

Chapter 481: Only Because of Love

Cai Yan was suddenly slammed for no apparent reason, as if an anvil had fallen and smashed into her chest!

Did he just throw me down?!

It's all because of Yang Chen that I'm this heavily scarred and injured. I've stuffed so much indescribable bitterness in my heart and I've been silently avoiding him. Why is he unwilling to let me go?!

Why? Why is it that even after I've chosen to back off, he still refuses to let go of me? Why did he throw me down for no reason?! she thought.

The agony, helplessness, terror, reluctance, and resentment which had been restrained within her heart suddenly surged like a gushing river!

“Bas—bastard!!!”

Even an utterly exhausted leopardess would stretch her sharpest claws after being provoked!

Cai Yan's body bounced from the ground like a spring, leaping towards Yang Chen. At a meter away from him, she spun her body to launch a roundhouse kick!

Yang Chen looked like he saw it coming. Calmly, he raised one of his arms to catch the oncoming foot...

Slam! The powerful kick which exerted a force enough to smash a rock into pieces was caught by Yang Chen's hand like it was a feather floating in the wind.

“Do you still have energy? That's great...” Yang Chen said with a deep voice expressionlessly. He then pulled his arm which was holding onto Cai Yan's foot!

Once again, Cai Yan was uncontrollably flipped in the air like a floating catkin, before finally falling on the ground!

Slam! Once again, Cai Yan was thrown onto the ground like a stuffed toy. As if the skeleton in her entire body was burning, the sourness and pain finally made her eyes tear a little.

“You... Come again!”

Unwilling to surrender, Cai Yan got up again. Enduring the exhaustion her body was experiencing, she pounced on Yang Chen once again. This time, she struck an attack using her fist, delivering an uppercut to him!

Yang Chen stood still at the same position. When Cai Yan's punch almost touched his body, he once again blocked the attack with ease, with one of his hands holding Cai Yan's tightly clenched fist...

“Do you still not understand? No matter how hard you work, you're still... too weak.”

As soon as Yang Chen finished speaking, he pulled Cai Yan once again, causing her body to spin behind him before falling on the ground three meters away from where he was standing!

All Cai Yan felt was an unimaginable amount of force which appeared to be tearing her body inside. Soon, she was thrown on the ground before her body rolled for a while and finally stopping...

Crawling on the ground, Cai Yan couldn't hold back her tears anymore. The burning pain in her body made her fail to cover her misery after the resistance lying within her last line of defense was utterly obliterated.

As if the pain she had experienced recently was lit with fire, Cai Yan lost what remained of her logical rationing. Except for crying out her emotions, she held no other intentions.

Just like a helpless little girl, Cai Yan sobbed in front of Yang Chen for the first time, experiencing a heart-tearing and lung-splitting pain...

Yang Chen stood beside her silently for a long time. At last, he shut his eyes tightly and raised his head before taking a deep breath.

After that, Yang Chen slowly walked towards Cai Yan and squatted down. Ignoring how hard Cai Yan tried to resist, he hugged the withering woman in his arms who had cried so hard...

Cai Yan leaned her head against Yang Chen's chest. The warmth she received allowed her to calm down a little. Soon the sounds of crying that filled the hall began to soften slowly...

At last, Cai Yan's sobbing became weeping. Her reddened eyes were watery. Looking like an innocent teenage girl, she refused to have even the slightest movement.

Yang Chen inhaled the scent exclusive to Cai Yan as he involuntarily patted her head and hugged the stubborn woman even tighter.

"Do you think hiding is a good idea? Do you think you can hide forever? Your elder sister was really mad that night. She asked me what I had done to you... If I knew you came to take part in this useless training, I would've definitely come over to try and take you back..."

Cai Yan stopped crying. Looking blurry, she raised her head and said, "I just wanted to make myself stronger... Although I know it's stupid... I feel that if I become stronger one day, y—you'll start to accept me..."

"Why must you act like a childish and ignorant girl? I'm not someone who requires protection. Why would I want you to become stronger?" Yang Chen asked and blamed her.

Cai Yan bit her lip. "Don't you know that love has always been childish? Only because of love do women become foolish."

Only because of love, do women become foolish...

Yang Chen felt that a part of his heart was violently bitten off. The words spoken by the woman who had finished tearing made him fail to remove his intense gaze from her face.

At this moment, words were about as useless as a bird trying to fly with broken wings.

Cai Yan had been staring at Yang Chen for a long time. As if she was heartened by something, or she finally thought something through, she made a firm decision.

Suddenly, Cai Yan got out of Yang Chen's arms and stretched her long and slender arms to hook Yang Chen's neck before blocking Yang Chen's mouth with her delicate and pink lips!

All Yang Chen felt were sweetness, moisture, and saltiness. However, he was filled with more softness and a burning-hot breath, causing a violent flame to explode in the carnal side of his mind!

Cai Yan wasn't rejected for the first time by Yang Chen. She instantly went crazy like a wild lioness. Pushing Yang Chen on the ground, she pressed onto Yang Chen's body using hers!

Cai Yan was just like a proud knight. Her firm and alluring legs straddled Yang Chen's waist. Gazing upon Yang Chen's confused expression, she revealed a perfect faint smile on her face.

At the same time, Cai Yan reached to the belt of her martial arts uniform and pulled the knot, removing all traces of her robe from her upper body, leaving just a tight-fitting white undergarment.

Due to prolonged and tough training, her body was much stronger than the average girl, causing her figure to look extraordinary. Except the natural beauty of a woman's curves, she held a wild and immense pride.

Her elegant skin was a little tan. She was what one would describe as a masterpiece of God.

Being stared upon and admired by Yang Chen, Cai Yan bit her lower lip out of embarrassment before removing the final shred of cloth on her body...

The moment the two groups of turbulent waves were revealed in the air, the woman who was crying just a moment ago instantly became the most eye-catching scene, just like a blooming tulip shone upon by sunlight, seeming exceptionally brilliant!

Yang Chen swallowed his saliva audibly. His eyes had turned bloodshot. The unbelievable scene in front of his eyes made him feel that this whole situation was too surreal to be real. All he knew was if he let go of the opportunity to grasp onto the woman, he would truly lose her forever...

He didn't want that to happen!

"You'll pay the price for doing this, Woman..."

Yang Chen let go of his restraint, what was left of it anyway. Standing up, he pulled Cai Yan's body to press against his before he forcefully kissed her lips. He took full advantage of her and invaded her body, while unwilling to miss any trace of sweetness found on Cai Yan's body.

Cai Yan's body was much more attractive than he had imagined. Yang Chen's palms swept across her firm and abundant flesh. As if she was a flawless adult toy, her body heat made Yang Chen lose control of his mind and his actions!

"Mmh... You... go lighter..."

Cai Yan felt that she was almost crushed by that man. Their bodies were so tightly entangled that there was no gap to breathe.

This was the moment she had wished so badly for in the past. It happened so abruptly. It came so suddenly like a storm!

Yang Chen ignored Cai Yan's subconscious appeal. He ravished through most of her body before the high-spirited dragon horn finally inserted into Cai Yan's final holy place.

Cai Yan violently shot open her eyes. Before she could analyze the situation, a long stretch of heat inside her body made her lose the chance to think!

Due to years of training, although it was Cai Yan's first time being owned by a man, she didn't feel the pain for very long. She merely felt the initial tear for a split second before she was able to enjoy the overflowing excitement brought only the way the man she love could!

Wave after wave, as if she was pushed to the clouds, burning-hot tears dripped from the corners of Cai Yan's eyes. However, her lips still revealed a satisfied smile.

After more than half an hour, Cai Yan's firm legs extended straight as she entered the final stretch, feeling as if her soul wanted to escape from her body!

Yang Chen had never imagined he could conduct the activity with a first timer for more than half an hour from start to finish, not to mention the woman had been training intensively prior to this.

He initially thought that Cai Yan would lose balance and faint. However, he realized that she didn't look the slightest tired after their first connection. On the contrary, she looked energetic and magnificent, filled with charisma like a beaded flower!

Cai Yan displayed an elegant smile on her seductive face. Suddenly, she pushed Yang Chen aside before sitting on his waist proudly...

The two were completely naked and tightly attached together, but Cai Yan didn't intend to leave him so easily.

Her slender arm with perspiration dragged across Yang Chen's chest. Cai Yan's gaze was resolute and persistent, as if she was going to make an announcement...

"Yang Chen, listen properly. I, Cai Yan, want to become your woman. Regardless if you're Lin Ruoxi's husband or an internationally wanted criminal, even if you've committed the most severe crimes, none of that matters! I don't care at all!

"Tidying up, enduring, constraining, avoiding my emotions, and everything of that sort! It has and always will be too exhausting! Get the heck away! I can't do them anymore!

"No matter how many women you have, regardless of where you're bringing me to, heaven or hell, I don't care anymore. Just allow me to stay by your side and walk with you till the very end..."

Each of the words spoken acted like nails hammering into Yang Chen's heart.

Yang Chen was stunned while his gaze was fixed on the woman who was smiling like a blooming flower. His ears were filled with her totally ridiculous love confession. He somehow lost the energy to even open his mouth to say something.

After a long time, Yang Chen sighed. Looking at the woman sitting on him, he smiled weirdly and said, "Since you want to become my woman, can't you feel that little junior has woken up again? Quickly, start moving your butt."

Cai Yan was stunned for a while. She soon noticed something before suddenly feeling astonished. She didn't start moving like what Yang Chen asked her to do, but weakly shut her eyes instead, before heavily collapsing on Yang Chen's chest...

"Bastard... I... I'm tired..."

As soon as the woman finished murmuring, she entered her dreamland...

Chapter 482: A Strange Day

In the blink of an eye, the initially energized Cai Yan fell asleep. Yang Chen couldn't help but smile bitterly. How is this even remotely fair? She fell asleep right after she ignited the fire within me... he thought.

However, he didn't blame her as she had undergone repeated taxing exercises already.

Yang Chen moved Cai Yan away from his body before covering her with the martial arts uniform. After thinking for a bit, he silently channeled True Qi into her body.

Since he had accepted her love, it was his duty to treat her well after all. Although he didn't know what specifically he was going to do in the future, he needed to condition her body well for now. Having crazily used up all of her energy, her body must be damaged to a certain degree by now. Fortunately, the True Qi of Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture could recover most, if not all of the damage.

The two had stayed in the practice room for quite a while. Molin who was aware of Yang Chen's presence would naturally check to see if he was doing alright and needed anything.

When Molin witnessed Cai Yan in Yang Chen's arms in the room, he got a little surprised, but his expression soon turned calm. After signalling he wouldn't allow anyone to disturb the two, he immediately left the place.

Being aware of Yang Chen's past, Molin knew that he wouldn't like to be asked. Furthermore, Molin wasn't qualified to ask any questions.

Without moving, Yang Chen hugged Cai Yan who was in deep sleep for more than two hours while his mind flashed back to when he first met her.

Less than a year had passed since they had first met. From the initial various misunderstandings to the gradual entanglement in addition to the words Cai Yan said to him later made Yang Chen feel rather confused.

Unknowingly, the heroic female officer had wormed her way into his heart. It wasn't known if she was really capable, or it was just Yang Chen who had a really low immunity towards beauties.

No matter what, it was all in the past now. The woman in his arms currently looked extremely pitiful after venting her emotions. Yang Chen didn't think he was able to reject her anymore, since she had clearly made him feel a major heartache.

Slowly, Cai Yan's eyelids shivered a little. As if she had taken enough rest, she woke up from her sleep.

Upon opening her eyes, Cai Yan made sure that the person in front was indeed Yang Chen. She blushed a little when she felt herself in his arms, but soon changed to a more comfortable position gently.

“Get up if you’re already awake. Since when has my body become a mattress?” Yang Chen joked.

Cai Yan pouted her lips. “I just really want to make sure that this isn’t a dream. So I’ve decided to lie here for another hour.

Yang Chen didn’t force her up. Her weight wasn’t going to do anything to him anyway. “You won’t torture yourself anymore, will you?”

“What do you mean?” Cai Yan asked.

“You should leave this place. Go back to being a police or something. You don’t belong in a place like this. Since I’ve already accepted you, are you still going to torment yourself? I will not allow my women to practice all day and skip their meals,” Yang Chen said while frowning.

Cai Yan stayed quiet for a while while biting her lip, which made Yang Chen shake his head. “I’m sorry. I can’t promise you that. I’ve decided to take part in all of these since the start. I have my pride. I want to stay here until the training ends.”

Yang Chen frowned. “Why? Haven’t you gone crazy enough here?”

“No, that’s not the case,” Cai Yan said hurriedly. “I’m glad that you’re worried about me. B—but I have chosen my path and intend to see it to the very end. Rest assured, I’ll take care of myself. I just don’t want to give up in the middle. At the very least, I hope to complete this training.”

Yang Chen didn’t speak a word. All he did was stare at Cai Yan for a long time. Seeing that the woman didn’t intend to back off, he sighed before smiling bitterly. “It looks like you can’t leave without finishing the training in Dragon Group Recruit. Alright then. But I’ll say this beforehand, I won’t allow you to really join Dragon Group, even if you pass the test.”

“Yeah, I won’t do that. I’m still waiting for you to talk to my parents about our stuff in Beijing,” Cai Yan said with a sweet smile, without the slightest awkwardness.

Yang Chen was stunned. “What? Our stuff?”

Cai Yan complained, “Even if you don’t plan to marry me, you still have to make it clear to my parents, don’t you? Are you going to allow me to stay single for the rest of my life without reason?”

Cai Yan’s words were filled with resentment at last. But one could tell that she was glad deep down her heart.

Yang Chen scratched the back of his head. He found it sensible as well as he had indeed overestimated the simplicity in everything. No matter how rebellious Cai Yan was, she was an unmarried young lady of a major clan after all. Yang Chen certainly had to meet Cai Yuncheng and his wife one day. He somehow had a new father-in-law and mother-in-law.

“I can’t make it for the time being. I need to visit Paris in April to attend their fashion week. I’ll definitely find time to go Beijing with you once I come back,” Yang Chen said.

“Alright, deal,” Cai Yan said before cheerfully kissing Yang Chen.

The two then remained in silence for a moment while staring at each other. Everything appeared so unreal.

“What do you think would have happened if I had removed all my clothing and ridden on you from the start? I might’ve not been driven to do all this and become your woman from the start,” Cai Yan said out of nowhere.

Yang Chen helplessly rubbed his chin as he listened to the speech which had exposed his personality. He put up a serious act and said, “What are you talking about? Am I that kind of a person? Do you think all men think with their lower bodies? The issue wouldn’t be solved just by doing it once.”

Cai Yan looked like she didn’t believe his words. She smirked as she gazed upon Yang Chen before slowly getting up from Yang Chen’s body.

As if she felt discomfort from her lower body, Cai Yan frowned a little, but soon returned to normal.

“Don’t move around if you feel pain.” Yang Chen felt guilty for forgetting to hold back during her first time.

Cai Yan tidied her martial arts uniform before covering the scenery of her upper body. Annoyed, she said, “I’m not that weak. This pain isn’t a big deal. Also, others will be able to spot the reason if I suddenly take a leave. I don’t want to be seen as a joke.”

Yang Chen smiled awkwardly. There wasn’t much for him to speak. He got up and tidied his clothing as well. He felt strange that he somehow had such an experience with Cai Yan while he initially wanted to check out the training situation. Sure enough, even he felt that his desires were slowly spiralling out of control as time passes.

After the noon break time passed, Cai Yan had a little food before going back to the team for training while Yang Chen asked a question or two about the progress before wandering around. He had done what he came to do after all, show his face.

Evening could not have come sooner. Before Yang Chen left the training base, he wondered if he wanted to inform Molin to take good care of Cai Yan. However, it would be bad if Cai Yan noticed his intentions, thus he decided not to do it.

When he wanted to drive home, his phone rang. Yang Chen took a look at it and noticed it was a call from Wang Ma.

“Wang Ma, I’m coming home now. I’ll be having dinner at home today.” Yang Chen assumed that Wang Ma was going to ask him a question of that sort.

However, Wang Ma said, “Young Master, I didn’t call about that. There’s something going on at home now. I’m wondering if you can come home earlier.”

“What happened?” Yang Chen frowned. Is someone looking for trouble again? Rose stays right beside the house. Her people would’ve prevented that from taking place, wouldn’t they? he thought.

“A rather righteous looking young man came. He said he was Zhenxiu’s relative. But, but... you know how Zhenxiu usually is about stuff like this. While she’s usually quite obedient, cases like this one may make her lose control... I really don’t know what to do...”

Zhenxiu’s relative?!

Yang Chen immediately felt doubtful. Zhenxiu mentioned that her mother had passed away while her father had abandoned the two of them since she was young. Was he possibly the father who had run away? Why would he suddenly pop up at this moment? “Wang Ma, I’ll be there soon. Don’t let the kid Zhenxiu do anything foolish,” Yang Chen said hurriedly.

“Sigh. That young man is waiting outside with a bunch of people. Zhenxiu is crying now. I really don’t know what to do...”

Yang Chen frowned and hung up on the call before immediately driving home.

It only took him close to twenty minutes to reach home.

Upon getting out of the car, Yang Chen saw that three black Mercedes-Benz S600 were parked outside his home. There stood at least six bodyguards dressed in black, guarding the place expressionlessly.

The gate was open. Someone had obviously gotten inside.

When Yang Chen wanted to walk in, he was stopped by two of the bodyguards.

“Sir, please prove your identity,” one of them said.

Yang Chen could tell that he was speaking Korean. When he took a closer look, he found out that the bunch of people were indeed Koreans.

Yang Chen let out a relaxed smile. Using Korean, he spoke, “I’m the owner of this house. Can’t I go back to my own place?”

The bodyguards were evidently shocked as Yang Chen had an accurate accent, causing them to doubt Yang Chen’s words even more.

“Give way quickly. Let that man inside,” a deep charismatic voice resounded from the courtyard. He was speaking in Korean as well.

The bodyguards immediately stood aside and made a gesture to Yang Chen to invite him inside.

Yang Chen felt a little gloomy. He felt like a guest in his own home.

Walking into the courtyard, Yang Chen was welcomed by a young man dressed in a casual suit, wearing a pair golden-framed spectacles, whose hair was so long that it touched his ears. He held a gentle smile and had a fair skin. Being shone upon by the evening sunlight, he appeared rather peaceful.

A man who seemed like an assistant stood beside him. However, Yang Chen knew that he was no ordinary character. Solely based on the bullet wound on his hand, one could tell that he was some sort of bodyguard.

The young man offered his hand while saying, "You must be Mr Yang. I'm glad to meet you. I'm Park Jonghyun, Xu Zhenxiu's cousin brother. I had waited forever to see her."

Park Jonghyun spoke local Chinese. His facial expression was full of sincerity. He appeared to be extremely delighted.

Yang Chen shook his hand. He couldn't help but think, I didn't think today would be any special when I woke up this morning. But to my unexpected surprise, not only did I do Cai Yan, I also met Zhenxiu's cousin who popped out of nowhere!

Chapter 483: Cliché Outside the House

"You're saying that you're Zhenxiu's cousin? The same Zhenxiu that lives under our roof?" Yang Chen asked doubtfully.

Park Jonghyun smiled bitterly. "Yeah, I'm very certain. Although I have to admit that I had no way of confirming until two days ago when I received a report. This definitely isn't a mistake, especially after we tried so hard to search for years. Xu Zhenxiu is indeed my pitiful lost cousin."

Yang Chen raised his head and had a look at Zhenxiu's room.

Although the curtains were closed, Yang Chen knew that Zhenxiu was peeping outside as an incredibly small gap was revealed. She was looking at him talking to Park Jonghyun.

Yang Chen sighed and said, "I feel that this needs to be discussed in its entirety. Let's get inside."

Park Jonghyun quickly agreed and looked extremely grateful when he followed Yang Chen inside the house.

The huge bunch of bodyguards didn't move the slightest at their positions which shocked Yang Chen a little. It sure seemed like Zhenxiu's mother had an unusual family background. Employing bodyguards wasn't exactly as cheap as hiring maids.

Both Wang Ma and Guo Xuehua were inside the house. They seemed to have felt relieved upon seeing Yang Chen. They served some tea before going into the kitchen. Evidently, they were letting Yang Chen take care of Zhenxiu's matter.

Park Jonghyun only brought the assistant-like bodyguard inside. He sat on the sofa in the living hall before he started explaining the general situation from the beginning to end.

According to Park Jonghyun, Zhenxiu's mother, named Park Jiyi, was the eldest daughter of Park Jonghyun's grandfather. Back then, she got married with a Chinese man, and had lost contact with her family after running away from home.

Although he was aware that Park Jiyi had a daughter all this time, the old man had never been bothered about her due to anger until two years ago when his body conditions started worsening. He had hoped to meet this granddaughter of his given birth by his favorite daughter.

As a result, being the only grandson, Park Jonghyun started the search for his cousin sister. Using the enormous resources of the clan, he had spent more than two years before finally locating Zhenxiu.

“China is such a huge country but your family still managed to track Zhenxiu. It sure looks like you have quite the influence in society,” Yang Chen said.

Park Jonghyun seemed to have gotten a little proud. Smiling, he said, “Yeah. I wonder if Mr Yang has heard of Starmoon Group before. It’s a business empire built by our Park clan.”

“Starmoon Group? After you its director Park Jonghyun?”

The voice of a lady suddenly appeared at the entrance. Yang Chen and Park Jonghyun both turned to look there, only to find Lin Ruoxi who had just arrived at home.

After Lin Ruoxi finished speaking, she carried her handbag and sat beside Yang Chen on the sofa, ignoring Park Jonghyun’s gaze. She continued, “Then Zhenxiu’s grandfather must be the founder of Starmoon Group—President Park Juan.”

Yang Chen wasn’t surprised that Lin Ruoxi came home. Since Wang Ma informed him, it was only natural if she did so to Lin Ruoxi as well.

However, Park Jonghyun appeared to be shocked by Lin Ruoxi’s appearance. He only recovered awareness after a while. Smiling awkwardly, he said, “Yeah, my grandfather is indeed Park Juan. You must be Boss Lin from Yu Lei International. Your reputation precedes you. It’s my honor to meet you.”

Yang Chen, on the other hand, was completely unaware of Starmoon Group. He turned to Lin Ruoxi and asked out of curiosity, “Wife, is the ‘Starmoon’ something or somebody very famous?”

Lin Ruoxi frowned slightly. She wasn’t used to being called ‘Wife’ in front of outsiders, but she fortunately didn’t know how to feel shy. Helplessly, she explained, “Starmoon Group is one of the largest chaebols in Korea. President Park is a legendary businessman from Korea. Starmoon has significant market shares in both the automotive and electronics industries. At the same time, they do real estate, tourism, and various retail chains. Mr Park Juan has been shortlisted as one of the top ten wealthiest people in Asia for over a decade. It’s estimated that Starmoon Group is worth more than 100 billion US Dollars. It’s seriously an impressive family business.”

Yang Chen whistled when he realized that Zhenxiu’s grandfather was a really rich man. Although he didn’t care about money very much, he more or less had a grasp on just how much 100 billion worth of assets was.

At least, although Lin Ruoxi had so much money that it was difficult for anyone to finish spending in a few lifetimes, she was still far away from 100 billion.

“Boss Lin is indeed a business star. Although Starmoon has yielded good results, since my grandfather has always maintained a low profile, it’s not very famous internationally. I didn’t think Boss Lin would be this familiar with the company. I’m really impressed,” Park Jonghyun answered humbly.

“You’re really amazing as well. You managed to become Starmoon Group’s director in your early twenties. It proves that you’re a qualified inheritor,” Lin Ruoxi said.

“No, no, no,” Park Jonghyun said while shaking his hands hurriedly. “I’m just helping Grandpa temporarily. I don’t plan to inherit Starmoon Group. The reason I’m so anxious about looking for Sister Zhenxiu is because it is our family’s wish that she returns to Korea and inherit the group from Grandpa.”

“What? Zhenxiu?”

This time, Lin Ruoxi who had a calm personality was a little surprised. Frowning, she said, “Zhenxiu is barely eighteen this year. Do you guys think she can successfully take over hundreds of billions of assets from Starmoon in Korea?”

“I totally understand Boss Lin’s concern, but all of us in the clan will be of her assistance. Letting Aunt’s daughter inherit Starmoon Group is Grandpa’s long-cherished wish which we intend to see through,” Park Jonghyun said before standing up and sincerely bowing down. “I hope you two could help persuade Zhenxiu to return to Korea with me. We’ll definitely make up for the suffering she has been through.”

Yang Chen opened his mouth a little in shock when he saw Park Jonghyun’s eyes turn slightly red. He didn’t know what to say.

Lin Ruoxi got quiet as well. Although she felt that everything was overly abrupt, it appeared to be true at the same time.

When the three were in silence, a sound could be heard from the stairs.

The three turned their heads to have a look, only to find Zhenxiu with swollen eyes as a result of crying.

“Cousin, I’m really your relative. Please come back to Korea with me,” Park Jonghyun said after walking forward to her, holding high expectations.

Zhenxiu’s hair was a little messy. Years of hardship had exhausted the naivety on her face. Her elegant face revealed some mature resolution. The tears on her face have washed off whatever immaturity that had been there before

“I won’t go with you. Don’t waste your time. If it wasn’t for you evil people, my mother wouldn’t have been forced to escape to China. If it wasn’t for your lack of compassion, my father’s business wouldn’t have gone bankrupt, and he wouldn’t have to abandon us... while my mother wouldn’t have died because she had lacked the funding for treatment... and I... I wouldn’t have had to go through life the way I have...” Zhenxiu spoke as she whimpered. “If your conscience still exists, please go back and never return to disturb my life again. I’m living a great life here. Brother Yang and Sister Ruoxi are my relatives, you guys... are unrelated to me.”

Park Jonghyun wanted to speak again, but was stopped by Lin Ruoxi.

“You don’t need to say anything,” Lin Ruoxi said after walking forward. Hugging Zhenxiu, she said coldly, “You guys will never know what kind of a life Zhenxiu has lived in the orphanage. I’ll be sure to treat her with care. Please leave, she’s not willing to see you guys.”

“Boss Lin, but...” Park Jonghyun wanted to speak while anxiety filled his face.

Lin Ruoxi ignored him and said to Yang Chen, “Yang Chen, are you a piece of wood?”

Yang Chen scratched his head. Her order was obvious. She wanted him to send Park Jonghyun off.

“Erm... Brother Park, there’s nothing else I can do. It’s better if you can leave now. This matter isn’t as simple as you think. She can’t just leave with you just because you want her to, can she? I believe you

can tell that my wife treats Zhenxiu a lot better than she does to me. If I were you, I'd heed her suggestion," Yang Chen murmured as he sent Park Jonghyun outside.

Park Jonghyun was nervous, but he failed to speak a word, especially when he was faced with Lin Ruoxi's freezing-cold gaze.

After Yang Chen came outside with him and closed the door, Park Jonghyun let out a long and painful sigh. "Mr Yang, Grandpa is still waiting for me to send Cousin back to Korea. How am I supposed to report back this situation..."

"Report it like it is. President can't just blame you for it, can he? He doesn't expect you to tie the kid Zhenxiu up and send her back after all," Yang Chen said and giggled.

Park Jonghyun shook his head. The furrowed brows on his face had displayed his worry.

"I too knew that this wouldn't go so well. Zhenxiu has gone through too much after all. But... we certainly hope to bring her back," Park Jonghyun said before raising his head. Solemnly, he continued, "Mr Yang, although I've failed to convince her today, I will return one day. I hope that Mr and Mrs Yang can help me persuade her. Starmoon is her real home after all."

Yang Chen promised, "Alright, alright. No problem. I'll definitely help you." Damn, I can't even deal with my own wife. Where do I find time to persuade your cousin? he thought.

Park Jonghyun looked extremely thankful. He then left the courtyard with his assistant after bidding farewell.

Yang Chen almost felt relieved, but he suddenly noticed a purple Maserati speeding towards his house. Screech! It braked violently and stopped outside, right beside the three cars parked there.

Yang Chen was wondering who the heck that was. Unexpectedly, it was one of his 'close friends'—the Korean celebrity Yoo Yeonhee.

Yoo Yeonhee wore a pair of huge sunglasses which covered most of her fair-skinned face while her hair was let loose. She had no makeup on, probably because she was in a rush.

"Jonghyun! It's really you!"

Yoo Yeonhee seemed to have failed to notice Yang Chen's existence. When Park Jonghyun almost entered the car, she cried out joyfully before removing her sunglasses and running over, just like an overjoyed little bird.

On the other hand, Park Jonghyun wasn't very pleased to have heard Yoo Yeonhee's voice. The distress on his face soon turned to annoyance. He said, "How many times have I told you to not look for me?"

Park Jonghyun's cold tone was the complete opposite of how he had spoken to Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi earlier.

Yoo Yeonhee appeared to have been stunned as if struck by lightning. As soon as she arrived in front of Park Jonghyun, she stood still stiffly while her beautiful large eyes soon turned watery, displaying a pitiful look... The show in front made Yang Chen who was going to return to the house stop moving. His interest was aroused. It was obvious that Park Jonghyun had something to do with Yoo Yeonhee. When

Yang Chen thought about it, it actually made sense for a man from a wealthy clan to get together with a superstar. In ancient times, the guy would be the prince while the lady would be the showgirl. The show they were putting up was no different from the movie cliché in upper-class families!

Chapter 484: White Coat and Vase

Park Jonghyun didn't bother wasting his time on Yoo Yeonhee. Yoo Yeonhee was a popular superstar well known in Asia with millions of fans. With her outstanding appearance, she could easily attract any number of men she wished for anytime. However, in the eyes of Park Jonghyun, there wasn't any nostalgia but rather a sense of disgust.

"Never do that again! I've told you back then that I no longer have any feelings for you," Park Jonghyun said before trying to board on his car upon finishing his words.

Yoo Yeonhee suddenly shouted, "You're lying to me! You're lying! You're just afraid that people will gossip about us! It's impossible that you don't love me!!!"

Park Jonghyun who was about to get into the car sneered. "Gossip? If I'm afraid, the relationship wouldn't have started in the first place. All I have to say about you is that you are an arrogant woman. You are gorgeous indeed, but I don't need a peerless beauty. Yoo Yeonhee, my patience is limited. Don't try to challenge my bottom line."

"Yo—how dare you... It's impossible! Didn't you travel thousand of miles to China to see me?" Yoo Yeonhee squawked.

Yoo Yeonhee suddenly realised something upon finishing her words. She turned around and realized that Yang Chen was smiling at the door while enjoying the show.

She quickly realized something upon seeing him. Violently turning her head back to Park Jonghyun.

"So... this is what happened..." Yoo Yeonhee murmured before she started to laugh like a maniac. "Hahahaha! So this is what happened... Park Jonghyun..." Yoo Yeonhee laughed so hard that her body moved back and forth. At last, the smile on her face vanished when she brutally gazed upon Yang Chen before looking back at Park Jonghyun. "Your nose is surprisingly sensitive, isn't it? But you shouldn't feel too happy. I'm not dumb, and the others aren't as well. Park Jonghyun, you will kneel before me one day... And when that day comes, I'll want you to lick my feet..."

Coldness filled Park Jonghyun's eyes. "Crazy Woman, I have no clue what you're talking about."

After he finished speaking, he signalled his bodyguards to get on the cars, while he sat into the Mercedes parked at the center.

Park Jonghyun then rolled down the car window and let out a courteous smile at Yang Chen. "Mr Yang, please disregard that crazy woman. I sincerely hope to gain your assistance, which I'll surely reward greatly."

Yang Chen snickered. "You're welcome," he said while waving his hand.

After Park Jonghyun and the others left, Yoo Yeonhee stared at Yang Chen disdainfully. She then smiled coldly and returned to her Maserati before driving away.

Yang Chen yawned and turned around. When he raised his head, he realized that Lin Ruoxi was silently looking at him at the entrance.

As Yang Chen approached her, he said smilingly, "Babe Ruoxi, you've just missed a good show. Don't you usually love to watch Korean drama series? That was as close to real life Korean drama that you will ever get."

"What did they say?" Lin Ruoxi asked while ignoring his joke.

Yang Chen shrugged his shoulders. "Some boring heartbreak story. Their love seemed to have turned to hatred. Stuff like this is most unpredictable."

Lin Ruoxi nodded her head. Worry surfaced on her cold face, looking much more expressive than usual.

"I have a feeling that Park Jonghyun's objective isn't as simple as he makes it up to be. Also, Yoo Yeonhee has an unusual background as well. Although I haven't made any investigations, I believe their relations go far deeper than we know. Zhenxiu's emotions are really unstable right now. I can't just say everything I want to her, but I'm just having a premonition," Lin Ruoxi said gently.

Yang Chen stopped smiling. He snorted slightly and said, "It's only weird if the matter is that simple."

Lin Ruoxi raised her head and asked, "You noticed something unusual, didn't you?" She only mentioned it to him so that she could get verification from Yang Chen. She knew that Yang Chen definitely knew more than he showed.

Yang Chen didn't want to hide it from Lin Ruoxi. Honestly, he said, "I originally wanted to let them be, since they're not anyone impressive anyway. But since Babe Ruoxi wants me to tell, I'll just be honest with you..."

"No matter how hard someone tries to convince me, I will never believe that a multinational corporate worth at least a hundred billion will be passed down to a long lost girl who has spent most of her life abroad, with little to no knowledge. Park Jonghyun may have a silver tongue, but his words are simply ridiculous.

"However, it's also due to his perfect performance that we have no reason to stop Zhenxiu from returning to Korea. Just because Zhenxiu isn't willing to go back now doesn't mean she won't in the future. Blood always runs deeper than water. I don't doubt that Starmoon Group is indeed Zhenxiu's home."

Coldness flashed in Lin Ruoxi's eyes. "Why would they do this? Are they looking for something on Zhenxiu? Hasn't she suffered enough all these years?"

"I don't know about this. For now, Zhenxiu seems to be extremely important to Park Jonghyun. You mentioned that he is the director of Starmoon Group, which means he has been dealing with everything that happens around the company. Being such a skillful actor, would he really tell us the true reason he's looking for Zhenxiu?" Yang Chen shook his head with a smile. "What I am more interested in is the relationship between Park Jonghyun and Yoo Yeonhee. I don't think Park Jonghyun would like a lady like her. Even if they have broken up, I don't believe they have a reason to get together to begin with."

Lin Ruoxi, however, found that matter meaningless. She rolled her eyes at Yang Chen and said, "I just felt that Zhenxiu shouldn't leave with Park Jonghyun earlier, so I guarded her and let you send him off. When I think about it now, although I was rather discourteous, it was definitely necessary. I hope he doesn't return to disturb Zhenxiu... But it's unbelievable that Zhenxiu has such a high-level background."

Yang Chen thought, Your husband's background is much more interesting than that. However, he didn't express what he had in mind. Yawning, he walked back to the house and said, "Dear, don't think about it anymore. Let's have dinner now."

Lin Ruoxi turned around and said, "There are so many things that don't make sense now. Are you not going to try and resolve all these issues? Zhenxiu is probably still wiping her tears upstairs. Why aren't you going to console her? All you know is eat..."

Yang Chen scratched his ears and acted like he had heard nothing, causing Lin Ruoxi who was standing behind to clench her teeth in anger.

At the same time, the sunset shone light upon a luxury ward in a military hospital in Beijing through the huge and wide windows, causing the scene look like one from a fairy tale. However, the person inside the ward didn't seem to be in a good mood.

The man sitting on the spacious white bed had his head wrapped in bandage while his eyes were filled with malice.

The old housekeeper standing beside him who bowed down slightly with respect was solemnly guarding the place.

The television in the room was playing political news, but its volume was set to the lowest. Evidently, no one was actually listening to it.

Suddenly, without any warning, the injured man sat on the bed took the remote control beside and threw it forcefully at the television screen!

Bam!

The screen shattered following the loud collision and displayed a blurred image before completely turning off.

At this moment, the two bodyguards dressed in black standing by the entrance bowed down in respect.

Dressed in a white lab coat, a tall man who looked like a doctor appeared at the entrance.

The man wore a pair of black-framed glasses made for someone with short-sightedness. His hair extended to his shoulders while there was stubble on his untidy face. However, he didn't lack the unrestrained aura of a man. He wore a pair of old black leather boots while his expression was stiff, as if he was a wax figure due to the absence of vitality.

When the man wearing a white coat walked inside, he witnessed the broken television but the expression on his face remained unchanged. He merely glanced at it before walking to the bed.

The man on the bed swallowed his saliva audibly while anxiety and fear filled his eyes. At last, facing the expressionless poker face, he said softly, "Elder Brother... y—you're here."

The man in a coat didn't respond. Instead, he said, "You're not dead yet."

The man on the bed decided to stay silent and clenched his fists in anger. His body shivered, as if he was in rage, but he dared not express his anger.

The housekeeper answered, "Young Master Buwen, Second Master was beaten by the unreasonable bastard. You have to stand up for Second Master."

The man in a coat was the young master of the Yan clan, known as a genius scientist to outsiders, named Yan Buwen.

Yan Buwen completely ignored the housekeeper. He continued gazing upon Yan Buxue like a machine. "Regardless if he's a bastard or not, you're not qualified to mess with someone from the Yang clan. Remember what I said."

"Why?!" Yan Buxue yelled in anger after raising his head violently. "The old fellow Yang Gongming has long lost his power. All they have is Yang Pojun. Now that he's involved in a scandal and his wife has left him, he's basically powerless! Why should we, the Yan clan, fall behind the Yang clan?! Why are they qualified to be among the four major clans?! Yan Buwen, you're seen as a god by outsiders, but are you this cowardly?!"

Yan Buwen didn't answer him. Instead, he looked around and raised a decorative vase on the coffee table.

Crack! The vase was smashed directly on Yan Buxue's head!

The housekeeper exclaimed in shock, but he was unable to stop him in time.

Yan Buxue was dumbstruck, as if his soul had been sucked away. All he felt was a hot stream flowing down from his head...

The bandage wrapped around his head absorbed the fresh blood and turned dark red...

"Firstly, as long as Yang Gongming is alive, the Yang clan will be one of the four major clans. Also, you should address me 'Elder Brother', instead of calling my name. Lastly, whether or not I'm cowardly isn't for you to determine." When Yan Buwen finished speaking, he let go of the remaining part of the vase in his hand, allowing it to fall on the ground.

He then realized that he had gotten a small cut from a vase fragment, causing blood to appear from the seam.

Frowning, Yan Buwen put his right hand in front of his mouth and licked the blood away before swallowing and keeping his hand back into the shirt pocket.

When he turned around to leave the room, Yan Buwen murmured, "It's a shame really, you living that is. It might even have been a good thing for us if you had died..."

Chapter 485: Sit down and Talk

Probably due to the burning passion in him built up by Cai Yan at the training base earlier in the day, when it was almost midnight after his family members had all gone to bed, Yang Chen went to his balcony and leaped to the one at Rose's house.

Rose who had fallen asleep suddenly felt that someone pushed open the door at the balcony which caused her to instantly wake up in surprise. When she realized it was Yang Chen, she couldn't help but find it strange.

"Is giving me a call that difficult for you?" Rose rolled her eyes at Yang Chen.

Yang Chen giggled and sat on Rose's bed. In the dark, she was only dressed in a thin layer of silk pajamas while her unique orchid-like body scent filled the room, mesmerizing as ever.

"Isn't this more convenient? It wouldn't be good if you caught a cold downstairs," Yang Chen replied.

"Stop the nonsense. Am I really that precious to you?" Rose didn't know whether to cry or laugh.

Yang Chen stretched his arm out to feel Rose's hair gently. "I'll be going to Paris in a few days' time to participate in an event. I may not be able to see you guys for quite a while, so I suggest we make the most of whatever time we have left."

"It's not like you're not coming back anymore," Rose said in an indifferent manner, "And I don't see you often even when you're here anyway."

Yang Chen smacked her firm backside. "Why are you throwing a tantrum? Am I not the one who looks for you every time? I sometimes wish that you can find me at my office."

Rose smiled sweetly, but it evidently wasn't something she would do.

Yang Chen looked at her with a naughty gaze. "We'll do it with Little Qianqian. It's been a while since we last did it together."

As soon as he finished speaking, no matter how Rose resisted, Yang Chen carried her up and rushed out of the room.

After taking a turn at the corridor, he broke into Mo Qianni's room. Rose who was in his arms felt nervous yet shy while repeatedly hitting Yang Chen on his chest.

Yang Chen didn't pay attention to it at all. Laughing, he threw Rose's body on Mo Qianni's bed, causing her body to press on Mo Qianni.

Mo Qianni who had almost fallen asleep suddenly felt a warm and fragrant body lying on her. It took her only a second to guess who it was.

Soon, after seeing Yang Chen's evil smile, Mo Qianni blushed immediately. She instantly understood what was going on.

"Why aren't you in bed this late at night? All you think about is naughty things," Mo Qianni murmured.

Yang Chen removed the restraints on his body and pounced onto the women. Lying in the middle, he hugged one woman with each arm. He could feel two lumps of flesh pressing against both sides of his chest, immediately immersing himself in the great amount of pleasure he was feeling.

He took a deep breath in indulgence. Yang Chen kissed left and right before saying, "I won't force you two to suffer tonight. Whoever's ready can get on me voluntarily."

After he spoke, he waited for quite a while before realizing that both Rose and Mo Qianni were completely silent, as if they were asleep.

Yang Chen felt defeated. He couldn't help but say, "Since you're so uncooperative, being the leader, I have to say I'm very disappointed. It looks like punishments are in order..."

"You said you wouldn't force us just now!" Rose said in dissatisfaction.

Yang Chen wasn't able to think about that much. Pressing onto the woman's body, he said, "I said that before midnight. Now that it's after twelve already, this is considered another 'tonight', so what I said yesterday doesn't count!"

All their complaints and resistance at this moment appeared futile. The rest of the night was filled with what one could only call men at their most primal state.

The next morning, Yang Chen came to the office early, feeling energized. Since An Xin was preparing to be the hostess of Star of Yu Lei, she didn't come to work, causing Yang Chen to feel a little bored.

After watching the miscellaneous news and listening to the reports by Wang Jie and Zhao Teng, it was lunchtime already.

Yang Chen was wondering whom he should eat with, or if he was going to eat at the canteen in Yu Lei. When he was in consideration, his phone rang and vibrated.

He took his phone out and realized it was a call from Jane. That woman definitely wouldn't call him if she was working. Since she was calling over, she must've had a result for Master Tang's illness.

"My dear Yang Chen, are you free now? There's something that I think warrants a discussion with you." Jane's voice sounded gentle as ever.

Yang Chen smiled and said, "Is there anything you need help with?"

Jane answered, "It wouldn't be an issue if I was abroad. But in China, I don't have enough manpower to protect so many targets."

"Protect?" Yang Chen frowned. He noticed it was certainly something abnormal.

"Yeah. I encountered an assassin yesterday. Hannya saved me. I'm worried that they'll harm the others from the Tang clan, so—"

"Wait! There was an attempt to kill you?!" Yang Chen stood up forcefully and started walking back and forth. "Don't talk about it now. I'll go find you at the sanatorium. We'll talk about it later."

"You don't need to do this. I'm fine, really," Jane advised hurriedly.

Yang Chen, however, heard nothing and directly hung up the call.

Although he had expected that Jane might be affected by hostility, he didn't think that it would happen so soon and so direct. They wanted to murder Jane with no hesitation. It should be mentioned that Jane

had an extraordinary status. If something were to happen to her, the country would be majorly pressured internationally. The person who dared to make such a decision was either incredibly powerful or utterly fearless.

Yang Chen found it surprising enough that the enemy managed to make a woman like Jane make a request to him. Jane had high self-esteem. She wasn't one to ask for help in a situation she believed she could handle on her own. Judging by the situation, Yang Chen couldn't be at ease if he didn't visit the scene himself.

After half an hour, Yang Chen arrived at Ivy Sanatorium. Although Tang Wan wasn't there, most of the employees managed to recognize Yang Chen, so he wasn't stopped by anyone.

He quickly came to Master Tang's courtyard. Jane and Hannya were both standing by the walkway. When Yang Chen approached them, they walked forward to welcome him.

"Are you harmed?" Yang Chen asked out of concern. Having known Jane for so many years, it was only natural that he was worried about her.

Jane let out a faint smile. Shaking her head, she said, "I believe you're able to tell if I'm injured or not. Do you still have to ask? Fortunately Hannya was beside me. Although the enemy was well-trained and had technologically advanced weapons, they didn't manage to use them."

Yang Chen looked at Hannya who was standing behind Jane and nodded. "You did a good job. Tell me about the situation last night."

Hannya bowed her head a little. "Yes, Master. At one o'clock before dawn, when Miss Jane was working in the laboratory, I detected the presence of 5 to 8 enemies sneaking into this building. They were most likely veterans from the special forces based on their skills. They even had the advanced equipment from the American special forces. They cooperated in an orderly manner with caution, so I don't think they were from any international mercenary groups. I believe it's more likely that we're faced with a government official. Unfortunately, each of them had a self-incineration device. After they were defeated, they used that device to destroy all traces."

"A self-incineration device?" Yang Chen frowned. "People like them are either from a religion or have a government background."

"I don't think these matter too much. No matter how strong they are, we need not be too worried. However, the laboratory was destroyed by a grenade after the battle. I need another lab to craft the medication." Jane pouted as she felt displeased.

Yang Chen was a little stunned. "Craft the medicine? You have already found out of a way to cure the old man?"

Jane smiled cheerfully. "Although it's not complete yet, I've thought of a recipe which could slowly deal with his illness. I'm sure, however, that it can stop the chronic poison from doing harm. I can't tell if he's poisoned by someone or just infected by virus yet. But I will be able to solve the problem as long as it's a toxin."

Yang Chen didn't doubt her confidence. As Jane was the world's best researcher for poison, she was undoubtedly the best in coming up with a cure as well. After all, she was the one who had contained Yang Chen's insanity.

"Oh yeah, have you told anyone else about curing the old man?" Yang Chen asked.

Jane pondered for a short while and answer, "Miss Tang and the few of them came over yesterday. I only mentioned he could be poisoned. There were quite a number of people at the scene. I don't remember all of them anymore."

Yang Chen nodded. Since the enemy could plant listening devices with ease, getting an information like this one definitely wasn't difficult. They were probably worried that Jane might be able to treat the old man, so they wanted her dead quickly.

"So when you asked for my help, you actually hoped that I could protect him?" Yang Chen asked.

"Yeah. I feel that ordinary bodyguards won't do the job," Jane said with a smile. "The best mercenary group in the world is under our dear Pluto, isn't it?"

Yang Chen poked Jane's forehead. Smiling, he said, "Maybe you should receive awards in smart talking instead. Alright, I understand it now. I'll ask Molin to send over the remaining Sea Eagles members. There definitely won't be any problems."

After that, they chatted for a while before Tang Wan's sister Tang Xin brought a few nurses to bathe the old man. Yang Chen and Jane wouldn't look after him so closely. Thus, they headed to the dining area in the sanatorium to have lunch.

Although there was a disturbance yesterday night, Tang Wan dealt with the issues efficiently being a businesswoman. The self-destructed corpses were all brought away, so the news didn't spread anywhere.

After lunch, Jane brought Hannya to another laboratory to continue mixing her medication, while Yang Chen planned to visit the television station to check out the audition finals of Star of Yu Lei. When he was there, he could pay Hui Lin a visit as well.

However, as soon as he exit the sanatorium, a familiar voice called out his name... "Yang Chen, are you free to sit down and talk?"

Yang Chen stopped moving. Turning around, he realized it was that person. He felt shocked for a while before blurrily nodding his head.

Chapter 486: We Are in the Same Boat

Outside the sanatorium was a large forest. Spring had come and brought with it a decent landscape of trees and flowers in its path.

Yang Chen sat on the edge of the forest in an ancient-looking pavilion. Evidently, no one came to this pavillion judging by how dirty the stools were. However, Yang Chen sat on one of them, unbothered.

Standing at the other side of the pavilion was a middle-aged man who was wearing a white shirt and a black suit pants. His face showed hardships and lament while he silently stood thinking of what next to say.

There was another young man standing with an upright posture and a cold face outside the pavilion. He would glance at Yang Chen occasionally with his gaze which was a little complicated.

One of them had been trying to get Tang Wan for decades but to no avail. He was none other than Tang Tang's biological father—Fang Zhongping. The other man was his bodyguard, Dugu Zui, whom Yang Chen had once beaten in a fight without breaking sweat.

Yang Chen was shocked to see both of them coming out from the sanatorium. In fact, he assumed that he wouldn't have to deal with Fang Zhongping anymore for the rest of his life. He was a cultured man and Yang Chen didn't really hate him although he was condescending due to his superior status.

However, the relationship between them was somewhat subtle because of Tang Wan.

Tang Wan didn't love of Fang Zhongping who had chased her for a decade or more while she took the initiative to confess her feelings to Yang Chen whom she had known for less than a year. From Yang Chen's perspective, that wasn't something any man was willing to just let go.

Fang Zhongping would've probably thought of a way to get rid of Yang Chen if and only if the latter lacked the identity as a Yang clan member.

Therefore, Yang Chen was shocked when Fang Zhongping requested to talk to him.

After some time, Fang Zhongping seemed to have had enough of the the greenish scenery. He turned around and spoke in a slightly sad tone, "Speaking of my first time meeting Master Tang, I was just a little kid when my father brought me to Beijing for a visit. In the blink of an eye, twenty years have passed since then."

Yang Chen quietly listened to what he said because he knew that Fang Zhongping wasn't done yet.

"In my mind, I always remember the impression that Master Tang gives. He is serious in speech and manner, has an aura of natural dignity and power, and he is a hale and hearty senior. A few days ago, I wanted to pay him a visit as I had a meeting in Beijing. Unfortunately, I received the news that Master Tang had been sent to Zhonghai for treatment." Fang Zhongping frowned and said, "I'm very upset to see Master Tang face such a situation."

I really don't think anyone would be happy to see this, Yang Chen thought.

"Tang Wan didn't tell me about this," Fang Zhongping said suddenly, "If I didn't coincidentally hear about this, I wouldn't have known that so much has happened to the Tang clan."

Yang Chen blinked his eyes and said, "What are you trying to say?"

Fang Zhongping sighed. "Although I feel very frustrated, I have to admit that I'm inferior to you in her eyes."

Yang Chen smiled. "She might have thought that you were too busy. Also, she needed my help."

"You're right. She needs your help but she doesn't need me," Fang Zhongping said bitterly. "To her, our Fang clan is just a rich and influential one in Zhonghai. For a woman like her, there's no reason for her to pay any attention to us. My power is just simply dispensable for her."

"She doesn't look at you that way," Yang Chen said with his brows furrowed.

"I know," Fang Zhongping said with a smile. "I know that she doesn't care about all of these. However, after the incident this time, I realized that you are indeed more capable. You're the one who could help her through her difficulties. As for me, I appear weak and useless at times like these."

Yang Chen remained silent. He was speaking the truth. Evidently, the enemies Tang Wan was faced with weren't people a mere party secretary could deal with.

"I heard that you helped Tang Wan find Miss Jane from the Royal Academy of Sciences to treat Master Tang. I've heard of Miss Jane's reputation. Not many people in this world could just invite her over. It looks like Tang Wan found the right person for help," Fang Zhongping said.

"Jane is only my friend, not my subordinate," Yang Chen said.

"Your relations with her don't matter. I only want to say that... if Tang Wan encounters any other troubles later on, please be sure to continue helping her," Fang Zhongping said sincerely.

Yang Chen laughed. "Is this all you want to say after asking me for a talk?"

"Yes. Although I know this is a little inappropriate, I would like to finish my words," Fang Zhongping said bitterly, "Tang Wan... She has sacrificed a lot for the Tang clan. She has been supporting it all alone which is incredibly tough. Due to my incompetence, I couldn't support her in any way even though I love her. Now that there is someone that she can depend on, I think... I should give up completely."

Yang Chen thought for a while and said, "Listening to your tone, it sounds like you know something."

Fang Zhongping hesitated for a while and shook his head. "I think Tang Wan didn't want to tell you about it but since you ask, I don't mind telling you. Do you know why Tang Wan doesn't want to marry but she gives birth to Tang Tang at an early age?"

Yang Chen was stunned. He hadn't thought of that question before. If Tang Wan didn't like Fang Zhongping, she could've chosen another man. However, that just couldn't be justified. After all, Tang Wan was only around twenty when she gave birth to Tang Tang via assisted reproductive technology.

As for choosing her man, Tang Wan had chosen Fang Zhongping which evidently had proven him to be her most trusted man.

Yang Chen shook his head as he couldn't understand why.

Fang Zhongping pondered for a while before saying, "Actually, the story starts from Tang Wan's father, Uncle Tang Lun..."

"Tang Lun?" Yang Chen frowned. He recalled back to the day when he first met Master Tang and the old man was calling for 'Lun'. He asked Tang Wan who that 'Lun' was but she wasn't willing to talk about it. He finally found out that the man was Tang Wan's father!

Fang Zhongping gradually revealed everything that has happened all those years ago. Tang Zhechen's eldest son was Tang Wan's father Tang Lun. He was once the most talented young man in the Tang clan and was Master Tang's favorite. Without a doubt, Tang Lun was considered a worthy successor to the clan. Many people even thought that Tang Lun would achieve more than his father.

However, things turned out quite differently than expected. Tang Lun seemed to have it all from the outside but deep down there were undersides that were planted deep in his heart. Perhaps it was caused by all the stress that was accumulated since he was little and his psychology needed a vent. It ended up resulting in domestic violence.

Not long after the birth of Tang Wan's younger brother Tang Jue, Tang Lun's mental illness had reached an unprecedented level.

Although no outsiders were informed about the issue, some of the core figures at home gradually discovered a series of problems between Tang Lun and his wife. However, Master Tang sealed off every rumour and gossip to maintain the facade of the clan while he tried to recover the eldest son's psychological condition.

One morning, Tang Lun's wife was nowhere to be found by the family members of the Tang clan. In the end, it was discovered that Tang Lun cruelly murdered his wife and then committed suicide in the room... The incident twenty years ago had been a shocking one to the upper class of Beijing. If it wasn't for Master Tang who had handled the situation with the utmost care, the reputation of the Tang clan would be thoroughly wiped out back then.

Even so, that unfortunate incident had caused psychological changes in Master Tang, Tang Wan, and her brother.

The scene of her father cruelly abusing her mother was trauma inducing to Tang Wan, who was already a sensible child then. She naturally kept her distance with men as she grew up. Although it didn't cause an attitude distortion, it was still unacceptable.

In addition to the cliques and factions that were formed within the clan, even with the protection of Tang Zhechen, the growth of the two siblings was full of hardships.

Although Tang Jue was obedient to Tang Wan's words, she was still lacking in power. Tang Wan grew up with her younger brother. So she was naturally worried that Tang Jue could get oppressed by the clan members if she were to get married.

However, it wasn't easy to stay unmarried as she was the young lady from a wealthy and influential clan. Often, her identity was far more attractive than herself.

Tang Wan was indeed a real beauty to begin with. It caused countless men to come and seek for marriage.

In the end, Tang Wan who had just turned twenty decisively chose a path that no one else could think of—receiving an artificial impregnation and giving birth to a child.

It was an act that could be regarded as a scandal, but it wasn't opposed by Master Tang. The old man suppressed the public's anger and even handed over the Maple Group to Tang Wan, making her one of the most powerful successors in the Tang clan.

This way, Tang Wan wouldn't have had to face the stress that came with marriage. After all, no one would risk being criticized by going after Tang Wan as they would seem to just be aiming for her family background instead. On the other hand, Tang Wan could finally stay in the Tang clan while taking care of the enterprise and at the same time looking after his only brother Tang Jue. However, due to the overwhelming opposition of her clan members, Tang Wan was forced to stay in Jiangnan for quite a few years... Following Fang Zhongping's narration, Yang Chen could roughly deduce the series of events that caused the consequences to take place.

Thinking back to the first few times when Yang Chen met Tang Wan, she was indeed keeping a distance with men because of the trauma left in her memories.

"She's a poor woman." Fang Zhongping sighed.

Yang Chen raised his head and looked at him. "You're also a poor man."

Fang Zhongping was startled before laughing. "You're right. We're in the same boat."

Yang Chen looked at Fang Zhongping who appeared to be crying and laughing at the same time. He felt bad for him but no one could ever be forced to love. He stood up and said, "I will take my leave if that is all."

Fang Zhongping turned away, seemingly unwilling to face Yang Chen, before nodding his head.

Yang Chen walked slowly to his car and opened the door. He looked back at the man who was standing in the pavilion and took another glance at the seemingly peaceful and quiet sanatorium before boarding the car.

Chapter 487: Unexpected Guests

After leaving the sanatorium, Yang Chen rushed back to the television station to supervise the backend work for Star of Yu Lei.

The rehearsal had neared its end. Hui Lin and the other two contestants were not present. According to the employees, they were brought out to partake in some promotional activities.

Evidently, though Hui Lin was merely a participant, she had become rather influential. This made Yang Chen feel a little amused at the whole situation. The girl who used to be a nun when Yang Chen first met her was quickly becoming a superstar.

Since Yang Chen wasn't clear about the backend operations, he merely took a spin around the place. When it was almost evening, he went home without hesitation.

He originally thought that he could peacefully watch the television as he waited for dinner to be served. However, upon reaching home, Yang Chen felt two auras which were very distinct...

Sighing, Yang Chen held a strange gaze. After parking his car, he walked into the house.

He pushed the door open and raised his head to take a look. As he had expected, there sat two guests on the living room sofa.

A blonde lady with an elegant figure looked flawless even from the side. Her delicate and attractive face was currently filled with dissatisfaction and displeasure. Wearing a silver skirt, she crossed her slender legs gracefully. She was none other than Christen.

On the other hand, the person seated opposite Christen was a short-haired, lazy-and-rough-looking, mixed-race Middle Eastern man. He was Ares whom Yang Chen had not met in a long time.

Christen's appearance was not unexpected. As that woman was talkative, it was normal for her to look for Guo Xuehua to chat. In addition, the finals of Star of Yu Lei were coming really soon. She had nothing to do in China while she waited for the event.

However, hadn't the God of War Ares returned to the Middle East? Didn't he proceed to search for the God's Stone? Why is he sitting on my couch without informing me beforehand? Yang Chen thought.

Yang Chen was more confused when Christen and Ares looked at each other like they were enemies. Although they appeared normal on the outside, their gazes were filled with contempt and fury.

"You're back," Christen said without turning her head.

Ares turned his head a little but didn't say a word.

Yang Chen frowned and walked forward to sit on the couch between the two. He said to Ares, "I don't remember us having this close a relationship. Why didn't you tell me before coming to my house?"

"I go wherever I want. You should be honored that I'm sitting on your broken couch. At my house, the sofas were all made of gold and buckskin. I may not have even sat on this if you had invited me over," Ares said arrogantly.

Yang Chen wasn't in the mood to compare his wealth with the spendthrift. Sighing, he said, "Did anything happen? Also, why are you two here together?"

"Don't lump me in with the likes of him!" Christen cursed loudly. "Damn it. This wild pig will never change his shitty attitude no matter how many times he is reborn. Just because I didn't want to fight him, he crushed my new Ferrari 250 GTO!"

"250 GTO?" Yang Chen was a little confused. "Isn't that a model from the sixties to seventies? Are you into old cars?"

"Humph," Ares snorted in disdain. "Isn't it just a little more than ten million dollars? I'll just give you twenty million if you're so upset about it. Women are all the same."

"You can't buy it even if you have all the money in the world! That model is out of production already!" Christen yelled in anger. Her superstar like behaviour was nowhere to be found.

At this moment, Guo Xuehua who was busy in the kitchen came out with a pot of hot tea. Smiling faintly, he said, "You're both Yang Chen's friends. Why are you guys arguing? Miss Christen, Mr Orenos, this Xinyang Maojian tea is the freshest in the house. Please have a try. I'm going to guess green tea isn't very common in the Middle East and America."

Christen behaved herself when Guo Xuehua walked outside. Receiving a cup of tea from her, she gave Ares a furious stare. The color and fragrance of the Xinyang Maojian tea were appealing. Of course, to

both Christen and Ares, the green tea which cost a few thousand every hundred grams was just an ordinary but good-looking drink.

Ares received the tea expressionlessly and drank some of it without thanking Guo Xuehua.

“Ah! The water is still boiling-hot,” reminded Guo Xuehua.

Ares had no response. Nodding, he said, “It’s good.”

Guo Xuehua got speechless when she witnessed the scene. She couldn’t help but wonder why her son had such a weird friend whose tongue and throat seemed to be made of steel.

“You guys may continue. I shouldn’t interrupt. I’ll go back to prepare dinner.” Guo Xuehua felt rather uncomfortable. After hinting Yang Chen to treat the guests well, she returned to the kitchen.

After Guo Xuehua left, Ares looked at Yang Chen weirdly. He found it odd that Yang Chen had a mother whom he lived together with. He then said, “Hades, I failed to find the God’s Stone.”

Yang Chen was stunned a little before smiling. “Did you come just to tell me about this? Do you suspect me for being behind all of these?”

“No,” Ares said in a displeased manner, “Just you alone will not be able to outsmart me.”

“All you do is talk big. How cocky,” Christen murmured and gazed upon Ares with contempt.

Ares stood up violently with his eyes wide open. Pointing at Christen, he yelled angrily, “Aphrodite! Are you picking a fight with me?!”

“You unreasonable cow, don’t point your fingers at women. I won’t fight you no matter what.” Christen snorted coldly before turning her head away and ignoring him.

The corner of Ares’s mouth twitched a little but he managed to contain his anger. Sitting down again, he said, “I originally came here to fight this despicable woman. But since she’s this timid, it’s meaningless for me to force her into a duel. So since you were here as well, I thought that I might as well have briefed you on my findings. It certainly looks like you failed to find it as well.”

“I didn’t fail.” Yang Chen took a sip of the tea. “I’m not even bothered to search for it.”

Doubt filled Ares’s eyes. “Why? Don’t you know what the God’s Stone represents?!”

“I know. Solving its secrets will grant a power beyond the god tier. One could even... surpass the limits of space,” Yang Chen mumbled.

“Since you’re aware, why do you...”

“Because I want to enjoy my peaceful life.” Yang Chen pointed at Christen. “You’re not the only god. Isn’t Aphrodite unbothered about the God’s Stone as well? I’m a regular employee while she’s an international superstar. Although I don’t know what the others are doing nowadays, they might be enjoying something they love as well. Although I have no clue why you and Athena have to fight so hard for it, I’m certain that most of us don’t care about that thing. Exceeding the god tier or breaking the space limits are fine. As long as the world is in order and the people I care for are unharmed, I actually hope that the God’s Stone can vanish forever.”

Ares snorted coldly. "It's not that they don't want to obtain the God's Stone. No one can resist the temptations it brings. The God's Stone allows us to break free from our human shells and become gods. Isn't this astounding enough?! This is significant to us from the god race. It's only because they know that they can't defeat Athena and I that they've given up."

"Zeus and Poseidon didn't participate as well. Do you think you can take them on? You're talking big again..." Christen murmured.

Ares's face flushed. Pointing at Christen, he said, "Woman, don't challenge my limits! You two are straight-up cowards. If you dare, why don't you fight me?!"

"They're too lazy to do anything to you. Except yourself, everyone is aware that only Athena can match Zeus, even Poseidon is a little inferior. While for you... everyone's just too lazy to entertain you," Christen said before rolling her eyes.

"Nonsense! 500 years ago, Athena only managed to defeat me by relying on her prophecy! That didn't count for anything"

"Athena didn't even use her divine weapon. Do you really think she had fought with her best? She just coincidentally wanted to reborn at that time," mocked Christen.

"Alright, alright. You should stop talking as well," Yang Chen said to round it up. "I really don't know where the God's Stone is. You may continue your search if you want. Don't stay at my house, oh, don't throw a tantrum anywhere I can sense. I still need to eat with my family, and my wife and sisters will need to have a home to come to as well. I don't want you to scare them away. Do whatever you have to."

Ares had nothing to say. Staring at Christen furiously, his figure flashed and disappeared from the hall without saying anything.

Yang Chen scratched the back of his head. Actually, he had an interest in the topic regarding other gods. However, if he further provoked Ares, he would have taken it out on Zhonghai smashing it to pieces.

"Aren't you leaving? Why are you smiling like a fox?" Yang Chen asked after turning around.

Christen stretched her body in a lazy manner. Her elegant posture would make every other man go crazy. Letting out a charming smile, she said, "I'm really glad that the cow had almost gone crazy after being pissed."

"This is nothing worth getting happy about. His temper has always been this way. But you are indeed unfortunate. I remember the last time he went to America to look for you, and now he managed to bump into you in Zhonghai," Yang Chen said before waving his hand.

Christen pouted her lips. "His nose has always been this sensitive. No one can do anything about it. It's his fault for being a wild pig. Oh yeah, I haven't asked you about the end result for your fight with him yet."

"It was a draw I guess. I don't know what it was considered since the fight stopped halfway. His spear is really impressive," Yang Chen said. It was best to keep the true winner to himself.

Christen didn't give it much thought. "The old Hades's divine weapon is already lost. It's rare enough that you managed to get a draw without fighting with a divine weapon. Although he isn't the strongest, he has the most fighting experience."

Out of curiosity, Yang Chen asked, "You mentioned that Zeus and Athena are the strongest among the twelve of you, didn't you?" It was his first time listening to this news.

Christen smiled and said, "It's 'us', not 'you'. You're now one of us as well. Although Zeus and Athena have not yet battled officially, the only one who could defeat Zeus is her. Having two divine weapons, she had never lost to anyone in the past. That woman's intelligence... Actually, her intelligence is her most terrifying weapon."

Yang Chen nodded. He was merely asking about it casually. He hadn't even seen either of them before, while he was unaware if they had been awakened or not. Thus, he didn't take that too seriously.

Chapter 488: You're Very Brutal

When dinner was almost ready, Yang Chen kicked Christen out of the house. The surprisingly convincing woman who had an uncontrollable mouth could cause Yang Chen suffering from the hands of his family. Yang Chen didn't hope for his already low position in the house to further plummet.

Of course, Guo Xuehua complained about it again and again after Yang Chen sent a guest off for no reason. What was he supposed to say? It was normal for him. It was known that blood was thicker than water. Although they had been separated for years, he slowly found it natural after interacting with his mother in this period.

The family sat down and got prepared to start eating. Yang Chen finally realized that Lin Ruoxi wasn't at the dining table.

Logically speaking, Lin Ruoxi would come home to have dinner around this time every day. She rarely had to entertain clients after all. He previously assumed that his wife was working upstairs, but that apparently wasn't the case.

"Mom, where's Ruoxi?" Yang Chen couldn't help but ask.

Lin Ruoxi's schedule of leaving the house early and coming back late had been consistent, so Yang Chen wasn't too worried about that. However, he was rather concerned when she suddenly skipped the dinner at home. Lin Ruoxi was a super beautiful wealthy CEO with a net worth of billions of dollars. If it wasn't for her low profile, it would be totally normal for her to appear on the newspapers once in a while. Why did she suddenly disappear? Did something happen to her? he thought.

Guo Xuehua and Wang Ma glanced at each other with a smile. "I thought you'd just start eating. Not bad, you still remember you have a wife."

Yang Chen felt a little awkward. Since Lin Ruoxi usually preferred act cold at home, he wouldn't take the initiative to talk too often. It looked like just because the seniors mentioned nothing didn't mean they were satisfied with the two's relationship, not to mention they slept in different rooms."

"How is it possible for me to forget?" Yang Chen asked.

“Young Master, Miss made a call home earlier. She seems to have something really important happening tomorrow, and won’t have much time to work, so she has to finish reading through the documents today and skip the dinner at home,” Wang Ma said smilingly.

Yang Chen frowned. “Then what time did she say she was coming back? She won’t be sleeping over at her office, will she?”

Wang Ma shook her head in an embarrassed manner. “Nobody knows. For as long as I can remember, Miss had always been a stubborn one. No one is able to hold her back.”

“When I talk about this daughter-in-law of mine, it’s almost always about good things. It’s just that she works too hard and can’t be persuaded.” Guo Xuehua managed to comprehend Lin Ruoxi’s behavior during this period. She too felt helpless towards her lifestyle.

Yang Chen pouted his mouth. Lifting his bowl and chopsticks, he ate as he said, “Since that’s the case, Wang Ma, get a dish or two ready for me later. I’ll send it to Ruoxi. Since she didn’t say when she was coming back, she’s certainly pulling an all-nighter.”

Wang Ma seemed to have expected Yang Chen to say that. Smiling, she said, “It’s already prepared. I think it’s wonderful that you are sending it over. Miss will definitely be pleased.”

Zhenxiu who was chewing a chicken wing chuckled and said, “No, she won’t. Sister Ruoxi will definitely get gloomy.”

Yang Chen rolled his eyes. Does she have to say it out? It’s only making things awkward for us, he thought.

Regardless of the situation, the decision was set. After Yang Chen devoured his meal, he received a heat-retention mealbox from Wang Ma before heading to Yu Lei International.

Although it was a post-working hour, there were security guards repeatedly patrolling the place. However, Yang Chen’s face was familiar to them after all. Although they were curious about why Director Yang had brought supper to eat in the office, none of them decided to raise any questions. Not if they wanted to keep their jobs.

Yang Chen used the elevator and came to the top floor before proceeding to Lin Ruoxi’s office. It was rare that he didn’t have to face the cold-faced assistant’s ‘interrogation’. He felt that the process was much quicker this way.

Knock! Knock! Yang Chen didn’t wait for a response before pushing the dark red, thick and heavy wooden door open.

The sizeable office was clean and neat as always. The pleasant atmosphere was filled with a vague fragrance mixed with the scent of sandalwood.

Currently, the only light source in the office was the light yellow long table lamp placed on the huge office table made of redwood, causing the office to look a little dark and lonely.

The spring night wasn’t very warm. Lin Ruoxi who was seated for the entire day felt a little cold. She wore a white women’s shirt in addition to a black suit coat. Her body seemed rather weak. The only thing

that hadn't changed was the indifferent gaze in her bright eyes. She currently had her stare fixed on Yang Chen, signalling him to explain his sudden arrival.

Yang Chen wasn't surprised by his wife's silence. He was wondering if she was disturbed by his interruption. She seemed completely uninterested for why he had come.

Lin Ruoxi noticed the layers of lunchboxes and frowned a little. "I told Wang Ma that I didn't need them, but she still sent them over."

"It is difficult to work with an empty stomach. You're a woman furthermore. How is it acceptable for you to skip meals? Once your body collapses, what should Yu Lei International do next?" Yang Chen joked as he opened the lunchboxes.

"Don't take them out. I don't feeling like eating for now," stopped Lin Ruoxi hurriedly. "I'll eat myself after reading this document. Leave the stuff here, and you may leave now."

Yang Chen glanced at the stack of documents Lin Ruoxi was holding. Gloomily, he said, "Daybreak would come sooner than you finishing those documents. Doesn't this clearly mean that my meal delivery mission has failed? No, no, you have to eat immediately. I'll be here staring until you finish the meal."

As he spoke, Yang Chen ignored Lin Ruoxi's obstruction and served four vegetables with a soup in addition to some rice, occupying a huge area of the office table.

Quickly, Lin Ruoxi's neat office table became half a dining table. The air was filled with the rich and mouth-watering fragrance of the dishes.

Lin Ruoxi felt a headache. That man had always acted however he wanted. He seemed afraid of her on the surface, but when he came across something like this, the supposed cowardly man was nowhere to be found. No one would be able to change his mind.

"I don't have the mood to eat if I don't finish these. I'll eat them later. You may leave." Exhausted, Lin Ruoxi shook her head before lowering it to read the documents.

Yang Chen knew that the woman wouldn't be so obedient. Giggling, he walked toward Li Ruoxi and snatched the documents away.

"What are you doing?!" Frustrated, Lin Ruoxi turned around and raised her head to stare at Yang Chen. Her pale and beautiful face soon flushed in anger.

She had been distressed over work for a while and lacked the appetite to eat. It was fine if that man refused to help. She didn't blame him for bringing dinner over, but did he have to force her into doing whatever he said?!

Yang Chen looked at Lin Ruoxi's cheeks which had turned cold. He subconsciously smiled and said, "Nothing much. Since Babe Ruoxi isn't able to leave these things yourself, I'll keep them for you. Then all you can do is eat now."

"Why should I listen to you?!" Lin Ruoxi asked furiously.

Yang Chen giggled. "You must of course listen to me. I'm your husband."

“Humph. What a joke,” Lin Ruoxi said in disdain as she gazed upon Yang Chen. “I wonder who messes with women all day. You don’t even care about your identity. Why are you suddenly talking about it now? Wouldn’t you be glad to stay with those vixens? Why must you care if I’m eating or not? It’s not like I’ll die because of hunger.”

Yang Chen felt guilt and rubbed his chin. Smiling stiffly, he said, “Why are you putting it like that? I’ve always cared for my Babe Ruoxi. How are other women supposed to rival you? You’re my legitimate wife who has taken the marriage certificate together.”

“I don’t care.” Lin Ruoxi clenched her teeth. “Give me back the documents and leave. I’ll forget about everything that happened.”

Seriously, Yang Chen said, “No way. I’ve told you time and time again, work is not a suitable excuse to neglect your body. Regardless if you want to stay up late or not, you have to finish the meal first. I don’t allow you to torture yourself like this.”

“You...” Lin Ruoxi pointed at Yang Chen and wanted to say something, but she soon realized nothing would take effect to the thick-skinned man.

Yang Chen stared at Lin Ruoxi’s angry look. He felt moved by the iceberg beauty’s expression. He then let out a wicked smile. He put up an act of contemplation before bending down. Gently, he said, “Babe, why don’t we do this? If you can promise me something, I’ll immediately go home regardless if you want to eat or not.”

Lin Ruoxi smiled coldly. “Why should I promise you? I don’t owe you anything. When I borrowed money from you earlier, I promised to not make a fuss about your lovers, and instead get along with them. I haven’t broken my promise so far. I’m extremely polite towards Rose and An Xin. Don’t you think that you are being too cruel?”

“On the surface, you say that you’re my husband. Is this how a husband supposed to behave?! What are you trying to make me promise now? Just because I want to work instead of eat, what do you want me to do?! It’s best if you divorce me instead!”

Each and everyone of her words were clear and piercing cold, like frozen raindrops falling from the sky.

Chapter 489: Or

The series of seemingly plain words had stunned the previously smiling Yang Chen. He remained silent for a moment while his face was filled with bitterness and helplessness.

“It’s my fault. I know that I’m very shameless,” Yang Chen mocked himself before raising his head, “I know that you’ve been wronged, so there’s more reason for me to refuse the divorce. I’ll definitely make up for the damage I gave you, and bring you a lot more happiness after that.”

“Your kind of happiness? Humph. I don’t need that. Happiness is you never disturbing me again,” scoffed Lin Ruoxi. It could be seen that her eyes were a little watery.

Yang Chen shook his head. “No, I’ll treat you well, but making up for it and you having your meal are two separate matters.”

“Y—you’re a liar!” Lin Ruoxi was extremely pissed. Her words earlier had proven to be ineffective.

Yang Chen shrugged his shoulders. Smiling, he said, "How about this? Babe Ruoxi, if you give me a kiss, I'll leave immediately and stop asking you to eat."

Lin Ruoxi's cheeks instantly blushed upon listening to him. She dared not look at him in the eyes. Clenching her teeth, she said, "Why should I? How is this different from blackmail?"

"Tsk, ts. How is the wife kissing her spouse considered blackmail?" Yang Chen pouted his mouth as he shook his head.

"This. Is. Blackmail."

Yang Chen scratched the back of his head and said, "Alright then. Either start eating or give me a kiss. Which of the two will you pick?"

"Why should I be the one to make such an unfair choice?" Lin Ruoxi felt an intense headache. Why is he being so unreasonable?! she thought.

Yang Chen kept quiet. He used one of his arms to hold onto the backrest of Lin Ruoxi's swivel chair, and the other to press on the office table. Leaning his body downward, he placed his face incredibly near to that of Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi panicked, blushed, and widened her huge, watery eyes when she felt Yang Chen suddenly come near her face. Her breaths quickened.

"W—what do you think you're doing?! Don't do anything reckless!" Lin Ruoxi yelled hurriedly. She avoided looking into Yang Chen's eyes by turning her head away, and tried her best to stay as far as possible.

Yang Chen stopped leaning forward when he reached a distance. Instead, he silently stared at Lin Ruoxi's face from the side. Her crystal-white skin and extremely delicate face contours appear astonishingly elegant in the dimly lit room.

"Ruoxi, we've known each other for almost a year already, haven't we?" Yang Chen whispered.

Giving no reply, Lin Ruoxi felt that her heart was pumping exceptionally fast. She felt a slight itch when the hot breath of the man hit on her cheek.

"This is my first time looking at you this clearly. The side of your face is no different from the front; it's really beautiful, especially when it was shone upon by the light. The lines are indeed perfect," Yang Chen said with a faint smile.

Lin Ruoxi felt heat on the back of her ear. Being praised for her appearance by the man this frankly and closely, she didn't know how she was feeling. Her heart was a little numb and the feeling was indescribable.

After a long time, Yang Chen smiled slightly, as if he had thought of something interesting.

Lin Ruoxi couldn't hold her curiosity back. Softly, she asked, "What are you smiling about?"

"I actually have other conditions for you if you don't want to kiss me," Yang Chen said in contemplation.

Lin Ruoxi who had her head lowered bit her bright red lip in silence. She was obviously listening, and even looking forward to it a little.

Yang Chen's gaze turned unusually gentle, as if he was covered by haze. He then asked, "Dear, do you want to eat or give me a kiss?"

"Do you want to eat or sleep with me?"

"Do you want to eat or give birth to a child for me?"

"Ruoxi, do you want to eat or... stay with me until both of us turn grey and old?"

Silence filled the entire room. It was pin drop silent.

The moment seemed to be frozen utterly. The atmosphere in the office was so thick that it's occupants would find it hard to breathe. Lin Ruoxi couldn't listen to any other sound. The words spoken by Yang Chen echoed in her mind repeatedly. A child? Getting old together?

How does the man's brain work? How is any of them related to this ordinary dinner?! Also, who in the world would sleep with him?!

Lin Ruoxi stood up from her seat violently and turned around, avoiding to look at Yang Chen. Pressing against her chest with her arm, she was worried that her heart wouldn't be able to take it. It was indeed pumping too quickly. Subconsciously, she wiped the corners of her eyes using her other hand and felt moisture. After a while, when she finally calmed down, she said, "Are you crazy? No, you're a madman to begin with. I don't want to argue with you. Isn't this just dinner? You don't have to talk about so much nonsense."

As soon as Lin Ruoxi finished speaking, she silently walked to the dishes with her head lowered, trying her best not to look at Yang Chen's strange smile. Taking the bowl served with rice and chopsticks, she started chewing the food in small portions.

"I'll just eat. Don't say disgusting stuff like that," Lin Ruoxi said coldly as she recovered her expressionless face.

Yang Chen didn't want to expose anything. Happily sitting on Lin Ruoxi's huge leather seat meant for the CEO, he started staring at the woman slowly chew her food.

Lin Ruoxi felt that Yang Chen had his gaze fixed on her face. She almost blushed again, and felt both sweetness and sourness in her heart. She was completely unaware of what she was eating. All she wanted to do was finish the meal as fast as possible to fill her stomach and forget about the man's existence.

However, the quicker she ate, the more likely it was for her to choke on it.

Lin Ruoxi finally realized that she choked on the food. Placing the chopsticks down, she patted her chest in vain, appearing to be in pain with her brows furrowed.

"Drink some soup. Dumbo, no one asked you to eat so fast." Yang Chen stood up and scooped some soup into her bowl.

Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes and drank a few mouthfuls of soup before finally clearing her throat. She blushed out of awkwardness, but she managed to become less nervous after that.

“You’re the one who’s dumb,” Lin Ruoxi said in dissatisfaction.

Yang Chen laughed and said, “I called you a ‘dumbo’. That doesn’t mean you’re dumb. That means you’re cute.”

Cute?

Since young, Lin Ruoxi was never privy to praise like that. She found it hard to accept the compliment, so she rolled her eyes at Yang Chen again before ignoring him and continuing her meal.

In fact, Lin Ruoxi had indeed gotten hungry after working for the entire day. She only lost her appetite because of the stress from work. Since she could no longer work now, when she started eating, she naturally couldn’t get full by having just a little food.

When she almost finished her meal, she suddenly thought of something. “Yoo Yeonhee’s concert will take place in Zhonghai tomorrow night. She’s a superstar with a business partnership with us after all. We have to show up at the event.”

Yang Chen was a little stunned. Frowning, he asked, “What? That woman’s concert? Hasn’t she always tried to foil our plans? Why should we watch her concert? It’s best if she messes that up.”

Lin Ruoxi looked at Yang Chen helplessly. “It’s no secret that she holds a measurable amount of dislike for us. But we still have to give way when we’re in public. When doing business, no matter how much we hate each other, as long as they remain profitable, it’s best for us to stay polite. Also, Yoo Yeonhee’s background and agency are both extraordinary. We can’t leave her aside completely just because she doesn’t get along well with us. We just have to show up at the venue. We can slip away when the concert starts.”

Yang Chen knew that Lin Ruoxi was right. Speaking from a business perspective, they definitely didn’t have to bother arguing with Yoo Yeonhee.

“Alright, I’ll listen to my wife’s arrangement and go then.” Yang Chen giggled.

Lin Ruoxi acted like she had seen nothing when the fellow behaved light-heartedly again.

As she ate, Lin Ruoxi seemed to have made a resolute decision. “A few days later, I’ll go to Paris with you.”

“What?!” Yang Chen doubted his hearing.

“I said I’ll go with you to attend the Paris Fashion Week,” Lin Ruoxi spoke softly, as if she was reluctant. “I was pondering over the matter earlier. I’m worried that you may mess things up and destroy the company’s reputation, so I’ll go with you. Otherwise I just know you will find a way to get into trouble once again.”

Yang Chen chuckled. Cheerfully, he said, “You can just be honest with me. Paris is actually a good place to go on honeymoon with your husband, you need not use work as an excuse. I know that Babe Ruoxi actually likes me very much.”

Lin Ruoxi was frustrated. The fellow was indeed overly thick-skinned. Why is someone like that my husband? Lin Ruoxi sighed in her mind. At the same time, she got really full from eating.

"I'm full now. You may leave now. I want to start working," Lin Ruoxi said after putting down the bowl and chopsticks.

"Why are you full so quick? Eat more. There's still a lot of meat," Yang Chen said as he pointed at the dishes.

Lin Ruoxi squinted her eyes and shot an ice-cold gaze at him.

Yang Chen felt a chill up his spine. Smiling stiffly, he stood up and allowed Lin Ruoxi sit on the chair, before proceeding to keep the bowls and other stuff.

When Lin Ruoxi returned to her seat, she retrieved the documents snatched away by Yang Chen earlier and started reading seriously, instantly casting Yang Chen aside.

Yang Chen sighed slightly. Smiling faintly, he cleaned the table and quietly left the room. He knew that Lin Ruoxi might really explode if he had stayed any longer. On the bright side, he wasn't worried anymore as the woman had finished her meal. At least she didn't have to suffer from hunger.

After Yang Chen closed the office door, the place fell into silence once again, as if everything that had taken place just now was just a dream.

A while later, Lin Ruoxi raised her head and stared at the closed door before getting lost in thought.

Chapter 490: Cold-Blooded and Merciless Woman

Yang Chen returned home after delivering supper. When he entered the living hall, Guo Xuehua and Wang Ma were both sitting on the sofa. Both of them stood up after they saw him.

"How was it? Did Ruoxi say anything?" Guo Xuehua asked anxiously with high expectations.

Looking at his mother's gentle gaze, Yang Chen knew that she must have hoped that the whole supper delivery stunt may have changed the 'iceberg' Ruoxi's perception of him. If that was the case, the iceberg would be overly weak.

"Nothing much. She just said a thing or two and ate some before continuing her work. She seemed to have her work laid out for her all night," Yang Chen said with a smile.

Guo Xuehua and Wang Ma looked at each other and saw disappointment in their eyes.

"Sigh, it's great that she ate something then. Miss has always been torturing her body," Wang Ma said, "Young Master, you don't need to feel discouraged actually. Miss will sooner or later realize the good that you are doing for her."

Yang Chen laughed. "I won't be discouraged. We're an old couple already. Why are you talking about that?"

"Old couple?" Guo Xuehua rolled her eyes. "What are you talking about? You've been married for less than a year, how is that old?"

“Isn’t this just a casual joke?” Yang Chen winked and headed upstairs. As he walked, he said, “Oh yeah, Ruoxi said she’ll be going to France with me in a few days’ time for a business trip. We may be there for some time. Are you guys sure that you’ll be fine without us here?”

“What? Miss will be travelling with Young Master?” Wang Ma seemed surprised. Elated, she said, “Of course we’ll be fine. Young Master, you may have fun together with Miss. When the old mistress was still here, Miss used to have time to go out. However, she has basically been staying in Zhonghai for the past few years. The most she gets is a year-end vacation. We’ll take care of the house. There’s nothing to worry about.”

Yang Chen nodded. He wanted to give the seniors some hope, although even he thought that it will be impossible to deepen their relationship with a woman like Lin Ruoxi in Paris, the city of romance.

If he had to name a woman who would leave him no options, it would definitely be the one with the closest relationship with him.

The next morning, Yang Chen had a discussion with his two assistants Zhao Teng and Wang Jie. He then planned the operations for Star of Yu Lei during his absence when he was in Paris.

The work was actually rather straightforward. They would continue to develop Hui Lin who was destined to be the champion of the competition to become a singer of the new generation in China. The specific production and promotion work would be handled by the company staff, so Yang Chen didn't have to worry about that. What he worried about most was her safety. Hui Lin had a naive personality after all. It was expected that she'd get into trouble in the immensely complicated entertainment industry. Yang Chen was incredibly worried about both the manager and assistant arranged for her.

Fortunately, Zhao Teng and Wang Jie were really experienced in that field. They knew what Yang Chen was looking for, so he dismissed the meeting without delay.

Knowing that Yang Chen had to leave Zhonghai for quite some time, not to mention he was going to Paris with Lin Ruoxi, An Xin was naturally a little jealous at how things played out. However, to conceal her envy, the playful woman wrote a ‘shopping list’ and passed it to Yang Chen.

“What’s this?” Yang Chen asked after receiving an A4 paper from An Xin. There were many unknown brand written on it, causing Yang Chen to feel confused.

An Xin sat on the office table, revealing the perfect line of her elegant figure. Lazily, she said, “They’re gifts for me. I don’t need all, they are all just suggestions. But I expect at least some.”

Yang Chen didn’t know whether to cry or laugh. “Why do I smell jealousy in your words? Regardless if it’s the current An clan ranked among the top in Zhonghai or the one back then, being the only daughter of the clan master, you don’t lack stuff like this, do you? You can just tell me whatever you want. I’ll buy them for you now.”

“I don’t want that. I want your sincerity. And you will achieve that by personally bringing back these items for me,” An Xin said as she pouted her lips.

Yang Chen grabbed her arm and pulled lightly, easily getting her to sit on his lap. Hugging the fragrant woman dressed in a uniform, he laughed and said, “Babe An Xin, are you trying to get me into trouble? If

I buy these women's items there and bring them all the way back to Zhonghai, how is it any different from testing Ruoxi's limits?"

An Xin pouted her mouth and acted like she heard nothing.

Yang Chen shook his head and kissed An Xin on her delicate and fair cheek. "Don't throw a tantrum anymore. I know that you're not an unreasonable woman. Ruoxi is actually extremely tolerant already, you need to appreciate the freedom as well. I'm not someone who would simply abandon stuff. I brought you to Zhonghai all the way from Hokkaido. Are you still worried that I will stop caring about you?"

An Xin blinked her large eyes and sighed. She was naturally aware of the situation, but a woman's mind was always contradictory.

An Xin hugged Yang Chen's neck tightly and murmured, "Then come back soon. Otherwise I'll fly to Paris to find you guys if I feel lonely. I'm very familiar with the place anyway, I used to go there a lot when I was a stewardess."

"Alright, alright." Yang Chen helplessly patted the woman's back to console her.

After work, Yang Chen left the office on time. He had promised Lin Ruoxi to attend Yoo Yeonhee's concert tonight after all. Lin Ruoxi would definitely not be pleased if he was late.

Yoo Yeonhee's concert was much more grand than Yang Chen had imagined. Although he wasn't very willing to admit, it was true that the woman held a formidable charisma. None of her advertisements for her first concert in China was not done in a large scale.

As promised, Yang Chen drove into the parking area of Yu Lei International and came to Lin Ruoxi's parking slot. When he arrived, Lin Ruoxi and Wu Yue were already there waiting for his arrival.

Lin Ruoxi was standing with an expressionless look. Even when she was heading to a concert and meeting Yoo Yeonhee who had an outstanding appearance, she didn't put on extra makeup. In the dimly lit parking area, she was just like a flawless jade statue. Compared to Wu Yue who appeared rather impatient, Lin Ruoxi looked out of this world.

As usual, the flat-figured Wu Yue looked displeased when she saw Yang Chen. In the woman's eyes, regardless of what position Yang Chen held in the company, he would always be the bad guy with wicked intentions for the CEO.

"Why are you here so late? Boss Lin's time is more precious than your tiny mind can imagine?" Wu Yue said with contempt.

Yang Chen didn't mind the way she talked. He joked, "Oh, the flat princess is here as well. Why aren't you having a date with your Vice President Li?"

Yang Chen was naturally referring to Li Minghe who was sent over by Jade Clouds Corporation from Hong Kong. He didn't think the observant Lin Ruoxi would fail to notice their intimacy, considering even he was able to tell.

Wu Yue flushed instantly and gazed upon Yang Chen furiously. Turning her head away, she said, "I don't know what you're talking about."

"Nevermind, it'll be fine as long as I know. Hehe." Yang Chen found the woman's behavior interesting when she was faced with romance.

Lin Ruoxi frowned a little and said, "Wu Yue, you need not attend tonight. Yang Chen and I will do."

Wu Yue was stunned. Surprised, she asked, "Why? Boss Lin, didn't we agree that I would follow you there?"

"I changed my mind," Lin Ruoxi said in a dull manner.

Wu Yue appeared to be full of resentment, but she couldn't say a word when she was shot by Lin Ruoxi's ice-cold gaze. Biting her lip, she said, "Alright."

After Wu Yue left, Yang Chen boarded Lin Ruoxi's Bentley. As he put on the seat belt, he asked, "Why did you suddenly change your mind? Isn't it a good thing for her to have gone as well? It is considered a form of support by a business at least."

Lin Ruoxi switched on the engine and drove out of the parking area. Softly, she said, "I don't like to listen to her argue with you."

Yang Chen got speechless but was satisfied with the answer.

After more than ten minutes, the car entered the highway. Yang Chen thought that Lin Ruoxi would silently drive to the destination as usual. Unexpectedly, the unpredictable woman said, "Don't call Wu Yue that anymore in the future."

Yang Chen was confused. "Hmm?"

"Wu Yue was my junior in school. She would sometimes imitate me and behave coldly, but she is actually very insecure about her figure. Also, just act that you're unaware of her affair with Vice President Li," Lin Ruoxi said.

Yang Chen was stunned for a moment. He then laughed and said, "I've never felt that my Babe Ruoxi was a cold-blooded and merciless woman, but I just realized that your heart is extraordinarily warm. If Wu Yue finds out that you're secretly worried about her, her impression of you being cold will have to be destroyed."

Lin Ruoxi's attractive face turned a little red. She seemed displeased to be indirectly called a 'cold-blooded and merciless woman' by Yang Chen.

Yang Chen knew that Lin Ruoxi had truly started seeing him as the person closest to her. Thoughts like that one were always hidden beneath her ice-cold appearance after all. If Yang Chen were to go overboard by teasing her, Lin Ruoxi might really be pissed off.

After around ten minutes, they arrived at Yoo Yeonhee's concert held in Zhonghai Sports Centre. This place was big enough to contain more than 30 thousand people. Currently, there stood huge crowds outside. Leave it to the overly passionate fans to completely flood the atmosphere with hype.

Lin Ruoxi seemed to have contacted the organizer beforehand. Being led by a bunch of guards dressed in green uniforms, they passed through a special tunnel which headed straight to the workplace behind the venue.

After getting off the car, Yang Chen shook his head. He was a little dizzy after he was shone upon by the fans' flashes. Surprised, he said, "That woman really has a lot of fans. I really don't understand why so many people like her."

Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes. "Since she was nominated by the Grammy Awards together with your friend Christen, her capability is undoubtedly respectable. It's impossible for her to show her true self to the public, so it won't affect her too much. Being the director of the entertainment company, why haven't you done more research on the industry?"

Yang Chen scratched his head and smiled awkwardly. "It's not like you don't know that all your husband does at work is play video games. Why would I know anything else?"

Lin Ruoxi felt yet another headache when the man spoke that way without feeling guilty. Luckily, she had long gotten used to his behavior. She then signalled Yang Chen to proceed to the backstage.

Currently, there stood a large number of security guards. If it wasn't for the identification card she had received before the event, they wouldn't be allowed to step their foot inside, even if the two came with a luxury car.

In the long pathway, Lin Ruoxi who was walking in front said, "Most of the singers from Group of Five have received strict training on music and dance since young. Many of them have practiced for decades before their debut, so they're usually superior to the ones from China. It's rumored that Yoo Yeonhee already has an extraordinary background, while her appearance is outstanding as well, it's still impossible for her to achieve the superstar status in merely a few years if her abilities don't match up. So, no matter how much you hate her, it would be in everyone's best interest that you do not argue with her in public. Whether or not you're afraid of her doesn't matter. Her influence is simply too large and can bring us too many troubles."

Yang Chen knew that Lin Ruoxi was worried that he might have a conflict with Yoo Yeonhee again since she started rambling on. Smiling, he said, "Since my great wife has made it so clear, I dare not behave reckless no matter what."

Lin Ruoxi secretly sighed. In fact, Lin Ruoxi had brought Yang Chen here in hopes that they would soothe their dispute. Despite knowing the fact that both of them hated each other, she wished for the negative feeling to at least decrease so that they could partner up in the future again.

However, Yang Chen was having another matter in mind at the same time. It was the scene he had witnessed when Yoo Yeonhee argued with Park Jonghyun outside his house.

According to Lin Ruoxi, if Yoo Yeonhee indeed had an extraordinary background, would she be related to Starmoon Group? If that was true, was it possible that Yoo Yeonhee was in some way related to Zhenxiu?

Yang Chen felt that there were many things worth looking into. However, the clues available were too limited, so he didn't know where to start.

As he walked in contemplation, the two soon arrived at Yoo Yeonhee's makeup room.

Chapter 491: Innocent Yang Chen

The bodyguards outside the room recognised Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen as they had met in the past. The bodyguards nodded and opened the door for them.

As Lin Ruoxi entered the room, Yang Chen stopped and hesitated. He took out a crumpled pack of cigarettes that he usually smoked, from the pocket of his coat and had a look at the remains before sighing in relief. Smilingly, he pulled out the remaining two cigarettes and handed over, one with each hand, to the two bodyguards.

“Being a doorkeeper isn’t easy, you guys have done exemplary work. Have a cigarette and relax,” Yang Chen spoke in Korean with a smile.

It wasn’t the first time for the two bodyguards to receive cigarettes from other people. However, it was definitely their first time getting such low-quality tobacco. Because they had to behave politely, they couldn’t refuse and all they could do was to accept the cigarettes reluctantly as they smiled awkwardly while giving thanks.

Lin Ruoxi who was walking in front turned around and saw that scene. She instantly felt the urge to bury the thick-skinned man deep into the ground!

“What are you doing?” Lin Ruoxi couldn’t hold back and stared at Yang Chen with her beautiful looking face.

Yang Chen let out an innocent cry, “Ahh!” He explained, “You told me to build a good relations with Yoo Yeonhee. So I figured the first place to start would be the bodyguards. I’m just giving them two cigarettes. I would have bought another two packet of cigarettes if I had known about this earlier. Now that I had given them the last two cigarettes, there aren’t any left for me.”

Looking at Yang Chen’s gloomy face, Lin Ruoxi no longer knew how to communicate with him. All she could do was take a deep breath to calm herself down. She then turned around and continued walking inside.

Yang Chen rubbed his nose helplessly and thought, You can’t blame me for that, can you? I only have this cheap stuff on me right now. Either way, mass consumption is nothing to look down on. However, he quickly followed up to Lin Ruoxi.

After bypassing a barrier, they finally get to see the main person of the concert Yoo Yeonhee.

Yoo Yeonhee was seated in front of a mirror and was getting her final touch up done by a hairstylist. Although the long black hair was seemingly tied up in a simple way, the truth was, it took a lot of effort in order for it to look fashionable and yet simple.

The staff were busy walking around preparing for the concert that no one paid too much attention to the entry of Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi.

Instead, Yoo Yeonhee was the one who saw Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen from the mirror. She waved her hand to signal her hairstylist to stop.

Yoo Yeonhee stood up from her seat as her hairstylist stepped back. She looked dazzling in the sexy pinkish-white dress. Her snowy white shoulders, her towering upper body and even her smooth legs were all finely crafted artwork.

Even if Yang Chen didn't have a favorable impression for this woman, he had to admit that if she had looked like this with no cosmetic surgery, then she was born very exceptional looking.

It was a shame that Lin Ruoxi who was wearing an old-fashioned suit, without any makeup didn't look much inferior to Yoo Yeonhee. That was probably why Yoo Yeonhee looked this pale and weak at the moment despite being dressed up in such a grand manner.

Yoo Yeonhee who saw Lin Ruoxi naturally realized the difference between them. Evidently, her sensitive heart were making her feel uneasy but she didn't present it on the outside. Instead, she walked towards them smilingly with her irritation buried in her heart.

"The manager told me that Boss Lin and Director Yang of Yu Lei International will be coming over to cheer me on. Although we've had our differences in the past, I still want to thank the two of you for paying a visit," Yoo Yeonhee said.

"Miss Yoo, don't let the misunderstandings between us affect our relationship. There will be a lot of opportunities for us to collaborate in the future. Being the sponsor of the event, it's only appropriate that we're here," Lin Ruoxi said faintly before turning her head to signal Yang Chen.

Yang Chen smiled bitterly in his heart as he walked towards to greet Yoo Yeonhee. "I hope that your concert will be a successful one."

The corner of her mouth raised slightly as if she had gotten her pride back. Smiling, she said, "I hope you mean it."

"Miss Yoo, you must be kidding. I'm never a hypocrite," Yang Chen answered with a smile.

Yoo Yeonhee's smile was slightly stiff. Yang Chen was obviously being sarcastic and he wasn't planning to take his words back.

The concert was just around the corner and Yoo Yeonhee knew that it wasn't the time to argue. She turned around to a female assistant who had been waiting for her beside and said, "Ying Li, bring me three glasses of champagne."

The average-looking female assistant called Ying Li was wearing a black professional uniform. She seemed to be extremely respectful towards Yoo Yeonhee as she dared not to raise her head when facing her. Without delay, she agreed to her request.

"Although we normally drink champagne for celebration after the concert, I don't believe that you will be here for that. So let's have a drink now as a token of appreciation for your visit," Yoo Yeonhee said with a smile.

Her words sounded polite but she was clearly asking them to leave immediately upon finishing the drink.

Lin Ruoxi wasn't annoyed by Yoo Yeonhee's attitude. Instead, she looked at Yang Chen, feeling a little worried. Originally, she thought that Yang Chen would be disgusted. However, Yang Chen seemed to be thinking about something absent-mindedly at the moment.

Yang Chen realised that Lin Ruoxi was glaring at him doubtfully. He smiled while shaking his head. "It's nothing. I'm just thinking of Miss Yoo's consideration."

Although Lin Ruoxi didn't believe that Yang Chen would be thinking about something like that, she didn't ask.

After a while, the female assistant Ying Li returned with three glasses of crystal-clear champagne on a tray. The aroma of the champagne filled the surrounding.

Being the hostess, Yoo Yeonhee was about to pick up a glass of champagne when Yang Chen suddenly grab the goblet from her.

"Aye! Miss Yoo, this glass of champagne looks good. Let me have a try first." Yang Chen grabbed the goblet unceremoniously and poured the champagne into his mouth.

Yoo Yeonhee scowled at him and said, "It's good that Director Yang enjoys it so much."

Yang Chen put down the empty goblet and giggled. "It tastes quite good. Why not I finish these two as well, no?"

Upon finishing his words, Yang Chen picked up the two glasses of champagne, one at each hand and poured them into his mouth in front of the two women.

Ying Li who was standing beside finally lifted her head upon watching Yang Chen's act. She was dumbfounded by what she had witnessed.

Lin Ruoxi was somewhat annoyed. She didn't understand what was wrong with Yang Chen. They could've left upon finishing the drinks and they would have fulfilled their purpose of visiting. Does this man have to make things any more stiff than it already is?

However, Lin Ruoxi didn't have much time to think about it. Yang Chen suddenly had a painful look on his face with his facial expressions tangled up. He furrowed his brows tightly and his face began to turn pale.

"Ahh!" A loud painful howl echoed. Yang Chen suddenly held onto his abdomen with his eyes widened as he fell on the ground.

Lin Ruoxi and Yoo Yeonhee were stunned by the sudden change in Yang Chen. Yang Chen who was previously fine had both his hands pressing against the ground and his body was shivering as if he was possessed by a demon!

"Ya—Yang Chen!" Lin Ruoxi who had regained her awareness hurriedly knelt down before Yang Chen. Lin Ruoxi panicked so much that her poise had crumbled. Her face turned pale from the lack of blood.

Lin Ruoxi held her hands on Yang Chen's body and exclaimed, "Don't y—you scare me! What's wrong?!"

Yang Chen could hardly lift his head. His eyes were red and his white lips trembled. "Poi—poison... cham—champagne," Yang Chen stammered and gasped.

Clang! Clang!

A continuous sound echoed. It was the sound of the tray from the assistant Ying Li falling to the ground and the glass being shattered into pieces.

Ying Li looked extremely shocked at the event. She swallowed her saliva but couldn't speak. Her body started to tremble as if her guilt had taken control of her actions. She was whispering from her mouth but not a single word could be heard.

The situation had attracted all the attention of the staff from the dressing room. With Yang Chen lying on the floor and Ying Li looking extremely miserable, everyone was as puzzled as they were curious.

Yoo Yeonhee finally put two and two together after coming out of shock. She turned her head abruptly over to the assistant Yang Li. Her elegant face was somewhat distorted in an instant.

Slap! Yoo Yeonhee delivered a loud slap to Ying Li, causing her to fall on the floor!

"You evil woman! How dare you poison me!" Yoo Yeonhee was so angry that she had forgotten to speak in Mandarin and started to swear in Korean.

The others slowly came to the realisation that Ying Li was the one trying to poison Yoo Yeonhee, but somehow harmed a guest instead.

Ying Li was completely swept off her feet after she received a hard slap from Yoo Yeonhee. She held onto her burning red cheek and started crying. "Miss Yoo, I—I'm sorry... I had no choice. The lives of my entire family were at stake here."

"Just because of this, you're going to poison me as instructed by that person?! What makes you think you are safe even after I die?!" Yoo Yeonhee who was burning in anger gave Ying Li a kick on the chest.

The heel on her high heels caused severe pain on Ying Li's chest, causing her to cough out blood. The pain was so unbearable that she couldn't speak.

The bodyguards on the outside finally rushed in. Looking at the chaotic scene, they immediately expelled all the unrelated people effectively out of the dressing room and promptly warned them against spreading this news.

In fact, most of them had been too frightened to violate the bodyguards' warning, fearing that they themselves would become the victim. After all, cases like murder usually involved secrets that shouldn't be spread out.

Ying Li fainted after being kicked by Yoo Yeonhee a few times in the chest. Covered with blood, she was dragged directly into another room by a strong bodyguard.

Just when Yoo Yeonhee stabilized her emotions, she remembered there was the 'innocent' Yang Chen who was at the scene. She then realised that Yang Chen who had three glasses of the poisonous liquor had vanished from the floor.

"Are you looking for me?"

Yoo Yeonhee turned her head as she heard Yang Chen's voice coming from behind. To her surprise, she saw Yang Chen sitting at the dresser acting like usual, as if nothing had happened. He greeted her like usual and there were no signs of him getting poisoned.

Lin Ruoxi who was so frightened that she almost teared while ago was standing right beside Yang Chen with a stern face as if she wanted to eat him up. Evidently, she was very angry.

“How did yo—you... Didn’t you...” Yoo Yeonhee spoke incoherently. She initially thought that Yang Chen was dead. After all, if the poison was meant for her, the murderer wouldn’t have provided the time for treatment. However, the situations that she was facing were like illusions since Yang Chen was totally fine.

“The reason why I’m still alive isn’t important.” Yang Chen shook his finger and asked, “Miss Yoo, I think what we need to talk about is—who is trying to kill you? After all, your aggressor had almost taken us with you.”

Chapter 492: Replacement

Yoo Yeonhee’s expression changed after listening to Yang Chen. At last, she snorted coldly and turned away before saying, “Although I cannot explain your situation, Director Yang should leave while he’s still alive. It is not safe here anymore”

Yang Chen wasn’t surprised by Yoo Yeonhee’s response. He didn’t expect her to easily reveal the truth, so all he did was ask a simple to test her.

Standing up, he swept his pants and said smilingly, “Since Miss Yoo is so concerned about our safety, we’ll take our leave now. Please take care of yourself, and you mustn’t be distracted because of this since your concert still has to be held. You don’t want your first concert in this country to be a disaster. Oh yeah, don’t forget to bring enough bodyguards along.”

“I don’t need your reminder,” Yoo Yeonhee said with a deep voice as she suppressed her anger.

Yang Chen stopped talking and walked out of the dressing room first.

Lin Ruoxi bade her farewell courteously before following Yang Chen to the direction they came from.

When the two proceeded in the walkway, Lin Ruoxi didn’t appear to be in a good mood. She seemed to have given some thought to the events that happened earlier.

In a way, her life together with Yoo Yeonhee’s were saved by Yang Chen. Yang Chen put on a show after realizing that there was poison in the champagne. He then acted like an actual poisoned man which looked so real that the unfortunate assistant admitted her crime, while that one man was the director of the story from start to finish.

Lin Ruoxi then recalled the night where Yang Chen stopped a huge truck approaching at high speed with his bare hands. She had clearly witnessed the astonishing occurrence back then, while she yet again observed a kind of supernatural powers.

“Why didn’t you tell me beforehand?” Lin Ruoxi asked softly.

Yang Chen was thinking about the inside story earlier. He was a little shocked to hear Lin Ruoxi’s question. “Isn’t everything fine now?”

“Fine? Other than yourself, no one knew that you were fine,” Lin Ruoxi said coldly, “Is frightening me that fun? Or do you take delight in my tears?”

Yang Chen was speechless in shock. He wanted to explain but had no clue where to start from.

Lin Ruoxi took it as Yang Chen had admitted to her claim. Sourness flashed in her watery eyes. Biting her lip, she said, "I know that you're not the average person. I also don't expect you to tell me everything about you. But if you find satisfaction in lying to me and frightening me, I really have nothing to say. In your eyes, I'm nothing more than a replacement, am I not?"

A replacement? he thought.

Yang Chen was all the more confused. He was completely clueless about what Lin Ruoxi was referring to. Hurriedly, he asked, "Ruoxi, what happened to you? I'm sorry for my spontaneous performance earlier but due to the rushed timing of things, I had no time to explain. What is this talk about being a replacement? Where are you coming from?"

Lin Ruoxi turned her head away and was unwilling to speak. She recovered her usual calmness on her face, and even looked colder than usual.

All Yang Chen felt was the oppression in his heart. Frowning, he hoped to explain to Lin Ruoxi after her anger vanished.

On the way home, just like the past, Lin Ruoxi treated Yang Chen as air, saying nothing at all in the car. Fortunately, Yang Chen was used to the silence between them. He was feeling rather gloomy as he failed to understand the series of occurrence.

Although they arrived at home slightly later than usual, since they had informed Wang Ma beforehand, they managed to be on time for dinner.

There was a guest in the house which surprised the two a little. A black Audi and a white Porsche Cayenne were parked outside the house.

Yang Chen sensed the surroundings and found it weird. A person they were familiar with came to their house for unknown reasons.

The living hall was currently filled with the rich fragrance exuded by the dishes. However, no one was seated by the dining table. Instead, they sat on the sofas and seemed to be in a discussion.

Guo Xuehua, Wang Ma, Zhenxiu, and even Christen had come to the house. In addition, Hui Lin who had just finished the finals yesterday was there as well, which made Lin Ruoxi really happy.

Due to her work schedule, although Lin Ruoxi knew that Hui Lin's finals took place yesterday, she was unable to watch the event live. She only managed to tune into the live TV broadcast, and had wanted to congratulate Hui Lin, but have yet to do so.

However, the situation was rather serious. The mature woman seated beside Hui Lin, Abbess Yun Miao, caused Lin Ruoxi to instantly hold back from smiling.

Upon knowing of Lin Zhiguo's 'passing', Lin Ruoxi thought she wouldn't interact with any member of the Lin clan ever again except Hui Lin. Moreover, after finding out a thing or two from Ning Guangyao, she had tried not to bring up the past anymore.

However, Abbess Yun Miao's emergence had made the various scars in Lin Ruoxi's heart surface again. Currently, she was standing by the entrance in an absent-minded manner.

Having noticed the strange atmosphere, Guo Xuehua stood up smilingly and said intimately, “Ruoxi, you’re back! Look, Madam Lin has come to visit Hui Lin. I believe you guys have met. It was Miss Christen who had brought Hui Lin home. If it wasn’t for her, the overall champion in the Star of Yu Lei could still be surrounded by paparazzi now.”

Christen who looked elegant as ever chuckled. “Since Yang Chen and Miss Lin were both absent from the finals yesterday, I decided to help take care of Hui Lin for a bit. In the meantime, I came to Miss Lin’s house to have dinner. I hope you don’t mind.”

Yang Chen had stepped into the house as well. He helplessly glanced at Christen before smilingly approaching Hui Lin and Abbess Yun Miao, saying, “It’s rare that Hui Lin’s grandmother is here. Did you come to congratulate Hui Lin after seeing it on the television?”

Since Abbess Yun Miao was merely the clan master of the Lin clan from Beijing, Yang Chen found a way to address her differently.

Yun Miao looked at Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi with a complicated gaze before saying, “I’ll be leaving soon for some business abroad. Before that, I came to visit my only granddaughter. I actually don’t pay much attention to her competition. I believe you’re aware of my displeasure of her pursuing this line of work.”

Disappointed, Hui Lin lowered her head and dared not speak a word.

Yang Chen pouted his mouth helplessly. When can this old nun learn how to speak? he thought before patting Hui Lin’s head. “Why’s your head lowered? Isn’t your grandma the only one who doesn’t support you? All of us here do. Don’t you already have countless fans now?”

Hui Lin’s face heated up a little as she was touched by Yang Chen in front of so many people. She raised her head, revealing the gratitude in her eyes. Feeling rather warm at heart, she was even a little nervous.

“Ahem, ahem.” Yun Miao gave Yang Chen a furious stare. “Has anyone allowed you to touch my granddaughter’s head?!”

Yang Chen giggled. “Calm down, this child simply requires encouragement.”

“Hui Lin isn’t a child anymore!” Yun Miao said solemnly.

Yang Chen, however, ignored her and sat beside Hui Lin. “Brother Yang was a little occupied yesterday, so I merely checked went to the TV station in the afternoon. But I didn’t get to see you since you had gone out with two other participants for promotional activities. At night, I delivered dinner for your elder sister who loves to work overtime, so I missed the live broadcast of the event, and failed to cheer for you on the spot. However, I never doubted, not for a single second, that you were going to be the champion.”

Hui Lin hurriedly shook her head. Softly, she said, “It’s fine. I know that Brother Yang and Sister Lin are both really busy.”

Lin Ruoxi who had remained silent walked forward and nodded at Christen before proceeding to Hui Lin. She held her hand and patted it lightly before saying with a smile, “Elder Sister wants to congratulate you as well. I’ll be waiting for our Hui Lin to release your album and hold concerts.”

“Alright.” Hui Lin smiled cheerfully, allowing her to dismiss her sadness caused by Abbess Yun Miao.

Abbess Yun Miao held a complex gaze when she witnessed Hui Lin and Lin Ruoxi look at each other like they were legitimate sisters before sighing slightly.

“Alright, alright. The dishes will get cold if we were to continue congratulating each other non-stop. Let’s eat while we wish the future superstar the best.” Wang Ma’s face was filled with joy. After all, it was rare for the house to be this merry, not to mention something worth getting happy about had happened.

Christen was the first one to agree to the suggestion. Without hesitation, she sat beside the dining table, causing Yang Chen to feel speechless. This woman has to quickly return to America, he thought.

However, Abbess Yun Miao wasn’t planning on sitting there. “I won’t be staying here for the meal. Other than meeting Hui Lin, I came here to discuss something with Yang Chen,” she said in a cold and dull manner.

Yang Chen who was walking to the dining table suddenly stopped moving. Smiling bitterly, he said, “Hui Lin’s grandmother, do you have to pick a mealtime for the meeting?”

Abbess Yun Miao didn’t plan on letting him negotiate. She directly walked outside and said, “I’ll wait for you in the courtyard.”

Yang Chen clenched his teeth before sighing while shaking his head. He signalled the ladies to start eating before following Abbess Yun Miao outside.

The sky was completely dark at the moment. There were no stars in the grey sky on top of the city. A few white light sources shone upon some of the districts. Except the sound of the wind, the courtyard was really silent.

Abbess Yun Miao waited for Yang Chen to arrive behind. Before he opened his mouth, she said, “You’re heading to Paris in a few days, aren’t you?”

Yang Chen frowned. He didn’t expect that Yun Miao wanted to talk about that. However, he wasn’t surprised that she knew about it. After all, Yellow Flame Iron Brigade paid much attention to even the place he stayed at.

Without trying to hide anything, he nodded and said, “I have to attend the Paris Fashion Week in early April. Sigh, Ruoxi had to let me go no matter what, so I’ll act like I know fashion and go there.”

“Stop beating around the bush. Paris Fashion Week? Humph. Why would you be doing something like that? You’re attending the general assembly which I will be going too as well. Don’t think about hiding it from me,” Yun Miao said in dissatisfaction after turning around.

“General assembly?” Yang Chen was yet again confused. “What general assembly?”

Abbess Yun Miao then found out that Yang Chen was indeed clueless. Finding it hard to believe, she asked, “Are you really not going there to attend the International Special Organization Secret Meeting?”

Chapter 493: Golden Sun Totem

When Yun Miao mentioned 'International Special Organization Secret Meeting', Yang Chen doubted that he heard it right the first time. He laughed and said, "Stop joking around. Abbess, I haven't even heard of this meeting before, let alone be a participant. Also, judging from your tone earlier, it should be a discussion between secret organizations from different countries. I'm the target of a lot of the groups. Why would they want me there out of all people?"

Abbess Yun Miao finally believed Yang Chen. After hesitating for a bit, she said, "This meeting is an unprecedented one, with organizations of spies, special forces, and powerusers, official or not, so it doesn't only consist of country-owned organizations. I had thought that someone had invited you over this time round. The core discussion this time is deeply related to you after all."

Yang Chen's interest was aroused after listening to her. He asked, "What do you mean by I'm deeply related? I've returned to China for almost one and a half years already. What is there to be related with me?"

"It's about the gods," Abbess Yun Miao replied straightforwardly.

Yang Chen's smile vanished. He remained in silence for a short moment before asking, "Gods? What gods?"

Has the war maniac Ares gone to war in Europe after getting bored of the Middle East? Are these countries looking for a way to get rid of the stubborn cow? Wait, no, Ares wouldn't be so bored that he had to fight ordinary people. He's also focused on the finding the God's Stone recently. I don't think he'll be causing damage instead, Yang Chen thought.

Abbess Yun Miao appeared to be rather helpless. "It sure looks like you are as clueless as you say. I originally wanted to understand the situation better through you to make preparations beforehand."

"Although I know nothing at all, if Abbess is willing to tell me a thing or two, I may be able to analyze the situation for you," Yang Chen said with a smile.

Abbess Yun Miao contemplated for a short while. "Lots of people in Europe and America are actually very concerned about what's happening right now. Although nothing much has spread in the news yet, everyone's basically getting ready for war. The reason is a bizarre, it's all because of a god named Apollo."

... ..

The morning sunlight shone upon the green field of élysée Palace located at the center of Paris. Water droplets hung onto the tender green leaves of the highly aged sycamore tree outside the wide ceiling window of the presidential office.

A few soldiers patrolled around with an upright posture and strict expression. Their demeanor contrasted with the environment.

This place housed the core authority of France. The country had been incredibly powerful in Europe since the ancient times. Just because this land was quiet and peaceful didn't mean that was the case in the underworld.

Crash! The sound of breaking porcelain echoed from the presidential office, destroyed the silence of the morning.

An elegantly crafted white porcelain was thrown on the thick pine flooring, shattering into small, pathetic pieces.

There stood a man in front of a huge redwood office table. The red necktie in front of his chest was slanted, but he couldn't care less about it. His black-grey curly hair was combed to the back of his head and his moustache prominent, portraying a refined man. He wasn't big and tall, but his wide shoulders allowed him to exude a majestic and vicious aura.

The man didn't manage to vent his anger by smashing the expensive porcelain cup. He looked like he hadn't had enough sleep last night as his eyes were bloodshot.

"General Depney, I want a proper explanation. Just what the hell is this about?!" The man picked up a black letter from the office table. On the surface, there was a golden printed totem of the sun with complex lines!

The man called Depney was currently standing by the door solemnly. Dressed in full military uniform, he had a relatively short figure. The stars on his shoulder displayed his rank as an admiral. He had brown, curly hair. His skin was pale as the result of an illness while his face was so lean that it appeared unhealthy, causing him to look like a pitiful pug.

"M—Mr President, w—we're already closely investigating the matter. I believe the source of Apollo's threatening letter can and will be tracked in no time. The result will be out soon," Depney stammered in French.

"Result?!" The president tore the black letter apart violently. He yelled, "It is our ninth consecutive day receiving a black threatening letter with the sun totem! According to them, we have three weeks left at most before Apollo kills me! Being an admiral and the director of the Seventh Bureau in Directorate-General for External Security, you're telling me I'll have to wait even after having waited for a week?!"

Following the scolding, Depney staggered backwards and almost hit the office door. His forehead was filled with cold sweat while his legs were shivering in fear.

"Mr Presint, th—this Apollo is extraordinarily cunning and dangerous. He covers his tracks like no other," Depney said in sorrow.

The corner of the president's mouth twitched a little. With a deep voice, he said, "Depney, let me remind you of this. Since I was able to assign you as the director of the Seventh Bureau, the most powerful position in France, I'll be able to replace you just as easily. I'm very disappointed in you!"

Depney paled so severely that it looked like his face lacked blood. Hurriedly, he knelt down and cried, "Your Excellency, I—I definitely won't disappoint you! The group Realm of God led by Apollo has destroyed the military bases of NATO, EU, and Russia. He has basically challenged the entire world. He'll pay for his actions! After the worldwide secret meeting we organized is held, by gathering the powers of different countries, we'll locate the base of Realm of Gods and destroy them. Mr President will not be treated like this!"

“Idiot! If Apollo was able to easily destroy three secret military bases, what makes you think that he will be incapable of finding out about your secret meeting?! To someone who’s able to flatten a military base with ease, how is obliterating the élysée Palace different from stepping on an ant?! Isn’t your answer more suited to be heard by a three-year-old?!” the president yelled in dissatisfaction.

Depney quickly explained, “Please rest assured, Mr President. Although Apollo’s Realm of Gods is powerful, they must be afraid of us, of something to have only sent a warning letter to each country of the EU instead of showing themselves out in the open. Apollo only managed to destroy the military bases when the defending troops were unprepared. After we gather elites from each country and non-official poweruser organizations, we’ll be able to defeat them for sure!”

“Humph.” The president finally accepted his explanation. “I hope your execution is better than your speech.”

“Don’t worry, Mr President. I won’t disappoint.” Depney finally felt relieved and got up from the ground.

The president squinted his eyes and said, “This time of the year is coincidentally the peak period for tourism in Paris. You better not cause any trouble, or prepare yourself for the consequences that lie ahead.”

Depney repeatedly agreed and backed off the hell-like office while nodding his head and bowing.

... ..

In the courtyard, the explanation by Abbess Yun Miao had come to its end. “The self-proclaimed Apollo didn’t attract much of the security organizations’ attention when he first appeared. Many groups use the names of gods to recruit after all. Everyone thought Apollo was just one of those people, while their organization Realm of Gods was listed as a low-level terrorist. No one really took them seriously.

“However, the fellow called Apollo managed to locate three military bases, each from NATO, EU, and Russia last month. He took all but three days to destroy the bases, killing more than half of the soldiers. After that, they’re instantly seen as international-level terrorists.

“Even more strangely, according to some of the soldiers who had survived the tragedy, meteor-like fire balls landed within the military camps and caused huge explosions. The entire military base was then quickly destroyed. This phenomenon doesn’t seem like conventional weapons. Lots of people are starting to believe that Apollo really is the sun god, causing many underworld associations and cults to join them.”

Doubt filled Yang Chen’s eyes after he listened to the description. He asked, “They aren’t just trying to cause damage by doing so, are they?”

“Of course not,” Abbess Yun Miao answered solemnly. “Since last week, Apollo has started requesting the EU to legalize Realm of Gods and each country’s constitution to accept all of their conditions in addition to granting Apollo authority in the Council of the European Union.”

“What?!” This time, even Yang Chen found it unbelievable. Laughing, he said, “Doesn’t that mean not only does Apollo want to become a god, he wants to dominate the EU? If it is so, America and China are next, are they not?!”

“That’s right. Although he’s laughably ambitious, he has already begun.” Abbess Yun Miao sighed. “Apollo has sent the French president a threatening letter. He wants a satisfactory answer from the EU within a month’s time or he’ll grant the French president, the head of the Council of the European Union, a ‘divine punishment’.”

“A divine punishment?” Yang Chen burst into laughter and held against his waist as he was no longer able to refrain himself. After laughing for quite a while, he wiped the tears beside his eyes and said, “Although I haven’t met that Apollo before, I believe the fellow is a fake. But I’m not sure how exactly he managed to wipe out the military bases. It’ll be great if I can witness it for myself. I find the highly ambitious fellow very interesting.”

Displeased, Abbess Yun Miao said, “How are you still laughing?? If he really is Apollo... then...”

Yun Miao couldn’t stop frowning. She had witnessed the post-unseal battle between Yang Chen and Ares after all. Her heart would shiver in fear every time she thought of the mountain-flipping and ocean-turning power.

Although Abbess Yun Miao wasn’t too afraid of Yang Chen, she actually dared not go against Yang Chen head-on.

Yang Chen more or less knew why she was worried. After all, there was nothing Yellow Flame Iron Brigade could do if the legitimate Apollo from the Twelve Olympians wanted to take over the world, unless the people from Hongmeng were willing to show themselves, or some of the gods were willing to unseal to fight him.

“Although I’m not worried about the country getting destroyed at the moment, Yellow Flame Iron Brigade can’t afford to suffer any more losses than it already has,” Yun Miao said before sighing.

Yang Chen asked, “Why do you have to think about it so much? Just don’t participate in the worst case. They’re not going to abduct for just for the stupid meeting, are they?”

Yun Miao frowned and said, “This is an official meeting. General Cai isn’t able to attend the meeting himself as he has too many tasks to deal with after inheriting the position recently. It’s bad enough that I’m going there instead with a few members of Dragon Group. If no one were to attend the meeting, it means we’re prepared to fight the organizations in the world.”

Yang Chen shrugged his shoulders. He had utterly no interest in official matters like that. Since Abbess Yun Miao was so concerned about that, there was nothing he could say.

“Take care of Hui Lin properly,” said Abbess Yun Miao before she left, since there was no reason for her to stay for any longer.

Yang Chen wanted to get back to the house but Christen walked out from there. Judging by her delighted look, Yang Chen knew that she must’ve been eavesdropping just now inside the house.

Chapter 494: It’s Great to Be Young

“Are you going to tell me that you believe that Apollo is real?” Yang Chen asked after walking towards her. “Although I haven’t met him before, I don’t think there’s anyone among the gods who would waste their time on meaningless acts like this one.”

Christen chuckled. "In theory, I too feel that Apollo wouldn't do something like that. But according to the old woman's explanation earlier, falling meteor-like fireballs does sound a lot like his style."

Yang Chen frowned and asked, "What do you mean?"

Christen winked in a naughty manner and said, "Apollo's divine weapon is able to create things to a similar effect. Of course, the legitimate one will be much more destructive."

Yang Chen was a little shocked. He didn't expect such an answer.

"I'm naturally not unable to tell if it's real without witnessing it for myself. But I'm not interested to make a trip to Europe; time will tell if he's really Apollo or not. If I recall correctly, it's almost time for the real Apollo to awaken. It's possible for Apollo's brain to go haywire. He used to be really unpredictable after all," Christen said before running back to the house smilingly.

Yang Chen sighed, speechless about the woman's carefree behavior. He wasn't too concerned about the situation in Europe. To be honest, as long as his journey with Lin Ruoxi wasn't affected, he wouldn't mind if Paris was utterly destroyed after they left the city.

The remaining time before they went abroad had passed really fast. In the blink of an eye, it was April.

After the dinner that night, Hui Lin immediately rushed back to the company for the production of her new album in addition to attending various meetings and fan meetups. Naturally, she had to continue learning new singing and performing techniques.

Christen had always been unrestrained, going wherever she wanted to. She only stayed in China for so many days because Yang Chen asked for her help. She returned to America that night, allowing Yang Chen peace in his life once again.

After Lin Ruoxi tirelessly took care of the numerous matters in Zhonghai, the couple bade farewell to their family and boarded an Airbus flight to Paris, France. Yang Chen found all of these hard to describe. They merely had a marriage certificate after all, without even a wedding, let alone calling this a honeymoon. They were heading to Paris this time, the city of romance, which everyone thought might be a little strange.

Since Lin Ruoxi essentially had so much money that she had no idea what to spend on, in addition to her outstanding appearance which made it inappropriate for her to be together with ordinary people, she booked two first-class seats for the flight.

The first class for international flights was much more expensive than domestic ones, especially during peak season. Thus, the people who could afford those tickets were mostly wealthy old people with poor health conditions.

Among the ten plus first-class passengers, Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi were the youngest. The rest were all white-haired, kind-looking seniors.

Lin Ruoxi wore her black, laced off-shoulder dress instead of her working attire. The low-profile yet luxury craftsmanship in addition to her simple, matching clothing had intensified her cold and proud aura. Her fair-skinned and fragrant shoulders were exposed in the air, just like accumulated snow on top of a mountain being shone upon by sunlight, giving them a faint glow.

Her hair which was usually tied up in a bun was let loose. The silk-like, black hair spread on her shoulders. One didn't have to stand close to her to detect her gardenia-like and alluring fragrance.

Seated beside Lin Ruoxi, Yang Chen felt the need to swallow his saliva once in a while. His wife was, without a doubt attractive, too attractive some might add. He stared at her at such a close distance, as if she was a temptation-raising drug, causing him to fall into a kind of swirl uncontrollably.

If it wasn't for the constant coldness on Lin Ruoxi's porcelain-carving-like, delicate face in addition to her displeased gaze, Yang Chen would've pounced on her and felt her up without thinking about the consequences and ignoring the people around!

Yang Chen initially thought that this long-distance flight would be boring. He had gotten married after all. With his wife present, he couldn't flirt with the stewardesses, let alone play games with them in the toilet. However, early in the morning, Lin Ruoxi got herself dressed like the young lady of a wealthy clan, attracting his gaze since.

"Do you know that I get a strong urge to slap you hard when I look at your expression right now? Don't you find it embarrassing?" Lin Ruoxi said calmly. She couldn't bear with Yang Chen's fiery gaze, not to mention his perverted look.

The air conditioner in the plane had been on all this time, causing the environment to be a little dry. Licking his dried lips, Yang Chen said smilingly, "Isn't it only because Baben Ruoxi looks excellent? You've never allowed me to observe this closely. Now that the flight will take half a day, I'll be able to watch as much as I want to."

"Y—you're too shameless!" Lin Ruoxi had no idea what else to say as nothing could be done to the shameless. Soon, her face flushed in anger. However, her heart was pumping incredibly fast for some reason. She was angry and pleased at the same time!

At this moment, an old Caucasian couple similarly seated in the first-class area were looking at Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi with bright smiles while speaking in French.

Although Lin Ruoxi could also speak English and a little Japanese and Spanish, she was completely clueless to French. She couldn't help but get serious when the old couple seemed to be talking about her. Knowing that the man beside understood every language, she asked softly, "What did they say?"

Yang Chen had her gaze fixed on the vaguely covered abundance on Lin Ruoxi's chest. After listening to her question, he replied absentmindedly, "The old woman said, 'They're certainly a blessed young couple.' And the old man said, 'I thought that the Chinese was conservative, but apparently they're just as romantic as us French. It's great to be young.'"

Romantic?!

Lin Ruoxi almost lost her gentlewoman demeanor and rolled her eyes. I'm tolerant enough to not slap this pig-like fellow who is staring at my upper body. How is it that they could mistake this for romance?! she thought.

"Are you sure you're translating it correctly? You're exploiting the fact that I don't understand French, aren't you?" Lin Ruoxi asked angrily in a low voice.

Yang Chen giggled. "Am I that lame? If I really wanted to change the meaning, I would've said, 'Oh the lady is so beautiful which matches the man so well. They're a match made in heaven. The lady must be the one who has gone after the man first. Look at just how masculine the guy is. I knew that he must be the best man a woman can find.'"

"Enough!" Lin Ruoxi couldn't take it anymore.

Yang Chen quickly shut his mouth. Raising one of his brows, he continued staring at Lin Ruoxi's chest...

Lin Ruoxi painfully raised her left arm, revealing an out-of-production Patek Philippe women's watch. The small, elegant watch with a seemingly simple design was as expensive as a supercar.

"It's been less than an hour since departure..." Lin Ruoxi was distressed after looking at the time. She had a strong urge of fainting away immediately once she realized she had to stay in the plane with the man for more than ten hours...

... ..

In the underground base of the Seventh Bureau located in Paris, the steel door of the main monitoring room was opened slowly. A loud clang could then be heard.

Dressed in a military uniform, Depney who had a short figure walked to the podium with an ashen look on his face. Beneath him laid a large number of monitors in addition to numerous pairs of hands swiftly typing on keyboards.

Depney swept across the area with his gaze before snapping his right hand finger.

An attendant took the elevator and arrived at the elevated podium. Respectfully nodding his head, he asked, "Chief, is there anything you need?"

"Where's Fodessa?" Depney asked with a deep voice.

"Deputy Director went to convene with a few leaders of poweruser organizations and mercenary groups from South America and West Asia. I believe they'll be back really soon," the assistant answered in high regard.

Depney turned even more displeased. "Humph. He's surprisingly free. Is welcoming foreign underworld leaders his job now?"

At this moment, the steel door of the monitoring room was opened once again. A burly man dressed in a dark blue military uniform walked toward the podium while holding an army cap in one hand. He had a rough face with moustache and blonde hair.

The man was first a little shocked when he saw Depney. He then instantly presented a standard military salute. His grey eyes were filled with resolution. "Chief, Fodessa reporting for duty."

"Where were you?" Depney asked.

Solemnly, Fodessa answered, "I went to the hotel of the honored guests for the secret meeting this time to receive the representatives of Panther Mercenary Group and Death Ocea—"

Before Fodessa finished speaking, Depney suddenly turned around and launched a flying kick!

Bam!

The average-looking Depney instantly exploded his strength. He raised his foot so fast that it brought wind, instantly striking the tall and well-built Fodessa down the ground!

Being struck on the chest, Fodessa dared not stand up to resist after falling. Kneeling on the ground, he had his head lowered in silence.

“Receiving representatives... Fodessa... your balls have grown, haven’t they?” Depney’s eyes widened to maximum while his face appeared a little twitched. “Do you know that when you were receiving representatives... I was scolded by President like a dog!!!”

Facing Depney’s scolding, Fodessa didn’t dare to move a single muscle. On the other hand, the assistant had backed off while everyone else kept quiet. They acted like they heard and saw nothing to keep their jobs.

“Fucking bastard. Do you think you’re of any significance here?! Let me tell you! Since the founding of the agency by Charles de Gaulle, which is now us the Seventh Bureau in Directorate-General for External Security, we’ve had many heroes and much glory! But you, Fodessa, will never be one of them!”

Depney rushed forward once again and kicked Fodessa on his left cheek!

Fodessa groaned and blood came out from the corners of his mouth, but continued to kneel on the ground with his head lowered.

“Fodessa, you shall remember that your ancestors have betrayed us French and joined the Nazis! Your body contains the filthy German blood! If it wasn’t for me forcefully bringing you up, you’d be no different from an ordinary special forces soldier, let alone becoming the deputy director of the Seventh Bureau!”

Fodessa shivered slightly. Blood flowed down his left cheek before falling on the cold and tough floor. With a trembling voice, he said, “I, Fodessa, will never forget Director’s kindness in my entire life.”

“Humph!” Depney squinted his eyes. His gaze which was as sharp as a knife cut through Fodessa’s body. “Good. I will not allow any problems to hinder the investigation of the source of the golden sun totem and Apollo’s real identity, and the secret organization meeting we’re holding this time. Otherwise... if and when I lose my job, how long do you think you will last?...”

Chapter 495: Welcome to Paris

After more than ten hours, the plane finally landed in Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport safely.

Although It was midnight in China, due to the difference in time zones, it was afternoon in France.

The warm sunlight shone upon this peaceful land while the wind blew gently.

Having slept in the plane for quite a few hours, Lin Ruoxi wasn’t too tired when she got off. After all, compared to her usual workload, sitting on a plane was nothing to her.

Yang Chen naturally held no exhaustion. Upon stepping into Europe, his previously smiley expression had vanished. Too many memories surfaced in his mind which made him feel a little nostalgic.

The two of them walked to the exit of the arrival hall together. Lin Ruoxi only carried a small Prada shoulder bag. She had branch offices in Paris after all, so she didn't have to prepare a lot of things beforehand nor was she required to bring a luggage. Yang Chen was completely carefree and brought nothing at all.

Yang Chen had made countless adult jokes earlier, but he became extraordinarily quiet after getting off the plane. All he did was walk silently. Lin Ruoxi was able to tell the change in Yang Chen's behavior.

She turned her head to glance at the man who was deep in contemplation and lost in his world. Lin Ruoxi had a feeling that Yang Chen's current state was a more accurate representation of his true self.

Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but ask, "What are you thinking about?"

Yang Chen subconsciously reached out to his shirt pocket and took out a packet of cigarettes, but soon noticed smoking was prohibited in the airport. Smiling, he replied, "Nothing much. Just a few insignificant matters, but they're all in the past now."

Lin Ruoxi didn't strike with more questions. She knew that Yang Chen definitely wasn't willing to recall the so-called absurd matters.

"Oh yeah, who will be picking us up?" Yang Chen asked.

Lin Ruoxi was leading the way in front. While walking, she said, "The director of the European branch. He's called Goodman."

"Goodman? Interesting. Is it a guy?" Yang Chen asked.

"Of course, no girls would have a name like that," Lin Ruoxi said. "His mother is a Chinese and his father French, but he's born in Britain. He had stayed in China for many years and used to be my senior in school. Since one of his ancestors is the princess of a royal family, although it was not an inherited title, he's considered to be part of the royal family. When Grandma was still here, she raised him personally and appointed him to be the director of the European branch after merely giving him a year's training. I've only met him twice after becoming the CEO. Since our branch office is coincidentally nearby Paris, he had offered to welcome us."

Yang Chen rubbed his nose and murmured, "He's a mixed-race and also your senior. He must be really handsome, isn't he? Babe Ruoxi, is he yet another Zeng Xinglin?"

Lin Ruoxi frowned a little. She would feel uneasy every time Zeng Xinlin was mentioned, since it could be said that she had brutally caused his death.

"Goodman is different from Zeng Xinlin. He isn't overly ambitious and greedy in the business world. He's more like a romance-loving French man who cares about his royal bloodline. Money is not his main goal," Lin Ruoxi said.

Smiling, Yang Chen asked, "You've only met him twice. How would you know what kind of a person he really is?"

"I understand a person really fast," Lin Ruoxi said calmly. However, she added in his mind, I'm just never able to understand you, a thick-skinned fellow.

Yang Chen smirked but didn't deny her statement.

Having walked for around 15 minutes, the two finally reached the exit. People who were there to pick up families and friends were all over the place. However, the two didn't take long to discover a signboard with the Chinese characters 'Yu Lei International'.

At the same time, Yang Chen noticed the mixed-race Goodman whom Lin Ruoxi had mentioned earlier.

Dressed in a white western suit, Goodman indeed appeared outstanding. Although his hair was black, his face contours were obviously Caucasian. His pupils were blue-green while his figure was considerably taller than Yang Chen.

The smile on his face was prominent and natural. His noble aura made the nearby tourists glance at him occasionally when passing by.

Upon seeing Lin Ruoxi standing by the exit in her black dress, Goodman's eyes shone. His smile became more apparent but wasn't creepy. Slowly walking forward, he extended his arms to gesture a hug.

Lin Ruoxi wasn't against the etiquette. It was really common in western countries after all. Hugging and touching cheeks weren't considered to be inappropriate.

However, before Lin Ruoxi stretched her arms out as well, a silhouette rushed over and received Goodman's hug. "Haha, it's great to see you. Let's have a hug."

Lin Ruoxi was astonished. Yang Chen who was previously behind him somehow ended up in Goodman's arms. He was even patting Goodman's back like they were really close friends.

Goodman was shocked as well. His facial expression was stiff. After making sure who was in his arms, he was all the more surprised.

Quickly backing off, he asked in Mandarin, "W—who are you?"

"He's Yang Chen, the director of our sister company. He was the one who was originally supposed to represent the main branch. But since he's inexperienced, and I coincidentally want to check out how we're doing in Europe, I came here together with him," Lin Ruoxi explained. She didn't reveal her true relationship with Yang Chen.

Yang Chen's act earlier was indeed embarrassing. The way he forcefully hugged Goodman earlier was judged by many tourists passing by.

Goodman, however, was incredibly experienced. He instantly understood the situation and started secretly treating Yang Chen's 'immaturity' with disdain. Holding the same smile on his face, he said, "Mr Yang, I've heard of your name before. You must be extraordinary to become a director at such a young age. I'm Goodman, it's great to see you. I'll definitely serve you well in France. Please ask if you require anything."

"Ahh, you're really polite." Yang Chen smiled in satisfaction. He extended his arms yet again and said, "Come, let's have another hug."

Goodman looked rather awkward. Smiling stiffly, he said, "Hehe, Mr Yang is indeed humorous. Let's go out now and chat in the car. I haven't met Ruoxi in a very long time. We need to catch up nicely."

Lin Ruoxi couldn't take it as well. She poked Yang Chen's back secretly to signal him to not go over the line.

Yang Chen felt really gloomy. The fellow had referred Lin Ruoxi as 'Ruoxi' instead of 'Boss'. He was nice enough to not punch Goodman in the face.

It was obvious that Goodman wasn't too interested in Yu Lei International, but held intentions for Lin Ruoxi. She mentioned that he loved romance, and what kind of romance loving man could do without a woman.

Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi followed Goodman out of the airport. Intimately, Goodman asked Lin Ruoxi if she was tired because of the flight, and occasionally talked to Yang Chen in hopes of getting closer to him.

"I wonder what Mr Yang used to work as. Was your position high as well? I bet you have a lot of working experience," Goodman said.

As Yang Chen finally got out of the airport, he quickly lit a cigarette after refraining for so long. He flick the poor-quality cigarette and answered blurrily, "I used to sell mutton skewers at a market in the west of Zhonghai. I don't think you've been there before. The land is quite flat. It isn't high at all."

Goodman almost fell on the ground face-down. His lips twitched a little and said, "Oh... really... really... So you had been in the food industry."

Lin Ruoxi's face was ice-cold. She acted like she had heard nothing and proceeded to the car quickly.

It could be seen that Goodman had spent much effort. He had specially prepared a Bentley limousine to pick Lin Ruoxi up. The car had lots of features included in the luxury internals, as if it was a moving luxury hotel. In addition, the color scheme was elegant. More importantly, he knew that Lin Ruoxi would like that car as her personal car was a Bentley as well.

After the three boarded the car, Goodman ordered the driver to head to Hotel Sofitel where their rooms were booked. It was an extremely costly five-star hotel.

"It's reported in the news that terrorist organizations may cause a disturbance in the fashion week and get rid of a few wealthy businessmen. Although it's just a rumor, it's better to be more cautious. I've specially brought four bodyguards to guarantee your safety in the dark. This way, not only will you be safe, you won't be left uneasy," Goodman said as pointed at a Mercedes S500 following behind.

"You're indeed as careful as ever," Lin Ruoxi said. When she heard the keyword 'bodyguard', she silently glanced at Yang Chen who was seated at the opposite. That fellow was helping himself with the stuff in the fridge. He was even prepared to open a bottle of wine to start drinking."

With him beside me, I won't be in any danger, will I... Lin Ruoxi thought. Probably due to the many occasions where Yang Chen dealt with disasters with ease, Lin Ruoxi felt that she was safe as long as Yang Chen was present.

"Haha! Bingo! Found it!" Yang Chen cheered in the car loudly and took a bottle of grape wine out from the fridge before removing the packaging.

“It’s great that Mr Yang likes it. This margarita was made in 1982. There are less than ten bottles in the entire Paris. Even the rich would find themselves hard pressed to get their hands on one of these bottles without connections,” Goodman said happily.

In the blink of an eye, Yang Chen had successfully removed the cover, causing the rich fragrance of the grape wine to fill the car. It was indeed extraordinary.

Although Lin Ruoxi didn’t love wine very much, she could tell from the fragrance that it was expensive. She liked just how thoughtful Goodman was, not because she was unaware that it was impossible for her to get together with him. She simply admired his attentiveness.

Lin Ruoxi planned to ask Yang Chen to serve her some of that wine. However, the next action pulled off by Yang Chen had made her completely forget that thought.

Gulp! Gulp! Being stared upon by the dumbstruck Goodman, Yang Chen raised the bottle and covered his mouth on the opening of the bottle before downing the wine!

Lin Ruoxi clenched her teeth, not because she felt that the wine was wasted, but how discourteous and rude Yang Chen was!

Goodman’s jaws dropped. The precious bottle of wine worth tens of thousands of Euros was consumed by the savage man like it was soda!

“I’m sorry, Goodman. Yang Chen has always behaved this way. He isn’t intentionally messing with you.” Even Lin Ruoxi felt sorry to Goodman. He had spent much effort and time to obtain the wine. Anyone would be displeased if they were in his shoes.

Goodman was deeply annoyed, but he waved his hand smilingly. “It’s fine, as long as Mr Yang likes it. There are two more bottles here. Ruoxi, I’ll open another one for you.”

Lin Ruoxi nodded and glanced at Yang Chen. He had finished half of the grape wine already, looking immensely satisfied and unrestrained.

“Hehe, I’m sorry. I didn’t know it was this expensive. How about letting me pour some of it for you guys as well? Sharing is caring,” Yang Chen said with a smile before burping.

“Nevermind. Mr Yang shall enjoy this bottle,” Goodman said in a courteous manner. Do you expect us to consume your saliva?! he thought as he took another bottle.

Yang Chen used his tongue to lick the dark red liquid on the opening. He let out a naughty smile and said, “I believe you shouldn’t open another bottle for now. Just look at where the car is going. Why is it that we are not headed to Hotel Sofitel...”

Chapter 496: Have You Come to Paris Before

Goodman failed to comprehend it at first, but soon laughed a little. “Mr Yang is quite the joker indeed. Our company’s drivers send guests around Paris almost every day. Although I didn’t pick one personally, all of them are equally as knowledgeable and qualified. Why would they head to the wrong direction?”

“Really? Then would Mr Goodman care to take a look outside. Why do I feel that we’re heading toward the opposite direction instead?” Yang Chen knocked the door lightly while holding a wine bottle with his other arm.

Goodman was starting to get a little annoyed. Does this man think I’m stupid?! I don’t even know how this mutton skewer seller got to become a director in Yu Lei. How much luck does he need? Ignoring the fact that we hold an equally high position in the company, he’s even able to travel with Ruoxi... But I don’t care how good he is in acting. The low-class will always stay that way. What does he even know?! he thought.

“Mr Yang, forgive me for asking, but have you come to Paris before? Do you know where Hotel Sofitel is? Do you know how our traffic works?” Goodman asked politely as he suppressed his anger.

“15 Rue Boissy d'Anglas, am I right?” Yang Chen spoke in French fluently.

Goodman was astonished this time. He completely didn’t expect Yang Chen to be able to speak French judging by his behavior. More shockingly, the address Yang Chen said was indeed that of Hotel Sofitel. He didn’t think just anyone was able to guess it right.

As a result, Goodman finally turned his head to look at the situation outside. Upon looking outside, he quickly realized that the car wasn’t heading to the city area in Paris. Instead, it was heading northeast towards who-knows-where!

“What’s happening?!” Goodman murmured to himself in astonishment. He felt that his back was covered in sweat.

Lin Ruoxi who had been silent all this time wasn’t familiar with Paris. However, she too noticed that Yang Chen was right. For whatever reason, the car wasn’t heading to the hotel. Worried, she turned her gaze to Yang Chen, hoping that he could explain the situation.

Yang Chen, on the other hand, shrugged his shoulders, as if he knew Lin Ruoxi was going to ask him. “I am totally clueless about the situation. All I know is that we are headed in the wrong direction.”

Shocked, Goodman quickly sat at the frontmost seat and pressed a button which was used to communicate with the driver.

The middle section of the Bentley limousine meant for guests was soundproof, to prevent the driver from overhearing their conversations. Thus, the only way to talk to the driver was through a device.

“Spiel! What are you doing?! You’re going the wrong way! Do you hear me?!” Goodman yelled.

However, no matter how loud Goodman shouted or cursed, the driver called Spiel didn’t reply a single word, as if he had heard nothing!

“Stop shouting. You won’t be able to change anything. Haven’t you noticed that the Mercedes behind has long disappeared?” Yang Chen drank some red wine and said smilingly, “It seems like someone had made a couple changes to the driver and bodyguards when you were away. The driver has either been changed or bribed. It’s unfortunate that I don’t know the driver, otherwise I would’ve been able to help you cross reference his identity.”

Goodman was astonished. He had never expected his driver to be changed. Turning around to have a look behind, his bodyguards' Mercedes was indeed gone! Although he was an exceptional manager, it didn't mean he had experienced such things before. He quickly realized that the three of them had been abducted!

"Why is this happening... No! I have to call the police!" Goodman hurriedly took his phone out. However, his phone couldn't receive any signal!

"Stop dreaming. There must be a signal jammer in the car. Phones won't work for sure." Yang Chen laughed and said, "They're not that stupid. Why wouldn't they expect you to have a phone?"

Goodman's legs softened. He returned to his seat, clueless about what to do next.

"Sigh... How unlucky. Mr Goodman, you're such a jinx. You just told us that Paris isn't safe. Why have we been kidnapped right after the flight?" Yang Chen asked. "Tsk, tsk. Now we don't even know where we're going. Must we suffer on the first day?"

"Don't joke around anymore. Quickly think of a solution." Lin Ruoxi wasn't panicked. Possibly due to Yang Chen's carefree behavior, she felt that there was nothing to be afraid about. However, she still gave Yang Chen a reminder when he was frightening Goodman.

Goodman paled. Although he didn't know why Lin Ruoxi was this calm, he hoped that Yang Chen had a skill or two which could get them out of the trouble. Yang Chen was really relaxed after all, not to mention he had spoken French earlier which surprised him.

"Mr Yang, judging from how calm you are, you must have a plan, don't you? My safety isn't important. But Ruoxi is the core pillar of Yu Lei. Without her, Yu Lei International will collapse, not to mention she's a lady. Nothing bad shall happen to her." Although he was obviously afraid, he still said something nice to Yang Chen sincerely.

Yang Chen frowned a little. He appeared to be in contemplation. Having pondered for a while, he took a cigarette out before igniting and inhaling it deeply.

Neither Lin Ruoxi nor Goodman intended to stop Yang Chen from smoking in the car. They were just looking at him and hoping that he could come up with a solution.

Yang Chen exhaled the smoke, causing it to fill the entire car. Lin Ruoxi frowned and coughed a little.

"There must be a way..." Yang Chen looked outside with a complicated expression. He paused for a while before saying, "But... I haven't thought of one yet..."

Goodman subconsciously opened his mouth slightly, as if he was stunned.

Silence then filled the car like no one was inside.

Around thirty seconds later, the voice of Lin Ruoxi echoed in the car.

"Yang Chen! Go to hell!!!" It was rare for her to lose control this way.

The Bentley limousine sped across the highway, leaving them no chance at all to escape.

Yang Chen was leisurely enjoying the red wine and smoking his poor-quality cigarette. On the other hand, Lin Ruoxi who had been fooled by Yang Chen violently pinched his waist and scolded him. After that, she sat quietly as she didn't feel like talking anymore.

Goodman was the only one who cried. He failed to maintain the demeanor as a prince in a time of crisis like this one.

Unknowingly, nighttime arrived while the car had crossed multiple highways. Stars could be seen in the sky. They passed street lights and advertisement boards on occasion. It was obvious that they had gotten really far away from the city area of Paris.

Goodman originally came to pick Lin Ruoxi and Yang Chen up. He had even arranged a grand dinner in a luxury hotel. However, they had been kidnapped for some reason, as was being sent to an unknown place. When he recalled the recent rumors, he felt that they most likely wouldn't end up well.

Goodman didn't take long to faint after being mentally pressured. Judging from his state, he wouldn't wake up too soon.

Yang Chen shook his head when Goodman fainted just like that. "Tsk, tsk. I didn't expect him to be this timid when he appears so strong..."

Lin Ruoxi hugged her knees on the comfortable seat. She glanced at Yang Chen seated on the opposite occasionally. That man had been smoking and drinking all this time. He had finished four bottles of grape wine by now. Fortunately, there was a simple toilet in the car, otherwise he wouldn't know how to deal with his urine.

Lin Ruoxi remained silent for a long time. When the sky turned dark, she asked, "Yang Chen, you did it intentionally, didn't you?"

"Ah?" Yang Chen was confused.

"I know you had a way to escape, but you chose not to, am I right?" Lin Ruoxi asked confidently.

Yang Chen revealed a smile. "You're indeed my wife. It's impressive that you figured it out. I want to know their objective and where they're sending us to."

"It's not hard to guess at all. You've never behaved seriously before. You'd always act like you're being bullied, but at the end of the day you're the true bully... You've tricked me for so many times that I've gotten used to it... It's nothing surprising." Lin Ruoxi pouted her lips slightly. She currently looked like a pure little girl, perhaps because she wasn't working right now. Dissatisfied, she said, "You better not cause any trouble. If anything happens which delays my work, you'll be dead for sure."

Yang Chen waved his hand while his mouth was holding the cigarette. Smiling lazily, he said, "Don't worry, don't worry. We haven't had our post-marriage night yet. I won't want to die before that."

"You..." Lin Ruoxi was mad yet shy. Her elegant cheeks blushed instantly. She glanced at Goodman to make sure he hadn't awakened yet before feeling a little relieved. However, she still gave Yang Chen a furious stare.

Finally, after passing through some bumpy roads, the car finally stopped in the dark.

Goodman seemed to have noticed the shake. Waking up, he appeared to feel reassured when he saw that Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi were still in the car. However, he instantly shivered in fear when he realized the surroundings was completely dark.

“W—where are we?” Goodman asked subconsciously.

Lin Ruoxi looked at him helplessly. Although she didn’t expect Goodman to pull off any mind-blowing stunts, this young master of a royal family was certainly disappointing. He had lost his noble demeanor upon facing the difficulty.

“I believe they’ve chosen uncommon routes on purpose. There weren’t many street lights on the way nor could road signs be found. We have no clue where we are now,” Lin Ruoxi answered out of kindness.

Goodman looked all the more terrified. “W—we’re not gonna get killed, are we?”

“No. We would be dead right now if that was their main objective,” Lin Ruoxi explained.

“That isn’t necessarily the case,” Yang Chen who had remained quiet said and giggled. “It’s possible that they’re looking to blackmail all of our wealth before destroying our bodies.”

“Huh?!” Goodman cried in astonishment.

Lin Ruoxi stared at Yang Chen and said, “Stop scaring him. Not everyone is as daring as you are. You’re never serious no matter the situation.”

At this moment, the door of the Bentley was opened from the outside.

In the dark, two flashlights were turned on, shooting out two blinding rays.

Four huge-bodied people dressed in black military uniforms and cowhide long boots mysteriously appeared outside the car. They were armed with automatic rifles which looked a little reflective while the violent aura they exuded was breathtaking.

One of them glanced at the three people in the car before fixing his gaze on Goodman who was dressed in a white suit.

Although the man wore a helmet and a pair of goggles which concealed his expression and gaze, Goodman’s body stiffened as he swallowed his saliva audibly.

Click! The man raised his rifle in a lightning-fast manner, pointing the barrel right in between Goodman’s brows!

Chapter 497: The Lord Protector

“Ah! Don’t kill me!!!” exclaimed Goodman loudly. He quickly covered his head with both his arms before swooping into the innermost portion of the car.

Lin Ruoxi was almost hit by Goodman’s sudden movement. She only remained unharmed because Yang Chen had managed to pull her closer to him in time.

The man dressed in black didn't pull the trigger. Instead, he started to laugh like there was no tomorrow, causing the other three to start laughing as well. Evidently, they treated Goodman's cowardly action with contempt.

Yang Chen had been completely silent. He pulled Lin Ruoxi to his back and looked at the four's equipment patiently, from head to toe, including the guns they were holding.

At last, Yang Chen's attention was fixed on the unified pattern on the four's arms—a golden sun totem.

Yang Chen squinted his eyes. Although he failed to recognize that totem, he was sure that there didn't exist such a symbol amongst all the poweruser organizations or mercenary groups in the world. Evidently, if it really represented an organization, it must've appear during the time when he had returned to China.

The sun... Yang Chen raised his head to look behind the man in black, before looking back at the totem on his sleeve. The corner of his mouth twitched a little as he found amusement in the matter.

After the four had laughed for long enough, they nodded at each other before proceeding to pull Goodman who was hiding in the corner of the car, out.

Goodman felt pain throughout his body. He was so terrified that he looked boneless when dragged.

Yang Chen lifted both his arms and revealed a fearful look. Using French, he said, "I'll walk myself, I'll walk myself..."

The four men in black said nothing. Since Yang Chen got out obediently, they weren't bothered to take action themselves. All they did was wave their guns to signal Lin Ruoxi out as well.

Although Lin Ruoxi was clueless as to what Yang Chen had planned next, she was actually afraid deep down her heart. She was a woman after all. No matter how calm she was, it was impressive enough that she didn't cry out loud, knowing that she was abducted. With nothing else in her mind, seeing that Yang Chen got out of the car, she quickly followed in suit.

Being seized by four armed men, Yang Chen and the others slowly walked to a deep cave. When they arrived before the entrance, the huge gate made of steel was pulled open.

Without warning, the four men in black pushed them in. Slam! After stuffing the prisoners inside, they shut the door again.

In the dark, cold air snuck into their collars. The floor was hard and freezing while emitting a pungent mouldy smell.

Goodman fell on the ground upon entering the place after losing balance. He swept across the surroundings, only to find nothing but darkness. He could barely spot Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi. In French, he stammered, "W—where's this place?" He had long forgotten his demeanor and need to speak mandarin.

"It's a warehouse," a charismatic man's voice resounded from the other end of the place.

"Ah!" Goodman was shocked once again. He stammered backwards and accidentally banged his head on the steel gate before screaming in pain yet again.

Lin Ruoxi was surprised as well. She subconsciously grabbed Yang Chen's arm and leaned close to his body.

Smiling, Yang Chen used his other arm to pat Lin Ruoxi's head gently. "I'm here, you'll be fine."

After being touched by Yang Chen in addition to listening what he said, Lin Ruoxi finally noticed that she had pushed her body against his. The cleavage between her two groups of flesh had even embedded Yang Chen's arm.

Hurriedly backing off, Lin Ruoxi blushed in the dark. Lowering her head, she said nervously, "Y—you... I—I... I was just..."

"I know, I know. It was instinctive." Yang Chen grinned, overjoyed. He had very much enjoyed the touch. It was unfortunate that Lin Ruoxi ran away so quickly.

Although everything happened in basically utter darkness, his vision wasn't affected at all. He managed to see the surroundings clearly, including the people in the corner.

Turning around, Yang Chen took his phone out, not because he wanted to make a call. He turned on the screen to light up the dark.

Although he didn't need light, Lin Ruoxi and the terrified Goodman had to look around.

With the light from his phone, Lin Ruoxi and Goodman became slightly better. Yang Chen walked to the corner and shone upon two silhouettes hugging each other with the screen.

"How lucky. I didn't expect to meet you two at such a place," greeted Yang Chen in French with a bright smile.

Lin Ruoxi and Goodman followed behind him. Upon noticing the two at that corner, Lin Ruoxi frowned slightly while Goodman looked astonished.

There was a lady and a guy on the ground. The guy had his back pressed against the wall while the woman rested her head on his chest like a submissive little kitten. From their intimacy, it looked like they weren't in the ice-cold prison, but a huge, warm bed instead.

The man wore a check suit with yellow long pants. He had an attractive face and fair skin. He looked especially eye-catching because of his blonde hair and elegant blue eyes. He held a naughty smile on his face. To most people, he would have no problems making most of the ladies in the world submit to him.

Similarly, the girl with grey hair had an outstanding appearance. Not only was her light grey hair uncommon, her curvy figure and exceptionally delicate face contours were much desired. Her beautiful light brown eyes were just like stars in the eye. All she wore was a pink skirt, revealing most of her pinkish skin.

Despite having seen numerous ladies of different styles, Yang Chen's eyes instantly shone upon seeing the lady's beauty.

Looking at Yang Chen gaze upon this foreign lady from top to bottom, Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but snort coldly.

Yang Chen quickly turned around to try to please Lin Ruoxi. Using Mandarin, he said, "Babe, she's not as beautiful as you are for sure. I only looked at her a little longer because her hair color is unusual." In fact, he was being completely honest. Although the grey-haired lady was pretty, she was still far inferior to Lin Ruoxi's unparalleled beauty. However, she would still be much admired by most people.

"You don't need to explain. Stare for all I care." Lin Ruoxi pouted her lips. She didn't plan to forgive Yang Chen though she felt a little better after listening to his explanation.

When the two were talking, the pair of couple didn't say a word. They continued staring into each other's eyes lovingly. The man would kiss her lips occasionally, while the lady would caress his face. They appeared as if they were living in their own world.

Having gazed upon this couple for quite a while, Goodman finally managed to recognize them. Blinking his eyes, he said, "You guys... Aren't you guys... the siblings Stern and Alice from the Cromwell clan?!"

The two finally stopped looking at each other. They turned their attention to Yang Chen and the others before finally looking at Goodman.

"I'm sorry Sir, I don't know you. Are you a British?" Stern spoke using a charismatic voice.

"Oh... No, no, it's totally reasonable that you don't know me. I'm the director of Yu Lei International's European branch called Goodman. I only remember you two because I was lucky enough to have seen you in the London Fashion Week a few years ago." Goodman quickly tidied his shirt up and started introducing the others. "Miss Lin Ruoxi is the CEO of Yu Lei International while this man here, Yang Chen, had come to Paris with Boss Lin. I didn't expect both of you out of all people to be here."

Yang Chen admired just how dedicated Goodman was to work. He was still trying to get on their good side at such a situation, just because they had a high social status and influence.

"The Cromwell clan..." Lin Ruoxi seemed to have thought of something. She asked, "Goodman, are you saying that they're the descendants of the Lord Protector?"

"Yeah, exactly! The Lord Protector!" Goodman answered excitedly. "This gentleman here Mr Stern is the heir apparent of the Lord Protector title in the Cromwell clan while Miss Alice is his younger sister given birth by the same mother."

In the British history during the Commonwealth of England, Oliver Cromwell singlehandedly became the Lord Protector, abolished imperial power, and controlled the military. Most revered him as an extremely powerful and ambitious. However, he soon got defeated by Charles II who had restored the kingdom. Cromwell's corpse was also dug up by and received many post-death torture means.

Having been a glorious major clan, the Cromwell family was really wealthy and had many connections, not to mention numerous loyal soldiers. After generations of low-profile operations, the ones who lived had played significant roles in different parts of England.

Although the Cromwell clan wasn't as it was, they are still hereditary peers now. While they weren't too famous, they were mostly recognized as one of the most influential noble clans in England by the upper class.

Thus, despite the fact that Lin Ruoxi hadn't stayed in Europe for long before, she was aware of the Cromwell clan to a certain degree.

At this moment, Alice opened her mouth. Using a crisp and alluring voice, she said smilingly, "So it's the CEO of Yu Lei International. Such a young and beautiful lady, I'm feeling a little jealous already. A beauty like her is rare, isn't she, my dear brother?"

"In my eyes, you'll always be the prettiest," Stern said in a natural manner before kissing her lips.

Lin Ruoxi couldn't help but feel disgusted by what she had witnessed. She glanced at Goodman and asked, "Did you say that... these two are siblings of the same mother?"

Goodman smiled bitterly and explained, "Yeah. Although they're siblings, they appear in public as an official couple. Many have given them their blessings while none in the Cromwell clan has objected, so... so this has always been the case. It is no secret anymore."

"Isn't it just incest? I've seen too many occasions like this; it's no big deal. Good-looking siblings getting together is actually good as well," Yang Chen said and laughed in an indifferent manner.

"You know a lot, don't you?" Lin Ruoxi gave Yang Chen a dissatisfied gaze. She almost fainted from the series of absurdity. Being abducted to an unknown warehouse upon reaching Paris was bad enough, but she had to be faced with an odd noble couple.

Yang Chen found it interesting. He squatted down and pointed his phone screen at the siblings. Grinning, he said, "Hey, stop tasting each other's tongue. Tell me how you ended up here. What's the situation now?"

Chapter 498: Bring You Along to Pick Up Chicks As Well

After listening to what Yang Chen said, Stern reluctantly stopped playing with his sister. Slowly adjusting his sitting position, he pointed his hand around and said, "As you can see, we're detained in a warehouse god knows where. The reason I know this is a warehouse is because we were abducted in the afternoon when we walked out of the hotel. Although my eyes were covered during the journey, I managed to sneak a peek at our surroundings. The internet and cell connections are jammed here. There's no way to call for help... Oh yeah, there should be quite a few rooms here. We've heard of someone else's cry for rescue before. I believe quite a number of people are locked up here."

"Is it possible for the rumor to be true? Is there really a terrorist organization which kidnaps the wealthy?" Goodman asked bitterly.

"Who knows?" Stern, however, was really relaxed. Looking at Alice who was in his arms, he said, "We came here to take part in the Paris Fashion Week. Neither of us expected this to happen. But regardless of what happens next, I don't really mind as long as I can stay with Alice."

Lin Ruoxi who had turned around as she couldn't bear with the siblings interactions said in English, "Can you guys communicate in English instead? I'm the only one who doesn't understand French."

"Oh, I'm sorry, Boss Lin. We'll be more careful next time," Stern apologized politely with British-accent English.

It's best if you two can stop being so cheesy as well, Lin Ruoxi added secretly. She was too embarrassed to voice out her thought.

Yang Chen looked around and sensed the surroundings. He could tell that he was in an enormous warehouse, while the room he was in wasn't the only one with detainees. He couldn't help but wonder why the enemies did nothing to this bunch of wealthy and noble people after taking them here.

Alice finally got up from Stern's chest. She teased her silver hair as she said, "I really want to bathe. The floor is too dirty. Do you think I should talk to the guards outside?"

Goodman's face twitched a little. Smiling awkwardly, he said, "Miss Alice, this isn't the time to talk about bathing, is it? We're still being detained now."

"Why? Just because we're abducted doesn't mean we can't bathe," Alice said as she blinked her large, naive eyes. She then stood up and walked toward the entrance using the light from her phone.

Astonished, Goodman cried, "Miss Alice! This is too dangerous!"

"I'll be fine. Why would they be willing to kill me when I'm so adorable?" Alice chuckled as she walked to the entrance. Bam! Bam! Bam! She knocked on the door for a few times before shouting, "Someone come here! I want to bathe!"

Lin Ruoxi who was standing behind Yang Chen opened her mouth a little. She found the siblings incredibly weird. It wouldn't be too far to assume that they were mental hospital escapees. "Don't you find them weird? Who would think of taking a bath at a situation like this?!"

Yang Chen touched his chin and felt the moustache there. Due to catching the flight, he hadn't had time to shaved it. "What's so strange about them? Just treat them as ordinary people."

Lin Ruoxi felt an intense headache as she regretted over voicing out to Yang Chen. He wasn't a normal person to begin with. Naturally, he wouldn't feel anything abnormal between the siblings from the Cromwell clan.

She initially thought that Alice's yell would end up in vain. However, footsteps could be heard approaching the warehouse door.

Bam! The large steel door was pulled open, revealing one of the armed men dressed in black earlier. "We only provide food and water, with no other services. Please return."

"They're surprisingly humane," Lin Ruoxi said with a cold expression.

Alice wasn't planning to give up. Trying to please the man, she said, "Hey, how can you do this? Don't you have washrooms here? This place is so damp and dirty. I want to bathe and use the washroom. You can't expect a young and beautiful lady to degrade herself like this..."

When Alice spoke, she raised one of her feet and turned her body, acting like an active child from a kindergarten.

"Haha, Stern, your sis—erm no, your woman is really cute. Haha," Yang Chen laughed as he looked at Alice.

Stern's eyes shone, seemingly full of love. He asked, "Do you think so too? Mr Yang, you're right. My Alice has always been the cutest woman."

Lin Ruoxi was deeply disgusted by his speech. She stared at Yang Chen furiously and thought, How is he still in the mood to talk to these crazy siblings?

The guard outside was a little shocked. He wasn't able to understand just why a detainee did so instead of being frightened. However, he obviously wouldn't listen to her. He yelled, "Get inside! I'll shoot you if you make any more noise!"

"Ah!" Alice exclaimed upon seeing the gun pointed at her. "How can you treat a lady like this?!"

"Don't get testy with me. I will pull this trigger if and when I have to!" The guard was irritated.

Alice pouted her lips and turned around in dissatisfaction. She said, "Dear, they're not letting me bathe. What should I do?"

Stern pondered seriously for a while before shaking his head. "Dear, I have no clue as well. I wonder if Mr Yang or Miss Lin has any ideas? My Alice really needs to bathe. She'll suffer severely without bathing for more than a day."

"Let me try." Yang Chen volunteered while raising his hand.

The guard wouldn't care about the conversation in the warehouse of course. After stuffing Alice back inside, he planned to close the door. However, before he did so, Yang Chen had arrived, holding the door which was half-closed.

"Don't rush. We can always come to an agreement. Let her out, can you?" Yang Chen said smilingly.

"Are you seeking death?" the guard asked fiercely.

Lin Ruoxi was extremely nervous when Yang Chen challenged the guard this way. Although she was confident about his ability to a degree, she felt the need to stop him. However, when she walked over, her hand was grasped by Goodman.

"Ruoxi, don't go! It's too dangerous!" Goodman cried hurriedly.

Lin Ruoxi ignored him and flung her hand forcefully to get rid of Goodman. However, before she was able to walk to the entrance, the steel door was slammed!

When Lin Ruoxi looked there, she realized Yang Chen had somehow exit the place together with the guard, causing the warehouse to fall into darkness yet again!

"Yang Chen!" cried Lin Ruoxi, only to receive no response.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Suddenly, repeated gunshots echoed in the warehouse!

Soon, no sound could be heard...

The abrupt change in situation made Lin Ruoxi speechless. Gazing upon the door, she reminded herself, He'll be fine... he'll be fine!

However, for whatever reason, despite being highly confident for Yang Chen's competence, Lin Ruoxi felt her eyes tear up. Her body shivered involuntarily while her feet appeared as if they were nailed to the ground.

"Di—Director Yang, h—he is..." Goodman couldn't think of any other possibilities. To him, although the steel door was shut, he was able to imagine Yang Chen's body riddled with bullets!

Stern had taken out his phone when no one was looking. Relying on its light, he carried Alice to the entrance, walking so slow that he seemed to be strolling on a casual Sunday. He then stretched his arm out as he intended to open the door.

"No!" Goodman dashed towards the door to stop Stern. With his forehead filled with cold sweat, he said, "Mr Stern, please don't be reckless! Director Yang was already harmed. We mustn't repeat our mistake! As long as we're alive, we'll have a chance of escaping from this place..."

Before Goodman finished speaking, Yang Chen's lazy voice resounded, "Hey, hey, Little Goo, since when was I dead? You shouldn't curse people when they're absent."

Goodman turned around violently while the steel gate was pulled open coincidentally.

Yang Chen could be seen lighting up his cigarette in the dark, which made the cigarette butt appear exceptionally red, especially when shone upon by the unique fluorescence of the night.

Yang Chen had the automatic rifle of the guard in hand, while the guard was lying on the ground without moving, with his head being stepped upon by Yang Chen. Evidently, he wasn't alive anymore!

"H—How did you..." Goodman stammered while looking at Yang Chen. He felt that his brain wasn't functioning anymore.

Alice, however, started clapping her hands. Smiling, she said, "Mr Yang is amazing. It looks like we can return to the hotel and bathe already. But are you able to deal with the remaining people?"

"Hehe, it's no big deal. I merely shot a round or two. The guard had his gun taken in the opposite direction. Pulling the trigger was all I had to do to kill him," Yang Chen said.

"H—how is it possible..." Goodman's head was full of sweat when he listened to Yang Chen's explanation. But he was convinced. He didn't think Yang Chen was able to defeat a kidnapper like that after all.

Delighted, Yang Chen scratched his head and said, "Why can't it be possible? Let me show it to you again."

Yang Chen raised the automatic rifle once again and turned around. Bang! Bang! Bang! Pointing at darkness, he fired a series of shots, not forgetting to exhale the smoke from the cigarette, looking like a legitimate thug, causing Goodman to roll his eyes.

"Haha, Little Goo, can you see this? Did I not fire it again several times? It's really simple." Yang Chen turned around and patted Goodman's stiff shoulder with the arm which was not holding a gun.

Goodman regained awareness before yelling, "A—are you crazy?! All that's going to do is lure the rest of them here! Also, why am I called Little Goo now?!"

“Hmm? Are you Little Girl otherwise? Little Girl... hmm, it sounds fine as well,” Yang Chen said happily.

[TL note: ‘Little Girl’ sounds very similar to ‘Little Goo’ in Mandarin.]

At this moment Lin Ruoxi stepped out of the warehouse as well. Her footsteps were incredibly gentle. Standing in front of Yang Chen, she gazed upon him silently.

Being shone by the dim lights, Lin Ruoxi’s face apparently brought coldness while her slightly reflective eyes were watery

“Babe Ruoxi, why are you...” Yang Chen even forgot to suck on the cigarette. All he did was stare at Lin Ruoxi’s dull yet elegant face. For some reason, he felt that his heart was exceptionally heavy.

“You think that you’re really amazing, aren’t you? Is it very impressive that you managed to kill the guard?” Lin Ruoxi’s tone was as flat as the grass on an icy field. “Is frightening others really fun? Do you find it interesting to make others worry about you?”

“Erm, I...” Yang Chen opened his mouth. He wanted to speak, but soon realized plain words weren’t able to express his thoughts and mood, as if none of the hundreds of languages in his mind together with their countless terms was able to help him.

Lin Ruoxi wasn’t expecting an answer from Yang Chen. After staring at Yang Chen for a while, she took her phone out and switched on the flashlight before walking away.

Although Goodman was completely clueless about the situation, Goodman quickly followed behind Lin Ruoxi after she left. “Ruoxi! Ruoxi! Don’t be reckless! The guards will notice you if you don’t tread lightly!”

Lin Ruoxi had no response, as if she didn’t listen to what Goodman said.

“It’ll be fine...”

Yang Chen finally regained awareness. Turning around, he walked toward Lin Ruoxi’s direction and said, “No one will stop us.”

“Why do you say so?” Goodman asked in doubt.

Yang Chen glanced at him in contempt. “That’s because they’re all dead.”

“Eh?” Goodman doubted what he just heard. However, Yang Chen didn’t look like he was lying at all.

Stern and his sister Alice were utterly fearless. They walked closely behind Yang Chen while holding hands joyously.

Goodman couldn’t care less about anything else. Instantly taking his phone out, he tried his best to expand the visibility in the area as he followed Yang Chen and the others out.

Currently, Yang Chen was walking beside Lin Ruoxi. Glancing at the cold-faced woman, he let out a complicated smile. Before Lin Ruoxi was able to react, Yang Chen used his left hand to hold her right.

“What are you doing?” Lin Ruoxi asked coldly and stopped walking.

“Holding hands. I’m leading you to the way out,” Yang Chen said with a smile.

“I don’t need you to be this kind. I’m nothing but an ordinary person whose death doesn’t matter. Since you’re so powerful, you should care about your own instead,” Lin Ruoxi replied coldly.

Bitterness filled Yang Chen’s face. Revealing a sorrowful look, he bent his waist and leaned toward Lin Ruoxi’s cheek. Soft, he said, “My obedient wife, please don’t be mad anymore. It’s my fault. I shouldn’t have cared only about myself and made you worry. I promise to always report to you before doing anything in the future, and bring you along for anything I do—to eat, go outside, shopping, and kill and torture... Oh yeah, I’ll even bring you with me if I want to pick up chicks. Deal?!”

Lin Ruoxi felt that her ears heated up after listening to the weird speech. Furiously staring at Yang Chen with her almond-shaped eyes, she tried her best to maintain her cold appearance but failed. Bursting into laughter, she asked, “Who wants to go to the toilet with you? Y—you shouldn’t think so highly of yourself.”

“Hehe, everything is fine as long as you’re not mad.” Yang Chen secretly let out a relief. Pleasing his wife was much more tiring than doing so to his lovers. Expectedly, his ‘legitimate wife’ whom he had received the marriage certificate with had a high ‘maintenance fee’. Fortunately, he managed to diffuse the situation before it exploded into yet another cold war.

Although Yang Chen spoke really softly, Stern and Alice who had been walking near them managed to realize the details of their actions and expressions, causing the siblings to keep winking at them.

Lin Ruoxi felt rather embarrassed. She just felt disgust for the two siblings, but somehow she ended up flirting instead. Thus, she twisted the flesh on Yang Chen’s waist to vent her anger.

Yang Chen didn’t feel any pain, but he acted as if he was deeply suffering to please her. Smiling, he said, “We don’t need to go to the main entrance. We just need to find our car and head back to Paris. They won’t just park it outside the warehouse. It’ll be too high profile of them otherwise.”

Lin Ruoxi found his explanation logical and the siblings had no objections, since Alice was probably fine with anything as long as she could bathe soon.

At this moment, Goodman who was incredibly cautious behind them shouted at the top of his lungs!

“Ah!!! Save me!!!”

Chapter 499: Why Is He Making a Call Now

Following Goodman’s miserable scream, they all turned their heads, only to find Goodman covering his head with his arms while lying on the ground with his body caved in. His phone had fallen on the ground. Relying on the dim lights, they managed to see that Goodman was leaning against a huge black object.

There lay a guard dressed in black whom Goodman had seen earlier beside him.

Lin Ruoxi who was a little shocked managed to understand the situation. Frowning, she said in dissatisfaction, “Goodman, that man is dead.”

“Eh?” Goodman slowly raised his head and carefully had a look. Swallowing his saliva audibly, he noticed that the guard had indeed stopped breathing.

“What’s happening?” Goodman blinked his eyes. He was sure that this guard was not the one Yang Chen had stepped on. However, he didn’t understand then why the man had died.

Yang Chen walked forward and grabbed Goodman’s hand to pull him up. Tapping his shoulder, he said smilingly, “Little Girl has done a good job. You managed to find our car so quickly.”

“Woah, awesome! We can finally return to the hotel for a bath now.” Alice looked immensely blessed. Holding Stern’s arm, she happily ran to the Bentley and opened the door before getting inside with Stern.

Goodman finally realized that the black object he had leaned on was the Bentley that he came in and the object that they were searching for.

Before Goodman could react, he was pulled by Yang Chen again and stuffed into the car, sitting beside the siblings.

Goodman then realized what he was called by Yang Chen. On the spot, he yelled, “Director Yang! I’m not Little Girl! No!”

“Alright, I know, I know. I won’t call you Little Girl anymore, Little Girl.” Yang Chen giggled and shut the door.

Lin Ruoxi who was going to get inside was blocked outside the car. Doubtfully looking at Yang Chen, she asked, “What do you want?”

“Wife, I don’t advise you to sit here. Just sit beside me. I’ll drive, and you’ll sit at the front passenger seat.” Yang Chen winked. “Little Girl is too annoying. You don’t want to suffer the incessant noise, do you?”

Before Lin Ruoxi gave a reply, Yang Chen opened the front door and pulled her inside.

Swiftly getting into the car, Yang Chen switched on the engine and the headlights, instantly lighting up almost the entire warehouse.

The warehouse had an area of around ten basketball courts. More than ten garage doors were nicely laid out, some of which were open and filled with sundries while the others were shut tight.

It could be seen that the warehouse was rather aged as there were holes in the ceiling. However, since it was nighttime, the entire ceiling appeared pitch black.

“What are those?!”

Once the headlights were switched on, the corpses of three to four guards dressed in black could be seen lying near the car.

“The dead kidnapers of course. Who else would they be? Is Mr Gu having another panic attack?” Alice chuckled.

Goodman quickly recovered his stance. Coughing, he said, “No, no, Miss Alice has misunderstood me. I was just... a bit surprised as to why these people have all died. Has someone come to our rescue?”

Stern revealed a strange expression. "Mr Goodman, didn't Mr Yang say that these people were dead just now? Weren't you listening?"

"Him?" Goodman recalled that Yang Chen had indeed said that. But how did he know? he thought.

He was then dumbstruck. Almost losing his voice, Goodman asked, "So is Director Yang the one who killed them?"

"Who else? None of us have guns except the one Director Yang held earlier." It was unknown when Stern had opened the fridge in the car. He was currently enjoying a half-full bottle of wine with Alice.

Goodman was astonished. There was nothing in his mind other than Yang Chen's carefree look...

Lin Ruoxi who was seated in front naturally spotted the corpses as well. However, since she knew Yang Chen and his past, it wasn't her first time seeing dead bodies. Thus, she wasn't too frightened. Instead, she contemplated for a short while before hesitatingly asking, "When you were shooting in the dark at seemingly random directions, were you actually picking them off one by one?"

Yang Chen was putting on his seatbelt. Listening to Lin Ruoxi's question, he smiled and answered, "Whether or not I did that doesn't matter that much now that they're as good as dead."

"Where do we go now?" Lin Ruoxi asked.

"Back to Paris of course."

"Do you know where we are? How are we getting back?" Lin Ruoxi asked in doubt.

Yang Chen nodded confidently, as if everyone was supposed to know that. "Right now, we should be in the south of Paris, nearby Romilly-sur-Seine. We need around two hours to get back to the city. After that, I believe a sumptuous dinner is in order."

After he finished speaking, Yang Chen changed the gear and violently stepped on the accelerator. Vroom! The car sped through the steel door of the warehouse.

"A—are you crazy?! What are you doing?!"

Lin Ruoxi wasn't able to take it despite the calm act she put up, for only one reason—Yang Chen was going to ram the huge door down!

"Don't worry, hang on tight." Yang Chen laughed and suddenly extended his left arm which was holding the automatic rifle out the car before shooting a small box beside the door!

Sparks flew out, causing something like a circuit box to instantly burst open. Soon, as if it was a chain reaction, the area near the steel door exploded!

Boom! A deafening detonation could be heard while the steel door was broken into pieces!

When the sea of flames enveloped the area, the Bentley sped through the broken door like a black lightning.

Due to the velocity of the car, a strong current of air rushed around it. Thus, the fire had dealt no damage to it. The people in the car just felt heat in that instant before everything returned to normal.

Lin Ruoxi felt like she was acting in a Hollywood action movie, being the female protagonist saved by the male protagonist. Her life was seemingly going to end earlier but she managed to survive the series of terrifying events including the explosion, causing her body to stiffen slightly, speechless in her seat.

“He’s crazy... he’s crazy...” Goodman murmured at the back seat. He wasn’t able to find any other adjectives to describe Yang Chen.

On the other hand, the siblings were cheering excitedly. Evidently, they felt that all of these were extremely cool.

After the Bentley rushed out of the warehouse, it arrived on a flat land. Yang Chen pressed on the emergency brake to stop the car.

Lin Ruoxi looked outside. Just as what Yang Chen had said, there was a wide stream of river nearby. If her guess was right, it should be Seine—the well-known river in France. Beyond the forest was a city full of lights. Lin Ruoxi wasn’t able to tell if it was Romilly-sur-Seine mentioned by Yang Chen.

As Lin Ruoxi wondered why Yang Chen had stopped the car, she saw that he opened the door and got out.

“Yang Chen! What do you want to do?!” Lin Ruoxi was extremely nervous. What is he doing again?! Does he want to be noticed? Why isn’t he returning to Paris as fast as possible?!

Yang Chen hit his own head and stretched his body back into the car. Smiling, he said, “Sorry, I almost forgot to report to you. Don’t worry, Babe Ruoxi. If i’m not wrong, there are still a bunch of miserable people trapped in there. I just want to play the good guy and release them.”

Lin Ruoxi widened her big eyes. She was better off without this kind of answer.

After Yang Chen answered Lin Ruoxi, he got out of the car once again. Standing with the automatic rifle in hand, he took his phone out and started making a phone call.

“W—what is he doing?!” Goodman was terrified. He thought he was able to leave the place very quickly but the car stopped after getting out of the warehouse!

“Mr Goodman, it looks like you have night blindness. Isn’t Mr Yang making a call?” Alice said with a charming smile.

“Look at the situation! Why is he making a call now?!” Goodman was nearly shouting.

Stern dug his ears. Yawning, he replied, “The signal was jammed inside the warehouse. I guess it’s an urgent one.

At this moment, two Jeep’s with bright lights rushed out from both sides of the warehouse while honking before speeding right at Yang Chen!

“We’re finished... Their backup has arrived!” Goodman was just like a slime, sliding down the seat like a boneless man.

Chapter 500: Just like a Penguin

There were two modified Jeep Wrangler off-road vehicles, both painted in camouflage colors. Other than the drivers, there were two other heavily armed kidnappers on each side of the car dressed in black. One was holding a rocket launcher while the other was holding a gatling gun whose destructive power was a force to be reckoned with. Evidently, they were dead set on wiping Yang Chen and the other occupants of the car from existence.

Yang Chen soon came to a realisation of the situation when he lifted his head. He smiled mischievously as he dialed a number on his phone. Looking at the two Jeep Wranglers which were only a hundred meters away, he raised the rifle in his hands.

The men on the receiving end of Yang Chen's rifle, had gone through rigorous training. So even though they were the initiators, they didn't drop their guards despite having an advantage. The jeeps began to move irregularly, with a curved arc movement in order to avoid getting hit by Yang Chen 'accidentally'. The people who were in charge of attacking had already started to pull the triggers of the weapons.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Smoke appeared and loud noises echoed. The rocket launchers fired small missiles, leaving a burning trail in its path as they flew towards Yang Chen and the Bentley!

Bratatat! A continuous strafe of bullets was fired. It wasn't known if it was Yang Chen who had fired or the men with gatling guns!

The immense firepower of the gatling guns was significantly stronger than the rifle in Yang Chen's hand.

Goodman who was in the Bentley cowered in fear. All he could do was cry helplessly. He wanted to get out of the car and escape but was too weak and afraid to do so.

The siblings Stern and Alice were affectionately clinking glasses of red wine as if nothing happening outside.

Lin Ruoxi who was sitting on the passenger seat could clearly see the fierce confrontation from the rear-view mirror. Her heart almost fell out of her body when she witnessed the two missiles coming at the car and Yang Chen. If it wasn't for her strong mentality, she would've fainted like any other ordinary woman.

That damn Yang Chen! Didn't you tell me not to worry just now? What's the difference between reporting to me or not?!

In the midst of the open fire, the two men in black with the gatling guns suddenly stopped attacking while both the jeep drivers were lying unconscious in the car. The cars began to lose control as they swerved in separate directions!

The two men who were responsible for launching the rockets didn't understand what was going on. They looked down at the same time and found out that their partners were dead, as a result of having their heads being penetrated with bullets while red and white substances flew out from them.

In the meantime, the two rockets that were about to approach Yang Chen and the Bentley suddenly exploded at a distance of twenty to thirty meters from them!

“How is that even possible?” One of the men shockingly murmured to himself in French. He didn’t want to believe that the man who was fighting them alone not that far away from him could kill his opponents with such accuracy. Not to mention he had no idea on how Yang Chen detonated the missiles!

The moment the rockets exploded in midair, two shuttle bullets passed through the blasting flame of the explosion and hit the fuel tank of the two unmanned jeep... Kaboom!

Not giving much time for the remaining two to think, the fuel tank exploded, causing the jeeps to burn like two large fireballs. Everything was incinerated in the fire. Nothing was spared.

The two men who were caught in the flames were screaming in pain while they jumped off the car. However, a flame that was ignited by gasoline wasn’t something that they could bear. The two literal firemen didn’t struggle for long before dying on the river bank.

Upon dealing with the pursuit, Yang Chen said a few words through his phone before hanging up.

After giving in some thoughts, Yang Chen threw the rifle in his hand directly into the Seine which was tens of meters away. The rifle slid across a high parabola before falling into the river.

Yang Chen then went back into the car. He took out a cigarette from his jacket’s pocket leisurely and ignited it with the car cigarette lighter.

He enjoyed a mouthful of cigarette smoke and licked his lips before starting the car engine and leaving.

Goodman who had been sitting in the carriage for quite some time came to a realisation that nothing had happened to him. He lifted his head in wonders and had a look outside. Then, he looked at the siblings Stern and Alice and asked, “Wha—What’s going on?”

Alice gently caressed her brother’s cheek while laughing. “Mr Goodman, you looked just like a penguin just now. That’s so adorable. Those people have been dealt with by Mr Yang. Haven’t you noticed up until now?”

“Huh?” Goodman widened his mouth as he found it unbelievable. Being stared gazed upon by the siblings in this manner, he realised that his reactions were rather embarrassing. His face turned red but he acted to be calm. “We’re really lucky... It’s great that everyone is safe...”

Yang Chen who had been driving for some time realized something unusual in the car. Turning his head, he saw that Lin Ruoxi seated beside him was staring coldly at him in the dark. The facial expression on her slightly pale face made his scalp turn numb.

“Erm... My obedient wife, why are you showing this kind of expression? Have I done something wrong again?” Yang Chen frowned. Didn’t I report to her earlier? Is there anything wrong with what I said?

As expected, Lin Ruoxi did not answer him. She turned away to look outside the window and started doing what she was best at—keeping silence.

Depressed at the turn of events, Yang Chen held the cigarette butt with his left hand while leaning against the window and at the same time holding the steering wheel with his right. Occasionally, he would peek at Lin Ruoxi. Looking at the woman who once again fell into the cold war stalemate, he felt a headache.

We came all the way to Paris but it feels no different from home. She still isn't talking to me. At least things were a little better at home, with the presence of Wang Ma, Zhen Xiu and the others. However, now that there's only the two of us and now we're just staring at each other. Isn't this torture?

After a while, Yang Chen sighed deeply and smiled as he felt disdain for himself. He had a glance at Lin Ruoxi but she was totally ignoring him. He began talking to himself, "Actually, I know that you must be dissatisfied at me for repeatedly carrying out worrying tasks. To be honest, Ruoxi, although you always think that I always do stuff that doesn't make sense or dangerous, there's actually a bottom line in my heart. I won't hope to see you getting harm in anyway. I'm a very perverted man, how could I be willing to see you getting hurt? Am i not right?"

Lin Ruoxi seemed to have heard nothing. She remained silent as she watched the night view through the window. The car was still moving on a small path in a grove. Nothing could be seen except the trees.

Yang Chen had no choice but to continue talking, "When I reached there in the afternoon, I had a good look at their equipment. Their rifles are the G36 model produced by the German company Heckler & Koch. This type of automatic rifle is currently the leader in terms of specs in the whole world. As for their uniforms, they are probably specially made. It is not the uniform of the official combat suit. That's to say that this group of people are from a very high-end private terrorist organisation. When it comes to organisations like this one, it's pretty much a matter of life and death. I'm curious about their final intention. Oh ya, back then when I just rushed out from the warehouse, it's not that I didn't want to open the door in a proper way. Just that I found out that the door is equipped with an explosive device. Without password, no matter how hard you try to open the door, it will still detonate. The best way is to use the bullet to detonate the door before using the air flow from the high speed of the car to drive through the flames. The group of people that may be scaring you are consider to be experienced veterans. Although they do not know the origins of the explosive device, they clearly know that it is not a wise decision to rush into the dark warehouse and so they decided to camp outside. After all, there isn't anything that we could do in the warehouse.

"However, they probably didn't expect that we will be coming out from the warehouse this way. So, they have to pursue us with cars. Well, now that we are out, we cannot ignore the others that had been caught. Didn't Stern say that they heard other people being detained when they got kidnapped in the afternoon? I'm guessing that those who are getting kidnapped are the nobles and wealthy that will be participating in the Paris Fashion Week."

Speaking of that, Yang Chen finally got to see Lin Ruoxi turning her head back to him. Although she was emotionless, at least she was looking at Yang Chen.

Yang Chen grinned. "I made a call when I got off the car. Do you want to guess whom I called?"

Lin Ruoxi shook her head slightly. Although she was still angry, she was curious about what Yang Chen had done.

"The French cops," Yang Chen said while enjoying his cigarette. He puffed out a mouthful of white smoke outside the window and added on, "There were so many individuals in there, that helping each and everyone of them would take us too long. I told the cops that there are gangsters detaining people in the warehouse by the river and requested them to send help. Although I didn't tell them my name and the address, the cops will still be coming as they heard the sound of gunshots and explosion earlier

on. Anyway, I already finished off all the bad guys, the others will be free from danger. They just have to wait.”

Upon hearing all those words, Lin Ruoxi’s eyes were filled with tension. She couldn’t hold back and asked, “Will the cops find out that it was you who called them? Won’t they investigate the phone number?”

Yang Chen was relieved upon hearing Lin Ruoxi who was speaking up. He giggled and said, “Don’t worry. I used a satellite network phone instead of a mobile number. The cops will not be able to trace it in a short period of time. By the time when they find out, I would most probably already be back in China. Besides, I didn’t do anything bad, I’m just saving lives.”

Lin Ruoxi nodded and then suddenly realised that she had spoken to Yang Chen. She blushed a little as she initially wanted to have a cold war with him to express her dissatisfaction. She hurriedly added on, “Don’t think that everything has gone back to normal despite your explanation. You’re always doing scary things without bothering about the feelings of other people around you.”

Yang Chen replied helplessly, “I definitely am willing to tell you if you ask. However, it was already too late for me to do so in this case. They had started shooting at us already. I couldn’t very well have sat you down and explained it as bullets and missiles went off around us now, could I?”

Lin Ruoxi thought about it and realised that Yang Chen was right. She ended up pouting her mouth and snorting coldly in order to hide her own embarrassment.

Yang Chen realised that his wife’s embarrassing expression was rather adorable. He couldn’t resist but gently caress her face when she wasn’t paying attention.