

## Chapter 641

### Miss Tang Xin

The rest of the dinner proceeded without anything notable, aside from the fact that Li Dun had spent most of the dinner trying to start a conversation with Tang Xin. However, most of their conversations ended with Tang Xin giving one-word replies. Needless to say, this made her clan members unhappy.

But Li Dun seemed unaffected by the lack of affection as he frequently stared at her with an affectionate glow in his eyes.

Meanwhile the star of this appreciation dinner Yang Chen was mostly left to his own vices as he chowed down on the dishes in front of him, occasionally having short conversations with the mother-daughter pair Tang Wan and Tang Tang.

When it was time for the banquet dinner to come to a close, Tang Xin was about to go over to attend to Tang Zhechen before Li Dun abruptly proclaimed, "Miss Tang Xin, do you mind following me to a quiet place? There are things that I want to say to you."

Li Dun unsurprisingly was as frank as usual when he publicly announced his request for Tang Xin.

Tang Xin might be uninterested by the man next to her, but she could guess his intentions from a mile away. She was slightly embarrassed by his sudden announcement.

She had already made up her mind to bluntly reject his request, but subsequently noticed the uncompromising faces of her family members. Even Tang Zhechen and Tang Wan had their expressions brimming with expectations.

With the mounting pressure from all directions she knew she wasn't given a choice to turn him down on the spot. So she convinced herself that she was just going to hear him out and get this over with. She nodded and replied, "Let's go to the garden."

"Hah, anywhere is fine. Lead the way Miss Tang." Li Dun was thrilled as he trailed behind her.

The rest of the Tang clan were keen to know what he had to say, but they were aware that as one of Beijing's best combatants, Li Dun would instantly discover if any of them decided to eavesdrop. This might ruin whatever budding relationship they were about to start. So in response, all the maids were ordered to avoid the garden during that time for the two of them to have the entire space for themselves.

Yang Chen rubbed his belly and burped before making his way to Tang Zhechen. "Master Tang, I think it's time for me to make my move. Thank you for the dinner."

Yang Chen took an entire dinner to realise he had not decided on his accommodation in Beijing. He still had matters to attend to before he was free to go back to Zhonghai. Not to mention when Cai Yan finally returns to the Cai residence, they would still need to deal with Cai Ning's situation. Furthermore, his encounter with Yang Lie and Mei Feng prompted him to stay by Hui Lin's side, at least until her album release and her concert was completed.

Even though he was still worried about Mo Qianni back in Zhonghai, he couldn't just up and leave when his matters here were not yet settled with. All he could hope for now was for Ma Guifang to be a little more open-minded.

For now, he would need to find a place to stay. He considered calling Zhuang Feng from the branch office to arrange a hotel for him to stay in.

Tang Zhechen left Yang Chen hanging while he persuaded Tang Wan. "Wan'er, since you just recently recovered I suggest you stay in Beijing for the time being. After all, you're not in a rush to leave for Zhonghai just yet."

The brilliant Tang Wan immediately understood the deeper meaning in his words, and with a tinge of redness on the cheeks, she gently agreed.

Tang Zhechen eventually turned back to Yang Chen with his reply. "Yang Chen, my guess is you haven't got yourself a place to stay just yet. Why don't you take this time to tour the city together with Wan'er? It'd be extremely boring for her to only have me as company for the duration of her stay."

Tang Tang was eavesdropping on the sidelines as she giggled. "Great Grandpa you really are excellent at arranging things. I'm sure Mom would love to take Uncle along to have fun."

Tang Zhechen gently pinched Tang Tang on the nose and laughed uncontrollably from her cheeky remarks.

Everyone present naturally was the faction that sided with Tang Wan, and was more than pleased that Tang Zhechen treasured her presence. As for her relationship with Yang Chen, they were undoubtedly behind it.

If Yang Chen was just any other married man, it went without saying that every family member would oppose their relationship, owing to the fact that Tang Wan was among the direct candidates of succession.

But Yang Chen's background was not like most. As a son of the Yang clan, as long as the relationship was genuine and truthful, the Tang clan would be willing to sacrifice Tang Wan's reputation in exchange for a bond between two of the biggest clans in Beijing.

"I'll take you to our mansion on the other side. It's big enough that we have rooms to spare." Tang Wan was not a shy and innocent girl anymore, as she quickly adjusted her emotions and playfully pointed out.

Yang Chen got chills from her flirty expressions and couldn't wait to escape from being the centre of attention. Which led to his prompt reply to Tang Wan, "Alright, lead the way."

Meanwhile, at the backyard garden, the pavements gleamed of soft white lights from the lamp posts of dazzling gold. It resembled the likes of European bohemian artistry.

Pebbles encrusted the entire pavement. The flowers bloomed under the night sky, adding a sense of mystery surrounding it.

Tang Xin, in a daffodil yellow one piece pouted throughout her entire journey to the centre of a wooden pavilion. But as she walked through the beautiful garden, her face was filled with frustration and agony, contrasting the gardens beautiful state.

As they reached their venue, she abruptly turned around and looked at Li Dun who had been tailing her thus far, trying to comprehend the man famously known as part of the 'Beijing King Duo', and the eldest grandson of the Li clan.

He was wearing a simple combination of a short-sleeved shirt and a pair of jeans. His build was muscular but in the eyes of Tang Xin, he looked more like a construction worker than a bodybuilder!

Topped up with that idiotic smile and thick eyebags clouding the rim of his eyes, he looked just like what she akin to a retarded bear!

A person like this to be her lover? She would rather die!

"Say it," Tang Xin coldly said as she shifted her gaze away from Li Dun to the bushes.

Li Dun might be awkward, but he was never shy.

"Miss Tang Xin, I like you."

Without any sweet talk, Li Dun confessed his feelings just like that!

Tang Xin turned her head back and glared at him. *?I know that he likes me, but isn't that just too straightforward?!*

"You think this is some sort of game? Is that what this is to you?" Tang Xin raged at him.

Li Dun gulped as he shook his head in dismay. "Miss Tang Xin, since the first time I met you at the hospital today, I've been thinking about you all day. The reason I came over for dinner tonight was because I wanted to make sure you were clear about my feelings for you."

*But I can't wait to murder you right here right now!?* Thoughts of hatred flashed through Tang Xin's mind before she sneered. "You like me? So you're saying it was a love at first sight? You honestly believe that I am some three year old who still believes in that sort of thing?"

Li Dun earnestly replied, "Miss Tang Xin, what if it were true? What if I say, that it was really a love at first sight for me?"

"I don't have time for these stupid jokes of yours, you dumb pig!" Tang Xin furiously lashed out at him.

Li Dun however was hardly concerned as he continued with a smile, "Miss Tang Xin, I'm sure you know about me. I'm Li Dun, the direct descendant of the Li clan. In other words, the future of China's security bureau and a large portion of China's elite forces are under these hands of mine."

"Oh really? Well good for you Young Master Li. I'm just another insignificant girl that nobody cares about, so can you please stop with this nonsense?" Tang Xin sarcastically replied.

Li Dun kept his cool as he explained, "You see, you too are clear about the difference between our social positions. But that's exactly why I like you."

“What?” Tang Xin was confused.

“Miss Tang Xin, every girl that has knowledge of my background and status would experiment on every possible way to make me fall for them. They want to be the future coheir to the Li clan. But our family with our specific role in this country has only allowed one coheir, which means I’m only allowed to marry one woman. Anything more may pose unimaginable danger.”

As the coheir of the security bureau, whoever Li Dun married would undoubtedly be exposed to high-ranking private and confidential intelligence, so his explanation was naturally not hard to comprehend.

Li Dun abruptly switched his topic as he continued, “But Miss Tang Xin, you’re special. I swear I have never met anyone in my life that knew about my family background and somehow still despised and detested me. The point is, I know you hate me to your guts, you wish you could kill me here and now. But still, I have to make sure that I came tonight to make myself clear. ”

Tang Xin was caught off-guard. Never would she imagine that Li Dun knew what was in her mind all along!

Never

“So what if it’s true? Who said I needed a good reason to dislike you? I just want you to die. Could it be that just because I’m acting this way, you’re liking me now?” Tang Xin sneered.

Li Dun smiled bitterly. This was actually the first time that this man let out an expression of helplessness.

“When it comes to things like emotion, it’s quite hard to explain such an abstract emotion. But the time comes, you just know it,” Li Dun said, sighing deeply and shaking his head. Smiling, he said, “Miss Tang Xin, I’m not going to ask why you despise me so much. I believe that in time, you will reveal it to me yourself. However, please believe me. It is your uniqueness that has piqued my interest, and made me fall in love with you. I truly like you.”

This was the second time, the second confession!

Tang Xin wasn’t sure how to deflect that. It was impossible for her to tell Li Dun that the reason she hated him was because she still had feelings for Yan Buwen. So for now, she had to push this man away from her. She just furrowed her brows in annoyance and muttered, “You’re a madman...”

“Madman, huh. Maybe I am insane,” Li Dun laughed. Then, his eyes suddenly twinkled, and he said solemnly, “Miss Tang Xin, will you marry me?”

The whole garden became silent, save for the rustling of leaves.

Li Dun reached into his pocket and pulled out a small yet exquisite box covered in red velvet, then got on one knee and opened the box in front of Tang Xin.

In the box, sat a large glittering diamond on a black cushion. It was at least 3 carats! It must have been extremely expensive.

Did he just... propose to me?! she thought.

It felt like time had stood still in that moment. Tang Xin was caught in a trance. She just stared at the ring whose brilliance was akin to a star. Li Dun on the other hand, showed an expression that was equal parts sincerity and equal parts respect.

“Miss Tang Xin, I am a soldier. In other words, my next mission could very well be my last. At the very least, before I accept the clan master role within the Li clan, I will continue accepting the toughest mission at the frontline.

“I can’t stay in the easygoing Beijing city for long. There’s no way that I can just eat and drink my days away like some of the young masters because I love this country. And because I love this country so much, I spend my days protecting it in the frontlines.

“I have never gotten drunk before, because I fear that it will slow down my reaction time. I have never taken a nap, because I can’t get lazy to avoid being inferior to others on the battlefield. I have never even been to a nightclub, because I know more than anyone else that when I’m having fun, my subordinates at the frontline may be killed at any moment.

“Miss Tang Xin, I have never told another girl that I like her because if I do say it, it means I’ll definitely marry her.

“Maybe you think that I’m acting too rashly and being presumptuous. But my life is like a flickering candle in the wind. It can go out at any point in time. I don’t want to die without first confessing my love to the person I like. I hope that you will forgive me for being straightforward.

“Miss Tang, I have to admit that if you do marry me, I won’t be able to stay by your side and constantly care for you. But I can promise you things which I know that I will definitely upkeep!

“As long as I’m alive, I will let you die in my arms, and enter your next life. If I die before you do, I will constantly protect you from the afterlife, and patiently await your turn so that we get to enjoy our next lives together.”

“Tang Xin, marry me!”

This ground-shaking revelation caused the air in the pavilion to shudder.

Under the dull light, a small breeze wafted through the flowers, carrying with it a faint fragrance.

After some time, the hair on Tang Xin’s forehead gently swayed with the breeze. Her eyes were filled with a hint of bliss but mostly sadness.

However, it was certain that the frustration and anger within her earlier had already dissipated.

Li Dun’s posture was still straight and unyielding, and his gaze was still determined.

Tang Xin suddenly laughed bitterly, and in that moment, this young woman seemed wise beyond her years. Something that was not very common with people her age.

It was as if, she had shed the facade she was holding up all this time.

“Young Master Li.” Tang Xin smiled gently, her tone softened. She shook her head and answered, “I refuse.”

Disappointment flashed across Li Dun's eyes. He said softly, "Are you still unable to accept my feelings? Is it because I came on too strong. After all, you're a good woman. It would be normal for you to reject me."

"I'm sorry. I may have treated you too harshly in the past." Tang Xin chewed on her bottom lip, her eyes already reddened. "I am truly grateful to you. Ever since I was young, I had only ever wished for a man to say the things you said to me. But alas, there has never been a man, who would be willing to treat me so preciously."

"Yet you still won't accept my hand in marriage."

"That's because..." Tang Xin shook her head. "I'm not good enough for you. I'm the plainest daughter in the Tang clan. Growing up, nothing has changed. Brain wise, I'm not as good as Sister Tang Wan, and in terms of managing the family business, Brother Tang Huang is the best at it. I'm just not very good at anything. I'm not smart or compassionate, and I'm not some hotshot young lady either."

"Because of my uselessness, all I can do is take care of Grandpa. Honestly, sometimes I wonder if I really am capable of that task. Everyone knows that Grandpa is just keeping me occupied with something."

Li Dun frowned, eyes filled with pity. "Miss Tang, maybe you might recall the saying that 'love is blind'. But the way I see it, you really are not as incompetent as you make yourself out to be. Everyone has their faults; no one is perfect. You just have low self-esteem."

"To be honest, after I met you, I ran a background check on you. Please forgive me for that. I just wanted to understand you even more. It doesn't matter whether you're ordinary or not. The fact that such a young girl could accompany an old person for so many years, regardless the reason, is not something to snub your nose at. You're not some useless girl. Your strength and perseverance are much better than most girls."

Tang Xin lifted her head at those words and wiped away the tears at the edge of her eyes. Smiling, she replied, "Young Master Li, please stop complimenting me. Despite your words, I have had my whole life to think about my shortcomings. Suffice to say, I am pretty clear about them. Go back, because I'm not who you should be with. You've made my day by giving me such a sweet surprise, but that ring of yours is not mine to wear. If possible, maybe in our next lives, if you're still willing to take me at that time, I might say 'yes'. If there really is a next life."

Agony was written all over her face while she spoke.

Li Dun burst into laughter. "Miss Tang Xin, you underestimate me. Once I, Li Dun, have set my eyes on something, even a hundred oxen can't stop me. Today, you have turned down my hand in marriage, so I will return home. But know that the next time we meet, I will be more persistent. Even if I have to do it in public, I won't care!"

Tang Xin was stunned. "Wh—why are you doing this? You know that I will not accept you no matter what."

"Whether you accept or not is of no consequence to me. What's important is that I prove to you that I can give you my all. Since you have already changed your attitude towards me, I can't possibly give up now. Trust me, I don't just want you in the next life, I want you now for there isn't another second to

waste." Li Dun sighed, "What a shame that I can't extend my stay here in Beijing, or I would propose to you every day." He giggled and continued, "Miss Tang, rest at ease. I will use everything within my power to go after you, but I will never force you to marry me. As to whether such a day will come, will depend on you, Miss Tang Xin. Until then, I can only try my absolute best to make it happen."

Li Dun finished and stood up, keeping the ring in his pocket and stretched himself. The sincerity from earlier was gone, and he reverted to his previous self. Before she knew it, he had already left.

Tang Xin watched his seemingly ordinary back-view disappear into the distance, and let out a long sigh. Her lips twitched as she muttered to herself, "How great would it be if the person who had just proposed to me was you... Buwen..."

Yang Chen who had followed Tang Wan and Tang Tang out was completely unaware of everything that had transpired in the silence of the garden. But then again, he couldn't care less.

All Yang Chen had in mind now was how nice it was to stay at the Tang's. He had planned to draw out the person who had poisoned Tang Wan anyway. Staying here would make his job infinitely easier.

Tang Wan and Tang Tang's position in the family naturally wasn't low in the clan. So their villa was quite near the centre of the city. It was nearly four hundred square metres large, complete with their own swimming pool.

Tang Wan's body had already recovered. Due to Yang Chen's blood, she even looked much younger than before, as if she was in her twenties.

Along the way, Tang Tang held onto her mother's hand, chattering away just like sisters. This left Yang Chen in the back trailing them like an awkward third wheel.

When they had entered the villa, Tang Wan pointed to the southmost room and said, "Yang Chen, you can stay there. The guest room has already been cleaned by the staff, so feel free to make yourself at home. Just call for the staff if you need anything and they will procure it for you."

Without waiting for Yang Chen's reply, Tang Tang giggled and said, "Mom, since there's no one else here, you two should sleep together if you want. You don't need to hide it from me."

The blush on Tang Wan's face deepened, then she reached out to slap Tang Tang on her backside. "Silly girl! You would even dare to joke about your mother? Who nonsense are you spouting out? You're already learning such untasteful things at such a young age, you really have a perverted mind. Don't think that you're an adult! Going around spewing this sort of nonsense. You're not allowed to sleep with Brother Yuan Ye before your marriage either!"

Tang Tang just stuck out her tongue at this. "It was just a suggestion. Why did you have to drag Brother Yuan Ye into this? Besides, with his personality, even if I consented to it, he would probably chicken out."

Tang Wan rolled her eyes, at a loss for what to do with her daughter. "Clearly, I've spoilt you too much. Be a good girl, go back to your own room and sleep!"

Tang Tang made a funny face and muttered, "You were already thinking about it yet you didn't want others to say it out loud." Seeing that Tang Wan was about to spank her again, she quickly fled to her own room and shut the door with a loud bang.

Tang Wan let out a sigh of relief and put her arms on her hips. She turned to Yang Chen, only for him to look at her with an odd expression.

"What's going on with you?" Tang Wan felt her body numb up at Yang Chen's gaze.

Yang Chen didn't think much of it at first, but when he was reminded of it by Tang Tang, it lit up the sparks in him.

In the beginning, he was already interested in Tang Wan, but one problem after another kept appearing and getting between them. But now they had the whole villa to themselves. It was a haven for him, Tang Wan, and that girl, Tang Tang wasn't an issue at all. Besides, he hadn't gotten to vent his sexual frustration in sometime.

Now, standing before him was Tang Wan who looked exactly like a young woman, with a beautiful figure but the allure of an experienced woman. The deceptively simple black-laced dress hugged her curves in all the right places and showed off her enticing cleavage. Beneath the short dress was her milky white thighs, soft and supple.

Yang Chen just tutted and put on an act saying, "Wan'er, we haven't finished the business we had at the hotel, have we? Why don't we continue it tonight?"

The hotel? Tang Wan had a flashback to the time they were at the Maple Hotel, but were rudely interrupted.

Tang Wan's face instantly reddened. She dipped her head, not daring to look at Yang Chen. She already like him well in the past, and now her feelings for him ran deeper seeing that her grandfather's life, her own life, and even her family's lives, were saved by him. Tang Wan couldn't think of any reason to reject him. In other words, she was quite delighted to partake in any actions.

"Aren't you worried of your wife getting jealous?" Tang Wan finally managed to utter out something.

Yang Chen's nose was filled with the heady scent of her fragrance, and he was too lazy to be bothered by that question. He continued, "We've already been through this before. Are you trying to act like nothing has happened? There's no point in beating around the bush. So be obedient, and tell me which room is yours."

Tang Wan carefully pointed to the east and said, "It's the one at the very end."

Without another word, he lifted her lithe body, bridal style, and strode towards her room.

Tang Wan screwed her eyes shut in anticipation. Even though she had been a mother for so many years, doing that act was something she thought was only going to happen after she was married. To say that she was only a little nervous was a complete understatement.

## **Chapter 643**

### **Pocket Money**

It was approximately midnight in Beijing. The lights in the Li residence were dim and barely covered a tiny space where three silhouettes encircled the study.

On the desk were tiny cups of freshly brewed white tea. The fragrant aroma engulfed the air around it radiating a sense of calmness and tranquility.

Li Moshen sat silently on his desk seat. In one hand was a copy of the paper, and the other was his personalized clay cup, which he took intermittent sips from.

On a separate end of the desk was Li Yunpeng, who was constantly staring across at his son Li Dun, visibly anxious with a tinge of blame towards him.

Li Dun acted all innocent as he sat with his leg crossed, presumably faking a nap with his eyes shut.

Li Yunpeng eventually broke the silence as he said to his son, "Are you serious about this girl from the Tang's?"

Li Dun right then opened his eyes and gave a strong nod. "I recall telling the both of you, and I am pretty sure you heard it loud and clear."

"You..." Li Yunpeng was perplexed as he shook his head. "Son, I hand picked so many better girls for you but not once did you bat an eye. Now you just had to fall for this Tang Xin girl. Need I remind you she is not as simple as she plays herself out to be?"

Li Dun shrugged. "All I know is that a girl that couldn't care less about me when we first met, even to the extent of despising me, must not be ordinary. I could easily have guessed that she's hiding something that she wouldn't want the world to see."

"Then why would you still go after her?" Li Yunpeng frowned.

"Because I have feelings. Like any normal human, I will chase those feelings," Li Dun replied with a bright smile.

"Is this a joke to you?!" Li Yunpeng raised his voice.

"Alright, alright..." Li Moshen, slightly agitated, decided to finally put down his newspaper and intervene. "Can the two of you just let me enjoy silence for a minute? What's the point of this conversation, yelling and all."

Li Yunpeng anxiously replied, "Father, this is regarding the little rascal's future marriage. How can I not worry about it?"

"Back in the days when you married your wife I was also anxious. But you ended up marrying her anyway, and you later had this exact little rascal you were talking about, didn't you?"

Li Yunpeng was caught off-guard. He quickly picked himself up and said, "How is that the same? Back then we were in unallied families and that was the only problem between us. But this Tang Xin is..."

Li Yunpeng was about to finish his sentence before he understood that it was still an unproven rumor.

Li Moshen shook his head and said, "What's the difference? The men of the Li clan have always done things to great lengths for the ones we love. Regardless of how he fell for Tang Xin, now that he's already deeply in love, are you going to lock him in to stop him?"

Li Dun laughed loudly. "See, the old man knows better. Either way you couldn't lock me in even if you try."

"Don't be too full of yourself." Li Moshen snorted. "Your love interest Tang Xin has quite the background. Even if it's still a secret now I can tell you why she hates you so much..."

"No! Don't! Stop it!"

Li Dun vigorously opposed his grandfather's idea, as he explained, "I don't want to know the reasons, or the secrets behind it. When the time comes for me to find out, I want to hear it from her. Besides, if you both have kept it from me thus long, it must surely not have anything to do with our clan. So why should I care?"

"Hmph. When the day comes, don't blame us for not warning you." Li Yunpeng was clearly not fond of the situation.

"Come on Dad. Whatever it is, she's still the first woman your son has ever fallen for. She might even be your daughter-in-law, so do you really have to curse her this bad?" Li Dun grumbled.

"Daughter-in-law? Hmph, if that day actually comes when you can get Tang Xin as my daughter-in-law, I swear to disregard all her past deeds. But that is if you can." Li Yunpeng was not buying it.

"Just you wait! If I visit her every day to ask for her hand, I believe that day will surely come when she finally accepts my proposal!"

Li Moshen was fed up with the arguments between the father and son. He abruptly cut into the conversation. "Alright, alright. What's the matter here? Dun'er is no longer a child anymore. How long are you going to keep him under his tight leash?"

Li Yunpeng finally halted his fuss, with a deep frown he grabbed onto one of the tea cups and gulped down some tea.

Li Moshen turned to Li Dun. "You had a duel with Yang Chen today, didn't you?"

Li Dun was instantly re-energized at the question, as he excitedly replied, "Gramps, guess who won?"

Li Moshen sighed as he replied, "Nonsense. Of course you lost. Doesn't take a genius to figure that one out."

"Tsk ts, so boring..." Li Dun felt dejected. "To be honest, it was less of a duel but more like a child's play time to him. Throughout the entire duel he never even lifted his feet. He was just toying with me the whole time."

"Naturally," Li Moshen replied with a mysterious smile. "Currently Yang Chen reigns supreme to all beings but one. The rest of us can do no harm towards him. Do spend more time with him whenever you are free to improve your cultivation, or to improve the relations between the Yang and Li clans. Whichever the case may be, it will be beneficial to us."

Li Dun yawned. "It'll be a problem on its own to expect Yang Chen to return to the Yang clan. But I don't mind all of that; he's a nice person, without all that two-faced nonsense. I'll treat him to another meal at the noodle stall then. Got to save up the rest of my money to buy Tang Xin some presents. Speaking of which, Gramps, now that I'm going after this girl, can't you just spare me with a little more pocket money?"

"Get out!"

... ..

Even at the edge of spring, the weather in Beijing was still chilly nonetheless.

The morning rays shone through the sliding doors onto the brown oak floor, creating a sense of warmth and zest.

On the spacious king-sized bed was a gorgeous female figure tightly embraced by a muscular man. Her long and alluring legs spread over the man's thighs. The only thing keeping the rest of her supple skin from the morning air was a brown linen blanket.

Her dark hair glazed on the side of the pillow, hiding half of her mesmerising face. All that could be seen were a pair of supple, pink cheeks.

As the sun gradually rose, the man forced his eyes open. And with that salivating mouth of his, he cracked a proud grin.

Lowering his head, he could see the gorgeous beauty sleeping in his arms. Yang Chen's focus gradually shifted down to her cleavage. He was captivated by its unbelievable depth formed by the curves of her supple, captivating breasts.

The nude upper half of her body was glued tight to his, initiating an exhilarating feeling in his body.

The thought of them working tirelessly in bed till the wee hours of morning was still fresh in his head. The thought of it only made his crave for so much more.

But Tang Wan was still rather inept in her experience. And if it was not for his Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture treatment upon her, she could never have lasted until midnight.

Her skin was immensely soft and supple, even for many women much younger than her. Her body was at the peak of womanhood, accentuating her curves. Yang Chen could only think of the Queen of Wales, Catherine, who could be placed on the same end of the spectrum.

But Tang Wan's oriental allure was distinctively different from that of a passionate western charm like Catherine's.

Men were mostly regarded as sexual beings. Regardless of what the consequences may be, when the urge arrives, nothing else would matter.

Tang Wan appeared to have had a pleasant dream, as she lifted her head and gave him a mesmerising smile. Her mature and feminine allure paired with the naivety of a young woman alluded a distinct, irresistible charm.

Yang Chen stared at her puffy lips and couldn't resist to give her a kiss. Smooch!

Tang Wan felt like she was bitten in her dreams and instantly woke up. She looked around drowsily before she started to get a grip on where she was and what had just happened.

She was not at all shy of her current position or the things that happened. After all, she had left those adolescent years behind for a while now. She was now a much more confident person, not to mention the vigour she recently discovered she had. She wasn't too worried about letting down her young lover now.

After Yang Chen stole a kiss, she lifted her head and got another kiss from him.

"Did you sleep well?" Yang Chen wrapped his arms around her before gently asking.

"I was not quite sure when I fell asleep, but waking up right here definitely feels like a dream." Tang Wan closed her eyes as she calmly replied.

Yang Chen was curious about her answer. "Why a dream?"

"Because it feels too good to be true."

Yang Chen kept his silence, he wasn't quite sure what she meant. It might be that her requirements were set too low, or that he was just taking advantage of her.

"Yang Chen..." Tang Wan was barely awake as she forced her eyelids open. "I missed you."

Yang Chen was confused. "But I'm here, what's there to miss?"

"Even if you right beside me, I still miss you. I really really do..." Tang Wan embraced Yang Chen tightly on the waist. "I don't care if you laugh at me. But every day since I gave birth to Tang Tang, I had always been hoping for the day I can finally meet a guy that likes me, and to wake up in his embrace."

"Even if I always tell Grandpa that I don't want to marry, that I can just live with my daughter and my brother, I tell him that just to stop his worry."

Yang Chen gently patted Tang Wan on her shoulder.

"You know, I really wanted to melt into your being. Because I really don't want to get out of this bed. I know I'm going to miss it so bad," Tang Wan earnestly mentioned.

Yang Chen laughed coyly. "Why make it sound so frightening? Why don't I just eat you clean, that'll be faster!"

Tang Wan saw the look on Yang Chen's face and quickly knew he was up to no good. She immediately shook her head and emphasized, "No, the sun's already up. What if Tang Tang were to stumble upon us like this?"

"The kid is more understanding than you think. She knows that you have always dreamt of a man for yourself. Come on, if you're not moving then I will!" Yang Chen gave a sinister grin as he flipped open the blankets, exposing her in her full glory. He then pushed her down as she hesitantly struggled, ready to continue last night's activities.

At the brink of invading her secret territory, Tang Tang's mellow voice resonated into the room.

"Uncle! Mom! Wake up!"

## **Chapter 644**

### **Was It Very Comfortable**

Yang Chen, who was just about to make his move, sighed in exasperation and said dejectedly, "How? How did you know that she was on her way to wake us up?"

Tang Wan let out a burst of laughter, her cheeks blushing. "Call it a mother's intuition."

He rolled his eyes at that. "I swear she's out to get me."

"Come on out already. I'm very hungry so I need to eat breakfast!" Tang Tang whined loudly.

Yang Chen really wanted to smash his head against the wall. He shouted back, "Why can't you have breakfast on your own?"

"Noooo, I don't wanna! Hurry up, or else I'm coming in!"

The echoing from her voice made it clear that Tang Tang was getting ready to barge in.

Tang Wan panicked and quickly said, "Tang Tang my dear, I'm going to be ready soon. Just be patient and wait for me downstairs, okay?"

If Tang Tang were to let herself in and witness her own mother and Yang Chen intertwined with each other without a stitch of fabric on their bodies, Tang Wan would have fainted from shock right there and then.

Under this circumstance, Yang Chen was helpless. Tang Wan had to have some dignity when facing her daughter after all. This left him with no choice but to behave and follow Tang Wan in suit.

When they finally made their way downstairs, they were greeted with a meal meticulously prepared by the staff from the Tang clan. Seated at the head of the dining table was Tang Tang, with a steamed bun in one hand and a spoon for her soy milk in another.

Smiling coyly, Tang Tang said, "Mom, I didn't know you were capable of screaming so loud. Apparently last night proved otherwise. Was it very comfortable?"

Tang Wan was just about to take a seat. Her cheeks blushed furiously at those words and she reached out to pinch Tang Tang's cheeks. "You ungrateful child! You were eavesdropping on us?!"

"No way." Her cheeks were still being assaulted against her will so some of her words came out slurred and unclear. "It's your fault for screaming so loudly. I couldn't even get a wink of sleep last night. See these eyebags?"

"Don't you dare say another word if you know what's good for you, young lady."

"Alright, alright. I'll stop talking." Tang Tang pouted childishly.

Yang Chen found their conversation rather lame. One insisted that they were all grown-up yet never stopped acting immature and saying dirty things. Whereas the other was obviously trying to put on a strict and motherly attitude but kept arguing with her own daughter like a child.

Breakfast here was a much more relaxed affair. Yang Chen was still waiting for Cai Yan to arrive in Beijing. But he no longer had to rush to his office without even having a quick meal as he often had to in the past.

Tang Tang was still wolfing down her nth steamed bun when she said through a mouthful of food, "It's a shame that you're too young to be my father. Otherwise, I would have loved for us to be a proper family."

At the rate Tang Tang was going, her mother's cheeks were going to be permanently stained in a bright red tint of red.

"Stop talking out of your ass," Tang Wan said with a glare aimed at her daughter.

"It's the truth. Why are you acting so shy?" she replied casually.

Yang Chen flicked Tang Tang's forehead and rolled his eyes. "I haven't even decided if I would want such a troublesome girl to be my daughter. But somehow, you've already succeeded in annoying me to the point where I wouldn't hesitate to give to you up for adoption."

Nursing her aching forehead, Tang Tang whined, "Momm, Uncle is bullying me!"

Said mother simply turned the other way and ignored her daughter's antics.

Tang Tang pointed at Yang Chen and exclaimed loudly, "On the account that you have rescued this mean mother who is clearly biased towards her lover than her own daughter, I, Lady Tang Tang, will pardon your actions today!"

"Why haven't you gone back to Zhonghai yet? Don't you have classes or revision to attend to?" Tang Tang's jests were ignored in favour of Yang Chen's question. "Zhenxiu, unlike yourself, is really hard working. You can't keep doing this, or you wouldn't even be able to go to university."

She whined even more at that and continued, "Hmph, as if I would be bothered by something like high school. I could enter the best university there is anytime I want to."

"Don't be so cocky. I'm bringing you back to Zhonghai in a week," Tang Wan said exasperatedly.

"I don't wanna! Class is too boring!" Tang Tang whined incessantly.

Tang Wan suddenly glared at her, lowered her voice and threatened, "Do you want me to freeze your bank account?"

At the mention of her bank account being frozen, Tang Tang slumped her body in defeat. She meekly went back to eating her breakfast.

Yang Chen was in awe. *So this how you discipline rich and privileged children! Instead of using force, you can threaten them using finances!*

*This is the ultimate trump card. If I ever have children, would Ruoxi pull this card as well?*

Although he doubted that he would need to do take any sort of disciplinary action, given that the moment their children saw Ruoxi they would be scared out of their wits.

At the thought of children, Yang Chen sighed. He didn't understand what was wrong with his body either. Had the divine light messed with his body's natural chemistry and caused him to be infertile?

In the past, he never really gave much thought to the idea of having children. But now that he had a proper family and he had seen Tang Wan's motherly face, it lit a spark of hope within him.

He was even considering whether or not to visit the Yang clan and meet up with Yan Sanniang to ask some questions that he had since he was already here in Beijing. So far, the only person he knew who could give him some insight into this matter was that mysterious woman.

Just then, Yang Chen's phone vibrated. He picked it up and saw Liu Qingshan's number flashing on the screen.

Ever since the incident with Gao Yue, his relationship with Liu Qingshan had worsened. It got so bad to the point that they weren't on speaking terms anymore. *On second thought, he might have something important to say,* thought Yang Chen.

After all, the man was Liu Mingyu's father. Ignoring him forever wasn't an option even though it was a very appealing one.

"Father-In-Law, how nice of you to call so early in the morning," Yang Chen said courteously.

Liu Qingshan grunted, "Cut the crap. I know you couldn't care less about me. However, on behalf of Yu'er, I'm not calling to pick a bone on you. I know you're in Beijing, and Yu'er probably told you I was here as well. Find some time to visit me as I need to bring you around and introduce you to several people."

Since it was Liu Mingyu who told Liu Qingshan, Yang Chen guessed that she probably wanted them to patch things up. Too bad she was not aware that her efforts would be in vain.

Yang Chen was too lazy to ask who he was going to be meeting. So he said in a clipped tone, "My schedule is free for the next few days. Just send a car over to pick me up. I'll relay the address to you."

"Disgraceful. You came to Beijing and don't even have a car on hand," Liu Qingshan retorted childishly, picking on such a trivial matter.

Yang Chen just laughed then ended the call.

Tang Wan looked weirdly at him, and said, "Which beautiful lady's father was that? As far as I know, Lin Ruoxi doesn't have a father." The jealousy slipping through her voice.

*It's not that she doesn't have one, it's just that Premier Ning doesn't dare to acknowledge her,* he thought. Instead, he replied, "That was Mingyu's father. His name is Lin Qingshan."

Tang Wan nodded. "I only found out recently that Mingyu's father was actually Liu Qingshan. The man who single-handedly runs the largest syndicate in Beijing. I can't believe you have such close ties with the underworld of Zhonghai and Beijing."

“Well, it’s not like I planned for any of this to happen.” He shrugged his shoulders and said, “I’m meeting up with some people afterwards. So you may...”

Tang Wan smiled and said, “It’s alright. I need to bring Tang Tang to meet some relatives since she hasn’t returned to Beijing in ages. The whole fiasco of me being poisoned left us with no time to do our round of greetings.”

Tang Tang pouted at that and did a gesture on her cheek. “Uncle, you’re the most thick-skinned pervert I’ve ever met. Have you no shame?”

To which Yang Chen picked up a steamed bun and stuffed it in her mouth, leaving Tang Tang literally speechless.

It was nearing the appointed time for Liu Qingshan to pick him up. He walked out of the Tang residence and stood at the roadside.

The Tang clan was one of the wealthiest clans in Beijing and it wasn’t a good idea to stain their relationship with the Green Dragon Society. So he decided to play nice.

Not long after, a sleek and black Rolls Royce pulled up beside him which attracted a lot of gazes.

The windows of the car rolled down to reveal Lin Qingshan dressed in an all-black suit. Lines of laughter were etched on his face as a cigar drooped limply in his mouth. He waved to Yang Chen and motioned for him to enter the car. Seated beside Lin Qingshan was a middle-aged woman.

The way the average-looking Yang Chen entered the car as if it was nothing out of the ordinary came as a shock to many of the passersby.

Yang Chen reclined in the comfortable leather seat. He stretched and shifted in his seat before finding a comfortable position. When he was finally satisfied, he turned his head to look at the woman seated beside Liu Qingshan

The woman looked to be around forty years old, but could easily pass off as a woman in her thirties. Her hair was neatly cut short and dyed red. She was rather plump and dressed in a yellow uniform, which hinted at an underlying beauty.

While he was carefully watching the woman, she smiled and directed her curious gaze towards him as well.

## **Chapter 645**

### **They Came Prepared**

“If I were to guess, this is my second mother-in-law?” Yang Chen asked, grinning.

Liu Qingshan had two women. One of them was Liu Mingyu’s birth mother who was his first wife, the other was the woman he met in Beijing who had supported him in his businesses, Liu Minghao’s birth mother. Yang Chen figured that she was the latter.

The woman in yellow smiled. “I heard from Qingshan that you’re not an ordinary guy. Now it seems that is indeed the case—you’re addressing me as your ‘second mother-in-law’ when we’ve only just met.

Even Mingyu's mother and I have never differentiated ourselves into first or second. How is it that you're differentiating it on our behalf now?"

Yang Chen touched his nose, thinking, *"How would I know that you're of equal ranking? I was even going to segregate the both of you as the legal wife and the mistress."*

Liu Qingshan snorted coldly. "Save your breath. There's really no point arguing with him. He says one thing but does another. He addresses you nicely, but when things go wayward, he doesn't care about relationships regardless."

Yang Chen rolled his eyes at this fellow. *"All I did was beat up a subordinate of yours. Does that warrant such denigration?"* he thought.

"Let me introduce you." Liu Qingshan had one hand wrapped around the woman's shoulder and another holding a cigarette. "This is Xu Ying, Minghao's mother. Yu'er has met her before, and calls her mom as well. For now, you will refer to her as mother-in-law."

Yang Chen took the chance to fawn on Xu Ying and said, "Oh Mother-In-Law, what a waste it is for you to have married this man. He is practically an old cow grazing on young and tender grass!"

Xu Ying laughed heartily at his words. Liu Qingshan on the other hand, wanted to retaliate. But by doing so he would inevitably be calling Xu Ying old. So all he could do was glare at Yang Chen.

"Do you know why I asked you here today?" Liu Qingshan finally said after a short exchange.

Yang Chen rolled his eyes. "You are the one who called me here. Why are you asking me this question?"

Liu Qingshan's lips twitched slightly, but didn't want to beat about the bush. "You know that Minghao is my only son. After all these few years of striving in my business, I need a successor. But Minghao is still young and inexperienced. Even if he shows promise, it's impossible for him to manage the business all at once.

"And I'm no longer young. I had intended to expand my business after forming an alliance with Red Thorns Society when I went back to Zhonghai previously. However, I realized that it won't be easy to keep that snake under control. I'm planning on leaving these matters for Minghao to deal with in the future."

Yang Chen understood the meaning behind Liu Qingshan's words. It would appear that he, too, knew there was very little chance of him reigning control over the whole of China. Not mentioning that there were hidden forces in other provinces. The nation wouldn't allow them—the Green Dragon Society—to be the only ones in power. Besides, there was still the Red Thorns Society in Zhonghai who reigned supreme in the south.

Therefore, all Liu Qingshan could do right now was pave the road for Liu Minghao.

"Although you're not from the underworld, you are also not just an ordinary man. At least, President Rose listens to you. As for how Minghao can perform in the future, I'll have to enlist your help. I believe since you are already courting my daughter, you would be willing to lend a hand."

"Coincidentally, our gang—the Green Dragon Society—is having an elders' meeting today. All the important figures will be there. My plan is to bring you along to meet the important figures in our gang

while you're in Beijing. That way, everyone will get to know one another. I hope that after I retire and pass the reins to Minghao, you would still be there to guide him."

Yang Chen was caught in a dilemma. *So, he wants me to protect that brother-in-law of mine. Not mentioning the incident where Liu Minghao caused Zhenxiu to be bullied by those young gangster girls. Also, Green Dragon Society is based in Beijing. Does he expect me to visit this place every now and then?*

*However, Liu Qingshan's arrangements, to a great extent, are not for my sake. He probably thinks that I'm the true master of the Red Thorns Society. And with that, I probably hold a significant amount of power that could aid Liu Minghao in frightening those fellows in Green Dragon Society who hold the actual powers.*

Xu Ying gave out a sorrowful look and sighed, saying, "Qingshan, Minghao is still young. Are you really so cruel involving him in the gang even though he's still so young?"

"He is my son. Since he doesn't want to attend school, this is the only route left for him." Liu Qingshan disregarded Yang Chen's presence and grabbed Xu Ying's hand, saying, "Once I retire, you should do the same. You've been following me everywhere throughout all these years of hard work. I know it hasn't been easy for you either. We should spend the remaining half of our lives together."

Xu Ying smiled bitterly. She gave up trying to persuade him.

Listening to this entire conversation from aside, Yang Chen felt that although Liu Qingshan's behaviors weren't all that commendable, at least his concerns for his children were genuine. But he also asked curiously, "Does Second Mother-In-Law also hold a position in the gang?"

Xu Ying smiled. "At first, I owned a bar in Beijing. But I later gave up that life to pursue this one after I met Qingshan. Your father-in-law and I were the ones who established the foundations of Green Dragon Society. After that, I have mainly been in charge of internal affairs and logistics. I can be considered as a hall master."

Yang Chen nodded his head while thinking, *No wonder that fellow Liu Minghao is so restless. It might be because his mother isn't just an ordinary woman.*

It took nearly an hour's drive before they finally arrived at their destination. It was a holiday resort with a garden-style design. One could easily tell who it belonged to from the name—Green Dragon International Holiday Resort.

They drove all the way into the center strip of the holiday resort, where a three-storey Baroque style bungalow stood beside a manmade lake.

A few staff greeted them, and Yang Chen tailed Liu Qingshan and Xu Ying as they walked slowly into the main hall of the building.

Upon entering, he noticed that the building consisted of both banquet hall and meeting hall in one place. There were already a number of men in suits and women in stunning outfits waiting in the banquet hall.

It was more accurate to describe them as a big company that was doing business in the underworld than an underworld gang.

When Liu Qingshan and Xu Ying entered the hall, everyone would come forward to greet them. Most of them showed a mixed look of respect and fear towards Liu Qingshan. After all, he was the one who had single-handedly established Green Dragon Society.

On the other hand, when everyone rested their gazes on Yang Chen, they were slightly baffled. But since he came with Liu Qingshan, no one dared to question.

Since Liu Qingshan had arrived, the elders' meeting of Green Dragon Society could officially commence the meeting. They were prepared for a meeting that would last for an entire day.

They all sat down around an enormous oval meeting table. Liu Qingshan was seated in the main seat, whereas Xu Ying, who was the president's wife as well as one of the hall masters, sat to his left. Evidently, she was the second in command. A position much higher than Yang Chen assumed her to be.

Yang Chen was mulling over where to sit when a man approached him, saying neutrally, "You can take the seat behind the president."

The voice sounded familiar to Yang Chen. He lifted his head and was slightly startled. Wasn't this man with tender, fair skin standing before his eyes the very person whom he had beaten up and sent into the police station back then—Gao Yue?

*By right, this Gao Yue should be serving sentence in prison right now. How did he escape to Beijing? Given Cai Yan's personality, she wasn't one to easily release criminals she caught!*

At this moment, Liu Qingshan turned around and spoke to Yang Chen in a solemn voice, "I was the one who ensures Gao Yue's release from prison. Regardless of your past feuds with him, he is still my right-hand man. Since you've already taught him a lesson before, don't hold on to it anymore and just let it go. Everyone, please sit. We're starting the meeting."

Yang Chen furrowed his brows. He didn't expect that Liu Qingshan would still come up with a way to release Gao Yue. He wasn't particularly concerned over the likes of Gao Yue, but that odd behavior of Gao Yue obviously revealed his enmity towards Yang Chen.

Xu Ying shot a glance at Gao Yue, then at Yang Chen. She had a complicated look in her eyes, but said nothing.

After a while, Liu Qingshan signaled for everyone to settle down. With a serious face, he started his speech. "In today's elders' meeting, there are a few important matters that I would like to discuss. I believe that everyone had been notified about it before this meeting was called. But before moving on to the important matters, I would like to introduce to you a young man."

Liu Qingshan turned around and pointed at Yang Chen, signaling for him to stand up. He then said, "This is Yang Chen. He's my son-in-law. Many of you have probably heard of his name. That's right, he can be said to have deep connections to Red Thorns Society in Zhonghai."

With that, all the hall masters and heads in the hall started whispering to one another, shooting weird stares at Yang Chen. Being the higher ranking people in the society gave them access to information not readily available for the public. Obviously, they never expected that the rumored mastermind behind Red Thorns Society would be such an ordinary young man.

Yang Chen felt rather awkward. He found that he was being stared at as though he was an animal. He stood up for a short while then quickly sat down again.

After his introduction, Liu Qingshan continued, "The reason why I let Yang Chan participate in today's meeting is because he will also be involved in what I am about to announce."

At this point, Liu Qingshan paused his words for a while deliberately. He scanned at everyone in the hall with his eyes, ensuring that they were all paying attention, before resuming, "During my previous trip to Zhonghai in an effort to expand our territory in the south, I realized that I've been fighting on this route for nearly thirty years now. I am no longer the young man I used to be. And many young people out there are more resilient than I anticipated."

"Hence, I have decided that after this elders' meeting, I will officially transfer my authorities to my son, Liu Minghao."

The crowd clamored upon hearing these words of his. A few hall masters who were nearer to him hurriedly offered their words of advice. "President, we have been carefully observing Minghao's growth. He indeed has what it takes to continue on this route. But he is still very young—he's still a child—how is he to assume the duties of a president?!"

Liu Qingshan said, "Of course I won't make Minghao the president immediately. I will still be there to guide him as often as possible. Besides, he has your support. As for the safety of our gang after my retirement, I intend to let our ally, Red Thorns Society, provide us with assistance. This is also why I let Yang Chen participate in our meeting today."

"Yang Chen is my son-in-law, and also Minghao's brother-in-law. He is one of our own. Which means, Red Thorns Society will definitely stand on our side. Even if I retire, I believe no other squad would dare to challenge us Green Dragon Society and Red Thorns Society both at once."

*Yang Chen who was sitting behind him pursed his lips, thinking, "This father-in-law is an expert at spouting nonsense. I haven't even gotten a chance to get my word in, but he has already spoken on my behalf. Besides, what era are we in now? He's not even displaying any signs of democracy, and yet he is appointing his own son as the upcoming president? His methods of operating are inappropriate and inconsiderate to say the least."*

Indeed, after a short uproar from the crowd, an elder man with grey-white hair raised his hand and inserted his opinion. "President, in my opinion, appointing Minghao as the president is not an appropriate action."

Liu Qingshan didn't expect anyone to sound out against him publicly. His gaze became colder, and he shot a glare at the man. Smiling, he said, "Uncle Zhang, you're considered my senior. If there's anything on your mind, please share it openly."

The old man who was addressed as Uncle Zhang took a breath before he said, "I believe that the role of president should be given to the person who can win over the people with virtue. Although Minghao has potential, he hasn't yet reached a stage where we are comfortable with giving him the position. There's no guarantee that he will stand the test of time. Us older fellows don't have that much time left to nurture a newbie. Thus, I, Old Zhang, think that this is inappropriate."

“Uncle Zhang, back then when I first came to Beijing, I was but an ignorant young boy as well. But I have single-handedly made Green Dragon Society rule the entirety of Beijing. Some individuals’ growth far surpasses the speed of others. I believe Uncle Zhang you are also able to attest to this,” Liu Qingshan said expressionlessly.

Unexpectedly, Liu Qingshan had just finished his words when a woman in red who was slightly younger started chuckling and said, “President, you are our gang’s hero. We are well aware of that. But that child Minghao is still immature to say the least. I’ve heard that all he has done in Zhonghai is lead a few hooligans getting into small fights. Compared to you, he is nowhere near ready enough.”

“That’s right, President.” A middle-aged man with a boss-like hairstyle smiled coldly, “Any one of us hall masters seated here are far more capable than an ignorant young boy. Why then are you not taking anyone of us into consideration?”

Liu Qingshan’s face turned grim. He felt as though this going south very quickly. He had originally thought that given his reputation, everyone would at least agree to it on the surface, despite actually being against the idea.

If that happened, then even if they tried to do something behind the scenes, he would be able to stabilize the situation by just punishing a few of them on behalf of Liu Minghao.

Little did he expect that the current situation would happen—so many of them were about to fall out with him openly!

Yang Chen, who was still seated behind him, let out a yawn. He wasn’t oblivious to the tense atmosphere in the meeting room. But apart from finding it slightly interesting, he had no other thoughts. At the end of the day, it wasn’t his duty to care about who became president of their society. He was only here for Liu Mingyu’s sake.

At this moment, Liu Qingshan was so enraged that he broke into laughter instead. He pounded his fist on the table and said, “Alright, alright! Seems like you’ve all come prepared. We’ve all been working together for such long years, and we’re well aware of each other’s capabilities. In that case, I would like to know, who do you all think is more suitable to take my place as the president?”

## **Chapter 646**

### **The Good Wife and Mother**

Liu Qingshan was not stupid. There were plenty more qualified and experienced people in the gang. If everyone fought for it, they would definitely end up divided, and their loss would be much greater than their gains. In order for that not to happen, he decided to give the position to his son to avoid any internal conflicts.

It was rather common for the son to succeed the father’s business in the underworld. The greatest advantage of doing so was that it would prevent competition between the various major groups within the gang. Therefore more often than not, even if the elders within the gang were unhappy about it, they wouldn’t explicitly oppose the idea.

Now, seeing that everyone was out against him, Liu Qingshan decided to just let them fight against each other so that he could reap the ultimate benefit.

The hall masters exchanged whispered words for quite a while, before the eldest among them, Uncle Zhang who spoke up. "Actually, while we are on the subject of the person who has the greatest authority and also the greatest competency apart from the president, I believe there is only one such person in our Green Dragon Society."

As he spoke, Elder Zhang's gaze turned towards the side of Liu Qingshan, landing on—Xu Ying!

"President's wife, no, Hall Master Xu has abilities that rival those of a man. She is the most important figure who has established the foundations of our Green Dragon Society. I, Lao Zhang, will fully support the notion for Hall Master Xu to become the next president!"

All the blood drained from Liu Qingshan's face upon hearing these words. He was so shocked his body froze in place!

Xu Ying looked very calm. She smiled at Lao Zhang. "Uncle Zhang you're being too polite. I don't have such abilities."

Seeing Xu Ying's reaction, Liu Qingshan's eyes were filled with coldness.

Right after that, the woman in red, the man with boss-like hairstyle, and a few other major figures who were nearby all started to chime in.

"I'm similarly woman. Of course I support Sister Xu Ying as the president."

"Hall Master Xu had given her all to Green Dragon Society since the beginning. And her health is in good condition. Naturally, she's the best candidate!"

"I, Old Zhu, have always held Madam Xu in high regard. I have nothing against it!"

"If it's Hall Master Xu, then she definitely is a better candidate. What's more, Minghao is Hall Master Xu's son. Even if it's just until Minghao becomes fully capable, this is not a bad option."

Everyone started singing praises to Xu Ying unanimously. They all believed that she was the best candidate to take over the president's duties.

Xu Ying was just smiling faintly at first, but as things went on, she didn't bother hiding it anymore. She hung a proud look of victory on her face as she glanced jokingly at Liu Qingshan who was beside her. Her voice was gentle and feminine but held an underlying hint of chilliness. "Qingshan, what should I do? Everyone here seems to want me to take over your position."

Liu Qingshan inhaled deeply, his face revealed a complicated grim expression as he looked at this woman beside him. She seemed familiar yet strange at the same time.

"You are truly... my good wife, and Minghao's good mother..." he said, while attempting to force a smile.

Xu Ying gazed at Liu Qingshan gently, saying, "Qingshan, you've said it all on the way here., You're no longer young, and you're tired of this life. Therefore, let me share your woes for you. Isn't that good?"

"What if I say no?" Liu Qingshan's brows were twitching, and the veins on his arms were bulging. He was trying his absolute best to control his fury.

He had never anticipated that the reason for his well laid out plans to fail in the end, would be the betrayal by the person whom he had loved and trusted the most!

Not to mention, it was such a plain and outright betrayal! She completely disregarded their relationship!

Xu Ying shook her head regrettably, sighing, "Qingshan, you know me. Ever since I built your empire beside you, I've always been a meticulous person. I plan everything ten steps ahead, so that you have nothing to worry about. I stand and fight in the front lines."

As though he was sucked into his memories of the past, Liu Qingshan's eyes were full of sorrow.

Yet, the temperature in Xu Ying's gaze had suddenly plummeted. She let out an icy cold smile and said, "Since I've made my decision, there won't be any flaws."

With that, Xu Ying gave out a clap of her hands.

All at once, every single door surrounding the hall was flung open violently. A large troop of burly man in black uniform carrying submachine guns in their hands filled the entire hall!

Suddenly, the situation was extremely tense and nervous!

Liu Qingshan's eyes popped wide open while he clenched his fists tightly. He didn't expect Xu Ying to even arrange for such a mighty ambush!

It seemed like she was truly unshakable in her determination!

"Xu Ying! This isn't within what we agreed on!"

Suddenly, that man known as Uncle Zhang yelled. "Didn't you say that all we had to do was to support you as the president?! Why did you plant so many gunmen in an ambush?! What do you think you are doing, pointing guns at us?!"

Apparently, everyone present was promised something from Xu Ying. But she played them into her hands!

Xu Ying smiled mockingly. "Uncle Zhang, it doesn't matter whom the gun is pointing at. Isn't it more important that you're still alive? I did promise to raise all of your shares if I become the president. But I never told you that I won't plant gunmen in ambush."

"You... you despicable slut! Isn't it enough for us to change sides for you?!" Elder Zhang was clearly outraged, feeling like he had been terribly betrayed.

Xu Ying shot a cold glance at him, then casually snapped her fingers—

Bang bang bang bang!!!

At the snap of her fingers, the submachine gun that was closest to Elder Zhang was fired!

Elder Zhang who was still berating her angrily, standing, instantly took a shot through his head. Blood splattered everywhere. He died on the spot!

Everyone's expressions changed at once. They stared at the old hall master who had died before their eyes in disbelief!

“Uncle Zhang!!!”

Liu Qingshan roared furiously, his eyes red with sadness—that was after all, the elder who had nurtured him and fought by his side to establish his business. Even if they had conflicts, deep in Liu Qingshan’s heart, he still cared deeply for each and everyone of them!

Xu Ying snorted coldly. “Couldn’t he just relax a little at his old age? Look at that, the quality of guns nowadays are so bad that accidental shots are becoming more and more common.”

Liu Qingshan flung his head around, pointing straight at Xu Ying and berated, “You poisonous shrew! How could you do such a thing?!”

Xu Ying replied him with a fearless glare, saying coldly, “Qingshan, aren’t you the one who knows best what kind of woman I am? Back then, every time when I succeeded in my ambush plans, creating a large scale bloodshed, you would always praise me for being capable. Why then are you scolding me now? As expected, you don’t really see me as your woman deep down in your heart after all.”

“You... I...” Liu Qingshan was at the verge of collapsing. He said exhaustingly, “Xu Ying, don’t do this. Order these people to retreat. I’ll pretend like all this had never happened”

Xu Ying laughed uncontrollably, as if she had just heard the funniest joke in the world. She laughed for quite awhile, before she finally held back her tears of laughter. “Liu Qingshan, seems like you have indeed aged. Do you really believe that I would care whether you’ve truly loved me?”

Liu Qingshan’s eyes were engulfed by immense desperation. He could tell that Xu Ying truly did not care about it at all.

“What you’re doing... What’s the reason for it?” Liu Qingshan asked weakly. “I’m only bent on making Minghao succeed my position. Isn’t he your child as much as he is mine? Is that not enough?! Are you intent on ruining our relationship as husband and wife?!”

Xu Ying scanned the entire hall loftily. After Uncle Zhang’s death, everyone was completely silent. No one dared to make a noise.

Xu Ying smiled smugly before answering, “Minghao is no doubt my son. But he doesn’t need a toothless tiger as his father.”

“What?” Liu Qingshan couldn’t fathom.

Xu Ying looked at Liu Qingshan with pity in her eyes, saying, “Liu Qingshan, you’re no longer the same person as before. When I first met you in the bar, you were so valiant, so unyielding, so brutal, so decisive. No matter what you did, you would only think about power and wealth. Trivial stuff like relationship was none of your concern.”

“Retire? Spend the remaining of your lifetime in peace?! Haha! I, Xu Ying, have toiled by your side for almost twenty years, and even gave birth to a son for you! Do you think that was all for the sake of accompanying a foolish old man into retirement?!”

Liu Qingshan’s entire body gave way. His eyes were wide open and his jaws almost dropped to the ground. If not for the chair, he would have already slumped to the floor.

“The person that I liked was only that hero Liu Qingshan who used to stop at nothing to achieve his goals. Not this coward now who is single-minded in his attempt to make his son the president so that he can retire. Are you contented now that you have ruled Beijing? Since you don’t have what it takes to rule all of China, nor what it takes to expand our power beyond the nation, I’ll gladly do it on your behalf.” Xu Ying’s eyes shone brightly with fervor. She was too excited with her plans that she had forgotten to hold back her laughter.

Liu Qingshan raised his head up strenuously. He released a sarcastic laughter as he shook his head and said, “Rule the whole of China? To think that you are so stupid to believe that. Xu Ying, you, a lone woman, do you really think you have such capabilities...?”

“You’re wrong. There is still me.”

Suddenly, Gao Yue who had not spouted a single word all along stood up from the back and said.

Liu Qingshan turned his head around once again in disbelief. He just stared blankly at Gao Yue, who now seemed like a completely different person as before. “You... Even you have betrayed me.”

“Why not?” Gao Yue smiled maliciously as he reached out one hand to hug Xu Ying’s ample waist in his arm.

Xu Ying was not bothered by this action in the slightest. Instead, she leaned on Gao Yue’s chest meekly, looking completely comfortable in it.

Liu Qingshan came to a sudden realization. He lost control of his emotions and started laughing hysterically...

“Haha... Haha... Excellent! Excellent!! What a pair!! Now I know that the two persons that I trusted the most treated me so well!” Liu Qingshan was laughing and crying at the same time as he said, “No wonder the minute Gao Yue entered prison, you were so anxious on making me drag him out. Turns out you were already colluding behind my back.”

Gao Yue had one hand stroking Xu Ying’s waist while the other swinging his finger around, “Tsk tsk, Liu Qingshan. You don’t have what it takes any more. What Xu Ying needs is a man who can continuously expand the territory of Green Dragon Society together with her. Not a sick cat that has lost all its teeth and claws.”

Many of the other elders were also shocked by the fact that Xu Ying had joined forces with Liu Qingshan’s right-hand man Gao Yue. But to them, the only thing that mattered was to stay alive right now. Furthermore, if Xu Ying takes over, the dividend that they gained from Green Dragon Society would only increase. So they didn’t care about who would become president.

Liu Qingshan was after all seasoned. Despite suffering from such a fatal setback, he quickly sort out his thoughts. He said solemnly, “Xu Ying, since you’ve already come to this step, I have nothing left to say... I’ve lost.

But, I hope that you won’t do anything to Yang Chen, as well as Mingyu and her mother.”

Yang Chen who had been watching from the side was also shocked at how things had unfolded. He had never expected the second mother-in-law that he had just met to suddenly become a 'poisonous shrew'. Life is indeed unpredictable.

But seeing that Liu Qingshan still thought of him as well as Mingyu and her mother in such circumstances, Yang Chen felt relieved. At least despite everything that has happened, he is still a responsible man.

"Rest assured. I already had it all planned." Xu Ying smiled smugly and said, "After I send you to your death, I'll say that you have been murdered. Then, I will take good care of Minghao. As for that mother and daughter duo, I'll just have someone monitor them. It's not like they are able to do anything about it anyway. Whereas your precious son-in-law Yang Chen... Hehe..."

Xu Ying stared at Yang Chen with an odd expression, saying, "Actually I have so much to thank you for, Liu Qingshan. You've presented me with the best present I could ever receive. As long as Yang Chen is within my hands, it will be much easier to handle Red Thorns Society in Zhonghai..."

"You! How could you!?"

Liu Qingshan pointed his finger at Xu Ying, yet there was nothing he could do to strike back. He could only gaze at Yang Chen painfully. "Yang Chen, I have let you down."

"Hmph, why don't you say that you've let me down?" Gao Yue smiled coldly right then. "The two of you, one refused to save me from danger, and another sent me into prison. I, Gao Yue, am no gentleman. I take revenge on everyone who has let me down. Liu Qingshan, I'll be sure to send your son-in-law straight to hell!"

## **Chapter 647**

### **Give Me Your Gun**

Liu Qingshan stared intently at the couple before his eyes completely lost its ferocity. Miserably, he lowered and shook his head. Following which, he turned to look at those core elders of Green Dragon Society by the table, saying, "You... have all worked through ups and downs with me through this roller-coaster of starting up our society. I've never forgotten the contributions that you've made for the gang. And I knew that deep down, there were things that I did which upset you at one point or another."

"But I would have never expected anyone of you to have resorted to this. We've spent so many years together. Was everything we went through together worthless?"

All the hall masters were silent during his speech. Only a few people took a sad glance at Liu Qingshan.

Seeing their reactions, Liu Qingshan let out a resigned smile. "It seems like you have all decided my fate for me."

"Boss Liu, as the saying goes, a hero is defined by his successes and failures. You can no longer give us any benefits, but President Xu can. Of course we will support her becoming the president. But Boss Liu, don't worry. At least that kid Minghao will eventually become president in the future. That means you still have a successor of your own," the man with a boss-like hairstyle said in a calm voice. It couldn't be told whether he was consoling Liu Qingshan or mocking him.

Liu Qingshan started laughing heartily. His laughter threw the others off guard.

“Successor... That’s right, I still have a successor.” Liu Qingshan couldn’t stop laughing, his entire body shaking.

Still hugging Xu Ying, Gao Yue exchanged a glance with her. They sensed something off about Liu Qingshan, but couldn’t pinpoint the reason. Ignoring it, Gao Yue smiled scornfully and said, “Liu Qingshan, any last words before you die? If not, I’ll be sending you on your way now.”

Liu Qingshan completely ignored them. He turned to Yang Chen who was sitting calmly by the side and said, “Son-In-Law, how do you think this matter should be dealt with?”

Yang Chen had sensed something odd about Liu Qingshan’s words just now. Looking at his expressions now, a sudden flash of realization dawned upon his mind.

*That’s right, no wonder I felt that something was off the moment I arrived. I’ve become complacent in my observations,* Yang Chen thought.

Following which, Yang Chen couldn’t hold in his laughter and said, “I was still slightly touched by your plead for me just now. Now it seems like aged gingers are indeed the hottest.”

“You’re wrong,” said Liu Qingshan. “Believe it or not, I truly meant everything that I said.”

Yang Chen stayed silent for a short while before saying, “Nothing here is of significance to me. Since you’ve already come to your own conclusion, just do as you deem fit.”

Gao Yue, Xu Ying, and the rest who were listening to the weird conversation between Liu Qingshan and Yang Chen started frowning. But given the current circumstances, could Liu Qingshan possibly still have something up his sleeves?

“Hmph, you’re putting on an empty show of strength and meaninglessly struggling at the brink of your death.” A stern look hung on Xu Ying’s bewitching face. “Liu Qingshan, I know all of your tricks. Don’t think that you can frighten us like this. Since you have no last words to say, then I’ll end our ties as husband and wife. Let me send you on your death.”

As she spoke, Xu Ying turned around and reached out her hand towards a man in black nearby, saying, “Give me your gun.”

However, that man didn’t even budge an inch.

Xu Ying furrowed her brows, yelling impatiently, “Can’t you hear me! I said, give me your gun!”

The man remained as still as a wooden log. He was holding up his gun, but did not move in the slightest.

A mix of suspicion and shock overtook Xu Ying’s eyes. She turned towards another man in black on the other side and said, “You, come over and give me your gun!”

But similarly, that man just stood there expressionlessly. He wasn’t following Xu Ying’s orders at all.

At this point, many people finally started to sense that something was off.

Xu Ying and Gao Yue exchanged glances. They both saw a look of shock in each other’s eyes!

Could it be...

"Allow me." Liu Qingshan's voice right now had become totally grim and obscure.

Liu Qingshan adjusted the collar of his suit and braced his spirits, then slowly stood up from his seat, scanning around the entire hall proudly.

"Everyone get into position," Liu Qingshan said slowly.

With one order, all the men in black immediately pointed their guns at the elders of Green Dragon Society who were nearest to them!

At the same time, the men behind Xu Ying and Gao Yue both pressed the ice cold nozzle of their guns at the back of this couple's heads!

All at once, the tides have changed!

Not only did Xu Ying and Gao Yue's faces turn pale, every single one of the Green Dragon Society's elders forgot to breathe. They felt that they were in a dream turn nightmare!

Yang Chen clicked his tongue in pity, without saying a word. He had truly underestimated this cheap father-in-law of his.

This was a man who had started his business from scratch and established the foundations of the empire that is Green Dragon Society, the king of the Beijing underworld. How would he be betrayed by others so easily...

*It's a good thing that Liu Qingshan is the head of the underworld in Beijing and not Zhonghai. If he were in Zhonghai, Situ Mingze would probably have been killed long ago. If that was the case, then my Rose wouldn't have had the chance to grow up either, thought Yang Chen.*

Yang Chen was able to pick up on some clues prior to this. Before this, he had already felt baffled by the fact that not even a single bodyguard was stationed beside Liu Qingshan. This was totally outrageous for a boss of the underworld. Even if they were hidden in the dark, Yang Chen would have sensed their presence.

Later on, when he saw that the other hall masters in the hall had no bodyguards as well, Yang Chen figured it was probably just a rule of the meeting.

But after that, Elder Zhang was shot to death in the meeting room. The sound of the submachine gun was definitely not soft, and this wasn't a soundproof room. The gunshot would have been heard by people from miles away. Yet, with such a loud gunshot, there wasn't any movement from the outside.

This was, after all, an important turf of the Green Dragon Society. It was also a holiday resort with plenty of staff. Even if Xu Ying and Gao Yue had bribed a large number of personnel for their plan, it was impossible for them to make every single person in Green Dragon Society follow their orders.

At the time of this elders' meeting, after hearing a loud gunshot, not a single person approached to inspect the situation. This was obviously an anticipated scenario.

If it was Xu Ying and Gao Yue who had bribed every single person there, or replaced them with their own personnel, then that was too great a fanfare. Announcing to the entire world about their plans to usurp the position? That was almost impossible. Hence, the most plausible explanation was—it was all set up by Liu Qingshan! All these people that were planted in the hall had already received orders to do nothing!

Liu Qingshan had set up his very own test. He was using this situation to test the loyalty of everyone present!

“How could it—how could it have turned out like this?” Xu Ying mumbled. Her knees gave way, and she fell to the ground on her knees in shock.

Gao Yue, on the other hand, was quaking in his shoes. In a swift move, he knelt down and started making kowtows to Liu Qingshan!

“President! President, please spare my life!! Considering that I, Gao Yue, have followed you for so many years that even my effort counts if not my contribution!! Please don’t kill me!! It was this woman who deceived me! That’s why I lost my mind momentarily. President... President, it’s all her fault!!”

Hearing Gao Yue’s ugly beg for mercy, Xu Ying turned her head around stiffly and spat on that fair face of Gao Yue’s!

“Gao Yue... we’ve lost and that’s it. You’re not a real man.” Xu Ying looked at Gao Yue with despise, her eyes filled with desperation and regret.

Liu Qingshan shot a calm glance at these two, paying no attention to them. Instead, he looked towards the bunch of elders who were sitting and said, “Perhaps you’re surprised. Why is it that I was the one who was supposed to be set up, yet in the end I did it unto you instead?”

Then, he paused in his words. He seemed to be enjoying the look of fear on everyone’s faces. Finally he said flatly, “Of course you wouldn’t understand. You did not toil for many years to become president and stay in that position. Your lack of understanding is why you will die today.”

“President!! Please forgive Old Deng! It was Xu Ying and Gao Yue who instigated us! It’s not our fault!!”

The hall master Old Deng with the boss-like hairstyle was soaked in cold sweat. He dived into kowtow position on the floor, trembling in fear like a dog shaking its tail for mercy.

Liu Qingshan rubbed his fingers and said lightly, “Old Deng, you’re still the same. Always making useless speeches. Just now when I asked you all if you wanted to sever all ties with me, not a single one of you chose to stand on my side. Since you’re all incapable of sharing both life and death with me; there really is no reason for me to keep you around, is there? I’ve given you chances. It’s a pity that none of you cherished it.”

All the members of the meeting started displaying looks of regret and indignation. They never expected that all along. Liu Qingshan was the one who truly had everything in control. Xu Ying made a fool out of them, but in actual fact, they were all fooled by Liu Qingshan?!

All these years, Liu Qingshan seemed as though he was no longer as valiant as his young self. Thus, everyone’s fear towards him had diminished. But a thin dead camel is bigger than a horse. All was well

when Liu Qingshan stayed still. But once he moved, it was as though thousands of lightning had struck. He had practically turned everyone into mere pawns on his chess set!

Everyone in the hall knew clearly that in the underworld, once someone bears the sins of rebellion and disloyalty, their lives were forfeit.

Liu Qingshan did not hesitate in the slightest. He had already said his piece. This man who had unified and ruled the entire Beijing underworld with his own hands had seemingly returned to the most glorious days of his life, with eyes as ferocious as a dragon he roared, "Kill..."

"Wait a minute!!!"

Almost simultaneously, Old Deng who was kneeling on the floor sprang up and tore his suit apart with brute force!!

"You can't kill me! Or else we'll all die together!!!"

Old Deng yelled in a ghastly manner. A row of glowing bombs were tied to his stomach!

Obviously, if the bullets were to strike on him, or if he activated a suicidal button, in the wink of an eye, that row of explosives would ignite instantaneously!

Chapter 648 - Did You Love Her

### **Did You Love Her**

Liu Qingshan's pupils contracted. He was not a deity. There was no possible way that he would have anticipated Old Deng to have tied explosives around his waist.

This entire set up was arranged because he had learned of the conspiracy between his woman Xu Ying and Gao Yue.

He had purposely diverted his bodyguards to mislead Xu Ying and the others into believing that he was defenceless. Then, he secretly replaced the personnel arranged by Xu Ying and Gao Yue with his own followers. Finally, made sure that everyone in the vicinity was well aware of the situation before he went on with his plans.

Liu Qingshan was also very meticulous in his arrangements. He made use of this event to test everyone's loyalty to him. If anyone were to back him up in such a scenario, then that person could definitely be trusted. When Liu Minghao does really succeed him one day, he wouldn't have to worry about a revolt either.

But if these people were to disregard their close ties with him at such a crucial moment, it gave Liu Qingshan no reason to show mercy. He was willing to slaughter everyone in that room to pave the way for his son.

It had to be said that Liu Qingshan was a fearful hero. However, he was also one to care about loyalty. To people who obey his orders, he would hold them in high regard. For the rest of them, he will not hesitate to end them. It all depended on whether they knew how to read the situation.

Originally, all his plans had already reached the final stage. As long as he followed through his plans and killed everyone in the hall, he could give Green Dragon Society a complete makeover. However, this sly Old Deng had made preparations of his own.

Thinking about it, Old Deng probably didn't trust anyone at all. Thus, he had prepared a bomb beforehand to save his own life, just in case.

Who knew that he was the one that would've guessed it correctly! Whether it was Xu Ying or Liu Qingshan, none of them could be trusted!

"Old Deng, don't act rashly. Explosives are not something to be played with," Liu Qingshan said with a calm face. He was pondering over how to deal with this.

Old Deng sensed an opportunity and immediately broke into laughter. "What? Are you afraid? If you're afraid then let us go! All we want is to stay alive. In the future we'll all take our own paths!"

Old Deng was smart enough to use the word 'us' instead of 'me'. He could only gain access to more resources to escape by getting everyone involved.

All at once, the rest started to chime in, shouting for Liu Qingshan to release them.

But right at that moment, Yang Chen who had been sitting silently on his chair suddenly stood up. He walked to the side of a man in black and seized his submachine gun.

That man was reluctant to give it to Yang Chen. Yet, the speed and force at which Yang Chen exerted was beyond his capability to react. His gun was immediately seized!

Liu Qingshan noticed what was happening and frowned. The main reason why he brought Yang Chen along today was to gain his trust and respect.

He wanted Yang Chen to see how honest he was in front of him. It was also a chance for him to prove that he was not an easily oppressed man.

With that, his collaboration with Red Thorns Society in the future would be more stable. And Yang Chen, as his son-in-law, wouldn't dare to offend him too much.

But the current circumstance made Liu Qingshan regret a little. If something were to befall onto Yang Chen, how was he to explain it to Liu Mingyu and the rest?

"Yang Chen, stay still. What are you doing?" Liu Qingshan asked.

Yang Chen held the submachine gun as casually as though he was holding a chicken's feather. He was swinging it around like a toy while grinning happily. "This brother is truly bold to put his life in the hands of a bomb. If these American army's C4 explosives all exploded, not just the people here, even the entire hall would be rendered to nothing."

"What?! This is C4?" Liu Qingshan's face darkened. He never expected the situation to be so dire.

It was impossible to obtain this powerful explosive that the US army often used through normal channels. This Old Deng must have paid a hefty price for his protection.

Yang Chen ignored the startled looks on their faces. He held up the gun in his hands and pointed it at Old Deng's stomach—right at the explosives!

"What are you trying to do?!" Finally, Liu Qingshan panicked. He could already see the blazing waves of flames engulfing him into nothingness!

Yang Chen shrugged, saying, "You are Babe Mingyu's father. Don't worry. I won't let you die so easily."

As he finished his words, he immediately pulled the trigger, ignoring the terrified looks of the others!

"Are you crazy?!"

"Stop it!!!"

...

Bang bang bang bang!!!

Bullets went straight into the explosives on Old Deng's stomach.

Boom!!!

At that instant, no one had time to react at all. Their ears were bombarded by the deafening sound of the explosion!!

All of them shut their eyes in anticipation of the blast. Even those armed men in black could only lunge down to the floor due to the lack of time to even run.

Only Liu Qingshan forced his eyes wide open. He knew that there was no use in hiding. At such a short distance, if the explosives truly ignited, not a single soul would survive this. Therefore, he would spend his last few seconds alive to see what this young man was trying to do!

Liu Qingshan's spirit that wasn't even afraid of death at this crucial moment was truly a proof of his guts.

And it was precisely this guts of his that gave Liu Qingshan the honor of becoming the sole witness of a 'miracle'!

When the bullet ignited the entire row of C4 explosives, a glaring hot light started sparkling wildly at Old Deng's stomach.

Old Deng's body was engulfed by fire instantaneously. A ray of light that was a blend of red, black, white, and purple radiated and engulfed everything around it!

But, during the aggressive explosion, it would seem that the burning beast had hit an indestructible obstacle!

Oddly enough, the lights were contained within a small area. It was a meter within Old Deng where the point of ignition became a ball of light!

Within this incredible ball of light, the destructive force of the explosives was completely restricted. The powerful impact and high temperature did not affect anyone in the room!

Finally, more than ten dreamlike seconds later, this ball of light diminished.

Liu Qingshan gulped. He could see that Old Deng had already vanished from where he originally stood. There was only a black pool left where he once stood.

He was carbonized!

A living human being was carbonized by extremely high temperatures within a small, compressed area!

At this moment, Yang Chen casually threw the gun back at the man whom he seized it from. He then walked to Liu Qingshan's side and gave him a pat on his shoulder. "I know you brought me here to let me know that you, my father-in-law, are also a tough man. But Father-In-Law, you must realize that there is nothing you can do to prove your worth to me."

"Alright, I've finished my job. I'm in a good mood today and I'm not interested in watching the slaughter. I'll wait for you outside."

In the blank stares of everyone in the hall, Yang Chen left casually. He even closed the door behind him.

Liu Qingshan was stuck to where he stood, unable to recover from the event. He suddenly realized something—everything that he had done was parallel to a boring performance of beheading someone in front of a grim reaper.

...

Beside the manmade lake in the center strip of the Green Dragon International Holiday Resort, Yang Chen sat lazily with his legs crossed on a rattan bench. He was humming a song while looking at the reflections of the light in the lake.

He had just heard Hui Lin sing this song when he visited the branch of Yu Lei Entertainment yesterday. It was to his surprise that he could remember most of the melody even though he had only heard it once. This showed just how fascinating Hui Lin's song was.

About ten minutes earlier, the sounds of gunshots echoed loudly like firecrackers going off.

Yang Chen knew for sure that Liu Qingshan had killed everyone right after he had regained his senses, Naturally, that included the second mother-in-law whom he had only just met—Xu Ying—and her adulterous partner Gao Yue.

And within this period of time, Yang Chen had also thought of something else that he hadn't thought about previously.

Liu Qingshan wanted to let Liu Minghao take over his position in the meeting. But he failed to summon Liu Minghao back from Zhonghai. Liu Minghao didn't even know that he was the subject of their meeting.

Evidently, this didn't quite make sense. If Yang Chen had noticed this earlier, then it could have been easily deduced that Liu Qingshan had ulterior motives for the event today.

It was because Liu Qingshan knew that Liu Minghao's mother Xu Ying might be killed by his own men on the spot today. Hence, Liu Qingshan didn't want Liu Minghao to witness it.

As for explaining everything to that kid Liu Minghao in the future, Liu Qingshan had probably planned for that already.

After quite a while, Liu Qingshan's silhouette appeared by the side of the rattan bench. He stopped and eventually sat down beside Yang Chen.

Liu Qingshan's body carried a pungent stench of blood with him. It was without a doubt that all the members in the hall had already been killed. Liu Qingshan had probably already called in the cleaning crew.

"They're all dead. Not a single person left," Liu Qingshan said in a most mundane way, as if his dead wife and subordinates who had followed him for so many years were all strangers.

Yang Chen nodded. "That's good then."

Liu Qingshan kept quiet for a while, then suddenly let out a bitter laugh. "I knew you were strong. But I did not expect strength beyond that of a human."

Yang Chen turned around. "Who told you that I'm not human?"

Liu Qingshan said, "Before I decided to form an alliance with Red Thorns Society, I would have naturally conducted a background check on every person involved with them. You were? one of those people. My subordinates told me that you had once face dozens of ex-West Union Society members with guns alone, and you killed every single one of them. But there was no conclusive evidence. There was no reason for me to believe it at the time. Now I do."

Yang Chen realized that Liu Qingshan was probably talking about the time when he dealt with Situ Mingze.

"But, it's a good that you're not human." Liu Qingshan let out a gentle look on his face, "If that's the case, then should anything happen to me in the future, Yu'er will still be safe in your hands."

Yang Chen was taken aback. He hesitated a little before asking curiously, "Did you... love her?"

Liu Qingshan was surprised by this question. He answered with a bitter smile on his face, "If I didn't, I wouldn't have dragged everything out until today. I wouldn't have bothered to test their loyalty."

They were talking about Xu Ying who had already been shot to death. The woman who had been by Liu Qingshan's side for almost twenty years.

Yang Chen fell silent. He didn't know if Liu Qingshan was telling the truth. But even he couldn't understand this thing called love.

Liu Qingshan seemed to sense Yang Chen's doubt. He laughed, "You are also a man. And you are similarly a man with more than one woman. Between your legal wife and my Yu'er, who do you think is your true love?"

Yang Chen replied without hesitation, "Both of them. I love both of them equally."

Liu Qingshan said, "It's the same for me. I love Yu'er's mother, my legal wife. But I also love Xu Ying, the woman who had fought by my side in Beijing for twenty years. But just because I love her, doesn't mean that I have no reason to kill her."

"..."

"If I were to give a reason..." Liu Qingshan sighed, "Perhaps it's because, Xu Ying... she is smarter than Yu'er's mother."

Yang Chen didn't say a word. He just waited for Liu Qingshan to continue speaking.

"In comparison, Yu'er's mother is not as young as Xu Ying, not as clever as Xu Ying, and is frankly rather uncivilized. Other than trivial household affairs, she spends most of her time thinking about how to save and scrimp, thinking about when the supermarket will have a discount, thinking about what nourishments to feed Yu'er, or thinking about preparing meals and fruits for me."

"Xu Ying is different. Her intelligence has helped me a great deal in my process of building Green Dragon Society. She can manage both internal and external affairs. She handles matters in a sensible way and decisive way. She has a quick wit, which made me admire her for her ability. She is a rather attractive woman, which has always been the case."

Yang Chen said, "But it looks like you like my mother-in-law a little bit more. Oh... I mean Mingyu's mother."

Liu Qingshan laughed. "You're right, that is the case indeed. Maybe most people wouldn't believe it, but deep down in my heart, I really like Mingyu's mother a little bit more. That woman never fails to amuse me. She'll probably spend her entire life nagging about trivial household affairs, or sometimes create trouble and cause a headache for me. Yet, she makes me feel more grounded. She makes me feel like the man I want to be."

"So, you would rather bear the risk of Liu Minghao hating you forever than to leave Xu Ying alive," Yang Chen said.

"That's right," Liu Qingshan admitted. "But I still have a concern, that is, if Minghao can't surmount this obstacle of me killing his mother, then he wouldn't be suitable to success my position."

"Perhaps one day in the future, he will kill you," Yang Chen said straightforwardly.

Liu Qingshan laughed heartily. "Perhaps. Rest assured, if he can really kill me one day, then I'll definitely die happily! Because that means he will have surpassed me! But, since our Yu'er has chosen to be with you, you little brat better keep your eyes sharp on the lookout. If you let my daughter down in any way, I haunt you for the rest of your life! You better not think that I can't do anything to you just because you're strong!"

Yang Chen grinned and laughed mischievously. "Father-In-Law, I've grown to like you a little. Your personality is still very likable albe it a little dumb at times."

Liu Qingshan felt a cramp in his facial muscles. Was that a compliment or a humiliation? He could no longer tell.

**Chapter 649**

## **Vow and Kitchen**

It was near lunchtime. Seeing that their work here had come to an end, Yang Chen decided to drag Liu Qingshan to a restaurant without asking him first.

Green Dragon Resort Hotel had a standardized set of 5-star facilities. Undoubtedly, the restaurant must've been top-notch too as Liu Qingshan was the one paying for the meal.

However, he held a charcoal-black face throughout the meal.

This was because, whether Yang Chen was doing it on purpose or not, he had ordered two bulky steaks for his mains. Not to mention he wanted it extra-rare!

Liu Qingshan's appetite had gone down the drain after the gruesome scene which had happened during the meeting. Yet, Yang Chen was cutting into his bloodstained steaks and enjoying it!

But Liu Qingshan wasn't one who hadn't seen blood in his life. He tolerated the nausea that had arisen within his body and contained his anger; he finished his lunch while trying his best to refrain from showing his weakness.

Yang Chen, on the other hand, had intended to disgust him. This was what he deserved for showing off his capability.

Wiping the grease off his mouth after his meal, Yang Chen felt his phone vibrate. Lifting it up, he realized the call was from Cai Yan.

He already knew what that was about. He answered and asked, "Is Chief Cai calling to command an army to march north of China?"

Cai Yan burst out laughing. "What command? I'm calling to tell you I'll be arriving in Beijing at ten in the morning tomorrow. You better be punctual."

"So fast?" asked Yang Chen, startled.

"What do you mean? Are you reluctant to see me earlier?" said Cai Yan, dissatisfied.

Immediately, Yang Chen noticed where he went wrong. He thought Cai Yan would need another three or four days to reach Beijing so he could spend these few days with the stunning Tang Wan. However, now that Cai Yan was coming tomorrow, he would feel embarrassed had he looked for Tang Wan tonight again.

It was quite unfortunate. Had Cai Yan's friendship with Tang Wan be as close as that of Rose and Mo Qianni, he would've been able to enjoy his time even more.

But there'd be plenty of chances to have fun in the future. For now, he figured it was wiser to fulfill Cai Yan's wishes.

"How could that be? I was just a tiny bit surprised. Babe Yanyan, remember to bring a coat on board. The air conditioner is quite chilly. I don't want you falling sick," said Yang Chen in a serious, caring tone.

Albeit knowing he had just pulled a trick, Cai Yan felt delighted. She said, “How fake. You must’ve been having fun with another woman. You probably would have forgotten about our meeting if I hadn’t reminded you.”

He almost let slip of a ‘how did you know?’, but he managed to restrain himself. He said, defensively, “Chief, this one is truly innocent. I’ve been looking forward to announcing our relationship to your parents every day and it’s been driving me crazy.”

Sitting opposite him, Liu Qingshan now had a helpless look on his face. He could tell that the person on the phone was Yang Chen’s other lover. However, he didn’t think that Yang Chen would speak about it in front of him—Yang Chen’s father-in-law! This guy must really be shameless.

Liu Qingshan was even starting to suspect if he had made a mistake by sending Liu Mingyu into Yang Chen’s arms.

After blabbering on the phone for a while, their conversation finally ended. A woman who has recently gotten the taste of love would usually have endless topics to talk about. Even though Yang Chen was not sick of it, he was starting to get rather tired.

Thinking how it would not look good if he sent somebody else to fetch Cai Yan from the airport, he raised his head and smiled at Liu Qingshan. “Father-In-Law, you see, your son-in-law is all by himself in Beijing. I have nobody to take care of me here. How about lending me a vehicle.”

Liu Qingshan snorted and said, “Can’t you get a car?”

Yang Chen sighed. “Aren’t we family?”

Liu Qingshan paused for a moment and thought, *Now he’s acting like we’re a family! Why then did he try to disgust me just now?!*

But Liu Qingshan wasn’t one to hold grudges. He understood that Yang Chen may well be his strongest supporter in the future. So, he ordered his employee to retrieve a car from the garage for Yang Chen.

The hotel always had to offer rides to VIPs, so they owned quite a number of luxury cars.

Yang Chen did not choose an extravagant one. He took a brand-new deep blue BMW Z4, which was worth only about eight to nine hundred thousand yuan in China. It wasn’t considered too rare so it wouldn’t attract all the unnecessary attention.

Taking into account the fact that Liu Qingshan had just killed off the upper management of his society, there must be tons of things for him to settle. Yang Chen bade him a simple goodbye and left the hotel.

Perhaps it was because he had gotten used to driving his M3 in Zhonghai, he felt comfortable behind the wheel of another BMW. Although the settings of this car provided was 3 seconds slower than the M3 from 0 to 100 kilometers per hour, he didn’t need that kind of acceleration in this busy city.

Thanks to the GPS installed in the car, he located the Tang residence easily.

Once back at the place, the maids shot Yang Chen with curious glances. He had left walking out through those gates. How was it that he could return driving a car? Did he leave to buy a car?

After he parked the car, he headed towards Tang Wan's mansion. However, within a short distance from where his car was parked, he noticed a bunch of people outside a mansion. They seemed to be maids who were poking in on some fun.

He was worried that the rest of the afternoon would be boring so he too decided to stick his nose into the scene before him. He walked into the crowd, squeezing his way through. Then realized what was happening.

Li Dun was back again, in the mansion that belonged to Tang Xin and her father.

Wearing completely white suit and pants, he held a large bouquet of white roses and he was down on one knee in front of the entrance.

On the steps of the staircase stood Tang Xin who was wearing a simple dress. She had her brows furrowed and arms crossed while staring down at the kneeling Li Dun helplessly.

Tang Xin's father, whom Yang Chen had met only the day before, was looking anxious and troubled at the same time, muttering things behind her back.

Yang Chen grabbed a male attendant and asked, "What's going on?"

The maid replied in a respectful voice, "Mr Yang, Mr Li came here to propose to Miss Tang Xin. But she refused to accept it and Mr Li Dun wouldn't get up. And his actions are driving Miss Tang Xin insane."

Yang Chen could barely stop his laughter from bursting out. *?Propose? This guy is getting so impatient!*

He didn't imagine Li Dun to be such a faithful and loyal guy, shamelessly thinking that he too shared this characteristic. He walked forward smilingly and patted Li Dun's shoulders. "Old Li, everyone buys red roses to propose these days. Why did you get white ones instead?"

Li Dun had seen Yang Chen standing there for a while but he didn't bother to acknowledge his presence. All he did was kneel quietly. He took a sidelong glance at Yang Chen and said softly, "You think I wanted to? Damn! I don't know why but the price of red roses has skyrocketed lately. It's not even Valentine's day. I was left with no other choice since it was out of my budget. So I decided to settle with white ones!"

Yang Chen at this point was certain that this guy really was stingy. Feeling a little comforted about the ramen he had with Li Dun, he said, "You can't just kneel here in silence. You should at least say something touching."

Li Dun looked like he was on the verge of crying. "I've already said everything I can. The only thing left to do is to pull my heart out of my chest. I wouldn't be kneeling here if words were enough."

Right then, Tang Xin bit her lips, seeming to have made a decision. She shook her head gently and said, "Mr Li, please return. I really cannot accept your proposal."

Li Dun pretended like he had heard nothing. He answered, "Miss Tang Xin, please marry me!"

The maids standing around him were trying to refrain themselves from laughing out loud. It was the most entertaining thing they had seen in a while.

Tang Xin's father was getting anxious. He thought, *Why is my daughter so idiotic? It's a blessing that the eldest son of the Li clan wants to marry her. If it were not for Li Dun's admiration, there was no way she would ever get a chance to marry into the Li clan.*

"Xin'er! Stop the nonsense! Are you trying to get your father killed? You'd bring us a lot of benefits by marrying Li Dun!" whispered the father in Tang Xin's ears.

Teary-eyed, she said quietly, "Father, is my marriage only about bringing benefits to the clan?"

The father looked startled; he didn't know what to say. He then ran down the steps, attempting to pull Li Dun to his feet. He said smilingly, "Mr Li, please pardon Tang Xin's behaviour. It is my fault for spoiling her. Don't keep kneeling! People would think we're terrible hosts! Let's discuss this further after you get up. It's her blessing to be admired by you! We're absolutely in support of your marriage with Xin'er."

However, how could Li Dun be ordered by just anybody? No matter how hard the father pulled him, he wouldn't budge.

"Father-In-Law! You don't have to pull me. I won't get up. I must stay here until Miss Tang Xin says yes!"

The people surrounding them came a mixture of gasps—father-in-law?!

Even the father looked stunned as Li Dun had such determination. Tang Xin didn't have the slightest bit of inclination to accept him, but he already addressed her father as his father-in-law?!

The father didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He looked at Yang Chen and remembered that Li Dun was his friend. He requested, "Mr Yang, please talk to Mr Li. This is starting to get out of hand. I can already feel myself a lot closer to death!"

Before Yang Chen could speak, Li Dun shouted, "Father-In-Law, may you live a long and prosperous life!"

This time, everyone laughed whereas Mr Tang seemed to be near a nervous mental breakdown!

Yang Chen touched his forehead and thought, *It's embarrassing to be associated with this guy. He's just too shameless!* Li Dun had momentarily made him forget how shameless Yang Chen himself was.

At this instance, Tang Xin suddenly straightened up and became stern. "Mr Li, I'll tell you honestly. The reason I can't accept you is because there's already someone I love. So please stop wasting your time!"

After she had finished speaking, everyone looked at her incredulously. Not only was this outrageously brave of her, but since when did the quiet Miss Tang fall in love with someone? And who was that person who could compare with the likes of Li Dun?

Li Dun's face stiffened, the fire in his eyes dying down a little. Then, he seemed to be considering Tang Xin's words.

The father frowned as he walked forward. "Xin'er, is it true? Which clan is he from?"

Tang Xin kept her silence and had her head held low. She looked like she preferred it this way.

The father wanted to probe Tang Xin but was stopped by Li Dun.

“Father-In-Law! Please don’t prod further. It doesn’t matter who Miss Tang Xin fancies. I’m fairly confident I can defeat that person!”

This statement had almost become a vow.

Tang Xin raised her head and looked at the enthusiastic Li Dun, causing their eyes to meet. His face was full of confidence whilst hers was a mixture of torture and helplessness.

However, this time, he stood up voluntarily and said, “Miss Tang Xin, thank you for being honest with me. I’ll leave for now. But this doesn’t mean that I have given up. I’ll come by even more frequently to prove my sincerity. I also understand you need time to consider. I’ll go now. I still have work to do in the military.”

He tore his suit off, revealing his short-sleeved army wear, his face becoming serious once more.

Li Dun greeted Yang Chen goodbye and strode off, his hands still holding the white roses that weren’t received.

Now that he had left, the maids left in suit. Yang Chen took a glance at the dazed Tang Xin and the muttering father, his face lighting up with a gleeful look.

It took Yang Chen a while to walk towards Tang Wan’s mansion. Once he entered, he found no maids around but a graceful back view busying in the kitchen.

Tang Wan’s hair was held up in a ponytail. A lace gown caressed her body and she wore a wrinkled, grey short skirt underneath. Her long, smooth legs were a work of fine art, a carefully crafted piece.

Just her back view alone could make his heart pump faster.

Noticing his entry, Tang Wan turned her head and smiled. She then continued plucking the inedible parts off the snow peas.

“Why have you returned so early? Didn’t you say you wanted to bring Tang Tang to visit your relatives?” He stopped behind her and circled her waist, tightening his grip. Naturally, he was able to feel her skin with her clothes being the only barrier. He took a deep breath, inhaling her scent.

She bit her lips shyly and said, “Don’t start touching me right after you came back. We weren’t supposed to be back home so early, but Tang Tang wanted to take a nap so we had to ditch the plan. You may go entertain yourself first. I’m in the midst of preparing dinner.”

He switched his focus elsewhere, to survey his surroundings. The mansion was empty except for Tang Tang, who was sleeping upstairs. He stopped his hands’ movement and changed his tactics. His hands started massaging the sensitive spots near her stomach.

Tang Wan knew at once what he was up to. However, without much of a chance to object, she felt that the curve of her left breast was grabbed...

She whimpered.

Her breasts and her tummy felt hot, as if on fire. Electricity pulsed through her body, where she was most sensitive. She could feel herself becoming wet, as if a dam had been broken through.

It'd only been a while since she had a taste of it. But now, her urges came flooding back once her body was teased, like a raging forest fire, explosive and burning.

After years of keeping her virtue, a sudden exposure to intimacy had left her breathless yet excited. It was like gasping for air after a few minutes without oxygen, she wanted more.

His hot, ticklish breath grazed the skin near the back of her ear. She couldn't restrain herself any longer and let out a moan.

"Don't... don't do it here." Her whole body had melted, like chocolate, into him. Sweet and tempting, her body was paralysed, the snow peas dropping out of her hands.

Hearing her irresistible voice, he felt his skin crawl and his core tremble. He laughed evilly, "We'll wake Tang Tang if we do it upstairs. I think the kitchen is fine. Come, just climb onto the tabletop. I'll do the rest."

She took a peek at the vast surface of the white, plastic tabletop, imagining how she'd look laying on top. The mere thought of it sent her into a frenzy, making her face flush in embarrassment.

"I... don't want..."

"You'd still need to do it no matter how much you hate the idea." He couldn't care less about women's contrasting words. He picked her up in a swift motion and placed her atop the tabletop.

With a sudden realisation, she found her full, gracefully curved backside facing him. She didn't dare open her eyes while she buried her face in her arms, trembling from excitement partly from fear.

Right then, she felt the cool air brush against her skin. Her skirt had been lifted up, exposing her. Knowing what to expect, Tang Wan was filled with anticipation.

But Yang Chen wasn't in a rush. He took time to enjoy the view in front of him: her perfect curvature, and her squirming, fair legs. Her struggles and excitement had enticed him further, making it harder for him to resist. And just as he finished enjoying the view, he gave in.

When the fire had finally entered her body, Tang Wan was in cloud nine. It was like entering a never-ending, endless abyss, drifting continuously into the unknown...

## **Chapter 650**

### **It Will Get Your Blood Pumping**

After a disastrous afternoon, Tang Wan who had originally intended to prepare the meal ended up passing the task to the maids.

Tang Tang came downstairs to eat, but was confused as she thought her mother would be cooking. Blinking her eyes, she looked at Tang Wan blurrily before dismissing the thought. To her, her mother had yet to become that 'absurd'.

Tang Wan acted like nothing had happened. With the pride only a mother could have, she kept a straight face which Yang Chen found rather amusing. However, he didn't forget to bring up the news about Cai Yan's arrival in Beijing.

When Yang Chen mentioned that he planned on accompanying Cai Yan to clarify about their relationship to her parents, helplessness overwhelmed Tang Wan's face. Tang Tang—who was seated on the other end of the table—looked furious at the revelations she had just heard.

"Uncle, frankly speaking, how many lovers do you even have?" Tang Tang was noticeably hostile.

Yang Chen rolled his eyes. *Can I even tell her stuff like this? I'll just pretend to have heard nothing.*

Tang Wan beneath the table patted her daughter on her lap. "It's better for everyone if you kids stay out of this. After you finish eating, hurry back to your studies."

Tang Tang was not having any of it today. Pouting her lips in displeasure, she said, "Mom, stop being a pushover, or else you're about to see his lovers grow by the day!"

Tang Wan snorted coldly as she coldly glanced over to Yang Chen. "Let him be, this is a problem for his wife. Not us. All we need to do is take care of ourselves. As long as we don't have anything to do with him, whatever he does is none of our business."

Yang Chen nearly choked on his food before he shook his head bitterly. It was obvious that Tang Wan at that moment had drawn a clear line between herself and him. Regardless of what his life would end up to be in the future, she had no intention of relying on him at all.

Tang Wan might have been so used to playing a power figure in her life, that she was able to keep her cool even in tense situations.

On the next day, Yang Chen arrived at the domestic arrival gate on time. It didn't take long before a mesmerising figure elegantly walked towards his direction.

In a glance, the figure had short hair extending to her shoulders and a pair of white-framed sunglasses. She wore a white linen blouse along with a pink blazer, paired with a white skin-tight jeans and white leather heels.

For a person that seldom had the chance to wear casual clothes, her look was a feast for the eyes.

She managed to gather a couple head turns as she held onto her luggage while making her way through. That made Yang Chen feel extremely proud, especially when it took him this long to discover this feminine charm in her.

When they met, she removed her sunglasses and tossed her luggage aside as she stretched her arms out to Yang Chen before latching tightly onto him.

Yang Chen could smell her body fragrance. Patting her on the back, he said, "I'm not used to you being so dependent."

"Since this isn't Zhonghai, and I'm off duty, you could even carry me out if you want," she coyly murmured.

"You really think I wouldn't dare?" Yang Chen teasingly replied.

Cai Yan saw the sinister grin on his face and instantaneously loosened her embrace. "Okay pretend I didn't say that."

The both of them playfully teased one another for a while before Yang Chen instinctively took her luggage and held her with his other hand. Come to think of it, Yang Chen had never expected his relationship with Cai Yan to progress this far. But since things had turned out the way they were, he might as well enjoy what he had now.

After the luggage was placed into the car, Yang Chen initiated the engine before he asked, "So what's the plan? Where should we go first?"

Cai Yan replied without hesitation, "Well definitely to my house first, the quicker we settle this the better."

Yang Chen giggled. "You sound like you're worried that I wouldn't go meet your parents for the proposal."

Cai Yan pouted her lips. "For every day that it is not done, I worry a little bit more. If we can get it done as soon as possible then I won't have to worry anymore."

Yang Chen happily replied, "Alright, give me the address. I'll have the GPS take me."

... ..

In the west outskirts of Beijing, there was an abundance of hills and greenery.

After a rollercoaster-esque trip past several hills, in the middle of the forest held a vast area enclosed by thick barbed wire. On its borders were several heavily armed patrol troops.

The metal sign on its entrance had the words 'Beijing Third District Infantry Training Ground' written in blood red.

This area had long been off limits to civilians. Even the elders of Beijing might have completely no clue about its presence. From the outside it looked just like any other military base, but deep within the space lies an enormous weaponry research bunker!

Meanwhile, within the steel infused bunker, was a long but well-lit passage carefully constructed to fit the military base's needs.

A man in a long white lab coat led a dull, gloomy man in a white singlet into a tightly sealed laboratory.

"Get ready for what is to come. I can guarantee that it will get your blood pumping," the man whose hair extended to his shoulders taunted the other man before letting out a sinister laugh.

The young militant by the back scoffed, "Yan Buwen, I've been down here for hours but all you did were conduct a health screening on me and test my abilities. Then you're now taking me on a tour throughout the entire facility. If you're not going to show me what you meant by 'becoming stronger', I'm leaving."

Yan Buwen continued, "General Yang Lie, I really must say that you have no patience whatsoever. The tests were to make sure you are worthy of the transformation. If I skipped the procedures the fault will be on me. I'm a scientist and being meticulous is part of my work ethic. Don't ever question my methodologies again."

Yang Lie highly doubted his procedures, but chose to remain silent.

Once they arrived before a tightly sealed iron gate, Yan Buwen placed his eye in front of the retina scan. After a few beeps, the hexagon in the centre of the iron gate spun towards varying directions as the gate flung open.

Yang Lie irked from the foul stench that resonated from the chamber.

“Come in.” Yan Buwen held his hands in an invitatory pose.

Yang Lie squinted his eyes, as he cautiously tiptoed into the dimly lit chamber.

Just a few steps in Yang Lie alarmingly made a quick turn to the left!

“Roar!”

A dull pitched roar was heard before the silhouette shot out from the corner like a bullet. It narrowly missed Yang Lie as it hurled to the ground!

Yang Lie mumbled, “Jerk.” He had absolutely no idea what Yan Buwen had locked up in the chamber, so all he could do for now was charge his True Qi to sense the movements of the beast.

Yan Buwen trotted to side of the wall where the switches were placed, turned on the lights, and crossed his arms while he leisurely watched the combat before him.

Yang Lie dodged the thing several times before he came face to face with the ferocious ‘beast’!

It was then he realized that it wasn’t a beast, but one that imitated the movements of animals. It was in fact human!

A nude, bulky man stood before Yang Lie. Its nerves were bulging out and muscles were as firm as a rock. Its eyes were covered with capillaries and saliva dripped through the gaps of its teeth. Was that the stench that Yang Lie had picked up on earlier? Was it none other than the excrements of the beast man all over the chamber?!

“What the hell is that?!” Yang Lie was terrified, not by its appearance but by its physical quality that was approaching the Xiantian realm!

Yan Buwen ignored his query, before the beast man once again hurled itself towards Yang Lie!

This time the beast man became especially fast, and Yang Lie was only a few centimeters away from getting clawed in the face. Nonetheless, it still managed to slash a flesh wound on Yang Lie’s arm!

Yang Lie snapped and returned the favour by throwing a spinning kick straight towards the beast’s guts!

“Roar!!!”

The kick was capable of shattering marble slabs several inches thick, but the beast was left unscathed. It was as if he had kicked a fluffy pillow!

*How is that possible?!*

Yang Lie’s eyes were wide open from astonishment. He furrowed his brows deep in frustration. But there was no time to ponder the possibilities that was before him!

The beast miraculously twisted its body as it absorbed the massive force dealt upon him. It then accumulated it into a massive blow and shot it right at Yang Lie's brains!

Yang Lie, in that split second, unleashed all the True Qi within him. It created a deafening blast which erupted within the restrained space!

Bang! Bang!

Yang Lie successfully avoided the punch that came to him like a comet, but his act caused his body to get hurled several meters to the opposite direction. This resulted in him colliding with the reinforced steel wall in the process.

The beast itself suffered a huge amount of damage as it rolled on the floor, but immediately got back up and glared at Yang Lie. The only difference was, the beast chose not to recklessly attack this time.

Yan Buwen had a good laugh. "How is the surprise? Isn't it great?"

"Asshole! What the hell is that?!" Yang Lie was furious.

Right when Yan Buwen was about to answer, the beast darted towards Yan Buwen at tremendous speed, assuming that he was probably a better option for a snack.

Yan Buwen was naturally on guard as he curled his fingers towards the direction of the beast.

The beast was further agitated as it dashed towards him at full force!

Yan Buwen stood perfectly still before he seemed to miraculously defy the laws of physics. With one hand, he palmed the beast's head!

Crack! Bang!

The sound of cracking bones echoed throughout the room, before an ear-shattering pop followed behind it!

The skull of the beast was shattered into dust by Yan Buwen with his bare hand!

Yang Lie could not process what he had just witnessed. The man in the lab coat effortlessly accomplished all of that, and was only bothered by cleaning the stains off his hands.

## **Chapter 651**

### **Survival Machine**

Yang Lie wrestled with the situation that was before him. A beast that required all his might to ward off was butchered by a seemingly feeble and pathetic Yan Buwen? With one hand?!

Yang Lie was still unable to figure it out after having thought about it for some time!

Yan Buwen, on the other hand, was diligently wiping blood off his hand to no avail. He sighed and stuck his tongue out before licking it clean, unconcerned by the lack of hygiene.

Yang Lie frowned as he taunted, "There better be a valid explanation for this."

Yan Buwen glanced at him and said, "Do you know whose body this end product belonged to before it turned to this beast?"

"Before?" Yang Lie shook his head.

Yan Buwen replied, "He was a nobody. Just the most unamusing infantry personnel. Not even from the special forces. The best I could describe him is a little sturdy at best."

"No way." Yang Lie was dumbfounded as he stared at the headless corpse. *?This beast used to be merely an ordinary person?*

Yan Buwen turned around and took a deep breath of the stench of blood and excrement, potentially to his own enjoyment. He then continued, "You were willing to follow me to this facility solely because you wanted to destroy Yang Chen. But how much do you know about him? Do you know why his cultivation is leagues above yours?"

Yang Lie went silent. He didn't know; he never bothered to find out. All he knew was that Yang Chen's sudden reappearance led to the detriment of his once perfect life!

Yang Chen was the one who took it all away from him!

Yan Buwen said, "When Yang Chen was still a child he was taken by the first generation of the Zero organisation as one of the thousands or possibly tens of thousands chosen for live experiments. You might be familiar with them since they still reign supreme as the world's top assassin organization.

"Among the thousands of children tested upon, only Yang Chen survived. As a direct result of that, his cultivation progressed leagues beyond other people. His body and abilities only increase with age and time."

Yang Lie's pupils glowed in the thought that Yang Chen was a product of science. *?It's starting to make sense now. I think Yan Buwen is genuinely telling the truth.*

Yan Buwen turned to the headless corpse behind him as he pointed. "This is the prototype that I created yesterday. I replicated Yang Chen's genetics and infused it into the soldier's body. I then exposed him to the divine light experiment which Yang Chen had undergone years ago. I did that to provide him with the most basic genetic modifications.

"The results were rather positive, with Yang Chen's genes as the baseline, even the most ordinary of humans in the support of the divine light can possess immense power."

Yang Lie spotted an abnormality in his speech. He frowned and proceeded to rant, "You think I'm an idiot? Even with my limited knowledge in science I know you have to personally retrieve that bastard's body to get hold of his genes. Don't you think he would figure out something was up?! Even if your capabilities exceeded my expectations you're in no way on the same league as him!"

Yan Buwen shook his head as he gave a sinister grin. "You're right. I can't retrieve Yang Chen's genes directly from him, but I naturally have my ways around it. Don't fret."

Noticing that Yang Lie decided to remain silent, he continued, "As you can see, with the radiation of the divine light even the ordinary can become fierce and mighty. Take a guess, what do you think about the beast's body standards in comparison to Yang Chen's?"

Yang Lie went into deep thought, before shaking his head saying, "I don't know."

Yan Buwen's smile fizzled as he continued speaking in a stern manner. "I can tell you Yang Chen's genetics after a series of professional hypothesis. In conservative numbers, it is more than ten times that of the beast."

Yang Lie's expressions turned sour right that instant. Even if he knew beforehand that Yang Chen was extraordinarily powerful, he never expected the gap to be this huge.

Yan Buwen added, "In different words, that means even with all your might, you wouldn't even be able to touch him. And that's when he was just merely fist-fighting. I'm excluding his cultivations and abilities."

Yang Lie clenched his fists, as his body shivered.

"Look Master Yang, if you really seek to destroy Yang Chen, you need to be in full cooperation with my experiment. That way, you would at least stand a chance against him. Or else you will never be able to catch up to him." Yan Buwen's words were fueling the fire in Yang Lie's heart.

Yang Lie had the sudden urge to accept his proposal before he noticed the headless corpse lying lifelessly on the ground. "If you are going to turn me into something like that, then what's the point of destroying Yang Chen?"

"Tsk... no no." Yan Buwen shook his finger. "Like I said, this brat was originally just an ordinary human being. Without Yang Chen's genes as a baseline, he could never have the capacity to bear the fatal side effects of the divine light exposure. But it was not enough as you can see. All it resulted in was a dull-witted creature.

"But you're different General Yang, the odds are in your favour. Because within you flows the same blood as that in Yang Chen, regardless of how much you hate to admit."

Yang Lie was stunned by his words. The final hint to Yan Buwen's ulterior motive; the main reason Yan Buwen was so persistent in getting him as the test subject in his experiment; the main reason of that devilish smile on his face all this while!

Was because of his blood! The same blood that flows through Yang Chen's body!

Yan Buwen raised his tone. "Yang Chen's genetics are the product of numerous strengthening processes throughout the years. It had already been strengthened multiple times before it was exposed with the divine light. With a host body of the highest compatibility that could match flawlessly with Yang Chen's DNA, the radiation of the divine light would provide pure strengthening without any side effects!"

Yang Lie however continued with a rhetorical question. "One thing, according to what you described thus far, even if the experiment is a success, I can only achieve a physique identical to that of Yang Chen. But that bastard doesn't just have a superior physique—he has already achieved Xiantian Full Cycle. Even then he is still constantly strengthening, even obtaining god's abilities. Do you really expect for me to go on a hand-to-hand combat with that bastard?"

Yan Buwen gave a long, thorough sigh. "General Yang, all I can say is, many of these scientific theories can be excruciatingly complicated for the masses to comprehend. So let me try to explain it to you in the simplest words I can muster."

"Say it." Yang Lie sneered at him.

"Have you ever heard of Dawkins' survival machines? Oh, I don't even have to ask." Yan Buwen scratched his head. "Anyways long story short, the human body only acts as a carrier for genetic transmission. The mastermind of all creation is none other than our genetics.

"Regardless of how insanely overpowering Yang Chen could get, it was all the work of his genetics as it constantly improves itself. As long as we succeed in modifying our genetics to exceed even that of Yang Chen's, we should be able to overtake him without much effort.

"Don't mention stuff like realm of divine abilities to me. Those are just the by-products of superior genetics. Genes are not just the development of humans, but in a higher degree they are the core to the unleashing for all of mankind's abilities!"

After Yan Buwen's lengthy but convincing speech, Yang Lie could feel his adrenaline pumping. He gulped before he asked, "What proof do you have?"

"Proof? Haha. I'm the living proof!"

"You?" Yang Lie was taken aback. "You mean, you have conducted genetic modifications on yourself?"

"Obviously. Amidst all the research and experimentation, weaponry developments, how could I possibly find time to cultivate?" Yan Buwen answered proudly. "All I needed to do was alter my genes ever so slightly, and I could surpass your cultivations even if you have practiced for over twenty years. The truth lies before you. If you're still unconvinced then I can always send you out the gate, so you can go back to being the pathetic little bug that Yang Chen sees you as."

"You're fueling my rage." Yang Lie was visibly agitated.

"So what? There's no way for you to defeat me." Yan Buwen was unconcerned.

Yang Lie was infuriated, but he had nowhere to spill his anger because he knew, from the scene in the chamber, Yan Buwen was certain that Yang Lie stood no chance before him.

"From what I see, the title 'Beijing King Duo' no longer suits you," Yang Lie cunningly declared.

"Compared to that Li Dun, I think you're definitely better."

"I've never admitted to that title." Yan Buwen shrugged.

Yang Lie had a face of suspicion. "I'm really wondering, for you to assist me in the ongoing feud with Yang Chen, what exactly do you get out of it?"

"It was and is definitely for my benefit so you can quit it with the overthinking. You'll never understand the reasons behind it." Yan Buwen had no plans of clarification.

Yang Lie stood up straight as he declared, "I may not know what you're about to do, but nothing in this world stands before my hatred for Yang Chen. And Yan Buwen, listen closely, I can work with you even

though I know that I am going to be your lab rat. However, if I end up a beast like the one before my eyes, I swear on my grave that I will haunt you till your last dying breath.”

“Cut it with that grandmother story.” Yan Buwen bursted into laughter. “Welcome to my ‘god creation’ project, my dear General Yang Lie...”

... ..

For Yang Chen who was still driving towards the Cai residence located in one of Beijing’s military areas, something cropped up which he didn’t expect to happen.

As the car gradually came to a halt before a vine-engulfed fence, Yang Chen abruptly whacked himself on the head. “Oh god, Yanyan, isn’t it customary for me to bring gifts since this is my first time visiting?”

Cai Yan was dumbfounded, her attractive lashes quivered ever so slightly while she blinked at Yang Chen. “I think we should. I mean, everyone else does it too, right?”

Yang Chen was left a little dazed. If it were Mo Qianni or Liu Mingyu, they would’ve realized this sometime back. But for a girl as bold and big-hearted as Cai Yan, regardless of how femininely she was dressed today, she was still inattentive towards small details like these. Nonetheless, he went in bare-handed.

Yang Chen follicked his forehead as he sneered. “Whatever, since your father has already given his blessing for our engagement. I’m sure it’ll be fine.”

Cai Yan then replied with suspicion, “What blessing? What did my dad say to you?”

Yang Chen laughed it off, believing that if he told her about her father Cai Yuncheng’s request for him to look after her in particular, she would feel displeased and grumpy about it.

As the two of them entered the courtyard hand in hand, an elegant figure stood by the door waiting for their arrival. In a black lacy dress and a white coat, the familiar figure was none other than Cai Ning!

Her cold and stern personality came with a surprisingly warm smile for the return of her one and only sister. Even though she wasn’t good with expressing emotions, she was noticeably excited when they arrived. “We’ve been waiting for a while now. Come in.”

## **Chapter 652**

### **Steal Her Husband**

The courtyard of the Cai residence was much quieter than Yang Chen had imagined it to be. It wasn’t as large as the other mansions and there weren’t as many maids bustling around. A house of this scale was considered a humble attempt for Cai Yuncheng, who was an honored man in the military.

Being able to meet her sister, Cai Yan was beyond delighted. She linked arms with Cai Ning while entering the living room and showing off her solved cases and interrogations.

Cai Ning had listened to her stories while keeping a smile on her face. She sometimes responded with a neutral tone, but this seemed to be fine by Cai Yan.

In the living room sat the casually-clothed Cai Yuncheng, who was reading the military newspaper on a chair made of redwood. He stood up relaxingly when he saw Cai Ning leading the couple in. He said smilingly, "Ah, perfect timing. We were just about to have our family dinner."

"Father! I've missed you so much!"

Cai Yan had let go of her sister in favor of diving into her father's embrace and hugging him tightly. She looked exactly like a child.

Cai Yuncheng held a helpless expression, standing stiffly like a log while his daughter took him in her arms. He smiled bitterly at Yang Chen. Both men were no strangers, so this meeting was solely due to formalities.

Yang Chen gaped at the scene before him, clearly dumbstruck. He had never seen this side of Cai Yan, which startled him very much until he'd forgotten to greet his father-in-law.

Cai Ning seemed to understand the puzzled look on his face. She said in a low voice, "You don't seem to believe that she can act like a child sometimes."

This brought him out of his daze. He looked at the girl standing beside him, who wore a plain, green blouse.

Actually, ever since he saw Cai Ning just now, he started thinking about how she married Yong Ye to take responsibilities for his actions. His heart felt burdened at this thought.

"You... are you okay?" he asked in a rather embarrassed voice after hesitating for a bit.

Surprised, she suddenly gave a chuckle. "What do you mean?"

"I heard from Cai Yan. I know you never liked Yong Ye. You don't have to do this. I'm sure they can't do anything to me had I taken the full responsibility," he said in a serious tone.

She shook her head. "Why make a big fuss out of it? It's only marriage. Everyone will be safe. I will still be able to resume my duties in the Yellow Flame Iron Brigade, so it doesn't really matter if I like him or not."

He was speechless, unable to believe that she had taken it so lightly. But regardless of her explanation, he still felt guilty.

"Do you mind telling me why you helped me?" he asked.

She laughed it off, then said, "I've said it before, I'm returning you a favor for saving my life. After all, you're one of us now that my sister is so madly in love with you. Plus, I only have one sister whom I haven't had the chance to take care of. Helping her lover is the least I could do. Coincidentally enough, it provided me with a chance to repay my lifesaver."

He felt a twinge of pity. He wasn't convinced that a beautiful, brilliant girl would marry someone she didn't like. He was thinking of ways to persuade her to give up on her scheme when he heard footsteps nearing them.

"Already busy chatting right after you came back. Come quickly. It's time to eat."

The voice belonged to a middle-aged woman who was dressed humbly. She had a pair of kind eyes and shared similar features with the sisters. Without a doubt, she was their mother, Jiang Shan.

She led two housekeepers to the dining table, both of whom were balancing plates of cooked dishes in their hands. She then walked towards her daughter for a hug. "You must be tired, let's sit down and eat."

Shaking her head, Cai Yan said, "Why would I be tired? As you already know, Mother, your daughter was trained in rigorous combat. Right, this is the man I mentioned before, Yang Chen." She quickly introduced Yang Chen to her mother, after considerable amounts of distraction.

Yang Chen was one step away from greeting Jiang Shan when she cut in, throwing him a harsh, unwelcoming look. "You're Yang Chen?"

He froze, laughing awkwardly. "Yes... that's me. Aunt, is there some misunderstanding between us?"

"Misunderstanding?" she scoffed. "If weren't for you, why would my elder daughter be detained in Beijing? Why would she have to go around begging for favors? She has now sacrificed herself by marrying a useless man. Are you happy now?"

"Come on, let's not talk about it anymore. What's done is done, it's all in the past now." Cai Yuncheng tried to comfort her, but he looked as though he didn't dare to try too hard.

However, Jiang Shan protested, "What past? This guy appeared out of nowhere and took my younger daughter away. And they can't even get together officially. This alone has angered me enough. But he had to destroy my elder daughter's life as well. How can I be calm?!"

Yang Chen touched his nose, thinking that he had indeed cross the line. If not for him, Cai Yan would never have left home for the special training. If not for him, Jiang Shan would not have missed her daughter so dearly until she felt forced to allow their relationship.

Originally, she would still have her elder daughter's marriage to rely on. However, that was also ruined by the same man. How could a mother be fine with her two daughters' broken relationships?

Yang Chen couldn't think of anything to say. Thanks to his skin being overly thick, he was able to resist Jiang Shan's killer gaze. He walked to the dining table and said happily, "These dishes look so delicious. Everybody come eat. They will become cold soon."

Cai Yan was afraid he would feel bad, but his pretense had made it look hilarious. She followed suit and took her seat.

Jiang Shan's fire went out as quick as it came, like a flame which had its oxygen supply cut off. Without anything to trigger her anger, she sat down sulkily.

Cai Yuncheng looked to be on the verge of a headache about to burst through his skull. He ordered someone to bring a highly concentrated, rare Chinese liquor and proceeded to pour some into Yang Chen's glass. "Yang Chen, you and I both knew this would happen. Please don't mind the unpleasanties from my wife. No sane parent would like to see the future of both their children go down the drain."

Yang Chen said admittedly, "I've already taken advantage of them, of course I should be criticized."

“Hmph, at least you’re aware,” said Jiang Shan grudgingly. “I don’t understand why Yanyan is so into you. She was willing to give up her life for you. If not for her stubborn self, I would never have said yes to this relationship. It’s not one to be proud of as well. I would never let you get away with it if you cause her any harm!”

Her scary, terrifying gaze brought cramps to his facial muscles. He had never nodded so quickly in his life.

The meal was finally over, all thanks to Cai Yuncheng’s attempts at making it as peaceful as possible. No matter how much Jiang Shan hated Yang Chen, she chose to remain civil. She merely threw him a few hateful glances.

Cai Yuncheng motioned for Yang Chen to follow him into a room. On the other hand, after ages without seeing each other, the two sisters had gone to the garden to catch up.

Once inside, Yang Chen casually sat down on a chair and crossed his legs, stretching his limbs. He yawned and said, “Why so mysterious? It might make Aunt think it’s not enough for me to steal her daughter away from her, I now have to steal her husband as well.”

All Cai Yuncheng did was giggle. He decided to ignore Yang Chen. He sat down and said, “You’ve been quite busy since your arrival. You have managed to mess up quite a bit in just a few days.”

Yang Chen replied, wondering curiously, “Did I do something that troubled you?”

“It’s time to end things with Green Dragon Society,” Cai Yuncheng said, straightforward.

Yang Chen squinted his eyes, believing he was still monitored by Yellow Flame Iron Brigade. “Does General Cai possibly think I am still going to help the Green Dragon Society expand?”

Cai Yuncheng did not deny it. He said, “Although I know you wouldn’t, Liu Qingshan’s daughter is one of your many lovers. You are great at many things but handling women is not one of them. Liu Qingshan is an ambitious man as you’ve noticed. I wish you wouldn’t meddle in what goes on here. You need to understand that everyone is keeping an eye on you. If you step out of line, there’s nobody that can help you. Also, I wouldn’t want my daughter’s boyfriend to get into trouble.”

Yang Chen shrugged. “I thank you for being honest with me. However, there are some things that cannot be avoided. Even if I do not offend anyone, trouble still finds a way to get me. I can only try my best not to drag my loved ones into these.”

Sighing, Cai Yuncheng said, “Your response was not as reassuring as I would have liked it to be.”

“Let’s not talk about this. How about discussing current matters?” laughed Yang Chen. “Um... Uncle Cai, why does your wife hate me so much? She can’t be mad for so long, can she? We’ll be meeting a lot more in the future.”

“It’s her temper. She’s always dreamt of having her daughters marry into prosperous families. You let Yanyan become a mistress and not give her a say in that decision. How do you expect her to be fine with it? Honestly, she’s treating Yong Ye’s case better. After all, he is considered to be from the Li clan and his parents are politicians. So your aunt is still able to accept this marriage, however forceful it is.”

“What are you trying to say?” Yang Chen frowned.

Cai Yuncheng laughed. "It's simple, really. The reason she's not fond of you is because she thinks of you as a nobody. Due to my status, I am obligated not to tell her your true identity. If you wish to be on better terms with her, the easiest solution would be to receive your rightful place in your clan. That way, she will like you even more than Yong Ye.

"Even as a mistress, being the lover of Yang clan's future master would definitely be acceptable."

But Yang Chen waved his hand, looking determined. "Nevermind, your suggestion is out of my considerations. I simply cannot accept it. That's it."

Cai Yuncheng shook his head helplessly. He had wished that Yang Chen would return to his clan. This way, he would be one of the core members holding up China and Hongmeng would trust him more. His safety and those around him would be ensured, too. However, his stubbornness had exceeded Cai Yuncheng's expectations.

Realizing he was at a dead end with that conversation, Cai Yuncheng decided to talk about something else. "The toxic incident with the Tang clan, any progress yet?"

Yang Chen raised his head. "You're the person-in-charge of acquiring information but you're asking me?"

There was a hint of bitterness in Cai Yuncheng's face. "Even though I have the network to do so, information on the four dominant clans is not as easily obtained as you'd think. If I knew who poisoned Tang Zhechen and Tang Wan, I would've already dealt with it myself. If the news of internal instability of the Tang clan got out, many institutions in China would be hit pretty badly."

"Then you must have already had a suspect in mind," said Yang Chen knowingly.

Cai Yuncheng knocked the surface of the table. "No evidence. Only assumptions."

"It's the same for me. I'm waiting for new evidences, or should I say, a real background," said Yang Chen.

A maid's voice drifted in from outside the room when Cai Yuncheng looked like he wanted to question Yang Chen.

"General Cai, Master Yong Ye is here. He mentioned that he is to bring Miss Cai to have their wedding photoshoot. He's in the living room now..."

## **Chapter 653**

### **What Do You Think**

The garden in the backyard was decorated by a bunch of purple flowers amongst the dark green trees.

At the centre of it all sat the two sisters with a pot of refreshing chrysanthemum tea on top of the table. The smell of the tea complimented the serene atmosphere that was present.

They sat in silence, seeming to enjoy the quiet moment spent together.

Cai Yan was holding a tea cup made of bamboo, venturing deep in her own thoughts. She then turned to face her sister. "Sister, you aren't actually going to marry Yong Ye, are you?"

Keeping her head low, Cai Ning laughed softly. "I've already promised him. How could I not marry him?"

"But you don't even like him! If you did, you would've married him years ago," said Cai Yan's voice, her brows furrowed.

"For many people, marriage is not about liking someone. Even if I chose a different path, it wouldn't have mattered in the slightest."

Cai Yan bit her thin lips and suddenly said, "When I was in Zhonghai, I asked Yang Chen a question regarding you."

Stunned, Cai Ning raised her head and looked at her sister, her eyes full of questions.

"I asked him, whether he likes you."

Cai Ning was really startled now. She stared at Cai Yan as if she was a stranger. She was at a complete loss for words.

A smile appeared on Cai Yan's face. "So it would seem that Sister really likes Yang Chen."

"I don't!" Cai Ning denied hurriedly and shook her head. "Yanyan, don't talk nonsense. I was only assigned to monitor Yang Chen back then. And we're just friends now. If he had not saved my life, I wouldn't have done so to help him."

"It is unlike you to get nervous at a question," said Cai Yan while smiling. "Albeit distant, we are still biological sisters. I know you more than you think I do. You cannot fool me..."

Frowning, Cai Ning said, "Yanyan, don't overthink. I understand that you have worked really hard to reach where you are today. I just wish you happiness in the future. Mine is just a piece of cake, an easy job."

"Even though I never really liked Yong Ye much, at least I know that he will not mistreat me. Not only that, Mother has spent a lot of time working on this wedding. I don't wish to cause any more trouble. Can we stop talking about this, please?"

Cai Ning looked desperately at Cai Yan, her eyes seemed to be pleading.

"If I don't say it now, I'd regret it later," said Cai Yan sincerely. She stood up and walked to face her sister, holding her hands and saying, "Sister, you've always acted this way. You've always put others before yourself! Ever since you were young, everything you did was for the clan, if not for Father and Mother!"

"If not for the sake of Father's promotion, you wouldn't have accepted the Tang Sect's offer to train in combat. You wouldn't have left home for so many years just to receive training at Shushan!"

"When will you start living for yourself? Or do you wish to spend the rest of your adult life serving other people?"

Cai Ning looked at her younger sister with a dazed expression, as if the person before her was indeed, a stranger.

*Living my whole life for others??* she thought to herself.

After a long pause, she smiled bitterly and said, "Silly girl, you are not 'others'. You're my family."

"What about Yang Chen? You like him! Are you giving up on that just because he has other women by his side? Just because I happen to like him as well? You know perfectly well he has more than one lover! Honestly, I don't mind you being with Yang Chen. After all, I've already betrayed Ruoxi. What's one more person?" Cai Yan said with her lips pursed and her eyes full of sadness.

Cai Ning's face flushed slightly. "What are you talking about? There's really nothing between me and Yang Chen. I helped him because if he made a big deal out of things, there'd be a domino effect. Also, he's your lover, I really hope you can be happy with him."

"Sister, you're lying!"

Cai Yan was jumpy and anxious. Her fiery temper was on the verge of bursting. But right then, a maid walked towards them, interrupting her words.

"Misses, Master Yong Ye is here for the wedding photoshoot."

Cai Ning's eyes held hopelessness. She stood up abruptly and said, "Let's go. I don't want to keep our guests waiting."

Dissatisfied, Cai Yan asked, "What photoshoot? The date of the wedding has not even been set. Why is he so anxious?!"

"Yanyan, if you don't want to see Yong Ye, you can stay here. We will talk about it later on, alright?" Cai Ning said weakly, turning around to leave their spot.

Cai Yan gritted her teeth and stomped her feet. She said, "Don't you want to know what Yang Chen's response was?!"

Cai Ning halted, but time was not on her side, so she resumed walking out of the garden.

Seeing her sister's back view getting distant, Cai Yan closed her eyes painfully.

... ..

In the living room was a man dressed in an Armani suit. His hair combed back stylishly. He was pacing back and forth impatiently, just thinking about his fiancée was actually the woman he'd adored for many years.

He had been turned down on multiple occasions, all his attempts discarded coldly. But miraculously, due to an incident caused by Yang Chen, Cai Ning coincidentally took responsibility for it. After so many twists and turns, she was finally back by Yong Ye's side.

He had been hoping to torture the woman who had mercilessly rejected his loyal and faithful pursuits. But he knew, Cai Yuncheng was not a fool. Before their wedding, he'd pretend to be the good, kind man that was expected of him. That way, he could gain and earn their trust!

After a long wait, someone could be seen walking out from the back of the house. Yong Ye had thought it was Cai Ning, but his first glance told him it was an unprepared maid.

Yang Chen followed Cai Yuncheng out of the study room, into the living room. Even though Cai Yuncheng did not elaborate, Yang Chen wanted to take a look without any specific reason.

Thinking that Cai Ning was going for a wedding photoshoot with this guy, Yang Chen found it hard to deny that he didn't feel too comfortable.

"Uncle Cai, this is..." said Yong Ye, looking at Yang Chen cautiously. As the leader of Second Dragon Group, he knew Yang Chen was back in Beijing, but he did not expect to meet him here.

Cai Yuncheng giggled and said, "Are you surprised? My younger daughter is back home today, so Yang Chen tagged along."

Yong Ye nodded, smiling at Yang Chen rather awkwardly. However, his smile was uglier than a sobbing face.

Expressionless, Yang Chen thought to himself, *"Should I just kill him? This will save him from continuously disturbing Cai Ning. It might also save me from countless nights of headaches."*

However, Yong Ye had a wide social network. Just the Li clan alone would be hard to deal with, especially when Li Dun was friends with Yang Chen. Killing his cousin was unacceptable.

At this instance, Jiang Shan came through the doors with Cai Ning at her heels. She smiled brightly and said, "Yong Ye, why are you so anxious to have the photoshoot? The date of the wedding is not even set."

Her face radiated a totally different vibe. It was joy.

Yong Ye answered in a more relaxed manner, "I want to give Ning'er a perfect wedding. So I figured that it would not hurt to start a little earlier."

Whilst talking, he took a peek at the quiet Cai Ning. She wore a dress, femininity radiating off from her body. He immediately felt hot, as if the temperature around them had increased. "Ning'er, I've gotten professional photographers and stylists. They have all come from abroad. They've even worked with the royalties of Sweden before. They can definitely make you the most beautiful bride in the world. Are you good to leave right now?"

Cai Ning did not respond. She was looking at the spot where Yang Chen was standing, her thoughts far-away and dreamy.

Jiang Shan was anxious now. She quickly said, "Ning'er, you could at least say yes or no. See how considerate he is being to you. He's a rare find in today's world, so stop making him wait."

Still, Cai Ning did not answer. She glided forward, near to where Yang Chen stood. "What do you think, should I go for the photoshoot?"

## **Chapter 654**

### **I Need No One's Consent**

Everyone present stopped in their tracks. Cai Yuncheng and Jiang Shan were dumbfounded, so was Yong Ye. But the latter was angry more than anything.

Meanwhile, Yang Chen had been observing the expression in Cai Ning's eyes. He felt a sense of relief when he heard her finally speak her mind.

Cai Ning's pupils eluded a sense of clarity and determination, which reminded Yang Chen of the incident when he went deep into the forest in the darkest hours of the night to rescue her from the hands of Lilith.

"What if... I tell you not to go. Would you agree?" Words slipped through his mouth.

Cai Ning moved her lips ever so slightly as she mumbled, "If you have a reason for it."

"I do." Yang Chen cracked a smile. "And the reason is, I don't like it."

Tears accumulated in her eyes, as she gave a bitter smile.

Jiang Shan was starting to feel that something was a little off. She glanced over at Yong Ye that was almost on the verge of erupting. She couldn't wait to rid Yang Chen off her house. She immediately grabbed Cai Ning by the shoulder and taunted her. "What is the matter with you? It's your wedding. Why are you asking him to make the decision?"

Cai Ning guiltily stared at her mother as she replied, "I'm sorry Mother. But I'm not going."

"For what?" Yong Ye had enough as he raged. He yelled, "Just because this bastard said he doesn't like that we go for our own wedding shoot? Cai Ning you better have a legitimate reason for this."

Jiang Shan was furious. "What nonsense is this? You have to go."

Cai Ning kept her silence, but was nervously biting on her lips.

"Since she has already made it clear that she doesn't want to go, she shouldn't have to go." Yang Chen held her back, as he shielded her from the criticism. "Aunt, I believe this is ultimately her decision to make. I don't think that this is the right call to make. This person involved isn't even that into him. I hope you can understand."

Jiang Shan was filled with anger as her finger trembled while pointing at Yang Chen. "You... what is it you want from us? Is your goal to destroy our family?"

"All I ever wanted was to have no regrets." Yang Chen lost his smile. "Regardless of whether or not I know what all this is about, I strongly oppose Cai Ning from marrying this bastard. My reckless behaviour has led to all the mistreatment that Cai Ning had to bear over here in Beijing. But I'm a man of dignity and I will not let her carry the consequences of my actions any longer. This wedding will be called off one way or another."

After he said what he had in mind, he felt free. The weight inside of him had finally been lifted.

Cai Ning stood behind Yang Chen as she struggled to hold her tears. She shut her eyes, as if she planned to let fate decide the future.

"You're going to bear the responsibility? How? If you're that great then why is our daughter going through all this! If it's not because of Yanyan, I would have chased you out of the house ages ago!" Jiang Shan yelled as her face turned red.

Yang Chen shrugged like he had no care in the world. “No problem, if that’s what you, my mother-in-law, want then I’ll do it. But if I leave, he must leave too.” Yang Chen pouted his lips towards the direction where Yong Ye was standing.

“Yong Ye is the son-in-law whom I approve of. Why should he leave?” Jiang Shan rebuked.

Cai Yuncheng, who was still standing on the sidelines, started to worry if Yang Chen would actually get mad after all the yelling from his wife. That would have opened a can of worms that he would prefer not to deal with. He immediately sprang up to comfort his wife. Frowning, he concluded, “That’s enough. Don’t let the girls witness this side of you.”

Jiang Shan broke free from her husband’s grasp as she continued her fiery speech. “What? Just because you’re being a coward I have to be one too? This disgusting rascal destroyed everything I worked so hard to maintain. I’m just doing this to protect our daughter!”

Yong Ye was secretly pleased with how everything had progressed. As Yang Chen was continuously bombarded by Jiang Shan, he quickly remembered how he was a member of the Li clan. Regardless of how high and mighty Yang Chen was, he would never risk a conflict with the Li clan of Beijing. Moreover Cai Ning was still burdened by the court case. Without his ransom, she would surely be thrown into prison by now.

With a sinister grin, he taunted, “Yeah Uncle Cai, a marriage is decided between both clans. How can anyone just casually amend it whenever they want to. If Uncle were to stand by Yang Chen, then I suppose my clan would—”

Before Yong Ye could finish his sentence, Yang Chen dashed behind him and forcefully flipped his arm over his throat, choking him in the process.

“Urgh...”

Yong Ye didn’t manage to react before he realised his entire trachea was clamped. His face turned bright red as he suffocated, unable to spout another word.

The entire scene went from a heated conversation to an all-out combat!

“Ahh!” Jiang Shan screamed at the top of her lungs. She had no idea Yang Chen had such nimble reflexes, and was clearly not afraid to use them.

Under the mounting force of Yang Chen’s strength, Yong Ye was unable to do anything. He gradually felt his head spinning before an intense killing aura resonated from Yang Chen, causing him to nearly pass out.

Yang Chen on the other hand, was acting like he was controlling a puppet, as he rotated Yong Ye’s torso to face Jiang Shan, before he emphasized. “Aunt, I think you’re misunderstanding this situation. I obey your demands not because I’m afraid of you, but because of my respect towards you as the mother of my lover.

“However, if I want to end this wedding, I will end it. It’s not an enquiry of your opinion, but a statement.

“What I say, will come to pass. I need no one’s consent.

“Because you’re Yanyan’s mother I will not harm you. But this bastard has nothing to do with me. Killing him would be much easier and quicker than ending Zeng Mao’s life back then.”

Jiang Shan felt a cold snap as she noticed the fearless eyes of Yang Chen. At that moment, she understood that he was determined to go through with his plan.

Cai Yuncheng got vocal on his distress, as he insisted, “Yang Chen, calm down. There’s no benefits in killing Yong Ye.”

“General Cai, whether or not he dies today is his own decision to make.” Yang Chen gave a soulless grin as he whispered into Yong Ye’s ears. “Hey, I’m asking you one last time. Do you still want to go for that wedding shoot with Cai Ning and proceed with the marriage?”

Yong Ye at that moment, felt that his neck was about to break as he gasped for air whenever he could. As for the marriage, that didn’t matter one bit in desperate moments like this. “N—no... I don’t...”

Jiang Shan’s expression went bitter. Never would she have expected that Yong Ye had no courage within him. Just a little pressure and he was willing to call off the whole marriage.

Nevermind that she knew he wasn’t a noble and righteous man. But this coward was far from what she would have expected for someone of the Li clan’s bloodline.

But she also understood that the demon holding Yong Ye by the neck was a killing machine.

Yong Ye was actually preoccupied with the idea of getting Cai Ning, but it was more lust than love. So ultimately to him, it was not worth risking his own life for that.

Yang Chen was finally satisfied as he laughed, “Oh, good to know that you’re so cooperative. Then why all the ruckus?” As he finished his sarcastic reply he subsequently tossed Yong Ye off to a corner.

Yong Ye, upon receiving his newfound freedom, instantly dashed out the house.

Jiang Shan was about to question Yong Ye for clarifications but he was not keen to stop for anything at the moment.

Cai Yunchen sighed, resigned to what had just taken place. “Well this marriage was a road paved with problems from the start. Now that Yong Ye himself has called it off, let’s pretend it never happened.”

“What problems are you talking about?” Jiang Shan was not done with her rant. “What do you even know about this? If Yong Ye doesn’t marry Ning’er then her military court case will never be settled.”

Cai Yunchen went silent as he stared towards Yang Chen.

Yang Chen waved his hands and replied, “No problem. If that case continues to persist, I’ll just clamp down the judge and force a decision. It’s not the first time I’ve done it anyway.”

“Huh, you think Beijing in its entirety is your backyard? Wait till Yong Ye goes back to his clan and seek revenge with his cousin Li Dun. Let’s see what he’ll do to you then!” Jiang Shan was enraged to no end. “Yang Chen, don’t blame our clan for whatever comes next. It’s all your fault for interfering with our business!”

“Shut up!” Cai Yunchen had enough. “Since when were you given the final say in this household?”

“So I’m supposed to rely on you? A coward?” Jiang Shan was not budging.

Cai Ning stood silently as she saw her parents engage in a fiery debate over her circumstance. Unable to succumb to the pressure, she quietly slipped to the back of the living room.

Yang Chen felt bad for her. All these years as the oldest child in her family, she had developed a personality of perseverance. Her father had always been a conservative, and her mother brash and uncompromising. She had to somehow balance them, her life, and still take care of her younger sister.

Yang Chen hesitated before leaving the couple engrossed in a heated argument behind and proceeded towards the direction which Cai Ning went.

The walkway at the back of the living room led straight towards the impluvium in the side garden. Underneath the Chinese parasol tree was Cai Ning gazing at the sky.

The sun bathed its light on the individual leaves, and onto Cai Ning’s face that was riddled with uncertainty, resembling that of a jade statue sunbathing in daylight.

Yang Chen had an unyielding sense of confusion as he stood a few steps behind her. He then asked if she was doing fine.

Cai Ning turned to face him, before cracking a smile. “Why?”

“Huh?”

“Why didn’t you let me go?” Cai Ning tilted her head ever so slightly, before repeating the question.

## **Chapter 655**

### **No Need To**

Yang Chen’s face went bright red as he stuttered, “Erm... Well like I said... I do—don’t like it.”

“Why don’t you like it?” Cai Ning was determined to get an answer from him.

Yang Chen dodged her gaze as he nervously rubbed his hands together. After a moment of silence, he replied, “I felt uncomfortable about it.”

Cai Ning started laughing, as she turned to a far corner to hide it but it was obvious that her shoulders were shaking from her repressed laughter.

Yang Chen was a little annoyed by her reaction as he teased, “What’s so funny? It’s not like you really wanted to go.”

“I always thought you were a man with no fear; bold and thick-faced. But turns out you actually can feel shy too.” Cai Ning continued, “You finally look like the kid in his twenties you are.”

“Kid?” Yang Chen pouted.

Cai Ning turned her head towards Yang Chen, only to be greeted by his awkward expression. She burst into laughter. “You should be around the same age as Yanyan. Doesn’t that make you younger than me? What’s wrong with calling you a kid?”

Yang Chen was slightly frustrated that he wasn't born a few years earlier. If he was at least in his thirties, he wouldn't be teased by this older woman.

The two of them sat silently for a long while, before Cai Ning calmly glanced at him. "Actually, I have felt uncomfortable about some things in the past."

"Huh?"

"What I mean is, when I realized that you always spent time with lots of different women, I would start to feel uncomfortable." Cai Ning turned red after she made that statement.

Yang Chen cleared his throat. *?So what should I say, that I'm worried? Frustrated? Afraid? But no, I'm clearly pleased and excited.*

Cai Ning played with the tip of her hair as she continued, "You remember that night, when we were at Zhonghai stargazing from a bridge?"

Yang Chen briefly recollected his memories before he nodded. "Yes, that night I was on my way back after having dinner with Mingyu's family. I saw you at the bridge alone. I remembered it quite well. You were focusing on something and when I reached out to call you, you fell straight off the bridge. Fortunately you utilized lightness skill to hover yourself back up. Then we spent some time together stargazing, during which you weren't using your cultivation to resist the cold. And I still feel curious about that till this date."

Cai Ning shyly covered her mouth as she giggled. "Thank you for remembering it so well."

"Oh, I finally understand now. You were so immersed in stargazing because you knew you were going to be punished when you returned to Beijing, didn't you?" Yang Chen ultimately connected the dots. *?That's why I didn't hear from her anymore after that day. How could I have missed such obvious details?*

Cai Ning shook her head. "That's okay. Let bygones be bygones."

"I feel like I owe you something now. But you're right, let bygones be bygones. If anyone comes to harass you again, I wouldn't mind making another huge fuss about it," Yang Chen said in a serious tone.

Cai Ning murmured softly, "Actually, all this while, I would often go out alone at night to stargaze."

Yang Chen was stunned. "I'm guessing that you did not cultivate all those times too?"

A southern winter was guaranteed to reach below freezing point, especially above the bridge. With enough moisture to further lower the temperature, Yang Chen was clueless as to what she was thinking. *?Is she asking to die from hypothermia?*

Cai Ning held her head low as she mumbled, "I don't even know what happened to me but since the day you rescued me from the mountains, I've been thinking about you all the time. Even if I'm able to stalk you anytime I want, I still can't help but think of you..."

"I knew this wasn't right but I just can't stop myself from it.

“Until one day when I went for a night stroll, I looked up at the night sky and saw the constellations of stars. That was when my heart found peace from everything else in the world.

“I didn’t cultivate to resist the bitter cold, because I wished that at a place like that, I might just be able to numb my heart with the cold...”

It felt like time stood still as Yang Chen processed her words. He had no idea what to feel about this, yet his heart ached as if it was pierced by needles.

The image of the woman before him sitting alone by the bridge every night, amidst the bitter cold of winter, immersing herself in the starry sky above.

Yang Chen knew that emotions are the most unpredictable attribute of a human. They simply can’t be avoided no matter how hard one tries to repress or hide it.

You might one day be able to ignore it, but the pain will always linger around.

Yang Chen recalled the instance when he was told that Cai Ning were to be married to Yong Ye. He vividly remembered the disgust and repulsion he felt. He finally understood that this woman that was originally sent to observe his every move, had meant so much more to himself...

Cai Ning saw that Yang Chen went silent. So she felt the need to continue. As self-loathingly as she could, she chuckled, “Everytime I see you with a different woman, I kept warning myself again and again, that you’re the most despicable man I’ve ever met.”

“Particularly that one time when you actually left my sister so dejected and discouraged that she participated in the selections among Dragon Group Recruit. At that time, I hated you to my guts! I couldn’t understand why you could be so lenient to the other girls like Mo Qianni and Rose but not to Yanyan. She’s my only sister and you know that.

“Well thankfully nothing happened to her. When the two of you got together, I was genuinely happy for you both. I could see how excited she got every time your name was mentioned. But at the same time, I also felt a little out of place.”

“Actually I...” Yang Chen was about to explain the incident with Cai Yan when he got cut off.

“Wait.” Cai Yan interrupted. “Let me finish.”

Yang Chen nodded in silence.

“I know that you don’t fall for every single pretty girl you meet. All of the women by your side are the ones whom you have shared extraordinary instances with. But it still irks me to think about it nonetheless.

“Even then, I’m just an outsider. So I had always kept it in my heart and told no one.

“But this incident had both my parents worried sick. My mom even went all the way to the Li clan to plead Yong Ye to marry me.

“At that moment I thought, if she wants me to marry him then so be it. Although Yong Ye isn’t half-decent, he can’t really do anything to me. After the marriage, we can still live our own separate lives.

Yeah there's definitely a marriage certificate but that's about it. It was a chance for me to put my longing for you in the ground where it belongs while keeping my parents from worrying too much."

Cai Ning took a deep breath as tears began to drip from her eyes. She started to laugh a little. "But now I realised things just don't work that way.

"Today when I saw the both of you come home together, I felt my heart rip to shreds. I genuinely felt happy for Yanyan, but I couldn't keep my heart from hurting.

"You know, Yang Chen," Cai Ning concentrated on Yang Chen as her pupils glimmered, "There's only us in our family, two daughters. That led to many of my uncles to plan their paths to take my father's position in the clan. I knew that since I was a child. My father felt immense pressure as a result, which served as a mold to what I am today. Other than my role as the elder sister, I also had to support my father.

"That's why I tried to be the best that I could, regardless of what the activity may be. Even after I had grown up, I instantly agreed to the opportunity to train at the Tang Sect located within Shushan. I knew for a fact that I wouldn't get to return home often, but not once had I regretted that decision.

"Because I knew that when I worked my heart out then, and only then, will my family have their place in this world. My sister would be able to pursue what she likes and live like a normal girl. To fall in love, to marry."

Cai Ning bit on her lips as she continued, "I had always believed that it is also how my life would turn out to be.

"But right then when Yanyan mentioned, that I've been living my whole life for others, I asked myself why I have been doing that. Couldn't I live for myself for once?"

Yang Chen was glued to the ground. He had never seen Cai Ning this vulnerable before.

Cai Ning dried her tears as she tried her best to smile. "That's why I became rebellious for once. I wanted to live my life the way I wanted for once. What do you think? Is it going to end well?"

Yang Chen said nothing as he strode towards Cai Ning and embraced her between his arms.

"This would only end well. I won't let there be a second option," Yang Chen whispered into her ear.

Cai Ning trembled before she lowered her guard as she became accustomed to Yang Chen's warm embrace. Feeling his breath by her ear, her tears formed pools onto Yang Chen's shirt.

Clang...

A loud clunk of pottery shattered the peace of the moment.

Yang Chen and Cai Ning instantly turned towards the noise. They were both completely engrossed in one another that they were unaware of a certain presence within the vicinity.

At that moment, the three individuals met eye to eye. Cai Yan was panicking as she was confused with what she had just walked into. It was too late for her to leave but her presence stood out like a sore thumb.

And the noise of a certain clunk was from the potted plant that she kicked by accident when she was trying to step back from the scene.

“Yanyan...” Cai Ning went pale as she immediately broke free from Yang Chen’s embrace.

Cai Yan forced a smile as she glanced at her sister, and shifted her focus back to Yang Chen. She then said, “Well, it’s fine. I knew you both have loved one another for quite a while now.”

For Yang Chen, he had only dreamt of the both of them being his lovers. How enticing it would have been. But now that it was actually close to happening, he was actually starting to feel genuine emotions for them and not just the pleasure he may get. Even though they were sisters, it was still a complicated matter for him to deal with.

“I’m sorry, I...” Yang Chen exhausted his vocabulary. Regardless of how many affairs he was involved in, everytime he was exposed, he was left with absolute embarrassment.

Cai Yan started choking up as tears gathered in her pupils. It was a mix of happiness and sadness. She held up a faint smile as she shook her head and replied, “No it’s fine, you don’t need to apologise. Because... there’s no need to apologize when it comes to love...”

## **Chapter 656**

### **Misunderstanding**

People tend to say that sadness and joy are not very far apart. But Yang Chen would choose to believe his current circumstance wasn’t sadness, but one of joy.

The Cai sisters stood silently in the courtyard side by side. Cai Yan eventually made the first move by wiping her eyes clear of tears and forced Yang Chen out of the courtyard.

After that, Cai Yan rolled her eyes, feeling hateful yet shy. “You better scurry off now, I need to talk to my sister. This magnificent one doesn’t want to see you.”

Yang Chen was confused at what had just happened. One moment it was touching, the next he was being ushered out like an unwanted guest.

After a second thought however, Yang Chen felt that it was a great opportunity—now he was able to sneak off and disappear. Since the incident was now exposed, and he already had physical contact with Cai Ning, there was no reason for him to stay anymore. Regardless of what the sisters were discussing about, the main reason he stayed on was to ensure that Cai Ning was alright.

As a result, not long after Yang Chen could be seen lying horizontally on the living room couch. He was accompanying Cai Yuncheng as they watched the midday news on the television, along with a fine pot of Maofeng tea.

Meanwhile, Cai Yuncheng was distressed about the whole situation before him.

Currently on the television was the recent controversial topic about the South China Sea territorial incident, as the conflict between Philippines and China grew in scale. An important military figure like Cai Yuncheng should be deeply concerned about that condition, but instead, he was completely unaware of the television—he had not even touched his tea yet.

Shortly after the news moved on to the advertisements, Cai Yuncheng gave a deep sigh before he said, "I'm not sure what to say to you. Should I have scolded you?"

Yang Chen rubbed on his nose, clearly opposing it. "I might not be a decent son-in-law, but I'm much better than Yong Ye. Don't you think, Old Cai?"

Cai Yuncheng saw Yang Chen's laidback attitude and knew he was clearly showing off that both his daughters were with him now. Cai Yuncheng gave him a concerning smile, deep down hoping that both of his daughters could live a happy life.

Born into a major clan, and being the general of Yellow Flame Iron Brigade, Cai Yuncheng had never hoped for his daughters to have an ordinary life. Thankfully Yang Chen was on par to his expectations in terms of both position and abilities. What more could a father ask for?

Nonetheless, the thought of his wife Jiang Shan being in a heated mood could hardly have alleviated his emotions.

At this moment a maid nervously trotted across the living room towards Cai Yuncheng, as she relayed a message. "Sir, bad news. Mr Li and his wife Madam Guo Yali are here."

Cai Yuncheng's uneasiness instantly went up a notch as he stood up and frowned. He mumbled, "That was quicker than I expected."

Yang Chen heard the surname 'Li' and immediately thought of something. He asked out for confirmation, "Are those Yong Ye's parents?"

"Yeah," Cai Yuncheng frustratedly replied, "The ruckus you put up against surely backfired real quick. He was never a generous person. But now that you have taken his fiancée, I could only imagine the speed in which he ran to his parents for help."

"Cool, what's done is done. Let's hear what they have to say." Yang Chen casually eased his hands.

Cai Yuncheng grinded on his teeth. "Easy for you to say, Li and Guo Yali are both direct bloodlines of the Li and Guo clans respectively. They both hold ministerial positions. It will be quite a hassle to deal with them... Sigh..."

Cai Yuncheng abruptly recalled something, as his facial muscles condensed from his thoughts.

Yang Chen ignored his rants as he walked towards the gate. There he saw a well-refined, middle-aged man in a striped shirt, accompanied by a middle-aged woman with huge shades.

Their facial expressions were visibly in vain, and upon sight of Cai Yuncheng and Yang Chen it was as if they were bound to explode at any moment.

"General Cai, your family must think of yourselves very highly." Li started with a rhetorical question. "What do you take our son as? Someone you can order to push around as you please?"

Cai Yuncheng forced a smile as he replied, "Brother Li, calm down. This is definitely more complicated than it looks, our family has no intentions on berating your beloved son."

“Hah! My son told us everything we need to know. We don’t need a seductive hoe like your daughter in our clan. But Cai Yuncheng, we fulfilled your request for the marriage in order to prevent the lawsuit and this is how you decide to repay us? Even to the extent of getting this rascal to beat the life out of my son? I swear I wouldn’t budge until I see that daughter of yours sentenced!” Guo Yali furiously swore right into Cai Yuncheng’s face.

Cai Yuncheng assented, “Sister-In-Law, do calm down. This matter is much more complicated than it seems. We genuinely have no intentions of offending anyone. We’re all family here. So why should we argue over such trivial matters?”

“Family?” Guo Yali gave a cold sneer. “How thick-faced can you be to still consider us family! Whichever hole this rascal came from you decided to shield him as your own family today? Fine, not only will we continue the lawsuit on your daughter, I’m going to sue this bastard for assault and battery!”

Yang Chen stared right at the furious couple, but did absolutely nothing in response as he lazily sat on the coach and yawned.

That infuriated the Li’s even more!

“What an appalling rascal. He thinks he’s a big shot now. You think you’ll be safe under the shadow of the Cai clan? They can’t even fend for themselves!” Guo Yali sneered as she ranted. She subsequently said to her husband, “Let’s go, can’t wait to leave this horrid place. Let’s see how long they last without us!”

Cai Yuncheng responsively blocked the exit route as he taunted, “Sister-In-Law, I’ll just refer you as Minister Guo starting from now. But do you know who the kid that you just referred to as ‘rascal’ really is?”

“And why would that matter to us?” Li rebuked uncompromisingly.

Cai Yuncheng emphasized on it anyway. “His surname is Yang. Yang Chen.”

The revelation meant hardly anything to Li, but it caught Guo Yali off guard. Her eyes widened in shock, unable to comprehend that the sudden revelation.

Li noticed that something was peculiar with his wife as he turned over and whispered, “Yali, are you alright?”

A glimpse of panic flashed through Guo Yali’s eyes, as she focused on Yang Chen’s appearance. She then started to notice some similarities.

“Yo—you are... Xuehua’s son?” Guo Yali tested the waters.

Only at the mention of her name did Yang Chen place some attention on Guo Yali. *Xuehua? Is she talking about my mother? Oh yeah, isn’t the woman’s last name also Guo? Could it be...?* Yang Chen thought.

Right when he appeared to have understood something, out of nowhere Yang Chen stood up and walked towards the gate. “Great to see you again. I was just about to seek your wisdom but it’s quite fortunate for me that you have come by yourself.”

Everyone present stared at him strangely as their focus trailed his footsteps, but there was no one in sight.

Just when the three inside were about to question his absurd antics, a crouching elderly figure appeared in a blink of an eye.

Clothed in peasant clothing was an elderly woman covered with wrinkles and a full head of grey hair. She had a pleasant smile on her face. This old wise lady was none other than the faithful servant by Yang Gongming's side.

Yan Sanniang's mysterious appearance came as a shock to everyone present. Even the servants failed to notify about her arrival. Yang Chen was the only one who knew.

Cai Yuncheng frowned as he tried to recall his past meeting with this gracious old woman. As for Li and Guo Yali, they promptly approached her with their greetings.

"Aunt Yan, what brought you out here today?" Guo Yali's questioned in a fond manner.

Yan Sanniang respectfully greeted the host Cai Yuncheng before she replied, "Miss Yali, good guess. Yang Chen is the long-lost first grandson of our Yang clan. He's also the son of your cousin sister."

Even though Guo Yali had a rough picture of what Cai Yuncheng said, now that she actually heard the truth laid out, she was in daze.

Meanwhile Li was bewildered. It didn't cross his mind that he was staring at Yang Chen, his eyes showing deep regret.

Yang Chen frustratedly scratched his forehead. *Oh, turns out she's Mom's cousin. I could've guessed that.*

*Mom used to go to school with Premier Ning Guangyao, and eventually married into the Yang clan. I suppose her family must be of significance as well. Her cousin might probably be a little less well off, but she still eventually married this Li descendant.*

*Wait, if that's the case, doesn't that make Yong Ye my cousin brother?*

Previously he had a surprise addition to his extended family with Yuan Ye's revelation. But again with Yong Ye? Yang Chen was left speechless.

Guo Yali reorganised her thoughts, before she replied with a tinge of favouritism towards Yang Chen, "Haha... so you're Xuehua's son, which means I'm your aunt. If I knew that we were family, this trouble didn't have to happen you see."

*Aunt??* Yang Chen tried his best to put up a smile. After all she was his mother's cousin, so he had to leave her with some dignity intact.

"I, your uncle, have heard of your return to the Yang clan but never gotten a chance to meet you. It must be fated for us to finally meet you here. Since we are family, let's just forget about this misunderstanding... Miss Cai Ning surely has a good eye. You clearly are a much better fit than Yong Ye." Li was praising Yang Chen blindly but there was no doubt his laughters were stiff and hardly genuine.

Li naturally noticed the potential magnitude of the incident. In terms of clan standing, the Li clan were definitely on equal footing with the Yang's, but it was his position within the Li clan that worried him. As one of the outer ring members of the Li clan, he had no confidence that the Li clan would back him in the scenario of a conflict with Yang Chen.

Furthermore, it was widely known that Yang Gongming, the head of the Yang clan moved to Beijing in search for his long-lost grandson. Guo Xuehua had also instantaneously settled down in Zhonghai.

The cumulation of that would clearly place Yang Chen in a position that they had no fair chance of winning.

It was also worth mentioning that the couple's profession in politics resulted in their vague knowledge of Yang Chen's personal background.

"If the two of you are done here, can you leave now?" Yang Chen had enough with putting up to their excruciatingly artificial laughter.

The Li couple understood that they were unwelcomed as they awkwardly made their way to the exit. They respectfully bade farewell to the host Cai Yuncheng before they gave their respect towards Yan Sanniang on their way out.

They were aware that Yan Sanniang as the trusty right-hand woman of Yang Gongming understandably had more say within the Yang clan. Even above that of Yang Pojun.

Only after the couple left did Cai Yuncheng take a good look at Yan Sanniang. Since his taking over of the Yellow Flame Iron Brigade, he had gathered plenty of information about extraordinary incidents and people. One detailed look would suffice, that this graceful elder in front of him was surely a force to behold. In doubt, he asked, "Elder... are you a member of the Yang clan?"

## **Chapter 657**

### **Diligently Sowing the Crops**

Yan Sanniang answered with a smile, "Yes I am indeed from the Yang clan, General Cai. I apologize that my arrival has come rather sudden and unannounced. It's because there are certain updates from Master to Young Master Chen that cannot be delayed any longer. I genuinely hope that it wouldn't be too big an inconvenience for you, General Cai. We have been looking for a chance to meet you, Young Master Chen. I believed that Miss Yali and her husband would definitely bring trouble if this misunderstanding isn't resolved. Thus, this one decided to show up to prove your identity."

Cai Yuncheng gave a smile of recognition, but he was still bewildered!

He did not know that Yang Gongming had such a powerful master by his side! Furthermore, it was apparent that the Yang clan was clearly aware of the Cai clan's situation, and that of Yang Chen.

Cai Yuncheng knew that the four dominant clans would never show their hand in broad daylight. But even for the seclusive Yang Gongming to possess such frightening levels of intel, truly left cold sweat on the General of Yellow Flame Iron Brigade.

While the country's security bureau essentially belonged to the Li clan, the similarly powerful Yang clan certainly wouldn't be too far behind. It was then that Cai Yuncheng realised he had truly been underestimating the clans.

Cai Yuncheng previously figured that Guo Yali was from the Guo family, so Yang Chen's mother Guo Xuehua was presumably her sister. That subsequently revealed Yang Chen's family background. But what surprised him even more was the move from the Yang clan to directly send a well-kept master here to assist Yang Chen with the incident.

Cai Yuncheng quickly reorganised his thoughts as he replied, "Since it's Old Yang's decision to personally convey a message to Yang Chen, it surely isn't a problem. It's an honor to have you as a guest. Please make yourself at home. I'll go get someone to serve you a drink."

"It's fine." Yan Sanniang halted Cai Yuncheng who was about to leave the living room, then immediately turned to Yang Chen as she recounted. "Young Master Chen, I'm amazed at how far you've progressed from the last time we met."

"This isn't a good place to talk. Let's go outside." Yang Chen suggested.

"Sure." Upon her reply Yan Sanniang instantly vanished from the living room.

Cai Yuncheng was petrified, as he stood there stiff as a board. Just when he wanted to question Yang Chen about her whereabouts, Yang Chen vanished too!

Approximately 10 kilometers or so away in a secluded pavilion on top of a lush green hill, the silhouettes of a young and an elderly could be seen. They naturally were the 'vanished' Yang Chen and Yan Sanniang.

Yan Sanniang's amiable smile exerted a sense of pride and respect. "From what I've known, among the cream of the crop that has achieved Xiantian Full Cycle, there isn't anyone with the same cultivation tenacity as you, Young Master Chen. Your apprehension to the arts is truly an envy to many."

Yang Chen scratched on the back of his head as he giggled. "I'm not sure which level I'm in. But as far as I know, there is nothing in this world that cannot be comprehended. During your visit to the Cai residence, I uncovered many things that I previously couldn't have wrapped my mind around. Just like you said, Grandma Yan, many things are easier to be experienced than told."

Yan Sanniang was impressed. "Exactly. Which is why your achievements are particularly remarkable. All I did was gift you a vague exposition, and look how far you've come. Your breakthrough was due to your own understanding towards the wisdom of the skies."

Yang Chen then curiously inquired, "So, can Grandma Yan interpret my cultivation now?"

Yan Sanniang shook her head as she continued, "At this level, everyone is in the same realm of cultivation. Let's not talk about me; even in Hongmeng, no one can oversee each another's cultivations. For any of us to oversee the cultivation level of others, one must be in the unexplored realm that has only been spoken in legends."

Yang Chen nodded with his head filled with thoughts. He then asked, "I don't even know what my current cultivation level is. How could I possibly know what the legendary realm is?"

Yan Sanniang stared to the skies afar as she mumbled, “The truth is, the cultivation level that Hongmeng and ourselves have achieved, is far beyond what a mortal could accomplish. It could be said that this realm is outside the three realms—the heavens, the mortal realm, and the earth—and the five elements.

“Young Master Chen might’ve experienced that while in the Xiantian Full Cycle, True Qi can be amassed to break through the boundaries of space.

“This quality has exceeded the laws of parallel space. In fact, it is a superior one—an energy very close to that of the universe’s source.

“And for us as cultivators, when we achieve Xiantian Full Cycle, we have advanced through the realms of mortal.

“In this stage, there isn’t a specific name as everyone experiences it slightly differently from the next. Some people describe it as breaking through the cocoon, while the ancestors call it ‘Tribulation Passing’. There are also the ones who believe that it would strengthen one’s soul, an inevitable process to step into the next level..

“Regardless, these were all made to provide commonly comprehensible terms to the masses. However, none of which had been proven until this day. According to the myths, anyone who has achieved this breakthrough is deemed an immortal, capable of ascending into the nine stages of heaven. And our ancestors who have broken through that barrier were said to have vanished.”

Yang Chen was lost in the exposition. “Vanished? To where?”

“I wish I knew.” Yan Sanniang sighed. “I have spent the better part of my life stuck in this level; unable to unravel the legendary gateway of advancement. It is worth noting, however, since the Paleolithic era, almost no one was able to achieve that level. None within the last few centuries. My body quality isn’t particularly outstanding either, so I guess I’ll be stuck on this realm for the rest of my life.”

Yang Chen went through it in his head before he questioned, “Grandma Yan, as you mentioned, if the people of Hongmeng were all of this level, could it be that they are similar to that of the gods? If they’re all able to use space methods, doesn’t that mean that no they’re not inferior nor superior to each other?”

Yan Sanniang shook her head as she replied, “Not exactly so. The main reason that the western gods are powerless against one another, is because they all possess the ability of harnessing parallel spaces for reincarnation. To the people from Hongmeng, or the cultivators of the same realm like us, although it’s very unlikely that victory can be decided in a one-on-one combat, we’ll definitely turn into dust should they come for us in groups. After all, unlike the gods, we don’t hold the ability to ‘reincarnate’.

“Then again I’m proud to say that you, Young Master Chen, are an exception. Not only did you achieve this realm of cultivation, you possess the capabilities of gods as well. I believe at this point in time, you are convincingly a league above most of the Hongmeng cultivators.”

Yang Chen upon hearing that, felt rather proud of himself as he chuckled. “Grandma Yan, there’s still one more thing that I’d need you to enlighten me with.”

Yan Sanniang as usual replied with a smile, but this time simmered with dispiritment. "Young Master Chen, if it's about cultivation, there genuinely isn't anything left for me to teach you. You have already matched my level. There's isn't anything I know of that you don't."

"Eh, who would spend their entire life just thinking about cultivation?" Yang Chen was slightly embarrassed. Nervously, he asked, "I was going to ask about... having children."

Yan Sanniang was confused at his question.

Yang Chen continued awkwardly, "Grandma Yan, to be honest with you I had always thought I could live my entire life a bachelor. But I have wife now, and several other lovers, not to mention my family. Even if it doesn't matter to me, women would surely think about giving birth."

"But it seems to me however, that my past exposure to the divine light resulted in the impotence among all my lovers. I used to have a lover and she managed to bear my child. But... I didn't appreciate that. So now, I'm dying to know why... I wonder if you have experienced this?"

Yan Sanniang was stupefied, her wrinkles curled up as she frustratedly replied, "Young Master Chen, that was actually something I've been worrying about lately."

"Huh?" Yang Chen felt dejected. "Grandma Yan, have you spotted an incurable disease on me?!"

Yan Sanniang shook her head. "Well it isn't a disease. It's just that you're too powerful..."

"What?" Yang Chen frowned.

Yan Sanniang proceeded after a long sigh. "Young Master Chen, in all honesty, you should be aware by now about just how strong your body has become. Apart from you, every cultivator at your realm has a body so strong that mortals will never fathom. Even if an entire mountain is slammed onto us, we won't necessarily receive any damage at all."

"In terms of what people call 'science', our 'genes' have exceeded the boundaries of human by an absurd margin."

"Therefore, if you managed to procreate with an ordinary woman and give birth a child, the child upon birth will possess half your attributes."

"Can you imagine? A newborn with a body yielding the half the strength of yours?"

Yang Chen instantly realised something. He doubted a little longer before he continued, "So what you're trying to say is, this is the laws of nature at work?"

"I suppose you could use those words, yes." Yan Sanniang continued on a serious tone, "This could even be categorised as the rule of the heavens. As your genes grow stronger, the success rate for an offspring with an ordinary woman will gradually decrease. And the only reason for that is because you, Young Master Chen, have long exceeded the boundaries of what deems a human."

"Try thinking in such a manner. If a 'non-human' and a 'human' try to procreate, it's clearly easier said than done. Hence, it would be much easier for you to impregnate a woman back when you were much less powerful."

Yang Chen felt uneasy as he pulled on his hair. "If I knew earlier then I wouldn't have thought about getting to the next realm so soon. Is there anything else I can do now?"

Yan Sanniang smiled as she replied, "Well Young Master Chen, there's still hope for you. As long as you try your best to encourage these women to advance themselves, in addition to—for lack of a better term—diligently sowing the crops, then no matter how small the chances, you can still lead to offsprings of your own. Otherwise, there wouldn't be legends of demigods given birth by a god and a mortal."

*Diligently sowing the crops??* Yang Chen led out an evil grin, amazed by the way Grandma Yan phrased it.

*A burden for most things would best be avoided. But this 'burden' seems more like a reward than a punishment!?* Yang Chen thought.

But that also reminded Yang Chen about another matter. As he pushed the limits within the boundaries of what defines a human, his lifespan could easily exceed several hundred years. This would mean that he would have to find a solution to increase the lifespans of his women, or at the very least encourage them to cultivate. But right now, it seemed too daunting of a task to accomplish. He decided to leave that matter for another time.

Yan Sanniang saw the occasional creepy smile on Yang Chen's face but she couldn't do anything about it. She then pulled the conversation back to her main intention. "Young Master Chen, if there isn't any other questions, I have an accessory with me with regards from Master."

Yang Chen came back to their conversation. "What is that?"

"It's a calligraphy canister." Yan Sanniang drew the long calligraphy canister out from her sleeve and handed it to Yang Chen. With a graceful smile, she emphasized, "Young Master Chen, I believe in several instances, that you have felt the privileges of being the first grandson of the Yang clan. This one feels that since you're no longer an ordinary man, you need not dwell on your dark past. It is important that you let the people around you live comfortably and in peace."

When she noticed that Yang Chen stood still by her side with no intention to continue the conversation, she bent slightly to the back and once again vanished into thin air.

Yang Chen contemplated by himself for hours to come, until he eventually took a deep breath and opened the calligraphy canister.

On the extensive white scroll, were two lines of a Chinese poem well-written in calligraphy ink.

It wrote: The flowery path has never been swept in the visit of a guest, but the gates shall be opened for you from now on.

## **Chapter 658**

### **Completely Clueless**

These phrases were an extract of Du Fu's famous poem. Albeit uneducated, due to Yang Chen's photographic memory, he had been able to gather and store copious amounts of information over the years.

These two phrases meant: the host has never welcomed anyone into his home, but is now willing to do so for a specific guest.

Applying the meaning onto himself, Yang Chen knew that this was Yang Gongming's attempt at asking him to return to the clan.

Yang Chen had considered the pros of returning to the clan. But once he returned, he'd have to face Yang Pojun and Yang Lie. He wasn't going to stoop so low as to fake his feelings towards them. If it was not for Guo Xuehua's and Yang Gongming's interference, as well as Yan Sanniang's presence, he might have already killed them both.

Yang Chen suddenly missed Lin Ruoxi. She had always given him precious advice on his family problems. He couldn't wait to go back and see her.

After a long while of staring at the words on the paper, he put it aside. He slowly walked down the hill, hopped on a bus then hired a taxi to return to the Cai residence.

It would only take him a few seconds to reach the house had he decided to use his powers. But he did not feel like using them. Firstly, he was not in a rush to return. Secondly, it would make him seem like a ghost, popping in and out unattended to.

He believed that if Yan Sanniang didn't have to rush to prove his identity at the Cai residence, she would've chosen a mundane form of transportation too.

Living in the same world as other normal people, he didn't think teleporting was a proud skill to possess. In fact, using it would let him lose touch with the things that made this life interesting. Just like how a billionaire would not show off his wealth by wearing clothes worth millions, which was only done by people who got rich overnight.

It was well into the evening when he arrived back at the Cai residence. The sun was setting, covering the whole courtyard in a shade of red.

He walked straight into the living room and saw his mother-in-law Jiang Shan talking to Cai Yuncheng. Yang Chen massaged the back of his skull apologetically. Courting Cai Yan had already made her so angry. Taking away Cai Ning too? There's no telling what she would do.

"Oh, Yang Chen! Why are you back so late? I was worried about you," said Jiang Shan, her face shining with delight. Walking towards Yang Chen with light steps, she asked, "Are you still mad at me? Well, let me make it up to you by providing you with a delicious meal! Let's forget about the past. We're family now and I'm sure you are a gentleman!"

Yang Chen felt tongue-tied. He slapped himself across the face to make sure it was not a dream. "Aunt, what's going on?"

Jiang Shan gave a sudden roll of eyes and said, "What's going on? Nobody asked you to treat us as strangers. I was just complaining that you don't see us as your family!"

"Huh?" said Yang Chen, still confused and lost.

Ignoring his confusion, Jiang Shan continued smilingly, "Look at your silly face! As the mother of Cai Ning and Cai Yan, I give you my blessing. But in return, you must not mistreat them in any way, understood?"

Yang Chen was now gaping at her with his mouth opened wide. He would've been less shocked if Ares were to tell him that he would stop fighting forever.

As if her admiration towards Yang Chen was increasing, Jiang Shan patted him across the shoulders in an elderly manner and said, "I'll go prepare dinner now. You can chat with Uncle in the meantime."

After she had left, Yang Chen fell to the floor on the account that his knees became too weak to hold his body up.

Speechless, Cai Yuncheng shook his head upon seeing the awed look on Yang Chen's face. "Are you too happy or too scared of what had happened?"

Yang Chen gulped. "Both."

"No need to be surprised. When you were out, Yong Ye's parents swung by one more time to inform us about the wedding cancellation. They had also mentioned that the military, along with the court case, would be settled without causing Ning'er any trouble. They even wished for our families to have a closer relationship in the future.

"Your aunt now knows your true identity, which explains her sudden transformation. Too bad I only found out about her other side after we got married..." said Cai Yuncheng, his voice full of regrets.

Rolling his eyes, Yang Chen finally came to a realization. "Does being a Yang make life this convenient?"

"Of course," replied Cai Yuncheng. He took this opportunity to further elaborate the benefits. "You've left China a long time now. You don't understand the effects the four dominant clans have on Beijing. Anyone who has a connection to these clans become untouchable. Even the few politicians we have now are in some ways, related to the four clans. I guess you can say that the majority of votes are from these four clans, so in a way they're in control of the most important decisions in China.

"Even though your aunt is from an ordinary family, she was born and raised in Beijing. She knows perfectly well that if you receive your inheritance, it'd make you stand on top of the hierarchy. Having multiple wives will not be a concern then. After all, the Yang clan only has two sons. They would be more than happy to accept more grandchildren."

Yang Chen touched his nose. *I have to admit, returning to the Yang clan would make my love life easier. I guess I will find some time to pay the clan a visit,* he thought, the idea of returning tempting him.

As with Cai Ning, he couldn't have imagined it to be solved so easily and rapidly. But it worked out in his favor as he did not have to exert his powers to deal with the situation.

Right when Yang Chen wanted to take his seat to talk to Cai Yuncheng, the two sisters had emerged, looking very peaceful and happy amongst themselves. He relaxed a little knowing that they did not fight.

Without noting her father's presence, Cai Yan sat on his lap and hooked her arms over his neck.

"Pervert, let's go out to eat."

Yang Chen looked at Cai Yuncheng awkwardly, who was furrowing his brows, then shifted his gaze to the smiling Cai Ning, who was standing at the side. "Can't you behave a little? You're making me shy already. Also, your mother is already preparing for dinner. Why eat out?"

“Today is a day worth celebrating! Don’t tell me... you don’t have money in that wallet of yours. It’s fine, Elder Sister will pay for us,” said Cai Yan, standing up and dragging Yang Chen towards the door.

Without much resistance, he followed her to the door while turning his head to Cai Ning. “You’re going too?”

Cai Ning nodded her head slightly. “Yes, Yanyan wants to celebrate my escape from misery.”

He thought, *?Makes sense.*

Cai Yuncheng let out two coughs and said in a stern voice, “Don’t create problems right after you got back in Beijing.”

Cai Yan made silly faces at her father, then said, “Hmph! What can I really do? I haven’t been back here in awhile”

Cai Yuncheng merely waved his hands to let it go.

After leaving the house, the three of them entered Yang Chen’s car. Cai Yan rushed over to sit in the passenger seat and before even getting her seatbelt buckled, she ordered, “Navigate ‘Sky Building’ using the GPS.”

“Sky Building? What kind of place is that?” asked Yang Chen weakly. “What kind of food do they serve?”

Cai Yan smiled, and said, “It’s a place with good food and alcohol. We can even dance and sing there if we want to.”

With a sudden realization, he rolled his eyes. “Nightclub?”

“Yes... but it’s considered to be a high-end place. You cannot enter without their member card,” she said joyously.

“Then why did you lie to me just now?” said Yang Chen, his voice bored.

“Are you stupid? Why would I lie to you? If I had said we’re going to a nightclub, Father would have grounded us in the house. He also doesn’t fancy the idea of girls drinking,” she said rather embarrassingly.

Yang Chen felt speechless. *?Perhaps Cai Yan should not be Cai Ning’s sister, but Tang Tang’s instead.*

But giving it an extra thought, everything was almost settled. Tang Wan’s issue was mostly settled. The thing with Cai Ning was smoothed over rather nicely. He had paid Hui Lin a visit and he was about to return to Zhonghai. Before leaving Beijing, he figured it wouldn’t hurt to have a little fun.

While journeying to the nightclub, Yang Chen asked curiously, “What did you guys talk about the whole afternoon?”

Cai Yan replied smilingly, “You want to know?”

He nodded his head rather sharply.

“Then I will not tell you.” She wrinkled her nose while saying that.

Yang Chen turned around to hint at Cai Ning, "If the younger one doesn't talk, the older one will."

However, Cai Ning's gaze was rested on the sceneries outside, without a single glance at him.

He suddenly panicked. *Are these two thinking of ways to deal with me in the future? Guess I should attack first. Maybe I should find some time to get them both in bed.*

With all these thoughts swarming his head, he eventually arrived and found the parking lot in front of the nightclub.

Without connection to high-end social groups, one could never find the opportunity to open such an elegant, exquisite nightclub. Even the parking lot appeared luxurious. He could only imagine what the insides would look like.

He drove his car straight to the door of the nightclub. A server was ready to take over the wheels and to park the car. It occurred to him how frequently Cai Yan must've come to this place. She tipped the server a hundred yuan.

Yang Chen laughed. "Tell me the truth. Have you been accepting bribery?"

Cai Yan walked forward to link her arm with his and said innocently, "Dear, aren't you going to reimburse anything I have spent? I'm already yours after all."

He felt his facial muscles stiffen. Looking at Cai Ning who was trying to hold her laughter in, he said, "Ning'er, would you like to hold my other hand?"

But Cai Ning couldn't get past herself to be so intimate with someone. She pursed her lips, and continued to move towards the door by herself.

However, after a mere two steps from where he was standing, there came a man's voice from behind...

"Wait, wait! Let me enter with you!"

Hearing this familiar voice made his head burn. "Why are you everywhere?"

The voice belonged to Li Dun who was wearing a cheap-looking coat. But the guy still looked as energetic as usual. He laughed crazily, "I went to the Cai residence to look for you but you already left. So I had to follow you all the way here. This place is too expensive for me to afford, I still need to save up for my pursue on Tang Xin. So I thought I could follow someone who would treat me!"

Yang Chen had long gotten used to Li Dun's shamelessness. He was too lazy to entertain the latter.

Cai Yan recognized Li Dun, though. She said coldly, "Mr Li could get a free entry by just showing up. Why would you want to waste my Yang Chen's hard-earned money?"

Yang Chen had barely held his posture. *Great, my money has somehow become hard-earned this time.*

Due to his thick skin, Li Dun had no reaction to Cai Yan's words. "Well, I've heard about how Sister Cai Ning is finally rid of my useless cousin. She has even found herself a nice relationship to accompany her break up. Of course I must come celebrate!"

Looking at his face, he seemed to be on Cai Ning's side, instead of his own cousin's. This made her face flush.

Once they entered the nightclub, they proceeded to the largest open area to find an empty spot, which could allow them to enjoy the songs and dances performed.

It was pretty obvious that Cai Ning would not dance at a place like this. However, she had probably been here on some mission, so she wasn't too uncomfortable with the place.

When the four of them walked past the dance floor to occupy a milky-white sofa, the people around threw curious glances at them. No doubt the main reason was the beauty of the Cai sisters that stood out, even amongst all the stunning ladies on the dance floor.

But some people from the upper class had noticed the guy following the sisters—Li Dun who was known to live a quiet life. Someone who rarely appeared in public. Given this rare opportunity, instead of focusing on the ladies, many men seemed to be plotting their strategies to approach him in a subtle way to avoid any offence. As for Yang Chen, he was still a stranger to everyone. They assumed that he was just a close friend to the Li clan.

Once seated, Cai Yan ordered a ton of food and alcohol. She then entered the dance floor, and danced her heart out with the youngsters that were there.

Noticing the dazed expression on Yang Chen's face, Cai Ning said smilingly, "You should know that Yanyan is a very active person. But because she is a police chief in Zhonghai, she has to refrain herself from going to nightclubs, afraid of scandals revolving such behaviors. Hence, this explains why she would often visit the nightclubs in Beijing instead."

It only took a short time for his doubts and confusion to occupy his mind. Letting Cai Yan's wild self be, he started filling his empty stomach with tempting pastries and fruits on the table.

Li Dun couldn't care less about his ego. He filled up a glassful of whisky and ordered himself a steak, the noise and craziness around him did not seem to dull his mood.

Cai Ning ate some grapes silently, without showing any inclination that she wanted to dance. She seemed to be existing in a total different dimension.

Chewing on a piece of cake, Yang Chen noted, "Ning'er, don't you want to join Cai Yan? What's so fun watching the both of us eating?"

"I don't know how," replied Cai Ning while shaking her head.

"What's there to know about? It's just shaking your backside. Look at Yanyan, she's like a dumb bear now. On the other hand, you are extremely graceful. Anything you do would look better than Cai Yan," he said smilingly.

Yet again, Cai Ning shook her head as if his words were not taken seriously.

He sighed. "I've been wanting to say this to you. I'm already considered way too mature for my age. But you, you're even worse than me! You're like a pre-elderly person! If you continue acting this way, your sister will outshine you in no time."

Curious, she asked, "What does Yanyan have that I don't?"

"Tsk tsk," he laughed. "You're quite confident, aren't you?"

"Why wouldn't I be? Unless I'm uglier than Yanyan?" Cai Ning said unhappily. No one would feel pleased to be compared to another person, even if it was her own sister.

He said, "Well, at least there's something Yanyan is really good at, but you're completely clueless about."

"What is it?" asked Cai Ning.

This had peaked the curiosity of Li Dun, who had raised his head to listen intently at the pair.

Yang Chen had put down everything in his hands and shuffled near Cai Ning while breathing hot air to her ears. "Babe, do you know how to flirt?"

## **Chapter 659**

### **Wild and House-Bred Flowers**

*Flirt?*

Cai Ning's eyes bulged out of her skull as she stopped breathing momentarily.

No one had ever associated her with coquetry in her life.

"You're doing this on purpose, you shameless man," said Cai Ning, gritting her teeth and glaring at the man before her.

Yang Chen chuckled. "How am I shameless? Look at Yanyan. She acts fierce when she is on duty as a policeman. But she still has the galls to hold my hand and ask for money when she wants to."

At this instance, Li Dun let slip a few barks of laughter. Clapping his hands, he said, "It's no wonder you have many women by your side. I can't believe you just asked Miss Cai Ning to act cute and flirt. I'm also intrigued to see what happens next. Miss Cai Ning, you can't lose to your sister. Let's just see you do that for once."

She was already furious. Seeing Li Dun gloat more, she retrieved a few Willowleaf Blades out of nowhere and launched them at his nose and eyes.

Li Dun screamed but did not duck as the blades would have flown to the crowd nearby. He could not help but to show his real talents by catching the blades using his hands right before they reached him.

If not for his power, he would have suffered severe injuries given the short distance between Cai Ning and Li Dun.

Cold sweat was pouring down his head. Li Dun laughed shamefully, "I almost forgot, Miss Cai is still Group of Eight's Flower Rain. Thank goodness you didn't use your full power, otherwise I would not dare to catch it. But I have to know Miss Cai, it doesn't seem that you can hide those blades in your outfit. Where did they come from?"

With her cold eyes, Cai Ning looked at him. "You're one of the 'Beijing King Duo'. If you're really curious, I still have a few weapons in my outfit. Want a demonstration?"

He shook his head abruptly. "Nevermind, I don't think I can handle them."

He then shot Yang Chen a hateful stare. "It's all your fault. Why did you ask the superwoman to flirt out of nowhere?"

Leaning against the cushioned sofa, Yang Chen replied, "I just think that girls ought to be more active and spontaneous. If not life would be extremely boring for the rest of us. Some hobbies and interests won't hurt."

Cai Ning scoffed lightly. "How about Ruoxi? She should be much colder than me, but you're still her husband, aren't you?"

Without refraining himself, he laughed. "Well, this only means you don't know her well enough. My Ruoxi is actually quite active on the inside. She likes romantic korean dramas, pink Hello Kitty toys, and even glutinous rice balls. She's what we call a closet softie."

Cai Ning pursed her lips and said sourly, "Your Ruoxi... how intimate. Since your marriage is so romantic, why bother dealing with us sisters?"

He froze, then said rather embarrassingly, "You can't say that! Everyone has different strengths. For example, you are calm and quiet which is... pretty good... Hehe..."

Li Dun, however, did not buy his words. He looked at Yang Chen in a disgusted manner, saying, "To sum it all up, wild flowers have a nicer smell compared to house-bred ones."

"Get out!" roared Yang Chen, throwing a bottle in Li Dun's direction.

Again, Li Dun caught the bottle in his hands, looking dissatisfied.

"Say one more word, and I'll talk about how bad you are in front of Tang Xin," threatened Yang Chen.

Upon hearing this, Li Dun seemed to have quietened down. "Actually, Yang Chen, you're the most faithful guy there is. I know you love everyone sincerely. You're the best man in the world. Erm, about Tang Xin, please talk only good things of me... Haha..."

Seeing his sudden transformation, the previously quiet Cai Ning had burst out laughing. Under the dim lights, it was as if a lotus had blossomed.

Yang Chen acknowledged that the main reason he had gotten close to Li Dun was because of their common shamelessness.

"What are you here for?" Yang Chen asked.

Looking as if he was wronged, Li Dun said, "You know how stingy my father is. He refused to give me more allowance to go after Tang Xin. So, the only way I can have money to do that is to save some on my own. So I thought that I could just get free meals from you."

Yang Chen was speechless. It seemed to him that Li Dun was much more thick-skinned in comparison.

Perhaps it was due to the bottle thrown towards Li Dun's direction that nobody seemed daring to engage with the two men anymore. So the three of them enjoyed the rest of their evening in silence.

Right then, silence settled upon the group of dancing people. They were all eagerly looking at the entrance.

Yang Chen hadn't noticed anything, at first. However, he realized Cai Ning's frown and the worry expressed on her face. So he turned his head towards the entrance as well.

All he saw was someone who he guessed was the manager leading a few young men into the nightclub respectfully.

At the forefront was a handsome man in a blue shirt and a black Armani suit. A single glance would reveal his leadership within the group. Although he did not appear particularly outstanding, it could be seen that he had an aura superior to those around, as if nobody present mattered to him.

The man stopped in his tracks and his gaze landed on where Yang Chen and the other two were sitting. Seeing Yang Chen and Li Dun together, he displayed a suspicious look across his face. At last, he walked towards them.

"It's been a long time, Brother Yang. Oh, Brother Li is here too! What a day," exclaimed the man.

"Can't believe it's you, Mr Ning! I almost could not recognize you. You're keeping too low of a profile! What a role model you are," praised Li Dun, giving a thumbs-up. However, in other people's eyes, he looked utterly pretentious.

It had been an extremely long time since Yang Chen last met Ning Guodong. He seemed to have fully recovered. However, hidden in his eyes were hints of a minor change of heart.

Yang Chen could not imagine the chances of meeting him here especially when he was due to return to Beijing so soon. Technically, he was Lin Ruoxi's brother from another mother, which made him Yang Chen's brother-in-law. But this guy didn't seem to know about their relationship and continued to pursue Lin Ruoxi stubbornly.

"It's truly a coincidence, albeit not one to be happy about," said Yang Chen truthfully.

If not for his biological relationship with Lin Ruoxi, Yang Chen would've already snapped his neck in half.

Ning Guodong's eyes were gleaming with a murderous vibe. He was certain that he was not as capable as Yang Chen. Back in Beijing, he had tirelessly tried to dig up information on Yang Chen's background. But the more information he uncovered, the more fearful he became. Yang Chen's past was more complicated than he had believed. Even though a lot of information were inaccessible, a source had revealed that Yang Chen was in fact the long-lost eldest grandson of the Yang clan.

Ning Guodong was not a foolish man. Without a hundred percent mind of confidence, he would never dare test Yang Chen's limits. Hence, he laughed it off, "Please don't mind our previous unpleasant interactions. Since you're here in Beijing, I should be a better host. How about a drink together?"

"It's fine, I'm here with my women. I don't want to have anything to do with men." This time, Yang Chen could not even care to look at him.

At this moment, a man in a white suit who had been standing behind him voiced, "Mr Ning, why are you talking to this low-class jerk? What makes him qualified to have a drink with you?"

Out of the corner of his eyes, Yang Chen thought the guy looked vaguely familiar. Recalling, he slapped his own forehead and laughed. "You're Yan Buwen's brother, Yan Buxue. Tsk tsk, seems like you've come a long way from recovering from my slap the other day. Has your face become smaller?"

Yan Buxue was part of Ning Guodong's group. As the second son of the Yan clan, he was often living in his brilliant brother's shadows. Therefore, it'd do him a lot of good to foster his friendship with Ning Guodong.

So, among the other men accompanying Ning Guodong, he was considered to be one who held the highest status.

Being made fun of in public had hurt his ego. He shouted furiously, "Don't be too happy about it! So what if you can fight? What are you in front of Mr Ning?"

That day in Zhonghai, he was sent to the hospital after numerous slaps from Yang Chen. This was a disgrace to himself. If not for Yan Buwen's lecturing, he would've sent murderers after Yang Chen. But even though Yan Buwen did not do much about his brother, he had saved his brother's life by lecturing him.

However, without waiting for him to finish, Li Dun's anger had burst out.

"Get out!" screamed Li Dun, pushing Yan Buxue into the dance floor.

Yan Buxue rolled across the floor, performing a few somersaults. The people on the dance floor fled while shouting upon seeing a fight scene.

Initially, Yan Buxue was stunned. But he stood up, wanting to point his finger at Li Dun to shout at him. Undoubtedly, it was his knowledge of the possible consequences of messing with the Li clan that made him hesitate. So instead of yelling, he muttered, "Yo—you... Why did you hit me?"

Without caring for his own reputation, Li Dun spat. "You dared to besmirch Yang Chen's name and still ask who he is?! Then what am I, since I'm here with him today? I think you're still not satisfied. Come at me if you are dissatisfied! Since Old Yang has slapped you before, maybe today's my turn!"

The bystanders surrounding them threw terrified yet pitiful glances at Yan Buxue. Though the Yan clan was also one of the four dominant clans, Yan Buxue was not Yan Buwen. No matter how much Li Dun beat him up, it wouldn't matter as he was not his brother.

But there were more in the bystanders' heads. Li Dun's had clearly shown that he was on Yang Chen's side. Did that mean that he could ignore the Ning clan for this young man?

*Who is this young man??* The people around him were contemplating possibilities but could not come up with an answer.

Cai Yan had wanted to go on the stage to sing a few songs; however, seeing the commotion at their seats, she rushed towards them and saw Ning Guodong. Knowing it was not something she had a say in, she hid behind Cai Ning in anticipation of the fight that may occur.

Ning Guodong's face had betrayed a hint of depression and worry. He could tell that Li Dun's behavior was an indication of the relationship between the Yang and Li clans in the future. This was not a good news in his eyes. Even if his clan was the most powerful one at the moment, that did not mean it would last forever. After all, he would never reconcile with Yang Chen. As for Li Dun, he had no common interests with him and reliable sources had shown that he and Yang Chen were in frequent contact.

This made the Ning clan alone. As the man next in line to take the master's seat, this had planted worry in his head.

Yan Buxue's knees buckled. Picking a fight with Li Dun would either prove that he was mad or incredibly stupid.

In the end, he shielded himself using Ning Guodong's body like a coward. He pleaded, "Sir, can you help me? There's no way I can survive even one slap from Li Dun."

Ning Guodong shot a hateful look at him. If not for the Yan clan's power and Yan Buwen's ability to control Li Dun's attitude, he would've never brought Yan Buxue along today. However, it'd only make matters worse if he offended Yan Buxue right there and then. Without a choice, he said unwillingly, "Brother Li, I think we should just let it go today, don't you think?"

"Hmph! Well, since Mr Ning has pleaded on his behalf, I'll let it go," criticised Li Dun.

Suddenly, Yang Chen voiced, "Wait, I haven't forgiven him yet."

Right after the words had left his mouth, Ning Guodong's features froze. A cloud of anger swept across his face. He was obviously furious that Yang Chen had just embarrassed him in public.

Yang Chen said lightheartedly, "Just now, Yan Buxue insulted me. Now, you've asked for Li Dun's forgiveness on behalf of him. That means I should be getting one as well. If I don't hear an apology by tonight, nobody is leaving this place."

Several people around them gasped, inhaling loudly. Everyone must be thinking, *?This guy is being too arrogant isn't he? Who in their right mind would ask Ning Guodong to apologize publicly? Even if Yan Buxue apologized himself, it'd ultimately mean that Ning Guodong has been defeated by Yang Chen. His ego would vanish!*

However, Yang Chen would not let it go so easily. Albeit behaving in a tamer way since he was back in the country, it didn't mean that people could insult him and then walk out of it freely. Especially not the people he disliked!

## **Chapter 660**

### **Menstrual Cycle**

"Brother Yang, why make a big deal out of this? Isn't that asking for a little too much?" asked Ning Guodong in a deep voice.

"I'm not a judge. I don't have to protect my image. Since you already think of me as a gangster, so be it," Yang Chen exclaimed loudly.

“You’re in Beijing, not Zhonghai,” threatened Ning Guodong, implying that the Ning clan had an immeasurable power, here in Beijing.

Waving his hands to show his indifference, Yang Chen sighed. “We have totally different views on that. You’re comparing Beijing and Zhonghai while I see both as two states in China. I don’t care, really.”

The bystanders shook their heads and exchanged their thoughts in hushed voices. Most of them thought Yang Chen was a reckless, impulsive man who did not know better.

On the other hand, Li Dun gave Yang Chen a thumbs-up while winking.

Cai Yan was watching the whole situation with anticipation and excitement.

However, Cai Ning had her brows furrowed. She started to worry slightly at the things that Yang Chen might do to get his way.

The nightclub’s manager was sweating. He did not attempt to contain the scene, or to speak out. These men were people that he could not afford to offend. All he hoped was for no violence to occur.

Ning Guodong’s face stiffened. He said, “Yang Chen, do you really think I’d be scared of you due to your recently acquired status of a Yang? Here in Beijing, I could do so much more than you imagine.”

“I think you’ve misunderstood. Being a Yang has nothing to do with this,” said Yang Chen while using his fingers to object. “Also, I hate it when people threaten me.”

Of course, Ning Guodong would not give in to him. He was humiliated publicly, making his inner fire rage. “Keep dreaming. I will let this go for Brother Li’s sake. And I want to let you know, I’ll continue going after Ruoxi in Zhonghai! I will never give up and there’s nothing that you can do about it!”

He was raging, his anger consuming him in flames. Everything he hated about Yang Chen was spilt out of his mouth. In his eyes, this incredibly ruthless man was the husband of the love of his life. He even had multiple beauties by his side! This made his insides churn with jealousy and hatred.

Yang Chen then calmed down, laughing evilly. “This is what you really want to say, isn’t it?”

Ning Guodong looked ferocious, his face hideous. “So what if it is? I’ll have her in my arms someday.”

The observers did not understand the situation, but the Cai sisters did. Startled, they figured out why Yang Chen was pressing on Ning Guodong—he announced his love for Lin Ruoxi in public!

After speaking out for himself, Ning Guodong swung his arm to lead his companion away to their reserved seats.

However, before he had even taken his second step, he felt an incredibly huge amount of force pressing down his body.

He felt all of his bones crumpling, his knees buckling under the invisible surge of energy. It was as if a boulder had just landed on him.

He coughed and panted, taking in quicker and deeper breaths. His face reddened, but his body shaking under the weight of the force. He started leaning forward, kneeling down alas!

Finally, his last ounce of strength had escaped from his body. He fell, both knees and hands in contact with the floor, completely kneeling down.

Everyone around them screamed. They could not believe how Ning Guodong had knelt down out of nowhere.

Yang Chen stood up slowly. "Since you couldn't apologise using words, then kneel. Also, you should dismiss your intentions! Otherwise, the next time, it won't be as simple as kneeling."

Finishing his speech, Yang Chen started trudging towards the exit. The observers automatically moved themselves to form a path for him, without the courage to say anything. All there was was the sound of the music in the atmosphere.

Undoubtedly, the Cai sisters had their mood diminished after the scenario. They followed Yang Chen out of the nightclub.

It was only until the door had closed when the load was removed from Ning Guodong's body.

After a long pause, he stood up. Nobody looked him in the eye, leaving him in a circle of darkness, the coldness daunting and chilling to the core!

As for Yang Chen, his mood did not brighten in the slightest. He motioned for Li Dun to return on his own. Taking the Cai sisters, he started to make his way back to their house.

This time, it was Cai Ning who sat at the passenger seat. She looked at Yang Chen and said, "You were picking on Ning Guodong on purpose, weren't you? In normal circumstances, you would've dealt with Yan Buxue first. So it was pretty obvious you were picking on Ning Guodong."

Yang Chen took in a deep breath and nodded his head. "Seems like you know me pretty well."

"Why? Is it because he's after Ruoxi?" asked Cai Ning.

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. "If there were men after either of you, I'd react the same. I specifically pressured him in order to force the truth out. Since he hasn't given up, that only means many things have not come to an end."

"I don't understand. You don't have anything to worry when it comes to him. Even if he's after Ruoxi, I doubt he's competition," Cai Ning questioned curiously.

He shook his head and smiled. "You'll understand a lot of things soon. He's not just any competition, he shouldn't even exist."

Indeed, Yang Chen had picked on him with a clear motive. He wanted to identify whether Ning Guodong had uncovered the truth about the relationship between Ruoxi and himself. So far, it would seem like he hadn't.

Also, Yang Chen wanted to know if he'd given up.

With the existence of such a 'competitor', dangerous things could happen in the near future.

Yang Chen knew that Lin Ruoxi valued her family above anything else. It was a huge contrast with her cold appearance. This could be seen from her tolerance towards Lin Kun, her 'father', who had an ugly personality. This was also why Ning Guangyao never reunited with Lin Ruoxi.

Hence, there was a great possibility that Lin Ruoxi would not be harsh towards Ning Guodong despite having learnt the truth. She would never let Yang Chen settle her problems then, even if Ning Guodong did something horrible.

Yang Chen found it alright for people to hate him. However, he could not bear to have his lovers see him differently.

Having humiliated Ning Guodong publicly, it had further worsened their relationship. But Yang Chen would rather make his hatred known than allow Ning Guodong plan his next moves in the dark.

If Ning Guodong came at him in broad daylight, it'd give Yang Chen a chance to end his life.

When the car was almost nearing their house, Yang Chen asked Cai Ning, "Ning'er, what date is today?"

Without waiting for Cai Ning's answer, Cai Yan cut in, "Today's the third of May. Everyone is celebrating Labour's Day. That's why Ning Guodong and his companions were free to go to the nightclub. But why are you asking?"

Yang Chen nodded his head thoughtfully. He mumbled to himself, "So fast... I should really head back sooner..."

Cai Yan was sitting at the back seats, so she couldn't hear his inaudible whispers. She had thought that he was being mischievous again, and something popped into her head. She shouted, "Bad guy! You can't touch Elder Sister at night! She's having her menstrual cycle!"

Hearing this, Yang Chen had almost mistakened the accelerator for the brake pedal!

On the other hand, Cai Ning blushed and turned in her seat to glare at her sister. "Yo—you... are overthinking, Yanyan!"

It was only then that Cai Yan realised, Yang Chen couldn't have known when Cai Ning's menstrual cycle was.

"Hmph! He's always been a pervert. So I just... I thought he was up to no good," Cai Yan said apologetically. She dipped her head away in order to avoid looking at them.

Expectedly, her words had ignited the fire in Yang Chen's stomach. He licked his lips and said smilingly, "Yanyan, great job reminding me. But it's alright, I still have you."

Cai Yan's heart pumped a thousand times faster. Her usually wild self had become shy in front of her own sister.

As for Cai Ning, she did not dare to continue listening to their conversation. Her face had turned a deep shade of pink as she closed her eyes.

Once they were back in the Cai residence, all three of them stepped down from the car. Cai Yan still had her head down in order to avoid looking at Yang Chen. It would seem like he was staying in her house for the night. What if he came to her room at night? Would she let him in?

She was worried, yet there was a hint of excitement amidst her emotions. However, Cai Ning was confused and did not know what to say. She had just recently declared her feelings towards Yang Chen. How would she handle her sister's love life along with all the shameful things that are about to come?

Looking at the sisters' weirded-out expressions, Yang Chen refrained himself from laughing. He was anticipating the night in Cai Yan's room when his phone rang, before stepping into the house.

Retrieving his phone from the pocket, he saw the caller ID bearing the words 'Zhuang Feng'.

Calling at this time of night, it must be an urgent one. Hence, Yang Chen picked it up immediately.

"It's bad, Director," said Zhuang Feng, without greeting him. "Miss Lin Hui is in trouble!"