guo Xuehua before she noticed and sent that man flying!

Guo Xuehua almost fell to the ground and she was supported by that girl all this time. After being dazzled for a while, she snapped out of it and looked at the girl with horror.

"Madam, he's already out cold. You're fine," said the girl with a warm smile.

Guo Xuehua breathed out in relief. Looking at the fainted postman, she wondered why someone had suddenly tried to attack her. But she was even more awed by the mysterious appearance of that girl beside her that saved her from her predicament. Thankfully, she patted on that girl's slender arm and said, "Thank you, Miss. I haven't asked for your name yet."

"I'm Rose," said Rose with a flowery bright smile.

Chapter 429: Is He Even Reliable

At the eastern business district of Zhonghai, which was often referred to as the section of the city with the highest class, the world's top 500 companies and finance firms operated there.

That place wasn't the same as the western district of the city center where Yu Lei International's building was located at. In fact, it was an economic zone that stood for the rich even more than the western district.

As the core economic center of China and one of the largest economic cities in the world, there was only a small handful out of the many that weren't well known. There were only those that customers couldn't recall, but never any that customers couldn't find.

In the dense concrete forest of skyscrapers was a rather aged dark-yellow-toned building of about twenty stories or so. It was located at the very border of the economic zone, standing tall and ever so silently.

That building was much much smaller when compared to the other skyscrapers that easily surpassed 80 stories, thus making it the least eye-catching building in the district.

Outside at the front of the parking place of that building were a few sedans as well as a few bicycles, which were really rare in the city.

It was rather stale in comparison to the other busy and magnificent buildings. It was as if no customers visited the building at all.

However, at its entrance stood two caucasian guards who meticulously watched over the building with a prideful look.

It was indeed a rather odd scene, but those who knew the true purpose of the building would understand the necessity. Because, on the flower bed outside that building stood a large granite block with gold symbols etched into a black platform. They depicted three english letters, 'UBS', and a logo of three keys.

That stood for Union Bank of Switzerland in English, and it was one of the most mysterious banking institutions in the world.

Nobody knew how much the bank was truly worth, nor did they know how many priceless treasures they kept safe from the past to present. There were none who doubted their secrecy and prestige, because they were the one and only.

It was said that when a tycoon went there to make a deposit, he was asked by a staff member how much he would like to bank in. The tycoon quietly said that he wanted to deposit five million US dollars.

That staff member smiled warmly and replied, "Mister, you don't have to be so shy about it. Even though many people here are really rich, being poor is not your fault."

Even though it was merely a casual conversation, it was enough for the people to truly realize the worth of the UBS.

The UBS branch in Zhonghai was the headquarters for all UBS operations in China. However, an amazing and established institution like that was actually based in such a nondescript building. It was just like the CIA branch in Washington; the place didn't match the reputation of the institution at all.

Not long had passed since the bank started operations for the day. The dawn sunlight shone on the building, covering it with a golden sheen that seemed to enrapture others.

A red Bentley drove slowly to the parking spot outside that building. One of the guards quickly took notice of it and politely made his way beside the car door and waited for the owner to step out.

Lin Ruoxi was slinging a white Hermes bag as she stepped elegantly out of the car. She turned to look at the bank she had only visited once before with a complicated expression.

"Please allow me to perform an inspection, Madam," said the guard with a smile. Though he was stunned by Lin Ruoxi's looks, he still returned to his duties politely and promptly.

Lin Ruoxi handed her bag to the guard. She truly hated the security protocols of UBS. That was the reason she never went there ever again after opening a savings account there.

After the guard did his check, he motioned for Lin Ruoxi to enter. She then stepped up the platform and was directed through a body scanner at the entrance. There was no reaction, and she was finally allowed into the building.

"Madam, how can I help you?" asked a manager who came out of the hall and walked up to her with a polite smile.

As there were very few customers, each person who entered the bank was a VIP and was treated to personal service.

Lin Ruoxi hesitated for a bit, but she still forced herself to say it. "I'm here to take a loan."

The manager was a pleasant-looking lady in her thirties. Even though she had been rather surprised by the sheer beauty of Lin Ruoxi, she wore a weird expression when she heard what she said.

"Madam, are you one of our customers?" asked the manager.

Lin Ruoxi nodded and flipped her big for a black and silver credit card. "I have a bank account here."

The manager was taken aback as she knew what that credit card stood for. It was only given to people who had minimum savings of 200 million US dollars. The young woman before her looked only to be in her twenties, yet she was already one of the richest tycoons in the whole of China that owned hundreds of millions of dollars!

The manager's attitude became respectful. With a smile, she said, "Apologies, Madam. You might have misunderstood, but our bank doesn't provide loans."

The manager was quite confused. Why would a woman like that require any loans? How much would she need anyway? One billion dollars?

Given that Lin Ruoxi studied industrial management and was quite an avid reader, how could she not know such a simple fact that the UBS didn't offer loans?

However, that man insisted that he could borrow loans from that place!

Lin Ruoxi touched the nondescript ring that Yang Chen put on her middle finger. It shone like black jade, but it was of a metal construction. She didn't understand the engravings on the ring at all.

She recalled the moment when she talked to Yang Chen during dawn at the resort they were at.

"Miss Lin Ruoxi, can you agree to my conditions?" asked Yang Chen as she looked earnestly into her eyes.

Lin Ruoxi's eyes didn't show the slightest tension. It was as if the conditions Yang Chen brought out weren't of much importance at all.

After a moment, she asked, "If I agree, do you really have a way to provide Yu Lei with the five billion dollars of yuan it needs to continue its fight?"

According to Athena Team's accurate calculations, it would be the safest if she could secure that amount of funds to defeat her well-prepared enemies when Nasdaq started trading again on the next day.

Usually, that amount of money wouldn't be hard for Yu Lei to gather from their own available funds and some bank loans. However, the banks had cut off their working relationship for some unknown reason during the time when the company needed the money most. Lin Ruoxi had no other way to procure five billion within a single day.

"Even if I have done things to anger you in the past, I have never lied to you, have I?" said Yang Chen with a laugh.

Lin Ruoxi narrowed her eyes, making her lotus-like beautiful face carry a slight look of annoyance. But she still nodded and said, "I promise you that I'll follow your orders to the dot if you can return me a promise for your word."

Yang Chen, seemingly relieved, couldn't help but say, "I know this is extremely cruel and unfair to you. But I only need one year. If you really can't take it, I'll give up for good."

"Then tell me your plan," said Lin Ruoxi, seemingly uninterested in Yang Chen's proposition at all.

Yang Chen smiled and took out an intricate, yet ancient-looking ring and slowly fitted it over Lin Ruoxi's middle finger.

"Don't over think this. This isn't a wedding ring, so I won't put it on your ring finger," said Yang Chen as he winked to Lin Ruoxi, "When we wed formally, I'll give you a diamond ring the size of a cow's eye as a wedding ring."

Lin Ruoxi's beautiful face flushed red. She had almost gotten the wrong idea and thought that the ring that was procured was for the same reason she was told it was not.

"And what's this supposed to be? Is it worth five billion yuan?" Lin Ruoxi gave Yang Chen a dissatisfied glare to stave away her awkwardness.

Yang Chen shrugged. "It's hard to say how much this is worth exactly. However, if you bring this to UBS and request for a loan, you'll be able to get five billion."

"Don't you have any common sense? The Union Bank of Switzerland? Are you not aware that they do not offer a loan service?" snapped Lin Ruoxi angrily.

Yang Chen laughed relaxedly and said, "Calm down. Of course they don't offer normal loans. However, they will consider special cases. Trust me. There's no reason for me to joke around with you on matters

such as this. I too realize the importance and urgency of the matter. Also, you have no choice but to trust me anyway, right? It's not like you have any alternatives to this."

After some thought, Lin Ruoxi admitted that she could only try the weird method Yang Chen taught her and sighed as she looked at the ring around her finger.

Within the bank, Lin Ruoxi's expression changed completely. However, she raised her head in the end and said plainly, "I know you don't offer loans, but I have this."

Lin Ruoxi raised her hand and flashed the ancient, ink-colored metal ring.

"What is this?" The manager was confused and didn't know what Lin Ruoxi was up to at all.

Lin Ruoxi cursed, Darn that fellow! Did he make this up?!

"I want to request an audience with your president," said Lin Ruoxi with grit teeth.

The manager replied helplessly, "Madam, we really don't offer loans. Even though I'm not sure why you're so adamant on getting a loan here, at the end of the day, you will be disappointed with the result. Even if I call the president over, you'll still be given the same reply."

"I want to see your president." Lin Ruoxi really didn't know how to explain it, so she could only repeat her request.

The manager had no choice. That was a customer she couldn't afford to offend. So, after she read Lin Ruoxi's name off her credit card, she used a nearby phone to call the president's office's number.

"Mr Stephen, there's a lady here that is insisting to meet you. She's here for a loan... Yes, I've already told her that, but she insisted to meet you. Oh, and she's one of our VIP-level customers. Yes, alright..."

After a few moments, Stephen, who had just started work not long ago, made his decision and allowed Lin Ruoxi to go up to his office for a chat.

Though Lin Ruoxi let out a sigh of relief, her worries had only increased. What if the president doesn't recognize that weird ring? Would she have to request meeting the director of the main headquarters of UBS?

She followed the manager to the top floor and eventually arrived at the president's office. Lin Ruoxi took a deep breath and tried to be more alert.

No matter what happens next, all she could do was trust Yang Chen and follow through. She hoped that the ring in her hand really had that mysterious function he promised her.

Chapter 430: Persephone

Stephen, the President of Union Bank of Switzerland, was British. More accurately, he was an inheritor of an old British clan.

Other than his competence, he had become the president of UBS in China because he had a slight Chinese bloodline, not to mention he had taken an interest to the eastern culture since young. He even graduated from a university in Hong Kong.

Thus, Stephen could speak Mandarin better than he could in English, which as a result made a lot of people find him weird.

“It’s such an unexpected morning. You must be Boss Lin from Yu Lei, am I right?” Stephen asked as he made the gesture of a gentleman to welcome Lin Ruoxi, instead of shaking her hand like what others would do. With grey hair and a slender face, he looked surprisingly energetic.

In fact, when a man first meets a woman, the female was to initiate the hand shaking, but it was rude if the male took action instead. It was a cheap act that could represent the intention to take advantage. However, when it came to such a western etiquette, most people in the country only understood half of it.

Born in a royal family, Stephen naturally had a grasp on etiquettes.

Lin Ruoxi actually didn’t pay much attention to his behavior. She was still thinking contemplating about the situation before her.

She followed Stephen to the old sofa made of redwood before putting down her handbag. She revealed the smile of a professional, but still appeared cold as ever.

“Mr Stephen, do you know me?” It was her first time meeting this man, so she asked out of curiosity to break the ice.

Embarrassed, Stephen smiled and said, “I feel rather guilty mentioning this. I attended the banquet held by Yu Lei at the Imperial Tower last year. At that time, I only managed to see Boss Lin from afar. I swear I only held the look of admiration. Boss Lin is a really attractive lady, so I managed to remember you after only a glance.”

Stephen talked really calmly, but Lin Ruoxi still couldn’t refrain from blushing. It should be mentioned that the British man was at least fifty years old. When she was ‘admired’ by a man who was old enough to be a father, she felt rather uncomfortable.

“Really? Since the banquet is organized by our public relations department, I don’t usually memorize the guest list. I apologize on my part,” Lin Ruoxi said. Since she had a favor to ask, she had to speak respectfully. “I presume Mr Stephen was informed about my objective of coming here today.”

Stephen’s smile remained as he said, “I had a look at your company earlier when you were coming up. I know that Boss Lin now requires a huge sum of cash. But I believe Boss Lin is aware that we don’t provide loans at UBS. Also, being one of the Fortune 500 companies, why don’t you use the name of Yu Lei International to borrow money with your partner banks?”

Stephen used so many words to actually only mean one thing—you’re Lin Ruoxi, but you’re also not an exception.

“Yes, I’m very well aware of your policies,” Lin Ruoxi said as she rubbed the ring on her right hand finger. “I have no reason to lie to you. Mr Stephen, possibly due to the number of enemies I have, the people I’m facing this time are so powerful that they have an influence in the government, so all of the major banks we’re partnered with have chosen to avoid this battle.”

Stephen remained quiet for a while. Frowning, he asked, "But what has made Boss Lin come here? Whether or not we're afraid of your enemy isn't the problem here. It's impossible for us to provide loans. Boss Lin should be aware of our rule."

Lin Ruoxi gathered her courage before slowly raising her right hand, displaying the ink-colored ring on her middle finger.

"Someone told me that, with this ring, UBS will make an exception for me and provide me with the funds."

Stephen was shocked. Having lowered his head for a while in contemplation, Stephen stood up from the sofa and said, "Will you allow me to closely analyse your ring?"

"Of course." Lin Ruoxi removed the ring and passed it to Stephen.

"Boss Lin, I need to verify certain data with our headquarters. Please wait a moment," Stephen said before walking to his office with the ring.

Lin Ruoxi felt rather strange. Stephen said he had to verify some information. In other words, if the verification was successful, UBS did provide loans! However, this would also mean that this information was not something that was common knowledge to the banks customers. Also, there might also be many hidden meanings.

Can Yang Chen possibly be right? As Lin Ruoxi found hope, the figure in his heart became more and more foggy.

Stephen looked extremely strict and solemn when he returned to his office table.

Using his mouse and keyboard, he opened the software of UBS. Stephen keyed in his information to access the internal operations.

After briefly reading through the page, Stephen clicked on the option 'Unconventional Clients'.

Then, Stephen took out an electronic scanner equipment from the safe box behind and connected it to the computer, before conducting iris, voice, and fingerprint tests.

Lin Ruoxi was surprised to see Stephen undergo the series of tests. What information is he trying to access? Why would it need to be so complicated?! she thought.

Stephen raised his head and let out an apologetic smile. "Boss Lin, the situation you have bestowed unto me is a rather unique one. Please wait for a while more."

Stephen had entered the next page as he finished speaking. It was a silver page filled with words of Ancient Rome.

In the entire Union Bank of Switzerland, there were less than ten people who could understand these series of words, while Stephen happened to be one of them.

He murmured something as he dragged the alphabets on the screen to rearrange them. Having spent around three minutes, the alphabets formed a poem... "Whew, I have to look into having a replacement for my position in a few years time. I won't be able to remember these for long."

As Stephen muttered to himself, there were changes on his computer screen.

The screen had turned dark completely. After three seconds, a white line appeared at the center. Soon, the page opened from the center, displaying the true information inside.

There were three and a half pages of pictures and descriptions. Each picture was a delicate item. There were necklaces, rings, bracelets, and a few weird items like a golden signboard, an old tobacco pipe, etc.

Stephen started reading from the third page. There were around ten minutes in that page. After looking through the page, he shook his head before going to the second page.

There were only five items on the second page. Stephen carefully looked at the two pictures containing a ring, then at the ring placed on his table before once again shaking his head.

Taking a deep breath, Stephen turned to the first page. There were a total of two items on this page... At that exact instant, Stephen's pupils shrank violently.

Even if he knew that this was going to happen eventually, he refused to believe what he observed. Currently, he was stunned to see the picture on the screen displaying the exact same ring!

This... is really that thing?!

Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but feel worried to see Stephen's expressions of astonishment and agitation. There were only so many things in the world that could have shocked this old man into silence.

Stephen used around five minutes to analyze the ring he was holding and the one in the picture. He had read through the description again and again, amounting to more than ten times in total.

Finally, he had made sure the the inner side of the ring had the exact same alphabets 'PLUTO'. Drawing a cross in front of his chest, he prayed before closing the system on his computer.

"Mr Stephen, what have you found out from your testings?" Lin Ruoxi didn't usually ask someone for results as she had a calm personality, but she really couldn't hold herself back anymore.

Solemnly, Stephen held the ring with both of his hands as he walked toward Lin Ruoxi slowly before showing it to her. "May I ask who the person who gave Madam Lin this ring is?"

Stephen had already ignored Lin Ruoxi's identity as a CEO.

Lin Ruoxi bit her lips. Although she was rather shy, she still looked at Stephen right into his eyes. Clearly, she said, "He's my husband."

Stephen's body shivered before staggering backward and kneeling on the ground!

"Madam Persephone, it's an honour to have been able to serve you." Stephen's eyes were filled with awe.

Persephone? Lin Ruoxi felt a headache. What is that?

Before she could think of something, Stephen had stood up, while he appeared to be getting on Lin Ruoxi's good side, looking completely different from his gentleman's smile earlier.

“Madam, may I ask how much cash you need now? I’ll obtain it for you immediately,” Stephen said while he bowed down partially.

“Wait.” Lin Ruoxi found it weird that she was now referred as ‘Madam’. “Mr Stephen, who is Persephone? Why are you... calling me this way?”

Stephen was stunned at her question, but soon thought of something. Gently smiling, he answered, “Madam, since your husband, the respected being has not yet explained it to you, I have no right to say anything. Please give me your order. You’re now the holder of the Ring of Pluto. You may obtain 100 billion euros of cash anytime you want. May I ask how much is it you’re looking for?”

Lin Ruoxi could no longer process the situation. Her eyes widened to their max. There was only one thing in her mind. What?! 100 billion... euros?!

Chapter 431: Don’t Need to Introduce Us Anymore

100 billion euros could get a lot of things done. If it was given to a war hungry man, more than two thousand of the most technologically advanced fighter aircraft F-22, or hundreds of nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, while stuff like missiles and submarines were simply too cheap.

The most powerful country, America, only had less than 200 F-22 aircrafts. That was basically due to a lack of funding, although they had the technology to do so.

It wasn’t an overstatement to say that this amount of money could be used to purchase half of Africa! This amount of money was also enough to start a world war!

Most importantly, this figure didn’t consist of invisible, illiquid assets. All of it was cold, hard cash!

Lin Ruoxi suddenly felt that her business-like mind wasn’t big enough to process the situation. Although she wasn’t an extravagant woman, she was well aware that her net worth of tens of billions made her extremely wealthy. It was common knowledge that the most passionate shopaholics would require several generations to spend all her wealth completely.

However, all of her assets combined only amounted to less than five percent of 100 billion euros!

Regarding cash, she had less than one percent of that!

She looked at the unremarkable, ink-colored ring in her hand and felt that she was dreaming.

As long as one had this ring, 100 billion euros was within their reach?!

What about the wealthiest people on earth with net worths of merely tens of billions US dollars? Were they just jokes who had peanuts then?

Silence remained for a while before Lin Ruoxi finally calmed herself down. She recovered her usual appearance. “There’s no need for so much money. I only need 50 billion Chinese yuan.”

Stephen obviously found it unbelievable. “50 billion... Chinese yuan?” He felt the need to make a confirmation.

“Correct, you’re right,” Lin Ruoxi said.

Although Stephen found it ridiculous to believe that she was only asking for so little, he couldn't force Lin Ruoxi to take more money than she asked for. That just wouldn't make any sense. Thus, he immediately made a call to the bank's finance department to make a transaction.

50 billion Chinese yuan wasn't too large of an amount for Union Bank of Switzerland. Stephen didn't need anyone else's authority to move this sum of money. He just had to make a report to the headquarters after that.

Within ten minutes, Stephen returned to Lin Ruoxi smilingly. "Madam, 50 billion in cash will be credited to your account within the next ten minutes. Oh yeah, your account has been upgraded from VIP level to diamond level. Due to the cards of diamond account holders requiring special processes, your card will be sent to you by someone in charge within the month. The new overdraft limit will be one billion euros. Of course, based on your much respected identity, money is nothing more than numbers to you. Treat this as a form of respect to you and the other being."

Although Lin Ruoxi was still incredibly confused, she knew that she wasn't dreaming.

She had spent hours preparing a script to voice her trouble, but as it turns out, it wasn't needed at all. She spent a mere half an hour using the small, ordinary ring she was holding to effortlessly obtain 50 billion in cash, an amount she could never have gotten no matter how hard she tried to brainstorm.

Lin Ruoxi was then grandly sent out of the bank by Stephen and a few other highly ranked individuals in the bank. She felt exhausted when she returned to her car and sat on the real-leather seat of the Bentley.

Looking at the busy city roads through the windshield, Lin Ruoxi felt an unprecedented exhaustion and confusion.

Her mind currently only contained one thing—the lazy figure who had treated everything lightly all the time.

He relied on her for food, shelter, clothing, and even used her car... His living expense was almost entirely paid by Lin Ruoxi, as if he was being babysat the whole time.

She then thought of his past. He used to sell mutton skewers and live in a little, broken, rented apartment, and smoke poor-quality cigarettes...

She had always been annoyed for his unambitious personality, and had hoped he could succeed on his own.

However... he would come up with absurd excuses, mess with other women outside, and disappoint her all day...

Recently, she gradually found out that he had an extraordinary past. He had unimaginable fighting skills. However, when she thought she had understood who he was, she quickly realized she knew nothing about him!

This man was not unlike a black hole of mystery, but would tempt people to explore his truth...

Lin Ruoxi was glad that she made the request at the resort to know more about his past. Otherwise she felt that she wouldn't dare to pass her everything to him at all.

All of these combine to form a worrying mystery, which should be slowly solved in the future I guess... Lin Ruoxi thought as she rubbed the ring which was faintly shining a black light.

At the same time, Yang Chen arrived at the old house they had moved into with the intention of taking care of his family members.

“Achoo!” Yang Chen rubbed his runny nose. He murmured, “I wonder which Little Obedient is missing me again.”

Raising his head, he glanced at the house from left to right. There was a spacious courtyard in front of the three-storey, old-fashioned bungalow. It was indeed much bigger than the previous villa in Dragon Garden. The environment also made it feel more like a home.

When Yang Chen was on the way here, he made a phone call to Molin from Sea Eagles. He quickly exuded cold sweat when he was informed that no one from Sea Eagles was sent to this new spot.

After Sea Eagles was assaulted by Ares last time, they had suffered a serious loss. Quite a number of their members were injured. Thus, the mission of protecting Yang Chen’s family was passed to Rose’s Red Thorns Society.

So far, there hadn’t been any bad news from the people of Red Thorns Society, so Yang Chen wasn’t too worried.

Yang Chen couldn’t enter the house normally since he had no keys. He looked around to make sure no one was passing by, before jumping over the fence to land on the courtyard and walking to the front door.

Unexpectedly, before he could reach the door, it got pushed open before a familiar female voice resounded. “Who is it?!”

When the elegant figure saw Yang Chen, she instantly stopped moving. “Hubby?!”

This lady was the same Rose whom Guo Xuehua had gotten to know this morning. Guo Xuehua had developed a liking to this beautiful and generous girl after having been saved by her earlier. She invited Rose over to have breakfast together, and talked about certain interesting matters in the past.

No matter the time, place or circumstance, women would never run out of things to talk about. Now that Rose had delegated most of her tasks to her people in Red Thorns Society, and started letting Chen Rong take over a portion of the association in preparation for her inheritance, she had a lot of spare time.

Coincidentally, her ‘roommate’ Mo Qianni was busy because of the disaster in Yu Lei International, and didn’t have time to go home at all. Thus, Rose who had not many friends felt really bored.

Rose was naturally elated to find out that she had a new neighbor. Guo Xuehua, Wang Ma, and Zhenxiu all treated her really nicely, so she was more than happy to stay at Yang Chen’s house.

When she cried out, “Hubby,” the people inside the house including Guo Xuehua, Wang Ma, and Zhenxiu came out curiously. They were surprised to find out Rose had a husband, so they wanted to take a look at her husband.

Both Yang Chen and Rose were incredibly confused at the fact that they were staring at each other face to face.

The three who had come out from the house looked weird when they noticed Rose was facing Yang Chen.

Guo Xuehua was first frowning, before she quickly noticed something while her expression turned terrible. Wang Ma and Zhenxiu were both shocked, but didn't manage to think of too many other things.

Rose was completely unaware that Yang Chen was the man of this house. She thought he came to visit her, and felt overjoyed. She rushed into Yang Chen's arms. "Hubby, you're finally here. You haven't come to visit me and Qianni before since moving here. But you're at the wrong house. We're staying at the house beside this one. This is someone else's house."

As she spoke, Rose smilingly introduced the few people to Yang Chen. "Hubby, this is Aunt Guo, Aunt Wang, and Sister Zhenxiu. They're my new neighbors who just moved i—"

Before she finished speaking, she finally realized Yang Chen's strange expression. He looked like he wanted to cry and laugh at the same time.

On the other hand, Guo Xuehua had gotten an answer to her guess. She glanced at the charming Rose before her son Yang Chen who was looking at her helplessly. Sighing, Guo Xuehua said, "Rose, you don't need to introduce us anymore."

"Eh?" Rose felt a premonition. "Aunt Guo... you guys are..."

"Do you remember I told you my son and daughter-in-law were trying to work their relationship out at the moment? I wanted to introduce them to you when they come back... The man you're leaning against now is my son Yang Chen," Guo Xuehua said with a bitter smile.

"Ah!"

Rose immediately reacted to that information, much like someone who was being stabbed by a needle. She withdrew her arm which was hugging Yang Chen, while her cheeks had reddened so much that they looked like juice would be discharged when pinched upon. She bit her lips as she panicked. She had the urge to bang her head into the wall and end her life!

However, at this moment, a strong arm pulled her body backward!

All Rose felt was she collided on a familiar chest. She widened her eyes in shock while her face paled. She raised her head, only to discover Yang Chen's gentle and loving smile.

"Mom, the one I'm now hugging is another woman I love—Situ Qiangwei."

[TL note: Qiangwei is her name in Mandarin which shouldn't have been translated to Rose.]

Yang Chen put it very lightly, but every single word he spoke acted like landmines, greatly shocking their souls and hearts!

Chapter 432: The Room

The three ladies standing by the door each revealed different expression on their faces. Wang Ma looked astonished. Evidently, she found it surprising that the usually well-behaved Yang Chen had another woman outside.

Zhenxiu was still a nineteen-year-old girl after all. Key words like marriage, betrayal, and lover were still new things to her. What she was currently witnessing was exactly the same as what she had seen in her TV serieses. She subconsciously covered her mouth to prevent herself from crying out.

Guo Xuehua's expression cycled through a million emotions. At last, she raised her head to give Rose a complicated gaze, before looking at Yang Chen who appeared to be calm. Smiling, she said, "Really? I'm not too surprised at this actually. It was just shocking to hear."

Rose who was in Yang Chen's arm shivered lightly. She had never expected the senior she was happily chatting with earlier to suddenly become someone whom she now could not bear to look at.

Her mind was currently filled with various thoughts. She had wondered if she would one day meet Yang Chen's family or not, but she never thought it would be under such an awkward circumstances, being totally unprepared for it.

However, Rose felt warm inside. She wasn't disappointed at all, since Yang Chen had accepted her in front of his family.

What was better and more worthy of getting overjoyed for, than being unconditionally accepted by one's lover?

Regarding whether or not Guo Xuehua and the others were willing to accept her, or how they would see her were secondary to her at that point.

Yang Chen smiled casually. "I was shocked as well. But I hate to lying to people, more so to my own family. Rose and I have had feelings for each other before I even met Ruoxi. I don't want to be a deserter, so all I can do is put on a brave face and face the problem."

"Young Master... you... when you're doing this, how do you think Miss feels? Sigh..." Wang Ma was the first one to think on Lin Ruoxi's behalf. Even if she found out that Rose was Lin Ruoxi's love rival, she still didn't develop hatred for Rose. Being soft-hearted, Wang Ma was just worried about the peace inside her family.

Yang Chen didn't give an answer immediately, but patted Rose on her firm and springy backside. Gently, he said, "Babe Rose, you return first. I have some unfinished business to handle before I come look for you."

"Hu—" Rose wanted to call him, but noticed it was inappropriate. Blushing, she said, "Yang Chen, don't get into an argument because of me."

"Do I need you to teach me that?" Yang Chen said before smacking her butt once again.

Rose hurriedly escaped. She was annoyed and shy when she was spanked in front of Guo Xuehua and the others, and at the same time felt a strange excitement.

This was similar to a relationship being found out in middle school, while the couple still behaved intimately in front of their parents. The kind of psychological stimulation was enough to excite a person.

Turning around, Rose had her eyes shut as she bowed to Guo Xuehua to imply a goodbye, before quickly running back to her house.

Rose came to the steel railing as she planned to leap over it. This was how she came over this morning to rescue Guo Xuehua. However, she thought she'd appear masculine by doing so. She had to care about how Guo Xuehua and the others thought of her due recent events. Blushing, Rose turned around yet another time to leave the house from the main entrance.

Guo Xuehua had witnessed this scene. She let out a bitter, helpless yet regretful smile before saying, "Such a foolish kid."

"Why else would she fall for a terrible man like me otherwise?"

"Does Ruoxi know about this?" Guo Xuehua asked.

Yang Chen nodded. "I bumped into her when I brought Rose to shopping, but we haven't spoken of it since then."

This time, Wang Ma and Zhenxiu seemed particularly shocked. Lin Ruoxi was aware that Yang Chen had someone else outside? Why didn't she behave any unusually?!

"What do you plan to do?" Guo Xuehua asked. She wasn't sure what she was supposed to say. Being a woman, she was naturally against Yang Chen's unfaithfulness. But being a mother, she hoped that her son could live a truly joyous life.

From the interaction between Yang Chen and Rose earlier, Guo Xuehua could easily tell that they were truly in love. Both of them would only get hurt when forced to separate.

Of course, Guo Xuehua didn't think Yang Chen would listen to her. She had held a strong guilt for Yang Chen. All she could do was showing her concern.

Yang Chen scratched the back of his head. "I don't have the perfect solution to this matter. But I just discussed about this with Ruoxi recently. So I think there shouldn't be a problem for now."

As he spoke, Yang Chen walked toward Wang Ma. Apologetically, he said, "Wang Ma, you must be really disappointed in me, since I've betrayed your trust."

Wang Ma smiled bitterly. "Young Master, this is the matter does not concern the old like me. I... I've watched Miss grow up, so I'm naturally on her side. I just hope that Young Master won't let Miss get too upset."

"I understand. There's nothing that will make me forget that Ruoxi is my wife." Yang Chen nodded before asking, "I still don't know why Rose came over just now. Didn't you guys just move in yesterday?"

Guo Xuehua wasn't willing to continue talking about Yang Chen's relationships. Sometimes certain things were best left ignored. Thus, she talked about how Rose saved her in the morning.

Born in a wealthy and powerful clan, Guo Xuehua didn't panic too much for the attack she had suffered this morning. She calmly explained the occurrence to Yang Chen from beginning to end.

Yang Chen felt lucky to have moved over. With Rose living right beside his house, this meant a lot of the elites from Red Thorns Society protecting Rose could grant his family protection at the same time. This could decrease his worry by a ton.

“Oh yeah, why isn’t Hui Lin here?” Yang Chen asked. Hui Lin and An Xin should’ve come back early in the morning. He found Hui Lin’s absence strange.

Guo Xuehua replied, “Hui Lin made a call to us earlier. She said Star of Yu Lei is coming soon, and she has to make use of her time to practise more, so she went to the company instead.”

While Yu Lei was facing a major challenge, its subsidiary company Yu Lei Entertainment was still operating as usual. Yang Chen could understand why Hui Lin chose to do so. Instead of feeling anxious at home, it was better for her to delve into her music and forget about the troubles instead.

Yang Chen looked around at the new, spacious environment. Smiling, he said, “Now that we’ve moved here, I’ll have to visit the place,” before entering the house.

Since it was a bungalow of the past generation, the internal design held a western design. Upon stepping into the house, Yang Chen felt that he had entered a western museum. The furniture in the living hall was produced in the last century. Since the material used was really high in quality, they looked as if brand new.

Yang Chen was used to staying in a house like this. He had a lot of experience living in such a place when he was abroad. However, when Wang Ma brought him to the second floor, he felt gloomy again...

“Wang Ma, why am I in a different room from Ruoxi again?” Yang Chen couldn’t help but ask. Wang Ma is so damn petty. Can’t she arrange me to be in the same room with Ruoxi? Also, staying in the same room doesn’t mean I have to do something. At least give me a chance to get lucky one day.

An unexpected voice then echoed from the door. “I believe it’s more appropriate for you to sleep at the sofa downstairs.”

Yang Chen was stopped from talking. Lin Ruoxi could be seen entering from the door after returning from the bank.

“So early? I believe the problem is dealt with now,” Yang Chen said with a smile while pressing against the railing on the second floor.

Lin Ruoxi kept quiet. Nostalgic, she looked at the surrounding tables, chairs, walls, and drawings.

When she saw the huge oil painting of a person’s portrait, her eyes became red and watery. Slowly walking toward the painting, she murmured, “Grandma, I’m back.”

The few people felt sorrowful to see Lin Ruoxi this way. At last, Wang Ma wiped her eyes before approaching Lin Ruoxi. Smiling, she said, “Miss, we’ve finally come back after so many years. Miss, let’s get upstairs to look at your room.”

“Is it the same room as before?” Lin Ruoxi asked.

“Nope.” Wang Ma’s eyes were filled with love when she gazed upon Lin Ruoxi with a smile. “Miss, you’re not ‘little miss’ anymore. The room back then is a little too small. It won’t be able to contain all your stuff, so I let the kid Zhenxiu stay there. Miss, you’ll be staying at Madam’s room back then.”

“My mother’s?” Lin Ruoxi was stunned. In her memory, her mother had always held a faint smile on her face while remaining quiet. She was left with nothing but fleeting memories of her mother.

Her mother felt like a lazy-looking sunflower in the sunlight, and a lonely flowering quince in the winter.

However, she must admit that a huge part of her appearance and behavior were inherited from the woman whom she had minimal memory of.

When Lin Ruoxi was young, she didn’t dare to enter her mother, Xue Zijing’s room. She had always felt that there was a gap between her and her mother. She was afraid of getting shunned upon if she entered the room. Thus, the room stayed a mystery to her.

Lin Ruoxi didn’t expect that she would be staying in the room the second she had moved back.

Nodding, Lin Ruoxi held her handbag and walked to the second floor. Squeaking sound could be heard from the wooden staircase. The handrail made of sandalwood released a vague fragrance, causing her to feel a lot more relaxed.

She came upstairs and saw Yang Chen who was standing in front of her. She took out the ink-colored Ring of Pluto from her handbag and passed it to Yang Chen. “Take it back.”

“Since this is so useful, why not keep it for now?” Yang Chen asked with a smile. He was sure Lin Ruoxi had found out the use of the ring.

Lin Ruoxi shook her head. “I won’t accept something that isn’t mine.”

“What are you talking about? What’s mine is yours just like what’s yours is mine.” Yang Chen shrugged his shoulders, but still received the ring.

Lin Ruoxi ignored Yang Chen’s chuckling face. She still had a bunch of questions in mind, but she didn’t feel like opening her mouth to ask anymore once she met the man. It might be better for him to tell me himself, Lin Ruoxi thought, before walking to her mother’s room.

Taking a deep breath, Lin Ruoxi pushed the door open. The door that she would shrink back from all the time, which had contained too many mysteries. The big, heavy door that belonged to her mother.

Chapter 433: Dry Rose Petals

There lay before them a room roughly 50 metres in square feet.

At the other end of the room was a balcony for anyone who wished to enjoy the view in which the house overlooked. There were some black metal chairs and a table on the balcony, with a few potted plants which swayed in the wind.

The chiffon curtains danced around, while the warm sunlight shone upon the spotless wood flooring.

Lin Ruoxi walked into the room and stretched her arm out to touch the relatively old TV frame. On her left lay a huge, two-meter-wide bed.

Wang Ma had changed the bedsheet for her that morning. The three white wardrobes were all filled with Lin Ruoxi's expensive clothing.

The left corner of the room had a walkway to the changing room and the washroom. There were other things present like the numerous luggage bags that Lin Ruoxi had owned. Wang Ma didn't dare to touch her stuff without permission, so she left them there.

A landscape western-style painting hung on the wall, right on top of the bed. It was decorated with yellow flowers and mountains, as if exuding an aura of fragrance. In fact, the room was indeed filled with a vague fragrance.

Yang Chen could tell that the scent wasn't the same as the one found in Lin Ruoxi's previous room, so it must be left from the original owner.

Of course, although describing it this way was rather strange, a lot of things that belonged to Xue Zijing, Lin Ruoxi's mother, were still in this room. For example, some craftwork, certain books she liked when she was still alive, and certain stationeries.

The dressing table was also kept from that era. The mirror had been cleaned, appearing clear and new.

The frame on the bedside table contained an old picture.

Lin Ruoxi walked over there and picked up the frame before sitting down on the soft, huge bed. She touched the three people in the picture while getting absent-minded.

Yang Chen approached her and had a look at the picture. He could recognize the two women inside. One of them was the old CEO while the other was Xue Zijing, the latter of whom was carrying a female baby wrapped in white blanket in her arms. It should've been Lin Ruoxi all those years ago.

Xue Zijing at that time looked identical to the Lin Ruoxi now, but she appeared more gentle than Lin Ruoxi, especially because of her faint smile.

Lin Ruoxi muttered something to herself. No one could tell what she had said. She then put down the frame before pulling the drawer open.

Wang Ma hadn't arranged the stuff inside the drawers as of late. They only moved in yesterday after all, so she hadn't had the time to clean every nook and cranny of the room. Thus, clouds of dust were sent up when she pulled the drawer.

Lin Ruoxi swept the dust away to have a clearer look at the stuff inside. There was a thick album and a few rose petals which, naturally, had dried up.

My mother-in-law was really a sad lady from a wealthy family. Why did she put rose petals here so randomly? It couldn't have been decoration for the drawer, could it? Yang Chen thought.

Lin Ruoxi's attention had been fixed on the album. She was reminded of too many memories upon seeing the picture on the bedside table, so she impatiently took out the album to have a look see.

Lin Ruoxi frowned as she suddenly realized Yang Chen was beside her. She carefully wondered if any embarrassing pictures of her young self were taken. When she couldn't think of one, she decided to flip open the album.

Yang Chen was also interested in seeing the stuff inside the old album. Thus, he sat on the bed as well and stuffed his butt nearer to Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi felt that the bed creak under the extra load. Frowning, she said, "Be more gentle. What if the bed breaks?"

"Will it? We're not fatties. Moving slightly won't break this bed," Yang Chen answered.

"How rough," Lin Ruoxi said. "Go further away, this is too close. You're causing me discomfort."

Yang Chen laughed before saying, "Going further away will decrease the sensation. I'm more comfortable this way." He felt that their conversation could mean something entirely different. As a result, he burst into laughter once again.

Lin Ruoxi wanted to look at the album, but the fellow beside her started laughing like a maniac. Out of curiosity, she asked, "What happened to you?"

Yang Chen jokingly leaned forward to Lin Ruoxi and whispered to her ear, "What do you think people would imagine if they heard our conversation just now?"

Lin Ruoxi seriously considered the question. When she thought of Yang Chen's thought process, she instantly understood what he was suggesting. Blushing, she gave Yang Chen an angry stare before deciding to ignore him and flipping the album she was holding open.

The first page of the album surprised the two. It wasn't a family picture as imagined, but Xue Zijing's personal portrait instead.

Xue Zijing was dressed in a white and blue school uniform, which looked like one which someone wore while in the navy. She stood outside the gate of a secondary school, with a sweet and faint smile on her face. The picture had yellowed, but one could clearly tell the school was some secondary school from Beijing.

"Your mom is from Beijing?" Yang Chen asked.

Lin Ruoxi thought for a while before shaking her head. "I don't know. Mom's family had all migrated abroad. I wasn't told too much when I was a child, while Grandma and Mom hadn't bothered to mention it before. But I guess she is."

As she flipped, most of the pictures were Xue Zijing's growth process. Although the album wasn't what the two originally imagined, Lin Ruoxi evidently was interested in her mom's lifestyle.

This could well be considered a kind of grief. After her mother had died, only did her daughter have the opportunity to witness these memories from the past.

Having flipped through more than ten pages, a few group pictures started showing up.

They found the other lady in the group picture familiar. They then looked at her more carefully. Wasn't this Guo Xuehua?!

Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen glanced at each other. The two had heard from Guo Xuehua about her friendship with Xue Zijing before. They were extraordinarily close friends, and this was the confirmation that they had.

The two particularly charming ladies had left numerous memories in each of these pictures. It was their university period. The two still appeared in pictures together, and they were already adults at that time.

“Your mom certainly looks a lot like you,” Yang Chen couldn’t help but praise.

Lin Ruoxi looked at him in dissatisfaction. “What kind of a comparison are you making? It is me who looks similar to her.”

Lin Ruoxi felt joyous when he said this. Deep down her heart, she was proud for having such a beautiful mother. It might be due to this pride that she had seen her mother with so much respect. When Xue Zijing was still alive, she hadn’t had the courage to get close to her often.

Yang Chen smiled awkwardly. No wonder I find the sentence rather weird, he thought.

As Lin Ruoxi flipped the album, there were finally a few changes to the theme of the pictures which had almost instantly stunned both her and Yang Chen.

In one of the pictures, Xue Zijing and Guo Xuehua were standing beside a tall and handsome guy by the lakeside. He looked really mature, possibly considerably older than the two ladies.

This wasn’t something to be surprised about. The main reason was Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi could recognize the man—Ning Guangyao! Premier Ning?!

Although Ning Guangyao looked better and stronger than he was now, one could clearly tell that his appearance hadn’t changed much.

At that instant, too many thoughts surfaced in Yang Chen’s mind...

During the first time meeting, Ning Guangyao had his gaze fixed on Lin Ruoxi, but that definitely wasn’t the same gaze a man gives to a woman he’s interested in...

After that when Ning Guangyao met Yang Pojun in the military camp, he insisted against the idea of confining Guo Xuehua...

Soon, when Yang Chen followed Lin Ruoxi to visit the tombstones of her grandmother and mother, he noticed the same black Audi under the mountain. Lin Ruoxi also mentioned that redbud flowers were always seen on her mother’s grave...

Yang Chen started with a guess, but he felt that his head had numbed from the realizations. Looking serious, he gazed upon Lin Ruoxi who appeared to be shocked and confused.

Lin Ruoxi failed to notice the change in Yang Chen’s emotions. She was just surprised that her mother used to know Ning Guangyao.

“Wife, don’t look at it anymore. Let’s head downstairs for lunch,” Yang Chen said smilingly as he pressed onto the picture Lin Ruoxi was looking at.

Lin Ruoxi regained awareness as she frowned. "All you know is eat. What are you rushing for? Wang Ma will call us when lunch is ready."

"I want to eat your dish," Yang Chen said seriously.

Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes. "Stop fooling around. Wang Ma and Mom are both in the kitchen, even Zhenxiu is there to help. I won't be able to step in. Move your hand away, I'm not done looking at it yet."

Damn it! Something might really happen if you still look at it! Yang Chen thought.

However, he couldn't just tear the picture apart or make Lin Ruoxi unconscious. Based on her intelligence, she would definitely find out something abnormal, and investigate the things that he was trying to hide.

Feeling helpless, Yang Chen withdrew his hand, and hoped that nothing shocking would appear next.

However, unfortunate things would always happen at the worst moment...

Lin Ruoxi only flipped one page, before a picture that would cause Yang Chen have the urge to smash the bed appeared...

It was a relatively large picture. This time, Guo Xuehua didn't appear. Only Xue Zijing and Ning Guangyao were inside!

More shockingly, Xue Zijing was leaning against Ning Guangyao's chest slightly, while Ning Guangyao was obviously in love from the look in his eyes.

This picture must've been taken in a photo studio. In that era, except couples, who else would take such a marriage-like picture in a studio?!

On the blank part of the picture, a beautifully written note by a pen could be found.

"I live upstream and you downstream by Yangtze Blue.

"Day after day of you I think, but you are not in my view,

"Although as one we drink

"The water clear of River Blue.

"When will the water no longer flow?

"When will my grief no longer grow?

"I wish your heart be but like mine,

"Then not in vain for you I pine...."

[Poem translation credit: an anonymous from zybang.com]

When Lin Ruoxi finished speaking these lines of the poem her originally pinkish cheeks had turned pale. Her lips shivered a little as she held the album with both of her hands. Her fingers were bent slightly while her entire body had stiffened.

The room was so silent that calling it pin drop silence was a gross understatement.

Yang Chen could hear Lin Ruoxi's heartbeat. He knew how hesitant, astonished, and disturbed she was.

"Erm... Babe Ruoxi, what does this poem mean?" Yang Chen tried to distract her attention so that she could relax.

After a long while, Lin Ruoxi still hadn't given Yang Chen an answer, but flipped to the next page instead...

This time, there were a few small pictures, with all of them showing Xue Zijing and Ning Guangyao happily interacting with each other. A few of them were even taken by their own. It was clear that they were no strangers to affection.

At last, there was finally a different picture. It was an incomplete one...

The picture was torn in half, leaving Xue Zijing alone in the picture. She was wearing a white floral skirt which matched her aura, while her smile was just like a blooming flower.

There was someone beside her, but was torn away.

This picture was stuffed in the middle of the album, and wasn't properly clipped, which allowed Lin Ruoxi to notice the messy handwritten poem written behind. "Though I have a thousand amorous feelings to confide, whom can I tell them to?"

[TL note: This poem is cut in half. The other half is probably in the part that was torn away. Original: In the parting year, even fine moments and beautiful scenes mean nothing to me. Though I have a thousand amorous feelings to confide, whom can I tell them to?]

Chapter 434: Old Dog

Lin Ruoxi murmured the poem as if she was talking to herself before closing the album calmly. However, her tightly sealed lips and terrible expression proved otherwise.

Yang Chen realized her reaction, and got an involuntary, slight twitch.

Lin Ruoxi indeed wasn't the best person in terms of dealing with emotions, but it didn't mean she was so clueless that she would fail to notice such obvious signs.

On the contrary, having been at a high position for years, she was able to grasp even obscure signs and perform analysis on a lot of things. Thus, when she saw these pictures and read the lines of poem, her imagination brought her much further than she could have been told.

However, people would sometimes choose to ignore certain things, or even deceive themselves from believing them.

Lin Ruoxi put the album back into the drawer. She remained quiet for a while, before turning her head to stare at Yang Chen with her ice-cold eyes. "Are you aware... aware of something that I am not?"

Yang Chen knew that Lin Ruoxi would ask him this question, as he had tried to stop Lin Ruoxi from flipping the album.

“What would I know? I don’t even understand the poems. Your question is so weird and random,” Yang Chen said with a smile. But deep down his heart, he was sighing, Even if I do know something, I very well can’t reveal it to you, not until it has been completely unraveled anyway.

Nothing good would happen should certain things be exposed. Regardless if one had to lie or not, they were best left unmentioned forever.

Ripples appear in Lin Ruoxi’s eyes, but she didn’t plan on asking more questions. She wasn’t one who would pester another person all day. Yang Chen wasn’t willing to confess the truth, so she wouldn’t force him into doing otherwise.

Guo Xuehua asked the two down for lunch from downstairs. Upon moving into this house, a lot of Wang Ma’s ‘missions’ had been taken over by her.

“Let’s go down.” Lin Ruoxi stood up first before leaving the room.

Yang Chen gazed upon the picture on the bedside table as he sighed, before following her downstairs.

The lunch was abundant as usual. Lin Ruoxi behaved as usual while she ate quietly, while the others chatted happily away. She was chewing her food slowly and calmly, and her anger wasn’t displayed for the slightest.

“Ruoxi, has something happened these days? Are you troubled by anything?” Guo Xuehua asked. Actually, she noticed that Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi had kept something hidden from them. Although Rose rescued her this morning, while the assailant had been passed to the police, Guo Xuehua didn’t think he was just an ordinary robber. It also wasn’t possible that the person came for Guo Xuehua specifically, as no one was daring enough to provoke the Yang clan, while the ones who were wouldn’t resort to such amateur means to do so.

As a result, it was most possible that Lin Ruoxi or Yang Chen were faced with enemies who intended to abduct her as their hostage. Guo Xuehua was clearly aware that the ‘postman’ tried to make her unconscious.

Both Wang Ma and Zhenxiu stopped eating. They had been discussing in the kitchen for a long time as they were worried about Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen outside.

Lin Ruoxi wasn’t surprised by the question. “The company was faced with some difficulties, but they’ve been solved for now. The problems will come to an end within a few days. I have hired a security company, don’t worry about me Mom.”

“Sigh, so it’s the company again.” Wang Ma felt a heartache as she looked at Lin Ruoxi. “Miss, it must be so tough for you. Once Old Madam passed away and the company was passed down to your hands, I have never seen you live relaxedly. Problems have been popping out here and there. Now that the company is finally stable and established, so many troublemakers have surfaced to cause trouble. It is so hard to live nicely. No matter one is good or bad, someone will surely go against them.”

“Please be careful no matter what you do...” Guo Xuehua said as she felt sympathy. “You’re a girl who has just crossed her twenty mark not too long ago. You mustn’t feel good sitting at such a position.”

Lin Ruoxi held a complicated expression. Forcing a smile, she said, “It’s fine, I got used to it.”

“How can you be used to something like this? This is no different from a suffering,” Zhenxiu said as she pouted, although she had looked up to Lin Ruoxi all the while. “Sister Ruoxi, I think it’s better for you to pass the company to Brother Yang. You guys are married after all. Isn’t a man supposed to deal with stuff like this? You always wake up early and sleep late, you must be more tired than me preparing for the college entrance exams. This position of CEO doesn’t seem all that worth the title.”

“Little Kid, what do you know?” Yang Chen stared at Zhenxiu as he listened to her suggestion. While munching in the food he had in his mouth, he said loudly, “The CEO position of a multinational company isn’t one that can be passed on anytime. Are you trying to shut down Yu Lei or cause misfortune to me?”

“Brother Yang is so petty.” Zhenxiu pouted before saying, “You don’t even know how to console someone. Also, I’m not a little kid!”

“The suggestion of yours is painful to me. I feel an ache in my stomach, liver, and gum after listening to it,” Yang Chen said. However, he noticed that Lin Ruoxi was giving him a bone-penetrating, freezing-cold gaze. Thus, he smiled awkwardly before continuing his meal.

Expressionlessly, Lin Ruoxi said, “Don’t worry. Even if you want to become the CEO, I shall see to it that you won’t. So spare yourself the pain.”

This time, even Guo Xuehua wasn’t bothered to step in and help Yang Chen. He was dumb enough to think that Lin Ruoxi would actually pass the position of CEO to him. He didn’t even know how to say something nice to cheer his wife up. Dissatisfied, Guo Xuehua said, “Ruoxi works so hard every day, while you’re almost always free. Is there any point of arguing with Zhenxiu?”

Yang Chen felt gloomy. Ruoxi has indeed mentioned about passing the company to me, he thought. This made him develop an involuntary fear towards the idea.

After eating for a while, Yang Chen planned to refill his bowl with rice, but the old-fashioned bell of the house rang.

“Someone’s here?” Wang Ma looked nervous. “Could it be another bad person in disguise?”

“Wang Ma, no one would use the same trick twice regardless of how dumb they are,” Yang Chen said with a smile.

“Still, be careful,” Guo Xuehua said as she gazed upon Yang Chen.

Yang Chen understood what Guo Xuehua meant. All the other people in the house were women, so it was most appropriate for him to go have a look. Moreover, Guo Xuehua also knew that he had extraordinary fighting skills.

Yang Chen put down his bowl and chopsticks before walking out of the house.

A black, extra-long Cadillac was parked quietly by the entrance, attracting quite a lot of attention from passersby, while the people who came weren’t any strangers, but his ‘close relatives’.

Dressed in rather formal clothing, Yuan Hwei and his wife Yang Jieyu were standing outside the steel door, smilingly waiting for Yang Chen to open it.

Ever since the incident at the Cai's residence, Yang Chen hadn't met Yang Jieyu again. Now that their sister-in-law Guo Xuehua moved to Zhonghai, the two should certainly pay her a visit more often. However, they were really cautious people. They were aware that visiting Guo Xuehua often was no different from going against Yang Pojun's will.

Thus, they had never come here before. Yang Chen heard from Guo Xuehua that they had kept in touch on the phone, but didn't expect them to come over today.

"Judging from your expression, you don't look like you're ready to welcome your aunt and uncle." Yuan Hwei asked with a smile.

"Yang Chen isn't unhappy about it. He probably didn't expect us to come," Yang Jieyu complained.

Yang Chen opened the door and made a gesture to welcome them inside as he said, "This house belongs to Ruoxi. The seniors helped us move over here. Actually, since I'm living in a female dorm, it makes no difference what I say."

As they chatted, Guo Xuehua who realized the arrival of Yuan Hwei and Yang Jieyu quickly came out to welcome them. Smiling, she said, "Wei, Jieyu, why are you guys free to visit at this hour?"

Yang Jieyu hugged Guo Xuehua lightly. The two were obviously really close. Smiling bitterly, she said, "Sister-In-Law, aren't you asking the obvious this way? Yu Lei is facing such a major challenge. We wouldn't want to sit idly by as our niece's company falls into ruins. We're here to discuss something with Ruoxi."

Guo Xuehua and Wang Ma paled after listening to her, before looking at the expressionless Lin Ruoxi strangely.

They heard that Lin Ruoxi was facing an issue, but they didn't expect it to be so serious that Yu Lei was on the brink of collapse!

Yuen Hwei and Yang Jieyu finally realized that Guo Xuehua was unaware about it after looking at her reaction. Thus, they looked at Lin Ruoxi apologetically.

Lin Ruoxi shook her head to imply it was fine. "Let's come inside and have a seat. We're still having lunch now. Have you two eaten yet?"

The two looked at each other as they felt confused. Now that the shocking news of Yu Lei had spread all over the world, they didn't understand why Lin Ruoxi was still calmly having lunch at home, being the CEO of this company.

Was she confident, or had she accepted her fate?

After they got themselves seated on the redwood buckskin sofa, Wang Ma made some tea in the kitchen and served each of them, with the atmosphere still being slightly tense.

Yuan Hwei looked at the porcelain tea cup he was holding before looking at Lin Ruoxi. "May I call you Ruoxi?" he asked.

Lin Ruoxi nodded her head slightly.

Yuan Hwei was aware of Lin Ruoxi's well-known cold personality, so he didn't mind the discourteous reply. He said, "Ruoxi, do you know who made Yu Lei fail to obtain loans from the banks?"

"I don't know yet," Lin Ruoxi answered honestly.

Yang Jieyu looked at Lin Ruoxi's elegant and charming face. Worried, she said, "This child is still so calm at this moment. Why is it that the person who is involved is less nervous than the people who are not?"

Lin Ruoxi kept quiet as she took a sip of red tea.

"Do you still remember Zeng Xinlin who had died in front of your house?" Yuan Hwei asked before looking at Yang Chen.

"I do." She seemed to have noticed something while a light flashed in her eyes.

Yang Chen who was sitting on another sofa asked, "Has the old dog been lured here after the puppy has been killed?"

Yang Jieyu said, "Zeng Mao is the former clan master of the Zeng clan after all, and the leader of the country's state council. Why did he suddenly become an old—old something... It sounds so terrible."

Guo Xuehua who was listening to the conversation felt shocked. "What? Are you really referring to Zeng Mao from the Zeng clan? His grandson was... was..."

"That's right, Sister-In-Law. He was killed by your baby son Yang Chen in front of his house door," Yuan Hwei said with a helpless smile.

Guo Xuehua had her eyes widened in shock as contemplation surfaced in her eyes.

Yang Chen wasn't bothered about it, and didn't care about how Yuan Hwei found out about this. The Yuan clan was the number-one clan in Zhonghai after all, they certainly had abnormal influence and power. He was just wondering if he should take care of the root of the problem. Thus, he asked, "Erm... where is he? Where is Zeng Mao right now?"

Chapter 435: Strategy

Yuan Hwei felt strange for Yang Chen's question. "Why would you need to know?"

"Since I know the root cause of all this trouble, won't everything be over once I deal with him?" Yang Chen said.

Frowning, Yang Jieyu said, "Yang Chen, please don't act recklessly. Even if you're really good in fighting, you must know that Zeng Mao had given up his position as the clan master of the Zeng clan just to take revenge on you guys by his own hand and not the hand of another. This means he is prepared to go all out. Having served in the government for so many years, he naturally has protection from experts. Also, every powerful person has armed bodyguards around. How are you going to defeat him this way?"

In Yang Jieyu's heart, even if she knew Yang Chen practised unusual martial arts, she didn't think anyone in this world could face bullets head on.

"Yeah, Yang Chen, Mom knows that you're pissed. I'm really pissed as well." Guo Xuehua sighed, "I didn't think an old senior like Zeng Mao would suddenly come to Zhonghai to take revenge on two

juniors such as yourselves. I have read about Zeng Xinlin in the newspaper before. Didn't he commit suicide after Changlin Media lost to Yu Lei International? Even if he was really killed by you, it was him who courted his own death. Why is Zeng Mao so shameless?"

"Sister-In-Law," Yang Jieyu called as she looked at Guo Xuehua with a complicated gaze. "It's the love of a family. Zeng Xinlin died before Zeng Mao did, while he was his most highly regarded grandson. It's only natural that he has chosen to give up his reputation. Sister-In-Law, think about it. If someone... kills one of your sons, will you still care about your fame?"

Guo Xuehua's body shivered slightly before glancing at Yang Chen. She then lowered her head with her brows furrowed. She obviously agreed with Yang Jieyu's words.

In this world, blood relations were the strongest, and also the most terrifying!

Contemplation filled Yang Chen's eyes. He turned his head to look at Lin Ruoxi, and realized she was looking at him quietly as well.

The gazes of the two met. Smiling, Yang Chen asked, "Dear, what do you think I should do?"

Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes. She was impressed that he had never failed to hold a smile on his face no matter the situation. "Would you even have listened to me if I had told you that I don't want you to kill?"

"Who said I was going to kill?" Yang Chen said with an innocent face.

"Then what do you want to do?" Lin Ruoxi asked in doubt.

Yuan Hwei, Yang Jieyu, and Guo Xuehua were all curiously waiting for Yang Chen's answer as well.

Yang Chen waved his hand. "I'm just going to have a talk with him, ask him if he's willing to stop his scheme, and only kill if he isn't. Even I don't enjoy doing things that spoil my mood anyways."

"This is the same as a murder, since he most definitely wouldn't give up after going this far. He wouldn't have started otherwise." Lin Ruoxi gave him a furious stare.

"This is called a negotiation, not murder. You make it sound so terrible." Yang Chen waved his hand.

"Yang Chen, you can't go. You won't be able to return if you do!"

"Then tell me what we should do," Yang Chen said to Yuan Hwei and Yang Jieyu. To him, the most straightforward method to solve a problem was to kill, but it wouldn't remove the root cause this way. Although Zeng Mao claimed to have left the Zeng clan so that his clan members wouldn't be affected. However, only the heavens knew if his loyal clan members were still serving him or not.

Yang Chen wasn't afraid of killing him, but the consequences he had to face in the future would be most annoying for him.

Yuan Hwei said, "I came today to discuss with you guys. We'll provide funds to Yu Lei and borrow loans on behalf of the Yuan clan. Everything can be done within a day, or two at most. With enough finance, I believe you and Athena Team under your lead will be able to defeat the international associations."

The ice on her face had surprisingly defrosted. She smiled faintly and said, "Thank you. I didn't think that there was anyone that would so willingly land us a hand."

The finance needed by Yu Lei was tremendous. Even if the Yuan clan was able to provide assistance, their business chains would be affected if they did so. A lot of business operations required significant cash flows after all. However, Yuan Hewei still came over with his wife. This was enough to prove their sincerity.

"Of course, we're a family after all," Yang Jieyu said with a smile.

"Actually... we don't lack funds," Lin Ruoxi said as she glanced at Yang Chen.

Yuan Hewei and Yang Jieyu were stunned. Don't lack funds? They then noticed Lin Ruoxi peeping at Yang Chen, and were able to make certain assumptions.

"If that's the case, I guess we've overreacted." Although Yuan Hewei was astonished by Yang Chen's ability to provide so much cash, he still smilingly answered, "Then I guess Yu Lei isn't in trouble anymore. However, if Zeng Mao fails this time, he might strike a second time. His influence is still major. He will still gather forces for an attack like this time."

"I'm not afraid of him," Lin Ruoxi said coldly. She then suddenly said, "The Zeng clan must ahve back up. They have so much finance from overseas. There must be someone else trying to harm me."

"It's Gao Guoxiong," Yuan Hewei answered. "But this is all we know. There are still certain things that even we would have trouble finding out."

Lin Ruoxi was surprised. "I thought he was still in jail."

"Gao Guoxiong is a wealthy businessman from Singapore. Each country has their own security policies. With Zeng Mao's help, it wasn't actually to difficult for him to have gotten out," Yuan Hewei said with a smile. "Unfortunately, they seem like they're going to lose this time."

Yang Chen rubbed his chin. He pondered for a while before saying, "If that's the case, tell me Gao Guoxiong's location as well."

"Do you really want to go?" Yuan Hewei asked impatiently.

Yang Chen nodded. "I'm not a brainless man. You need not worry to tell me his coordinates. Of course, if you don't plan to tell me, I can do find out myself."

Yuan Hewei and Yang Jieyu smiled bitterly as they looked at each other, while Lin Ruoxi and Guo Xuehua remained quiet while looking solemn. They were aware that no one in this house could stop Yang Chen from doing anything, once he had made a decision.

After obtaining the coordinates, Yang Chen stood up lazily as he planned to leave the house.

Lin Ruoxi hesitated for a while before asking, "When will you come back?"

"Erm..." Yang Chen turned his head around with a smile. "Very quick."

"We'll wait for you at home for dinner," Lin Ruoxi said gently.

Joy filled Yang Chen's eyes while he hurriedly turned around to leave.

After Yang Chen left, Lin Ruoxi said, "If you're both free later, you may stay for dinner."

Guo Xuehua looked at Lin Ruoxi as she felt satisfied. Although her daughter-in-law was always cold, her heart was rather warm while she was quite thoughtful. Unfortunately, she couldn't seem to amend her talking habit.

"We almost always have things to do, but since my niece has invited us to stay, we can't reject your offer during our first time here, can we? We can also talk about Yang Chen with you. We're still wondering how you two got married, being completely different people from different worlds."

Lin Ruoxi instantly blushed after listening to her. Getting married? It's all because of the irreversible night, but I can't just tell this story to them, she thought as she felt a headache.

"Look, my daughter-in-law is shy already. Sister-In-Law, let's not tease this child anymore. What if she follows Yang Chen out later just to avoid seeing us?" Guo Xuehua said happily. This time, the atmosphere had gotten a lot better, but Lin Ruoxi's cheeks flushed, while her jaw was lowered so much that it almost touched her chest.

In the west of Zhonghai, there was an area with newly built villas, while most of them were still empty. A lot of the houses were bought as investments, so only a few janitors could be occasionally seen.

A white BMW slowly drove into a boulevard.

Yang Chen came to this place following his navigation system according to the location given by Yuan Hewei. He felt rather gloomy when he drove here. Why the heck did this Zeng Mao buy a villa here? Is he thinking of settling down in Zhonghai after all this?

Yang Chen was even wondering if the information given by Yuan Hewei was accurate or not, but the cautious Yuan Hewei wasn't one to make such fundamental mistakes. He must have someone monitoring the situation for him, otherwise he wouldn't dare to provide the specific address.

The bungalow had a house number of 288 in this area. When Yang Chen parked outside the house, he noticed there this place was nearby a manmade river.

Tens of bodyguards dressed in black were patrolling the villa, appearing particularly eye-catching at this quiet place.

Yang Chen got off the car and walked toward the villa. He wasn't stopped by any of the guards, as if they had expected his arrival.

On the contrary, one of the guards opened the door and made a gesture to invite him inside.

A smile was revealed on the corners of Yang Chen's lips. It looks like Zeng Mao had mapped out his strategy. I wonder how much he knows about me. How is he this confident? he thought.

Back then, Zeng Xinlin partnered up with Xu Zhihong to hire international mercenaries to go after Yang Chen, but have gotten killed themselves instead. Zeng Mao must be aware about this. Thus, Yang Chen couldn't help but get curious when he was this magnanimous.

He walked into the house decorated with black and brown flooring. The chandelier was made of crystals caused the environment to look elegant and peaceful.

There was a fifty-inch LED television which currently playing political news. There sat an old man with grey hair in front. He leisurely raised his glass of Lafite before taking a small sip.

Zeng Mao looked behind when he heard that the door opened. He examined Yang Chen as if he was looking at something interesting. At last, he let out a relaxed smile, looking like a kind, ordinary old man.

“Care for a drink?” Zeng Mao raised her crystal glass containing red liquid.

Yang Chen slowly walked toward the sofa before getting himself seated. He then took the bottle of Lafite which was just opened and gulped the wine.

“Ah...” Yang Chen exhaled in satisfaction. He swallowed the red wine worth tens of thousands of yuan like it was a fifty-cent soda drink.

“Young Man, how would you be able to appreciate the taste of the wine this way?” Zeng Mao said, dissatisfied.

Yang Chen grinned, revealing his teeth which were stained with the red wine. Smiling, he answered, “This wine is poisoned anyway. There’s no one crazy enough to drink this except me, is there not?”

Chapter 436: I Just Want to Do This

Zeng Mao neither confirmed nor denied that statement. His silence could have been said be acceptance.

Zeng Mao put down his wine glass before lifting the TV remote control and pressing the mute button. He then said to Yang Chen, “So why did you drink it even after having known that it was poison?”

“It’s the same reason as me coming here when you thought that I wouldn’t have.”

“How do you know that? I don’t think you should come here, but my doors were wide open to welcome you inside,” Zeng Mao said as he disagreed.

Yang Chen moved his butt to a more comfortable position on the sofa. “If you think that I would’ve come, you should’ve prepared more than tens of guns to take me out, and riddle me with bullets the moment I exited my car. This way, you won’t have to disappoint your dead, foolish grandson, am I right?”

Zeng Mao squinted, but didn’t seem to be enraged after Yang Chen insulted Zeng Xinlin. “Xinglin was indeed a bit dumb. But you need to be reminded that young men do foolish things. He was just unlucky this time as I wasn’t quick enough to be there to wipe his ass for him.”

“Haha,” Yang Chen laughed. “My wife always complains about how rude I talk. I heard that you were a powerful politician. Why do you then talk this rude as well?”

“Don’t all politicians act differently underground?” Zeng Mao asked, contented.

Yang Chen smiled faintly as he looked around.

“What are you looking for?”

“Someone,” Yang Chen said honestly.

He was looking for Gao Guoxiong. It was that fellow who helped Zeng Mao gather such a huge sum of finance. Since Yang Chen had come all the way here, he was expecting to kill two birds with one stone. However, Yang Chen was surprised to feel the presence of no one else in this room other than Zeng Mao, while Yuan Hewei said Gao Guoxiong was here as well.

“You’re looking for Gao Guoxiong, aren’t you? He left right before you came,” Zeng Mao answered in all honesty.

Yang Chen appeared to have think of something. Frowning, he said, “The trap you set up is so simple. The poisoned wine is obviously for me, and you opened the door for me to enter the place you’re hiding in. This means you willingly let your location be known to Yuan Hewei, didn’t you?”

Yang Chen had found it weird since the start. If Zeng Mao really was so influential that all banks in Zhonghai had to listen to his command, how would Yuan Hewei and Yang Jieyu figure out his location so easily?

It was said that even a powerful dragon couldn’t crush a snake in its haunt. But in this case, why didn’t the snake hide in its haunt when the dragon wasn’t trying to crush it?

It was slowly becoming obvious that Zeng Mao was merely a distraction for Yang Chen.

“You’re right.” Zeng Mao nodded. “I knew you weren’t an ordinary person, so I didn’t think I could defeat you right from the start. Of course, I would still be glad to see you fall if it’s possible. However, it isn’t very likely to happen judging by the situation. So making a move on the people around you is probably the wiser choice.”

Yang Chen’s eyes turned cold while his smile dissipated. “Do you know that I find it more despicable when people try to harm my family instead of coming straight at me?”

“I know how it feels, since I instantly fainted when I was notified of my grandson’s death in Beijing, while the reason was you.” Zeng Mao held a bitter smile. “So I don’t ask that you die, I only wish for your family to be annihilated... Partnering up with Gao Guoxiong to strike Yu Lei International is only my second objective.”

“You look very rational. But why choose to do something so foolish?” Yang Chen asked.

“In this world, not everything should be looked at with a rational mind.” Zeng Mao slowly shut his eyes, and appeared to be in contemplation.

Yang Chen took the bottle of red wine and gulped a mouthful again. “Are you prepared to die now?”

Zeng Mao opened his eyes and looked at the wine bottle in Yang Chen’s hand. “I really want to know. This poison is a newly developed bacteria. Is it really... ineffective toward you?”

“Even a 40-million-dollar toxin does no harm to me. What more this weak poison?” Yang Chen wasn’t willing to waste anymore. Although Rose and her people were nearby his house, he still couldn’t be at ease. If Gao Guoxiong brought mercenary-level armies over there, Rose wouldn’t be able to hold them off.

Yang Chen sent a message to Molin from Sea Eagles using his phone. Even if many of the members were recovering from injuries, sending one or two elites there would be a huge help.

Yang Chen planned to end the fellow's life right away, but suddenly felt the presence of a familiar figure.

Dressed in a black trench coat with a belt tied to her waist, Cai Ning appeared to have walked out from the wind. When she approached Yang Chen, her hair was still swaying about.

Yang Chen hadn't met her in a while. Her was sunk in, but the resolution and coldness in her eyes were still the same.

"You can't kill him," Cai Ning said.

Yang Chen smiled. "You used hidden weapons to obliterate the bodyguards outside before coming in, but you're telling me not to take action now. Don't you find it ironic?"

It wasn't hard for Yang Chen to guess why she was here. He had always been tightly observed, while such a huge commotion happened in Yu Lei International. Yellow Flame Iron Brigade must've paid attention to his actions, so Cai Ning's emergence was totally logical. He was just curious why Cai Ning came to stop him, knowing that her efforts would end up futile.

Zeng Mao didn't expect such an event to take place. "Who are you..."

Even if he was most likely to die, he had been wondering where his bodyguards had gone. So they were all killed by this woman!

Cai Ning ignored Zeng Mao. "The Zeng clan won't stop hunting you down after his death, and his students will not sit aside. They might not do anything to you, but have you considered that your family and the other people close to you will all be affected due to your repeated murders? You may be able to kill one or two clans, but are you going to end the lives of everyone who wants to go against you? Every single one of those people are influential government officials. You'll only give rise to a public outrage at last!"

Yang Chen remained quiet. He was aware that he couldn't kill every single of his and Lin Ruoxi's enemies. However, no arrows would turn back after being shot out from the bow. He only had one path that would lead him to the end.

"Girl, which clan are you from? Didn't your seniors tell you how they would be affected if you stepped in?" Zeng Mao said seriously.

He was willing to be killed by Yang Chen, since his death would cause terror to the highly ranked individuals, especially those from the top clans in Beijing.

Yang Chen's name had been spread all around. He had wiped out the Xu and Lie clans, and was rumored to have a conflict with Ning Guodong from the Ning clan. Although Zeng Mao didn't completely understand the internal affairs, he was able to tell that the awareness of various parties for Yang Chen had been raised.

He only needed to ignite the fire, and a lot more people would naturally head for Yang Chen, or do harm to the people around him.

However, Cai Ning seemed to have the intention to mess up his plan currently.

Cai Ning stared at Yang Chen with her cold eyes. At last, Yang Chen still shook his head.

“You’re still unwilling to stop, aren’t you?” Cai Ning smiled sorrowfully. “I should’ve guessed it from the start.”

“I don’t know if I have to face more troubles in the future, but I definitely have a lot of problems if I don’t kill him now.”

As soon as Yang Chen finished speaking, he wanted to end Zeng Mao’s life immediately. “Stop!” Cai Ning yelled.

Yang Chen doubtfully looked at the woman who was behaving strangely. He could identify certain things from her cold face.

It wasn’t known when Cai Ning started holding a Soul-mourning Needle. The skull on the needle made of silver slowly turned black, while its body glowed in a white glare.

This hidden weapon would deal incredibly high damage together with its terrifying poison. It wasn’t used often as it was rare, unless it was for deep hatred.

“What do you mean?” Yang Chen looked at this complex woman as he was wondering what he should do if Cai Ning struck an attack at him.

Zeng Mao frowned as he was confused by the situation, but he hoped that Yang Chen and Cai Ning would start fighting, so that he would have a chance to live.

“I don’t mean anything else,” Cai Ning said slowly. “I just want to... do this.”

As soon as she finished speaking, in the blink of an eye, a hole appeared in Zeng Mao’s throat, causing black-colored blood to flow out from there...

Zeng Mao revealed a dumbfounded look before falling on the ground.

Yang Chen felt that his heart contract violently. His astonished gaze fell upon Cai Ning...

Cai Ning withdrew her hand which had fired a Soul-mourning Needle, before letting out an unprecedented, brilliant smile, which was not unlike the sun that dispersed the cold, but made Yang Chen feel desolate.

So... her smile looks this good...

... ..

At the same time, Guo Xuehua and Lin Ruoxi sat together with Yuan Hewei and Yang Jieyu as they chatted happily in the living hall of the old villa.

Wang Ma and Zhenxiu were busy preparing dinner, as there were two more guests who could be considered their relatives. Wang Ma was really excited. Her face had said it all.

Zhenxiu had moved into this family for quite a while now. She more or less understood the past of Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi, and slowly felt that she was a true member of the family. She turned from being a rebellious girl to a serious one. She even looked like a polite lady when she cooked.

Bang! Bang! Bang! The door of the house was suddenly knocked loudly.

“Who is it? Why haven’t they used the doorbell instead?” Wang Ma complained.

“I’ll go open the door.” Zhenxiu wiped her hands on her apron and jogged to the door. She saw that Guo Xuehua and the others were talking, so she decided to do the job.

However, before Zhenxiu opened the door, a huge force was applied to the door...

Bam!

A loud thud echoed. The huge wooden door collapsed under the force of the person that slammed into it from the outside!

Chapter 437: Monstrous Beast

The sudden force made Zhenxiu freeze in her tracks. She widened her eyes in shock as she refused to believe that the door had been knocked down.

Outside stood a brutish and huge figure. He filled the door frame with just his body, blocking out all sunlight.

He had dark skin, large eyes and thick brows, while his moustache was slightly gray. There were a bunch of unknown characters tattooed on his left cheek in a line, which looked like Sanskrit. He wore a short-sleeved leather coat and a pair of boxing gloves modified with steel nails. There were also two chains of machine-gun bullets hung in front of his chest.

More terrifyingly, a portion of the front of the gatling gun he was carrying on his back could be seen!

This type of heavy gatling gun, could deliver up to 6 thousand bullets rounds a minute. This is several times more than a regular machine gun!

When this gun is fully reloaded, it carried a weight of over 30 kilograms. Due to its overwhelming recoil and power, it was often equipped on helicopters for a large-scale, ground-level sweep!

When an area was targeted by these guns, there are no living organisms in that area who would be able to survive this rain of bullets.

The man in front of Zhenxiu was carrying both the gun and the bullets himself, as if he was trying to say ‘I am the armed helicopter’!

Machine aiming devices were always used for similar guns to this, since the recoil was more than anyone can bear. If this guy could operate this gun without external help, the strength in his arms could be compared to those of the gods.

Pushing the large door down was a piece of cake to this huge guy.

The man only took a glance at Zhenxiu before turning around and walking to the courtyard, leaving her in her wake.

At this moment, Guo Xuehua, Yuan Hewei, and Yang Jieyu had already fled from the scene. They appeared incredibly nervous after witnessing this disturbance.

Lin Ruoxi was the only one who looked calm. She frowned slightly when she realized what had happened, before walking toward the petrified Zhenxiu and pulling her up, and asking her to hide inside the house.

Although Zhenxiu had always been involved in fights with thugs, she hadn't experienced anything of this sort. She was just a nineteen-year-old girl after all. Shivering, she hid behind Lin Ruoxi, but her curiosity caused her to fail to avoid looking outside.

There stood more than ten people, each dressed in a different manner, at the courtyard, as if they had fallen from the sky. All of them were armed, massive guys. All of them had guns in their hands, while some had additional knives around their waist. They all looked unwavering, while their gazes were extremely sharp.

Gao Guoxiong who looked the same as usual stood in the middle of the courtyard, with a cigar in his mouth and a pair of sunglasses on his head. When the huge guy walked back, he said smilingly, "Leader Delon is indeed stronger than all the others."

The guy called Delon held no expressions on his face. "Boss Gao, as you promised, one million for one kill count."

The man had a strong accent. It was obvious that he wasn't a Chinese.

"Of course, of course." Gao Guoxiong took out his cheque book from his pocket and removed his cigar with another hand. Smiling, he said, "You'll get the money once you finish the job."

"We don't take cheques," Delon said.

"Oh, you're right. I almost forgot. Don't worry, Leader Delon. Do you possibly think we'll lie to you guys? We've already paid for the deposit," Gao Guoxiong said.

Delon nodded. Evidently, he was confident that this cowardly Singaporean businessman didn't dare to provoke them. Thus, he raised his hand and made a bunch of orders to the two closest men.

"They sound like Vietnamese," Yuan Hewei said solemnly.

"They don't look like people we can negotiate with. Based on my experience, these people must've come from the military. They scream army from their auras," Yang Jieyu said.

Currently, Gao Guoxiong made Delon wait for a while. He walked toward Yuan Hewei and the others with a cunning smile. "You two from the Yuan clan, I haven't seen you in a while. I didn't expect you're still here."

Yuan Hewei instantly understood something after listening to what he said. "Gao Guoxiong... Zeng Mao intentionally exposed his location, didn't he?!"

“It’s too late that you only found out now.” Gao Guoxiong wasn’t bothered to deny his claim. To him, the person in front of him was just a dead man walking. “I’ll tell you this. I won’t give you special treatments today just because you’re from the Yuan clan. Originally, all I wanted to do was kill the bitch Lin Ruoxi, but... since the heavens has fated your deaths as well, I’ll have to listen to the heavens’ orders then.”

“Do you think you’ll end up fine after going against us?” Yang Jieyu asked coldly.

Gao Guoxiong snorted in contempt. “I wouldn’t end up fine anyway if I didn’t kill you guys. I was left with only this path to choose after the bitch left me for dead. When you’re in the journey of becoming a ghost, you may give the slut a few slaps as she’s the reason you’ll die. I still want to enjoy a few more years of my life in this world.”

As Gao Guoxiong spoke, he glanced at Lin Ruoxi who was standing inside the house occasionally, while greed filled his eyes. “How unfortunate... It would’ve been perfect if you had obeyed me back then. You’re such a beautiful woman, but you will be turning a red skeleton today...”

Lin Ruoxi remained silent. She showed no fear.

To her, Gao Guoxiong looked pathetic, just like an insane dog who had come to a dead end. She was just regretful that she had gotten Yuan Hewei and Yang Jieyu involved in addition to Zhenxiu and Wang Ma...

If she could, she hoped to walk forward and surrender her life to Gao Guoxiong in exchange for the lives of the others.

However, Lin Ruoxi knew it was impossible. Gao Guoxiong had spent so much effort into tricking the Yuan clan, so he naturally wanted to finish this entirely, leaving nothing at all behind.

Only annihilating everyone was worthy of them doing so.

“I’m sorry. Although I don’t think I’ve done anything wrong, I’ve certainly gotten you involved...”

Lin Ruoxi ignored Gao Guoxiong, and spoke to Guo Xuehua and the others softly instead.

Wang Ma who was cooking in the kitchen had come out to the living hall. Afraid and nervous, she tightly held one of Lin Ruoxi’s hand with both her hands as she felt panicked. She looked left and right repeatedly, hoping that someone would come to their rescue.

At this moment, Gao Guoxiong stepped backward after he finished speaking what he had in mind. Delon knew that it was his time to take action. Thus, he raised his head and signalled two of his men to equip their guns.

The two cruel-looking men removed their AK hanging on their back and armed themselves. They felt nothing at all toward the people inside the house whom they were going to kill, like butchers in a slaughterhouse.

“Let’s run inside. Withing here to die would do us no good. We need to think of a way to escape from behind!” Yuan Hewei said to these women.

However, as soon as they finished speaking, gunshots echoed in the courtyard!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The repeated gunshots didn't come from the AK the two men were holding, but some pistols instead!

The turf, tree leaves and branches were penetrated by a few bullets, causing smoke to appear from the friction. Some of the bullets even hit on the walls, directly leaving scars behind!

"We have enemies! Retreat and strike back!"

Following Delon's calm order, the few unprepared Vietnamese armies who had almost been hit by the bullets swiftly and calmly armed took their weapons before launching a counter attack by shooting back!

They were still completely fearless even when milimetres from death.

Delon carried the frightened Gao Guoxiong away with one arm before putting him behind a bush.

Lin Ruoxi and the others were shocked once again to see this turn of events.

More than ten ordinary-looking guys and ladies had entered the courtyard, while each of them was armed with a handgun, rapidly firing at these Vietnamese soldiers!

"Eleven from the north," one of the Vietnamese soldiers said in Burmese.

"Six from the west," another soldier yelled.

"More than ten from the east..."

While these soldiers communicated with each other, the highly agile individuals surrounded them in the courtyard. Most of them were armed with guns, while some of them were holding daggers.

These people were naturally Rose's elites from Red Thorns Society, but they didn't usually have this many people guarding the place. Rose had strengthened the security as the situation was unique today. She didn't expect that the extra manpower was actually going to be used.

However, although these guards could be considered elites in Red Thorns Society, they appeared a lot more unorganized compared to these exceptional Vietnamese soldiers. Their aiming was much inferior.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

As the guns were fired, a deafening sound which could break the clouds echoed in the entire courtyard!

A few of the Red Thorns Society members were quickly shot to death, while screams and shouts could be heard!

However, since the courtyard was indeed too small, around thirty guards had rushed nearer to the Vietnamese armies.

The scene was soon filled with forty to fifty people, causing a huge mess!

Under such a situation, guns seemed to only be a burden. Using army knives against daggers was more straightforward. Punches and kicks could also be used in the battle occasionally!

The combat skills of these army bred men were just too much for the Red Thorn Society to bear. The people from Red Thorns Society launched attack after attack, in an attempt to tire the soldiers out. They had much difficulty in knocking them out, let alone killing them!

Delon expressionlessly took out his army knife from his boot and violently stabbed a few people from behind. He then said something to his nearest subordinate.

The army received his order and instantly turned around before dashing toward Lin Ruoxi and the others inside the house!

Delon was evidently trying to eliminate his targets before going on full offense. If they stayed there for too long, the likelihood of a success retreat would be a lot less.

“Run!”

Yuan Hewei was the first one who reacted, and hurriedly asked the few women to escape!

However, the bloodshot Vietnamese soldier was so quick that he had raised his AK and aimed at the living hall. He was going to pull the trigger!

Slash!

The sound of broken metal could be heard while a white light glared. The AK held by the soldier was cut apart!

A black and red figure had appeared behind the soldier out of nowhere. When the soldier finally came to, the cold and slim blade had swept across his face!

A scarlet-red line gushed out from the soldier's face. Soon, blood shot out from his throat, causing the person holding the blade to be splashed with some of the steaming-hot blood.

“Rose?!”

Guo Xuehua was the first one to recognize the person who came to their rescue. Holding a long blade, Rose was currently dressed in a black and red tight-fitting clothing.

Rose's face was currently ice-cold, while a frightening killing aura filled her eyes. When the blood of the dead Vietnamese soldier splashed on her charming and fair cheeks, she seemed just like a thorny rose, looking immensely terrifying.

Her gaze swept across the people inside the house. There was a change in her expression when her glance reached Lin Ruoxi.

At the same time, Lin Ruoxi looked at Rose with complex emotions.

Lin Ruoxi remembered who Rose was, but had never asked Yang Chen for her identity. It was impossible for Lin Ruoxi to forget a woman whom Yang Chen was willing to put on shoes for in front of Lin Ruoxi.

When their gazes met, too much feeling unable to be explained by words was passed. They currently felt separated from the outside bloody scene, so indistinguishable like illusion and reality.

Yuan Hwei and Yang Jieyu naturally recognized Rose. They were the ones who had helped Red Thorns Society destroy Dongxing. Thus, they both felt relieved when Rose appear.

“Be careful!” Zhenxiu shouted nervously.

Rose tipped her toe and swiftly dodged the attack. She was a few millimeters away from being slashed by Delon!

“Die, Woman!”

Delon was infuriated. Each and everyone of his subordinates was a specially chosen veteran from the Vietnamese military. Any one of their deaths would be a huge loss, not to mention the situation wasn't in his control. He initially thought this was an easy mission, so he had lost his mind after realizing the predicament he was in.

Delon wasn't willing to waste his time on Rose who was nimble. He took the gatling gun from his back domineeringly. The massive gun looked like a toy in his hands!

“President Situ, be careful! The gun has a large firepower!” Yang Jieyu's brother was a commander, so she had knowledge in various guns. She tensed up instantly when she saw the gun.

“All of you shall die!!!”

Delon wasn't bothered to aim. The firing speed of 6 thousand rounds per minute allowed him to finish the task with an easy sweep!

As soon as he yelled, Delon had pulled the trigger on this monstrous beast!

Chapter 438: Covering the Sunlight

Silence ensued in the villa for some time. Yang Chen looked at Zeng Mao who had lost his breath and asked, “Why?”

Cai Ning withdrew her right arm which had fired the hidden weapon while the smile on her face slowly dispersed. Gently, she said, “If you were the one to have killed him, the consequences you would have faced would have been severe. I'll do the job for you, so that larger troubles can be avoided.”

“You're not a murderer. What reason do you have by killing him?” Yang Chen asked.

Cai Ning thought for a while before saying in an orderly manner, “He abused his power to free a prisoner, employed killers to commit a crime, and partnered up with foreign financial associations to attack a domestic corporate in addition to disturbing the stock market. All his doings are criminal acts.”

“You're from Yellow Flame Iron Brigade, not the police force. You're not even considered one from the security bureau. You can arrest him, but killing him will mean you're taking things personally. Now you may only rely on the Cai clan to back you up. You should be aware that doing so will get you into a huge trouble,” Yang Chen said. With his heart filled with doubts, he couldn't understand what the woman wanted to do anymore.

He had known Cai Ning for quite a long while. This woman was usually quiet and cool, while her coldness was only inferior to Lin Ruoxi. She wouldn't talk when she was getting things done, so no one could tell what she had in mind.

Cai Ning smiled and said, "Just treat it as me returning your favor."

"Favor?"

"Earlier at the hill behind the Liu residence, you saved me from the vampire's Massacre Blade. When Brahma came, it was you who had rescued us as well. You saved me twice, and I saved you from these troubles. I'm still benefited this way."

Yang Chen wasn't in the mood to joke around. "I don't want others to suffer because of me."

Cai Ning turned her head away as she sighed. Her cheek looked like a crystal-clear jade. "Realize now that you are no longer alone. A lot of the people around you need your protection. Just because you're not afraid doesn't mean they aren't as well. It was first the Xu clan, then the Liu clan, and now it's the Zeng clan. There are still a whole host of clans that you have not yet met, which you may in the future.

"If you continue killing like this, most of these people you kill will be highly ranked officials in the Chinese government. Take this time as an example. Once Zeng Mao dies, a lot of his students and friends will hold hatred toward you. When they slowly accumulate, you'll end up lots of enemies everywhere in the world. This way, do you still think living in this country is meaningful?"

Yang Chen remained quiet. He knew that Cai Ning had a point. He couldn't just leave everything behind, as he had too many strings in this country, so he had no choice but to face them.

"There's one more thing you should keep in mind. Once the high-ranked officials get anxious, which means when the country gets into a crisis, you'll certainly become a target Hongmeng wants to eradicate," Cai Ning said seriously. "You've seen their senior before. Are you confident you can defeat the people from Hongmeng?"

Yang Chen recalled the day where Ling Xuzy revealed some of his skills by the sea together with the aura he exuded. Shaking his head, Yang Chen said honestly, "For now... maybe not."

Before meeting Ling Xuzy, Yang Chen had indeed thought he was number-one in the world, or one of the best at least. However, upon meeting Ling Xuzy, he realized someone had broken through the level which he previously thought was the limit!

Also, it was an organization full of people like that, not just a single person!

However, Yang Chen wasn't so obsessed with martial arts that he wanted to be the best in the world, but his encounter with Ling Xuzy had brought him more space for exploration and desire. It was no different from a kid who had just discovered a new toy, Yang Chen finally had a new target.

"As a result, I am the best candidate to kill him," Cai Ning said seriously.

Yang Chen still wanted to say something, but was stopped by Cai Ning.

"You don't need to say anything, don't overthink it as well. Although I'm not fond of you, at least my stupid younger sister likes you a lot. I don't want her to get depressed. Just treat me as an interfering

busybody who has ended a problem for you.” Cai Ning looked annoyed. Frowning, she said, “If you’re still not satisfied with my answer, look at me as Ruoxi’s close friend. I can’t stand aside doing nothing.”

Yang Chen sighed deeply. He actually had more things to ask, but he definitely had to rush home now.

“You should go. I’ll take care of this aftermath,” Cai Ning said generously as she understood his intention.

Yang Chen looked at her and felt thankful, before rushing out of the entrance.

After the car engine sound distanced away, Cai Ning silently sat on the sofa in the living room, feeling incredibly empty, watching the muted news absent-mindedly...

... ..

Bang! Bang!

The metal shells of bullets fell like it was raining. Clunk! Clunk! Thuds could be heard when they landed on the stone floor.

Delon looked brutal, as if he was a Bengal tiger craving for human flesh. Thick veins appeared on his arms, exuding an immense, breathtaking aura.

The gatling gun became a beast on berserk in his hands. As sparks ignited, the dense bullets instantly formed a row of holes on the wall!

“Hide inside, now!”

When Rose shouted, Yuan Hewei and Yang Jieyu pulled Guo Xuehua into the inner part of the house, while Lin Ruoxi and the others followed behind.

Rose, on the other hand, didn’t retreat. Although she couldn’t negate bullets like Yang Chen, through years of combat experience and training in addition to the unique practice methods taught by Yang Chen, she could rival a martial arts expert, while her agility and close combat abilities were formidable as well.

Before the gatling gun started sweeping the place, Rose tipped her toe and leaped into the air, swooping behind Delon. A silver Desert Eagle revealed itself. Her elegant and charming eyes were currently filled with a killing aura as sharp as a knife!

“Humph!”

Delon wasn’t going to go down so easily, otherwise he wouldn’t have led a bunch of Vietnamese military veterans all the way to Zhonghai for a mission.

Before Rose could take aim, Delon’s gatling gun acted just like a short-range stick. He turned around instantly before swaying the gun right at Rose’s head!

At this critical moment, Rose’s figure once again slipped toward the front left of Delon, barely dodging the attack!

Delon didn't give Rose a chance to breathe. Once again, he pulled the trigger, firing bullets from left to right!

Shouts could be heard. A few unfortunate members of Red Thorns Society had been shot, causing them to die there and then.

Rose didn't expect such a huge body to be this agile and quick. Moreover, he had full control over his gatling gun. He was able to only shoot at the people from Red Thorns Society, while his teammates in combat were completely unharmed!

"Ignore the bitch! Kill Lin Ruoxi! I want her dead!!!" Gao Guoxiong shouted. Being protected by a Vietnamese army, he finally had a chance to speak. Even if this day was irreversible, he didn't hope to give Lin Ruoxi a chance to witness tomorrow's sunlight!

"Keep your mouth shut," Delon said in contempt. Seeing that all Rose did was dodge around, he decided to ignore her. Turning around, he fired tens of rounds at the wall behind!

It was an aged home after all. Having fired so many rounds, pieces of concrete and wood flew all over the place.

Delon swiftly came to the wall and used his boulder-like body to crush it!

Bam!

A loud shock resounded, sending dust up into the air!

Astonishingly, part of the wall collapsed, forming a huge hole at the center!

Lin Ruoxi and the others who were hiding in the room panicked. They didn't expect Delon to appear before them in such a way!

Rose paled while considering how she could deal a fatal blow to Delon. She couldn't imagine how she would face Yang Chen if the people in this room were killed by the gatling gun.

They're right in front of me, but I didn't manage to protect his family?!

Will he think that I have intentionally allowed Lin Ruoxi to die?!

As she thought, Rose rushed toward Lin Ruoxi and the others without hesitation. When Delon turned around, she was facing him head-on!

"Run, now!"

After Rose shouted, they quickly regained awareness. At the same time, she raised her Desert Eagle before aiming it at Delon!

She was fighting a fearless mercenary. Even if she pointed a gun at him from behind, he might give up his own life to end the life of his target.

Rose couldn't take the risk. Thus, she chose to block Delon from approaching Lin Ruoxi and the others!

At this moment, Lin Ruoxi and the others didn't move at all. None of them believed that Rose had used her slender figure to block Delon. She looked like she was prepared to sacrifice her life.

What kind of faith made this young woman who had almost nothing to do with them make such a decision?!

Guo Xuehua's eyes turned red. When she thought of how Rose left in a cowardly manner this morning, she couldn't stop her tears from flowing down her face...

Lin Ruoxi was dumbstruck. She stared at the proud lady holding a silver gun amidst the ruins, and felt something violently stabbing her heart, causing her to almost fall unconscious.

"Woman, you're a respectable opponent." Delon grinned. "Unfortunately, It is still not my time."

Rose held her Desert Eagle tightly and wanted to pull the trigger. Unexpectedly, Delon stepped sideways!

This is bad!

Rose quickly realized she still had underestimated Delon's speed!

When Delon stood still again, he was standing on their left. The gatling gun he was holding pointed at Rose first. A cruel smile surfaced on her face before he said, "You shall all die..."

The sparks of the gun signified the lights of death!

Rose painfully shut her eyes. She knew that she had lost the battle. Without the man's help, she was still far from being good enough.

Lin Ruoxi, Guo Xuehua and the others didn't have time to react to this at all. They were still panicked and had yet to regain awareness.

However, when Rose was prepared to welcome the coldness of death, she realized nothing had happened although gunshots echoed.

Astonished, Rose opened her eyes and looked toward where Delon previously stood, while the others had looked over there as well.

As everyone was in doubt, a movie-like scene had emerged...

Dressed in an overwashed t-shirt and a pair of light-colored ripped jeans, a blonde Caucasian lady with a flawless figure stood there as calm as the summer breeze. Her hair which looked like golden threads was tied up in a bun, while she wore a huge pair of sunglasses.

Even if she was dressed in such a simple manner, it only took them a glance to feel her an overwhelming, luxury beauty. It was the kind of innate aura that made everyone unable to feel envious of her at all.

The scene had a significant mismatch. On top of this lady, she was holding up the enormous gatling gun with one of her arms!

The gun with a weight of at least 30 kilograms, appeared weightless when held by her slender arm, as if it was a child's toy.

If that wasn't odd enough, under her leather boots, she wasn't stepping on the floor, but Delon's corpse!!! His eyes were still open and his face held the expression of astonishment.

The Caucasian lady seemed to have failed to notice everyone's surprised look. She also ignored the battle outside which was slowly coming to an end due to her sudden emergence and Delon's death. Elegantly, she removed her sunglasses, revealing a pair of alluring sapphire-blue eyes.

"Hi, I'm Christen. Nice to meet you all."

Being shone by the daylight from above, Christen's smile looked incredibly splendid, as if she had covered the sunlight.

Chapter 439: Straightforward

In fact, if Christen didn't introduce herself, the people present would have no doubt questioned their sanity. Why would the world's hottest singer, artist, and model suddenly appear here, while being dressed in this manner. She was even holding a gatling gun as she greeted them, while stepping on a mercenary she killed.

However, once Christen confirmed her identity, everyone there was bewildered, since such an occurrence was not one which happened outside of movies!

Who would expect an international superstar to come to their house to rescue them from gangsters?

It was even difficult to dream about it!

"You guys seem to be in some kind of trouble," Christen spoke in Mandarin fluently. No one would think that she had grown up in America. Moreover, she didn't mind the gazes she received at all, but looked around at the messy situation and felt interested. She was completely indifferent toward the bloody scene. "Oh, I believe someone is coming to help you guys eh."

As soon as she finished speaking, two silhouettes leaped over the wall of the courtyard like lightning, and landed behind two dumbfounded Vietnamese soldiers. In the blink of an eye, their throats started spilling blood!

The two silhouettes weren't anyone else, but the leader of Sea Eagles Molin and an uninjured female member Fanny who had rushed over as fast as they could after receiving Yang Chen's message. Unfortunately, they were still too late.

Having stabbed two mercenaries with his army knife, Molin nervously looked inside the house. If Pluto's family was harmed, the consequences he would face would be dire.

When he saw that Lin Ruoxi and the others were safe, he heaved a sigh of relief.

However, Molin was dumbstruck when he saw the smiling Christen who was holding a gatling gun.

Ignoring the remaining seven to eight Vietnamese soldiers, Molin kneeled down to Christen's direction before sincerely lowering his head as he bowed.

When Fanny noticed her leader's strange action, she couldn't help but look at the same direction. At the moment she noticed Christen, she revealed a similar astonished look on her face before immediately kneeling down as well.

"It's my honor to see you here, Your Majesty," Molin said solemnly.

Christen didn't take him seriously. Pouting her alluring lips, she said, "There are still people here. Are you not going to deal with them before we continue?"

Molin's expression turned serious as he answered, "Yes!" before looking at Fanny. Just like two rapidly shuttling whirlwinds, they shot through these armies one by one. They tried to resist, but their bodies couldn't keep up to speed at all.

In the blink of an eye, these people were wiped out.

Even if these mercenaries were relatively competent in South Asia, they were just like fresh graduates to the Sea Eagles. They couldn't even be considered the same level as the special forces, let alone the Sea Eagles which wholly consisted of top-notch mercenaries. Since the beginning, they were even too lazy to use their guns.

Gao Guoxiong was drenched in sweat as he felt that he had lost his soul. When Molin lifted him up by grabbing his collar and threw him to the center of everyone, he was so terrified that he peed himself. An unbearable smell filled his body. He pitifully looked at everyone in silence while his body trembled in fear.

He had been determined to succeed this time, and would commit suicide heroically should he fail. However, as confident as he seemed before, he was still frightened at this bloody massacre.

"Your Majesty, should I kill this guy as well?" Molin asked Christen. To be honest, he felt that killing Gao Guoxiong was a disgusting task.

Christen smilingly looked at Lin Ruoxi and the others. "This fellow should be the one who has hired the bunch of mercenaries, isn't he? Do you guys think he should be killed?"

Everyone including Rose, Guo Xuehua, Yuan Hwei and the others were still perplexed. They didn't manage to react to this turn of events in a short time.

Lin Ruoxi had always been the calm one. After thinking for a while, she said to Christen, "I think we should pass him to the police. Killing him is meaningless."

Admiration and playfulness surfaced in Christen's sapphire-blue eyes. As she waved at Molin, she asked, "Are you... Yang Chen's wife?"

When Christen examined her, Lin Ruoxi looked at her naturally as well. She more or less knew why Christen was here. The competition called Star of Yu Lei was coming soon. Being the final judge, Christen certainly had to be in China around this time.

However, she didn't expect this woman to appear in such a magical way.

Being a superstar well-known around the globe, Christen's beauty was more vivid and apparent now than in the movies. Although Lin Ruoxi didn't mind, she hadn't felt that any women could rival her

appearance before, but today, she realized if she ignored the difference between the western and eastern aesthetics, Christen who was standing in front of her was the epitome of perfection.

"I'm Lin Ruoxi. I honestly didn't expect this would be how we meet for the first time, Miss Christen," Lin Ruoxi said as she approached Christen in a friendly manner before offering her slender arm. However, she didn't appear very gentle on the outside, since she seemed as cold as ever.

Christen, however, smiled really sweetly. Shaking Lin Ruoxi's hand, she asked, "Why don't you smile a little? Miss Lin and your family have survived the disaster."

"There is nothing to smile about here," Lin Ruoxi spoke as she gazed upon Rose who was panting. Although she only fought for a short time, she was still rather tired.

Christen suddenly thought of another thing. Giggling, she said, "Miss Lin, is it possible that you think I am one of your husband's lovers? I'm totally innocent. I'm not the discourteous fellow's woman. Although he has a lot of women, I'm not one of them, so you can totally be rest assured if you were holding a unpleasant doubt."

Except 'straightforward', there were no other adjectives to describe this superstar. After Christen said it happily, she realized the atmosphere had become incredibly awkward.

This was especially the case for Rose. She managed to calm herself down a little earlier, but went back to being red from all the blushing she was doing.

Guo Xuehua looked at Yuan Hewei and Yang Jieyu and smiled as she felt embarrassed. Even a superstar was aware of her son's terrible demeanor. Regarding Wang Ma and Zhenxiu, they hadn't recovered from the shock yet, so there wasn't much that one could glean from their expressions.

"I... I'll leave now." Rose felt that she couldn't stand still anymore. She instantly rushed outside and signalled her people from Red Thorns Society to clean up the aftermath before dashing home.

Guo Xuehua and Lin Ruoxi looked curious. They didn't expect the bunch of people who had rushed inside to help were all Rose's people. When they recalled that Yang Jieyu called Rose 'President Situ' earlier, they planned to ask her about Rose's identity.

Gao Guoxiong was brought away by the Red Thorns Society as well, while the corpses at the courtyard were pulled away one by one as well, and a few people started cleaning up the combat traces.

After a while, a white BMW rushed over at high speed before the emergency brake was pressed, parking outside the entrance and sending up some smoke.

Yang Chen got out of the car and stepped into the messy courtyard. When he noticed that Lin Ruoxi and the others who were inside the house with a collapsed wall was fine, he finally felt relieved. However, he seemed to have developed a headache when he noticed Christen staring at him. Smiling bitterly, he approached her and asked, "Why have you come over so suddenly? You should've at least told me about it."

"If I hadn't come earlier, your beautiful wife would've ended up in pieces" Christen stepped on Delon's corpse a few times with her leather boots.

Seeing that Yang Chen didn't understand, Guo Xuehua walked over and explained what had happened to Yang Chen.

After listening to her, Yang Chen turned gloomy. He looked at the corpses around the courtyard and could briefly tell what just happened. He then felt a little fear. He didn't expect Gao Guoxiong to hire such a huge group to come over, which Rose definitely couldn't hold off.

He then noticed he was too careless. The time he spent talking to Cai Ning at the villa earlier almost turned into an irreversible tragedy!

Not only would his family be harmed, even Rose might have lost her life...

Luckily, the heavens still looked after him, and didn't make him regret for the rest of his life. This matter could be considered to have ended now.

When Yang Chen looked at Christen again, he suddenly felt rather thankful.

"Don't thank me, or I'll feel flattered," Christen said seriously.

Yang Chen shook his head. He felt helpless toward the woman who had a mismatched personality and appearance. He then turned to Guo Xuehua to ask, "Where's Rose?" He was worried if Rose was injured or not.

"She ran home just now. I don't know if she's fine or not. Do you want to check her out?" Guo Xuehua asked out of concern. She didn't mind Rose's identity anymore.

Yang Chen hesitated for a bit before looking at Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi avoided Yang Chen's gaze. Indifferent, she said to Wang Ma, "Wang Ma, I still have stuff to deal with. Send someone over to clean the house and fix the damaged parts. Don't wait for me for dinner. I think I'll only be able to return much later in the evening."

After she finished speaking, she bade farewell to Guo Xuehua before leaving directly.

Everyone present wasn't a piece of thoughtless log. They could easily feel that Lin Ruoxi was trying to avoid something, while Guo Xuehua sighed as she felt that she was at a difficult position. She was originally standing on Lin Ruoxi's side, since she wanted the family to be peaceful. However, having experienced the scene earlier, she didn't know what she was supposed to do.

"Oh, so that woman is your lover as well? Aye, doesn't that mean the lover tried to protect your wife? How touching," Christen said joyfully while her eyes were filled with the gaze of a busybody.

"How about you keep quiet for a sec?" Yang Chen evidently had a deep understanding of this woman's straightforward behavior.

Christen walked outside the house slowly as she acted like she heard nothing. Throwing the gatling gun on the side, she said, "Alright, alright. Like what the Chinese say, there are problems in every family. I just didn't expect a man who used to treat women as nothing would feel headache for women one day, so I found it really interesting..."

“I told you to keep your mouth shut for a bit.” Yang Chen sounded more serious. He had the urge to rush forward and pick a fight with that woman.

Contented, Christen chuckled and said to Molin and Fanny who were speechless, “Look. Your idol can’t do anything to me.”

After Christen finished speaking, she disappeared into thin air. Except Yang Chen, no one knew how she left.

Chapter 440: Orange Juice

The raging war that threatened to swallow a city quickly came to an end.

To most people, the main side being attacked, Yu Lei International, was still in a miserable state, and would reach its lowest stock price ever once Nasdaq Stock Market in America reopened. This would cause the company to be taken over by outside parties, to the point where even their bones wouldn’t remain.

However, the people who had truly understood the situation like Yang Chen, Lin Ruoxi, Yuan Hewei, Yang Jieyu, and Athena Team stopped taking this matter seriously.

If Athena Team had still managed to fail with 50 billion cash in hand, then what Lin Ruoxi had said would be accurate, “I hired you to work, not to state the obvious.”

The only real loss to all this would be that Lin Ruoxi’s old house had been damaged. Fixing the place would only require a few days, and it would be as good as new.

Of course, having been through this experience, the people at home had a completely new understanding for Yang Chen. Lin Ruoxi chose to avoid talking to him, so she returned to Yu Lei International to continue her work.

Silence is worse than the anger.

Yang Chen didn’t feel that Lin Ruoxi was looking down on him, but she was certainly mad at him. He was aware of the problem, but had not thought of a way to resolve it at the moment.

Being the lover, not only did Rose not hold any malice toward Lin Ruoxi, she also risked her life to protect her entire family. This was no different from giving a violent slap on Lin Ruoxi’s face filled with pride!

Furthermore, Lin Ruoxi had to suffer in silence. She had to be thankful for Rose, even if the talkative Christen was the one who had truly saved them, Rose still managed to buy time to save everyone’s lives.

There was no reason for Lin Ruoxi to hate her savior. Thus, all she could do was express her resentment, anger, hatred, and pain to the giant carrot Yang Chen.

Babe Rose, you’re making it hard for me to face both sides... Yang Chen thought with a bitter smile.

Fortunately, Yang Chen had a shameless personality. Even when he knew he was no different from a target board for archery which everyone shot their ‘arrows’ at, he still put on an act to intimately ask

Guo Xuehua and the others if they were fine. He then informed Sea Eagles to take care of them before smilingly going out of the house and taking a left turn as he headed to Rose's home.

It was his first time coming to Rose's and Mo Qianni's new place. The door wasn't closed. Rose may have forgotten to close it, or not

The style and design of this villa was similar to the Lin clan's old house, but the interior looked darker and more spacious. These decorations must have been the works of Situ Mingze and were left by him in his passing.

A few copybooks were inserted in the western paintings. Wood and stone were mainly used for the decorative crafts. Should a timid person enter this time, he might not dare to leave the house, as there were weirdly shaped 'ghosts and monsters' all over the place.

Yang Chen came to the kitchen and discovered Rose who appeared to have calmed down. She took a carton of orange juice out from the fridge with the intent of drinking from it. Her face held a carefree expression, not one which showed a life or death situation.

Rose wasn't very surprised to see Yang Chen suddenly appear in her house. Smiling, she asked, "Do you want a glass of juice?"

"It looks like my worry was unfounded. You should be fine." Yang Chen examined Rose who had changed into a loose cotton pyjamas. It couldn't be seen from her actions that she was injured, which allowed Yang Chen to stop being anxious.

"The big guy had not planned to battle me since the start, so I hadn't had many chances to fight him. Luckily the lady Christen came afterward..." Out of curiosity, Rose asked, "Oh yeah, Hubby, isn't Christen the singer and actress superstar? Why is she so good in martial arts? I don't even know how she killed the big guy."

Rose wasn't Christen's fan, and only knew a thing or two about her, so she wasn't too shocked regarding what had taken place earlier. She just treated Christen as a low-profile woman. Regarding combat abilities, Rose still thought Yang Chen was stronger than Christen without hesitation.

"Ignore that woman. Stay as far away from her as possible, or you'll find yourself caught up in a whole heap of trouble," Yang Chen said as he frowned. "She doesn't know martial arts at all. That's just her inborn ability."

"Inborn ability?" Rose took a sip of her orange juice and looked confused, but decided not to ask Yang Chen as he wasn't very willing to explain.

Yang Chen walked forward and hugged her slim waist, gazing upon the elegant face right in front of him. "I once said that I'd face dangers for you. But I seem to always fail to fulfill my promises. I'll feel better if you can cry in my arms or scold me. What should I do if you act like everything's normal after almost losing your life, and keep quiet when you're suffering? Rose... don't always keep everything to yourself. Let me know what you truly think, can you?"

Rose bit her lower lip and raised her glass before drinking the orange juice again. However, she didn't swallow the liquid, but raised her head instead to kiss Yang Chen on his lips.

Yang Chen blurrily kissed Rose, and felt that Rose used her tongue to aggressively entangle with his. Soon, the orange juice from Rose's mouth slowly flowed into his mouth...

Rose appeared deeply immersed. She put down the glass and hugged Yang Chen tightly with her jade-like arms, as if she melted into his body.

Yang Chen's nose was filled with the woman's familiar, rosy scent. Rose's soft and curvy body was in his arms, while the pair of flesh mounds made him feel incredibly content with the situation.

When their lips separated, Rose panted as she opened her watery eyes to stare at Yang Chen. "How does it taste?"

"Hmm?"

"The orange juice."

Yang Chen licked his lips. Smiling, he said, "It's sweet, sour, and a little rough."

Rose smiled and said, "That's exactly what I'm feeling inside... Do you understand now?"

Yang Chen remained silent as he exhaled warm air, feeling extremely emotional. He stopped speaking, but hugged this woman tightly in his arms again.

After a long time, Rose quietly opened her eyes and blinked a few times. Gently, she said, "I'm actually fine. I have long gotten used to waiting for you... But Hubby, do you know that Qianni always complains to me how irresponsible you are?"

Yang Chen felt rather awkward. He asked, "What did Little Qianqian say about me?"

Yang Chen didn't expect Mo Qianni to make reports about him to Rose. She should just tell me if she's dissatisfied. Why is she always acting like she's busy every day? How am I supposed to notice every subtle detail? The woman indeed deserves a spank on her butt, Yang Chen thought.

"Qianni said you refused to visit us after we moved here for so long, and both of us combined have less attraction to you compared to Lin Ruoxi alone. Other men always find the women outside more alluring than the one they have at home, but it's not the case for you. Since you're this biased, we feel that we should just get married to another man," Rose said seriously.

Yang Chen didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Not only was Lin Ruoxi already having a cold war with him, his two other women were feeling resentful as well. Although Rose claimed that it was what Mo Qianni had said, but it was obviously what Rose felt as well.

"Don't joke with me like that. I'll visit you guys more often. Qianni always acts like an independent woman. She wouldn't call me if she had nothing to tell me, while I was always afraid of disturbing her work," Yang Chen said.

"How about me... I lost my job now..." Rose pouted her mouth.

Lost your job?! Yang Chen joked, "Since my Babe Rose is so bored, why don't you expand Red Thorns Society to other cities, and soon take over all the underground syndicates in China?"

“Really?!” Light glared out from Rose’s eyes. Excited, she said, “Since Hubby supports me so much, I’ll do just that!”

Yang Chen felt a chill on the back of his head. Why do I feel like I’ve fallen into a trap?

Frowning, he said, “Babe Rose, what do you mean? Have you really been thinking of expanding the Red Thorns Society?”

Cowardly, Rose said, “Actually, a rather powerful syndicate leader scouted for me recently. He hoped to team up with our Red Thorns Society to expand our power to the south. I... I’m rather tempted by the offer... but I’m afraid that you may not allow me to continue doing this, so... so I decided to ask you.”

Yang Chen took a deep breath. I’ve indeed fallen into a trap! he thought. He felt that Rose had long had a plan in her mind.

“Why do you suddenly want to get involved in that field again? Didn’t you say you were tired of it, and haven’t you passed a lot of tasks to Rongrong already?” Yang Chen asked gloomily.

Rose seemed to be feeling rather embarrassed. Lowering her head, she said, “Although I’ve invested in your company, I noticed that I don’t possess the business-like mindset needed. There’s nothing much I can help, and I’ve basically been staying home these days, while I don’t have many friends outside... A lot of my gang members have started losing the spirit, and the organization is getting more and more scattered... So, I feel that expanding our power isn’t the worst option at this point...”

Yang Chen noticed he had still underestimated the desire for combats in Rose’s blood. She might be good in enduring in a relationship, but it didn’t mean she could stay put for the rest for her life at other aspects.

Having been influenced by her father Situ Mingze since young, Rose loved to occupy places and expand her power although she wasn’t a huge fan of killing and bloody scenes.

At the night of taking over Dongxing, Yang Chen noticed the strongly burning blaze in that woman’s eyes. Currently, the same flame seemed to have returned.

“It is said that one should support the people he loves. I didn’t expect my support would be for my woman to expand her underground power...” Yang Chen sighed as he shook his head.

Rose excitedly kissed Yang Chen on his cheek. “I knew that you wouldn’t stop me from doing something like this. As long as I have your approval, there’s nothing I need to fear!”

Yang Chen naturally understood what she meant. Since he had promised to allow her into doing so, he naturally had to lend his hand when she was in a difficult situation.

In fact, this wasn’t something impressive to Yang Chen. Ignoring the fact that Red Thorns Society had become one of the most powerful syndicates, it wasn’t too difficult for them to expand. Moreover, the underground syndicates in China were only messing around, unlike the ones from America or Europe. The largest ‘gang’ in China contained more than 2 million soldiers.

Yang Chen didn’t mind giving his woman a little fun in her life. He was also too lazy to ask her about the specifics regarding the actual execution. Rose was more experienced than him in the underground world. Today, he was reminded that he hadn’t accompanied Mo Qianni in a while.”

The independent woman proudly wagging her tail would always speak in an indifferent manner, but in fact she had scolded him for at least thousands of times in her mind.

Yang Chen thought silently before bidding farewell to Rose and driving to Yu Lei International. Mo Qianni should still be at work now.