

Chapter 781 - Cold and Hard

Cold and Hard

Having Rose as his first candidate wasn't his initial decision.

Cai Ning would have been the preferred candidate. She'd practiced cultivating her internal energy since young. Naturally, she was the most suitable candidate for this.

However, Yang Chen also considered that Cai Ning had practiced martial arts from the Tang Sect which focused more on hidden weapons and feminine strength. When compared to the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture, they were both fundamentally different. Revising her fundamentals wasn't going to be an easy task.

Rose was different. Although she had a foundation in wushu, she was a blank canvas in the cultivation world. In addition, Yang Chen thought her analytical skills were as good as Cai Ning so teaching Rose cultivation might have a larger chance of success although her initial abilities were weaker.

Once her cultivation improved, Yang Chen would let his other women enter this uncharted territory.

He didn't know how much time he had left in his life either. If he were to remain this young while his women grew old, he'd end up being very lonely.

Also, picking Rose who'd been with him since day one gave her security and deeper certainty in their relationship.

Yang Chen dared not teleport to his living room in fear of startling Guo Xuehua and Wang Ma. Instead, he appeared in his room before making his way down.

The living room was filled with the smell of delicious food. Even after the huge commotion that day, Zhenxiu had to come home too. The child still had her exams tomorrow and the day after. Good food was what she needed after a long day of exams.

A wave of awkwardness washed over him when he saw Lin Ruoxi walk out from the kitchen.

Zhenxiu was watching a reality show on the couch. It seemed like the child didn't know what had happened today. She looked relaxed.

"You're back." Guo Xuehua was walking out of the kitchen when she saw Yang Chen. She gave a seemingly natural smile. "Zhenxiu, time for dinner."

Zhenxiu got up to turn the television off. She ran to the dinner table, then asked curiously when she saw Yang Chen. "Brother Yang, what happened this afternoon? Ruoxi wouldn't tell me."

Yang Chen noticed Lin Ruoxi's icy glare at him. He understood, saying, "Qianni from next door wasn't feeling too well. Nothing much."

"Oh..." Zhenxiu didn't dare to ask too many questions. It didn't seem like anything was out of the ordinary though.

Once Lin Ruoxi was certain Yang Chen didn't say anything he wasn't supposed to say, she went back into the kitchen to bring out more dishes.

He sighed privately. If it weren't for Zhenxiu's examinations, perhaps Lin Ruoxi wouldn't even react to him.

The entire family sat down for dinner as usual.

Although everyone was secretly nervous, they didn't want to affect the child's mood due to her exams. Everyone pretended as if nothing had happened. Coincidentally they were all very good at acting, so dinner proceeded peacefully.

After the meal, Lin Ruoxi helped Wang Ma with the dishes while Guo Xuehua asked Zhenxiu about her exams. She was a little unnerved by the questions and her answers made Guo Xuehua laugh.

Yang Chen was stressed out thinking about how to proceed with Lin Ruoxi. He waited until Lin Ruoxi had finished her chores before following her upstairs.

As they headed up the flight of stairs, Yang Chen called her from behind.

"Ruoxi, wait."

Lin Ruoxi knew Yang Chen was following her but didn't turn back. She only stopped when he called.

"I know you won't forgive me easily, no matter what I say. I don't want to say anything that would upset you either. It's just that I have something I haven't given you since I came back."

She turned, her expression was mild and her eyes were cold. Without a trace of emotion, she said, "What."

He smiled, embarrassed, then took out something yellow, flat, and circular from his pocket. It was an old pocket watch he'd taken from the dead FBI director Robert.

He walked up to Lin Ruoxi, then held the antique pocket watch up before Lin Ruoxi's eyes.

"I've brought two gifts from my trip to the US. At first... I wanted to give the pink diamond ring to you too, but I was worried about Qianni so I gave it to her. But this pocket watch, this is something I must keep for you," he said, smiling.

She narrowed her eyes at the watch. It was thick and heavy, like a regular antique watch. There was nothing special about it. Other than the ability to turn, it wasn't anything special!

Her lips curled into an icy smile. "How could you give me such an amazing gift?" Her tone was full of sarcasm.

He replied awkwardly, "This really is a good watch! I took it from the head of the American FBI..."

"The head? Took?" She laughed, shaking her head. "Are you going to tell me about what happened with the FBI if you're about to give me this watch? I'm aware you're so capable, you'd even give out diamond rings worth millions. How could I not like this..."

When she finished, Lin Ruoxi took the watch from his hand and held it in her palm. She was too lazy to even take a look but sneered. "Thank you so much, my dear husband! Thank god you gave me a watch but not a clock..."

[TL note: Gifting somebody a clock would mean wishing for their death in the Chinese culture.]

Her eyes reddened as she finished speaking. She bit her lip, gave him a death stare, turned to enter the study and slammed the door!

He stood, speechless. Yang Chen sighed sadly, mumbling to himself, "This really is a good watch..."

Lin Ruoxi had just closed the door when she leaned on it. Tears flowed as she looked up.

When she saw her man give another woman a diamond ring that afternoon, she even felt the urge to die!

She did pity that woman though. She'd wanted her childhood friend to find happiness too. But why did it have to be the same man?!

She blamed herself over and over. If only she'd never given in to this man. But the heavens liked to joke like that.

Her mind was in chaos. She didn't know if she felt resentment, hate, or something else. She wanted to bite him so hard that he bled!

Lin Ruoxi had also thought about how divorce might be a release from all of this.

But if she chose to divorce, didn't it mean she was admitting defeat? That she had lost to the other women, that she was personally handing them her man?!

They must be waiting for that day to come. To mock her behind her back, saying she couldn't even keep a man...

How could she admit defeat like this? She immediately pushed her thoughts away.

Even if she had to curse that jerk for the rest of her life, she'd never let him enjoy his life in peace!

That was how she comforted herself, but... she wouldn't have the heart to do it.

As she held onto the hard object in her hand, she lowered her head. She examined the old pocket watch gifted by the man. The antique pocket watch was made of metal. It was heavy and cold.

Lin Ruoxi suddenly felt that this watch was like her heart right now. Working but cold and hard.

Silently, she pressed the old pocket watch to her heart.

... ..

Yang Chen didn't know a pocket watch he gave to Lin Ruoxi would send her mind whirling like this.

He couldn't think of anything to quickly break down the wall between them now. He could only rely on the magic cure—time.

After returning to his room, Yang Chen took a cold shower then collapsed on his bed. He started to think about how he could start Rose's cultivation.

Song Tianxing was the one who had led him into the world of cultivation. The only technique Yang Chen practised was the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture. This technique was extremely difficult and not

everyone would be able to master it. If Rose were to practice it, her results might not even be tangible. She might not even understand it.

Also, he'd already cultivated the scripture for more than ten years, in addition to being exposed to the divine light. It was the various near-death experiences that helped him get to where he was now.

If she were to start learning now, without any major incidents, she may not even see results after decades of practice!

That was why Yang Chen felt like he had to think of something unorthodox for Rose to enter the Xiantian stage as soon as possible.

As long as she entered this stage, her lifespan would increase drastically. Everything else would naturally fall into place.

In the past, he thought reaching the Xiantian stage was a very high-level achievement. Right now, although he wasn't sure what level he was currently at, he didn't think it was a difficult obstacle.

What he needed was a safe and suitable method.

As for whether she could enter the Soul Forming stage after that, as per how Yan Sanniang had helped him, he had no way to help Rose.

After some consideration, Yang Chen felt like he should check out other internal energy classics. As for someone who could tell him what to do, it seemed like the most suitable person would be Abbess Yun Miao who was in Beijing.

Although he wasn't too happy to have to talk to the abbess, he had no choice. He found Yun Miao's phone number, then hit 'call'.

Chapter 782 - Holding Grudges

Holding Grudges

Abbess Yun Miao soon picked up the call. Needless to say, she was quite surprised by Yang Chen's call.

"What's the matter?" she asked mildly.

Yang Chen laughed unnaturally. "I've got a question which you might know the answers to. Sorry to disturb."

"Hmmp, it's so like you to call only when you need something. Well then, hurry up. I haven't got all day," Abbess Yun Miao laughed.

"It's like this. Recently, I've been thinking about teaching cultivation. Just the basics of internal energy with the aim of entering the Xiantian realm. However, I only know of the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture which obviously, is not for everyone. That's why I wanted to ask you about the other forms of cultivation," said Yang Chen.

Abbess Yun Miao hesitated for a moment. "The person you want to teach, is it one of your women?"

"Abbess, how did you know?" he asked, stunned.

“Hmmp.” Abbess Yun Miao grunted with displeasure. “With your morals, why would you teach anyone anything if it didn’t serve you?”

“Hehe... Abbess knows me well. But... where can I get more information about internal energy? Oh, didn’t you say it was from Shushan? Where specifically? Do they have a place where they keep all their scriptures?” asked Yang Chen, grinning.

Abbess Yun Miao sighed. “Yes, of course they do. Most techniques are recorded in scripture as opposed to the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture. However... in recent centuries, the Shushan people have been dwindling and their ancestral homes have been moved out of Mount Emei. The place I practised my martial arts with Senior Brother wasn’t the original location of the Shushan sect. Bringing Hui’er to Mount Emei during the past decade for cultivation was a mere formality.”

Yang Chen was stunned. It sounded like the Shushan was only an empty shell! There were only Song Tianxing and Abbess Yun Miao’s disciples left?!

“Abbess, are you joking? How could you call it a sect?!”

She snorted. “So what if our numbers are small?? The ancient arts are dying out day after day. Kunlun, Shaolin, Maoshan, and a few others are the only remaining large sects. Although other sects have scriptures passed down from ancient times, people with enough comprehension and resilience are still too few. Many give up. Even sects like ours have diminished in size. Our teachings have always been as good as everyone else anyway, so what’s there to be embarrassed about?”

Yang Chen was suddenly speechless. “Where are the books kept?”

“What’s the hurry? I’m about to tell you,” she said slowly. “To be honest, you shouldn’t ask me. You should be looking for that brat Cai Ning—Flower Rain.”

“Ning’er?”

“That’s right,” she continued. “Most of the records were kept in the prosperous Tang Sect’s stronghold, also known as the Tang Ancestral Fortress. Some might describe it as the epicenter of martial arts. As long as they are selected, once they enter the sect, they would choose to transmit teachings of different sects according to their backgrounds.

“When Cai Ning entered the Tang lineage, it was actually because her build was suitable for the Tang Sect’s techniques and hidden weapons. Even if it wasn’t, I was inclined to take her into Shushan too because that brat’s skill was formidable. Even if she was to cultivate my expertise, the Nebula Sword Technique, she would achieve stellar results.”

It was through Abbess Yun Miao’s explanations that Yang Chen finally had a deeper understanding in this area.

Due to the changes in the past few centuries, there were fewer people who could calm their minds, block out temptations, and withstand the hardships of practices like the ancient people.

Although every sect still maintained their lineages to pass on knowledge, they weren’t able to form huge sects like in the past. Also, current China uses these ancient sects as the main source of manpower for the Yellow Flame Iron Brigade. Experts were only trained when required.

The Chinese government had been secretly supporting them through funding and different resources, as well as choosing highly talented children without any problematic backgrounds to enter each sect for cultivation.

For example, Cai Ning and Yang Lie were outstanding talents from the group.

The benefit of this was that each sect no longer had any conflict. Everyone worked to supply the country with talent while the country allowed each sect to continue passing on their knowledge. It was a win-win situation.

However, to decrease its potential to disrupt the stability of society, ancient sects gradually became secrets and vanished from the minds of the commoners.

When Yang Chen heard this, he asked, "Would that mean I have to go to the Tang Ancestral Fortress at the Chuan Province?"

Abbess Yun Miao replied, "That depends on what scriptures you want. The ones kept with the Tang Sect are records of offensive techniques from sects around Mount Emei. That includes Five Poisons and other unique teachings. For Kunlun, it mainly contains information on the Taoist breath techniques. There are scriptures about Qingcheng and Wudang as well. As for Shaolin, that involves more Buddhist techniques. Maoshan focuses more on cultivation with the help of herbal pills. We have many scriptures passed down from generations ago. It really depends on what you want your girls to learn."

He laughed. "What else? I have photographic memory anyway. Worst case scenario, I read everything and choose the best and fastest one to teach!"

"You... You pig!!" scolded Abbess Yun Miao suddenly, furious.

He frowned. "Abbess, I respect you but you can't call me a pig like that. You can't hold grudges just because I don't listen to you and I didn't become your son-in-law!"

Abbess Yun Miao almost hit the roof. She took a few deep breaths and finally said, "I really don't know how a stupid bastard like you could attain such high levels in cultivation. Why are you treating internal energy like child's play?! Different techniques have different characteristics. Some bodies have unsuitable builds for it and if you force them to practice it, they'd go insane!"

"Do you think my senior brother randomly decided to pass on the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture to you? That was because your physique was suitable to master this set of techniques!"

"Also, what makes you think anyone could just read the scriptures? You should know that mythical arts of many sects are treasures that foreign powers send spies for! The Chinese foundations were built on techniques like this. There's nothing like it anywhere else in the world. How could we let you read if just because you asked? You have to go through many levels of challenges and screenings before we decide if you are worthy."

Yang Chen grunted, then mumbled, "I understand now. Looks like I'll have to get my hands a little dirty before I enter..."

"You... You... Pig-brain! What are you thinking now?!" Abbess Yun Miao was panicking now, shrieking over the phone.

Yang Chen smiled sweetly. "What do you mean..."

"If you force yourself in, what's the difference between that and robbery? Those people are the pillars of the Chinese world of cultivation. If you hurt them, it'd be equal to helping our foreign enemies destroy China from the inside!

"That is why, for safety, I want you to look for that brat Cai Ning. Her master Tang Luyi loves her very much. Tang Luyi is the Tang sect master's biological sister. Her cultivation would be as good as mine. When I met her a few years ago, she was already at the doorstep of the Xiantian realm. I haven't met her since, but I can only assume that she has reached, if not surpassed it. If you can persuade her to help you, then you'd be all set."

He replied curiously, "The Xiantian realm? Abbess, I remember one of the Dragon Group members telling me that there hadn't been any experts in the Xiantian realm leading up to my appearance."

Abbess Yun Miao dismissed it. "What do you know? What makes you think these masters would walk around in public like it was nothing to them? The people from the Dragon Group are from the army. They have very limited knowledge on the full extent of the martial arts world. In actuality, every sect has its own experts who have attained the Xiantian realm. They're just unwilling to reveal it. They only cultivate in secret, praying they can pass the obstacles. Ling Xuzy from Hongmeng was only revealed to have entered the Xiantian realm when he appeared after many years of disappearance."

Yang Chen was only asking out of curiosity. To him, it didn't matter how many experts there were in the world. Of course, he wouldn't say this unless he was talking to people from Hongmeng. He didn't want to attract the heavenly tribulations again. Hongmeng's initial appearance had shaken him that time, and who could be certain there wasn't anyone more powerful than him? Hiding his talents had its benefits.

After getting the information, Yang Chen thanked Abbess Yun Miao and hung up.

Since Abbess Yun Miao told him to bring Cai Ning, Yang Chen was only too happy to comply. It might save him a lot of trouble and having that extra time to deepen his relationship with Cai Ning would be good too.

And... Yang Chen's heart was tingling. He hadn't finished his business with the sisters yet.

He was about to call Cai Ning when he received a message. It was her sister Cai Yan. "Wei Tinghao is dragging me to the tequila bar. It wasn't appropriate for me to reject him in front of his friends. I'll be there in twenty minutes, and I might get drunk..."

Yang Chen shuddered, clenching his teeth. He was already a mess dealing with Lin Ruoxi, why did this woman have to text him at this hour?!

Chapter 783 - BRRRRRKKKK

BRRRRRKKKK

Cai Ning would have to wait. Yang Chen hovered himself across the room, grabbed a pair of t-shirt and shorts before hurling himself off the balcony.

Yang Chen sped on his car towards Agave Club on the west end. It was well known for being populated with the rich. Because he was familiar with the place, he did not need the GPS to locate it.

Wei Tinghao was after all a man of nobility. A man of his status would naturally be picky about where he drank.

Neon lights flashed up and down the street. Women in skimpy clothing took to the streets in search of a decent run for their money.

Yang Chen nonetheless was completely uninterested by the supple legs or voluptuous bosoms exposed for all to savor. He was a little too preoccupied with his goals in mind.

The moment he hopped out of the car, he coincidentally came across a glossy, black Infiniti QX56 entering the parking lot.

Upon identification of the man in the driver's seat, Yang Chen sneaked into his seat and subtly closed the car door before him.

The passenger door was opened from within, and down came Cai Yan. She was dressed in a red-fringed blouse paired with grey cotton hot pants. It was a farcy from her regular uniform.

The policewoman endorsed her sleek, supple pair of legs in the forefront and paired it with her energizing posture.

And in the driver's seat was Wei Tinghao in a striped shirt paired with skinny jeans. His proud and conceited grin seemed to be made for this exact occasion.

Cai Yan stepped down from the car and started gazing around for Yang Chen's arrival, but when she failed to spot him, there was a tinge of disappointment in her eyes.

"Yan'er, who are you waiting for? The alumni are probably sick of waiting by now," Wei Tinghao politely mentioned.

"Oh." Cai Yan forced a smile as she nodded before tailing him into the function hall.

Her previous mates from the police academy now held important roles in the government which was why she tried her best not to risk annoying them.

Wei Tinghao initiated by reaching out to hold Cai Yan's hand, but his plans were thwarted as she instinctively placed it close to her torso.

Wei Tinghao feigned ignorance, but his eyes flashed with disappointment. He knew, however, that opportunities just like this would present themselves in the future. After all, he was here for a couple more days.

The more complicated the process, the sweeter the rewards.

However, right before he could make his way to the hall entrance, he felt a bizarre pain in his lower abdomen.

He suddenly felt like he needed to pee badly!

Wei Tinghao was dumbfounded as his bladder seemed to be expanding and forcing onto his nether regions.

He instantly halted his footsteps and froze, hesitant to take another step! He feared that his bladder would give way if he did.

“Senior... are you okay?” Cai Yan was filled with curiosity as she turned back to the awkwardly positioned Wei Tinghao.

Wei Tinghao held onto his abdomen as he took a few long breaths, “My... stomach... doesn’t feel too good...”

Cai Yan was confused. Just a moment ago he was proud and charismatic. How much pain must he be in to look this pale?

“Senior, you okay? Do you want to take a trip to the bathroom before we enter?” Cai Yan stared at Wei Tinghao’s perplexed face whilst holding her laughter in.

Wei Tinghao painfully frowned as he replied, “If... I move... things are going to go bad.”

Wei Tinghao’s body was twisted in an unnatural position. He was trying his best to keep it in.

Nevertheless, a hint of liquid could be seen lining the nether regions of his trousers.

Since it was by the entrance of the functional hall, there were always guests entering and leaving at all times, along with the army veterans as security.

At that moment, two of them took to notice Wei Tinghao’s peculiar actions and affectionately went out of their way to ask. “Sir, do you need any help? You don’t look too well.”

The security guards’ approach fueled the fire as he felt his intestine regurgitating rapidly.

Soon after, not only was his bladder about to explode, his bowels started to gurgle as well!

Wei Tinghao’s face went deathly pale. His eyeballs seemed as though they would fall off the sockets!

Before the security guards could get close, Wei Tinghao let out a deafening cry.

“Ugh-ah!”

A gush of warm liquid was expelled from his body, leaving his zipper wet before rapidly making its way down his trousers and onto his feet.

His shoes along with the floor started reeking from the pungent odor, as it quickly spread onto the ground beside him.

Regardless of how outspoken Cai Yan was, it was quite the surprise seeing an adult male fail to keep his fluids in. She screamed in terror and instantly hopped back as far as she could to avoid any potential splatter.

The guards were stupefied. *What the hell is happening? This dickhead actually peed himself in front of a luxury functional hall?!*

It managed to stir up a fiasco, which led to many passersby and guests towards the scene. When they realized it was a big, noble-looking man peeing himself, they started to gag and look away from the scene.

“My god, what a sight. Who would have thought that the events here at Agave Club would start right at the entrance?”

“Mummy... that uncle over there peed his pants.”

“Shh, maybe he’s a mental asylum patient on the loose...”

The tyrannical onslaught of jeers and ridicules left Wei Tinghao’s confidence practically gone. It no longer mattered to him why this was happening. All he wanted was for the floor to open up and swallow him whole!

The incident, however, was far from over.

Just when the two security guards decided to escort Wei Tinghao somewhere else in an attempt to avoid potential detriment to their business, Wei Tinghao’s gut started churning like a whale.

The guards started speculating what was about to happen.

BRRRRRKKKK!

It was a symphony of trapped air and the regurgitating sounds of water.

Wei Tinghao panicked as he felt his ‘back door’ give way!

At that moment, not only was his trousers filled with pee, his underwear was starting to burst from all the solids that were coming out of him!

The security guards reactively darted away before they ranted furiously.

“Damn it, this guy may look all high and noble, but it turns out he might just be a retard!”

“I’m sure he definitely is, I think we should call the cops!”

Wei Tinghao heard it all. The great successor of the Minister of the Security Bureau, Interpol’s finest, was now publicly peeing and excreting on his own pants!

But he could wallow in shame later, he had more important matters to deal with.

Wei Tinghao soullessly glanced across the crowd before he noticed Cai Yan hiding in the corner. He started pleading, “Yan’er, help me...”

“Wait, stand back!”

Cai Yan nonetheless found out quite early that this event was the doing of some prankster lurking in some corner, which prompted her to instinctively put up with the act. She put out a timid expression and instantly hid away from Wei Tinghao.

Several other socialites on site started voicing their detestation towards the security guards.

“What the hell is wrong with you people? Why would you allow a psychopath to even enter? Gosh, it smells like garbage here, I can’t take it anymore. Let me go inside!”

“Drag this lunatic back to his mental asylum immediately you sack of shits! I swear if his excrements get to my baby...”

The other guards quickly comprehended the commotion and instantly came running out along with their manager. "What the hell are you all daydreaming about? Get this sociopath to a mental hospital!"

"Don't you dare touch me, I'm an International Police!" Wei Tinghao taunted, but as soon as he reacted his bowels followed in suit.

BOOOSHHHHH!

That scene solidified their perception of him as a mental asylum patient!

"Interpol? Hahaha, what a retard!" The crowd in unison erupted into laughter.

The security guards were debating which was worth more, their jobs or their sanity. In the end, they decided that it was time to fulfill their paychecks and drag him away!

But nonetheless, taking down Wei Tinghao was easier said than done. Otherwise, he would not even be sent alone to conduct the operation in China.

The security guards might have been army veterans, but when placed upon the same playing field as Wei Tinghao, just a few simple moves and they were left holding onto their positions.

The manager witnessed the turn of events and was furious at the inability of his employees. It not only reflected badly on the company, but it reflected badly on his self-image!

"If you guys can't hold onto this lunatic you best not be expecting any pay for the month!"

When their financial lifelines were on the line, the security guards decided that it was time to stop messing around and finish it once and for all!

"Sissy, don't think you can get out unscathed!"

Half a dozen experienced men from the military surrounded Wei Tinghao as they hurled everything they had. Eventually, they were able to pin him down and restrict his movements.

Right at that moment, all the excrement within Wei Tinghao's trousers slipped through his underwear from the excessive force.

Along with a kick, the yellow-brownish, pungent smelling turd shot into the sky.

"Ahhh!"

A woman's hysterical scream was heard, and it was unsurprisingly Wei Tinghao's feces, flung onto the woman's face!

Chapter 784 - Bite It Off

Bite It Off

It had now turned into a complete uproar. This was not the act of a mentally ill patient, it was the work of a demonic sociopath!

The incident was yet to be resolved as several other people who were standing a little too close were affected by the excrement as well!

The security guards were horrified. High-profile guests came from all over town to relax and spend big money here. With this one act, they pretty much tossed their reputation into the trash!

As more passersby took notice, many guests originated from within the establishment came outside to take a look at the event.

Amongst those were the academy mates of Wei Tinghao and Cai Yan. The moment they realized whom the crowd was calling a psychopath, they were stupefied.

“Isn’t that Senior Wei? What the...”

“Let’s pretend we don’t know him. I guess Senior Wei must be in a lot of stress these days. Maybe that’s why his mental health is in such horrifying state...”

“Let’s sneak out before he sees us.”

Several of the alumni who were planning on deepening their relationships with Wei Tinghao immediately did a one-eighty and left.

Wei Tinghao noticed their actions and was disgusted. But what could he do? Right now, all he wanted to do was escape the scene.

After a ferocious flying kick, he kept the security guards at bay. Without even taking notice of Cai Yan amongst the crowd, he dashed to the parking lot with only escaping the scene in mind.

Behind him was an angry crowd of wailing women and disgusted men along with the security forces chasing in pursuit.

Just when he made his way to the parking lot, he was stupefied.

Where’s the car?? he thought.

The gorgeous, polished, black Infiniti SUV was just here where he parked a while ago, now it was gone! He could only assume someone took to drive it away.

But the car keys were still with him!

That prompted him to instinctively reached for his keys in his pocket, only to be left in shock.

The pockets in his jeans were untouched but his keys were missing.

Wei Tinghao was dumbfounded. There was no way the brawl was intense enough for his keys to fall off! Even if it did, he would have noticed!

Before he could contemplate further, the security forces in pursuit came up to him all at once and clamped him down on the ground.

“Let me go... I—I’m from the Interpol...”

The security guards were over with his nonsense.

And with that, the fiasco had finally come to an end. Regardless of how hard he yelled and taunted, the security guards were unfazed as they slammed him on the back of his head, rendering him unconscious.

The entrance of the functional hall had an extended cleanup session as the crowd gradually dissipated.

Cai Yan interacted with some of the alumni who were still terrified from the aftermath before they all gradually went their separate ways.

As they all left onto their individual cars, the allegedly missing black Infiniti cruised from a nearby parking spot towards Cai Yan.

The car door was flung open, and on the driver's wheel was the mastermind behind the entire scene.

Cai Yan passionately glared at her man before she hopped onto the car and closed the door.

"I knew it was you, you cheeky brat. You came early but decided to hide away and prank him this bad. It actually frightened the hell out of me. Wei Tinghao's reputation is truly buried in the dirt. I'm sure he wouldn't be telling his parents about this, and even the Interpol would fire him if they find out."

Cai Yan might be naggy but her tone was that of excitement. Wei Tinghao might have been her senior, but throughout their reunion the past few days, he had only been an arrogant and unlikeable figure.

Besides, that brat sure had a huge gap with the man she had chosen, and that did not play out well for the prior.

Yang Chen navigated the car onto the highway as he mentioned, "This incident is clearly a scheme. Interpol would soon investigate and pardon him for his actions. As for himself, he's experienced a lot the past years so I'm sure he'll brush it off sooner or later."

Cai Yan nodded happily before she asked out of curiosity, "Babe, mind telling me how you did it?"

Yang Chen smirked as he pointed to his right cheek.

Cai Yan understood the hint and brought herself closer, and gave him a tight smooch!

"Hehe." Yang Chen proudly explained, "Well it's nothing actually. I manipulated the flow of his Qi and played around with his Zhongji, Guanyuan, Kidney meridians. I then followed up with stimulations at his intestinal, Hegu, Yanxiang, and Quchi meridians. These pulses are the key initiator of excretion. If I stimulate them all at once, I'd be downright impressed if he did not shit his pants!"

Cai Yan was amazed at his prowess as she enthusiastically added, "Is that part of the internal energy? The one that Elder Sister has been practising?"

Yang Chen shook his head. "It's not exactly that. To be honest, I don't really know what it is. I mean I know what it is but I can't form it into words."

"What about that key? When was it taken?"

Yang Chen reached out with his right hand and made a little circle in the air before catching something.

It turned out to be a decorative swiss army knife on the set of keys in his hand, appearing like the end of a magic trick.

Cai Yan was bewildered as she searched within the pockets of her shorts. "This... is my key. How did you do it?"

Yang Chen shrugged as he replied, "As I said, I'm not sure, but I somehow can."

Cai Yan pouted. "If only I was half as good as you, then I wouldn't need to worry about arresting bad guys."

Yang Chen almost cried from laughter. "What a woman. Why can't you just have some adorable keychains with your keys like all the other girls. I mean the swiss army knife is fine too, but the police gig is a problem. I sometimes wish you could just do huge businesses like Ruoxi, at least you don't need to fight crime on the streets."

"Hmph," Cai Yan vexed. "Yeah yeah, your wife's the best. I might just be a meager policewoman, receiving that tiny slice of taxpayers' money every month. But this is my dream job! Back in the days, I did it to make my parents proud. But now that the job has grown onto me, I genuinely adore this progression. Every time I arrest someone on the wanted list, I just feel accomplished."

Yang Chen reached out and gave her face an affectionate squeeze. "I never disrespected your job, but it'll be great if you try to keep yourself away from getting hurt. If you ever face any danger, just call me. If you ever face any trouble at work, I'll bring the police station down to its foundations."

Cai Yan pouted as she added, "Really?"

"About what?"

"If I injure myself, you'll destroy the station?" Cai Yan questioned.

Yang Chen replied with a grin, "You really think I won't do it? You should know by now that I'm the biggest villain the world has ever seen. It's just that no one's been able to arrest me."

Cai Yan chuckled. "I'm sure if that happens I'll be so pissed at you, but now that you said it I kinda feel happy."

"I guess women all like a little sweet, nonsensical wide lie, don't they?"

Cai Yan grabbed her keys back from Yang Chen's grasp as she happily consented. "I don't know about other people, but it works for me."

Yang Chen reached out and gave her shoulder a tight hug, pulling her as close as she possibly could to him. "Yanyan, I made you a happy lady today, didn't I? Now it's time for you to return the favor."

Cai Yan felt her ear lobes heating up as she mumbled, "How do I do that..."

"I'm taking you to a really special place right now. Since we have some time to spare, can you get down in the car and give me a—"

Yang Chen cunningly mumbled a series of cryptic words, which at the end of his sentence led to Cai Yan vigorously shaking her head. "What? I can't do that! What if someone else sees us?!"

Yang Chen was caught off-guard. "Huh, I thought you'd reject outright."

Cai Yan coyly pouted her lips. "I don't think a third-wheeler like me has a choice. Plus, it's not the first time I've done something like this for you."

“Hehe babe, you know I’m gonna be the one with the bigger reaction if somebody did see us, so why would I ever let that happen? Are you still doubting my abilities?” Yang Chen slyly replied.

Cai Yan hesitated while biting onto her lips.

Yang Chen steered the car into self-driving mode, freed himself from the accelerator, and shifted his seat to the back.

The interior of the Infiniti was spacious. Even more so with the leather seat adjusted backward.

Yang Chen flung his legs open, exposing a huge, cylindrical mass.

Cai Yan pleaded pitifully. “Ugh, this is embarrassing.”

“How about you drive and I satisfy you instead? I’m not worried about embarrassing myself,” Yang Chen replied with a sinister grin.

Cai Yan’s mesmerizing face instantly felt fever-ridden. “I’ll do it then... that’s worse.”

The moment she finished her words, she agilely hopped in front of Yang Chen before she snuggled her lower half in between his legs.

Yang Chen came prepared as he was already in a pair of shorts. Since there weren’t many cars on the road, the steering wheel hardly required much maneuvering as he moved his hands to her pelvis.

Cai Yan always had a love-hate relationship with this man of hers. Nonetheless, the wild-spirited side of her came into play as she was strangely drawn towards such exhilarating games, which was exactly what had led to her eventual agreement for his sexy request.

At that moment, what was left before Cai Yan’s eyes was the proud, tall-standing member belonging to Yang Chen. She felt the heat rise up on her cheeks.

Yang Chen, bare-assed on the leather seat, caressed his lover’s face. “Yanyan, we still have approximately 25 minutes before we arrive. I believe you would be able to satisfy me before then.”

Cai Yan grumbled as she rebuked, “If our destination isn’t as good as you make it sound, I’ll bite this thing off!”

“Tsk tsk. How can you be so coy yet so arrogant? Maybe that’s why I fell for you. Anyways, time is being wasted as we speak...”

Before he could finish, Cai Yan grasped onto the steamy large wiener in the dark and engulfed up it whole starting with the cherry red lips of hers.

As they left the city lights behind, the black ride flew across the highway to the distant Southeast region. But who would have expected that the action within the car was just as exhilarating!

Chapter 785 - Attraction

Attraction

Millions of stars lit up the sky, contrasting with the inky black sea below.

The waves occasionally brought seaweed and shells unto the soft, yellow beach.

This beach was located near a fishing village outside the southeast city of Zhonghai. According to the Chinese laws, the months of June to September were no-fishing periods. It might've been why the beach was particularly quiet.

Under the pale moonlight, a couple walking hand-in-hand was seen strolling down the beach, leaving shallow footprints in their wake.

They were Yang Chen and Cai Yan.

When he had newly arrived in the country, Yang Chen would occasionally sit here for a night. He would think about his friends outside the country and reminisce about everything that had happened to calm himself. It helped him better assimilate into society. However, he hadn't visited since his marriage with Lin Ruoxi.

Yang Chen didn't know why he had suddenly brought the girl here for a walk either. Cai Yan was alone in Zhonghai tonight. In the past, he would've pounced on this opportunity to sleep with her at her place but on this beautiful night, but he decided not to.

Cai Yan didn't expect to be brought to a place like this either. When they were running to the beach after getting off the car, she'd forgotten all the passion in the car earlier. The expanse of the sea and the sky was mesmerizing enough.

She was in awe.

Yang Chen didn't talk much during their walk. He seemed to be in deep thought most of the time.

She was only there to keep him company. She didn't feel like talking either. Instead, this quiet Yang Chen was very new to her. Perhaps people who usually joked and laughed all hid their true self underneath.

When Yang Chen stood on a boulder, he suddenly turned to ask, "We've walked quite a long way today. Aren't you curious why I brought you here?"

She shook her head. "You brought me here. You'll tell me eventually, no?"

Smiling, he grabbed her shoulder to turn her towards the sea for her to gently lean onto his shoulder.

"Don't laugh at me... But I drove to the beach so that we could make love in the car."

She narrowed her eyes at the man and scoffed, "You're so romantic..."

He laughed at himself. "You know I am... But once I saw the beach, I didn't feel like fooling around anymore."

"Because you're having issues?"

"Sort of..."

"It must be Ruoxi," she said with certainty.

He stopped for a moment. "Why are you so sure? Why can't I worry about my mother, your sister, or you?"

"The probability is small enough to be neglected," Cai Yan huffed softly. "You think I don't know you? You can make just about anyone happy, except Ruoxi."

Yang Chen sighed. "It's not that I can't coax her... It's just that, every time I comfort her, I feel like I'm putting a band-aid on a bullet wound. I can give her everything in my power but the only thing she wants is my complete attention. That's the only thing I cannot offer."

Cai Yan protested, "Don't you think it's very insincere of you to talk to me about how much you love your wife? I'll get jealous."

"Heh." Yang Chen massaged her shoulders. "I haven't been a very good man but I'm never insincere. If I were a liar, I would tell Ruoxi she was my only one. I'd tell you, you're the one I love most."

"If only I hadn't been so direct, telling her about how I'd never give you all up for her, then we wouldn't have so many conflicts at home. I didn't want to do that though. She's an intelligent woman. Lying to her would be the greatest form of disrespect. I think, no matter how much conflict we have, as long as we're honest, there would be a way to solve it."

"But every time I see her, it feels like a tangled knot which I can never untangle."

Cai Yan turned to ask worriedly, "Yang Chen, what's going on? Did something happen today?"

He fell silent for a moment but didn't attempt to hide from her. He told her everything about the mishap with Mo Qianni, the arguments that were triggered by the ring.

Upon hearing his story, she teared up. "That's unfair... All because of a mistake, you gave Qianni a huge diamond ring. Why didn't you give me one too..."

"That's not the point. That was coincidentally the only thing I had with me that I could give her. And I didn't know how to comfort Qianni at that moment. If you want, I could get you one. It's not too expensive," he said with a bitter smile.

"I don't want one." She rolled her eyes. "That diamond is worth more than ten million dollars. That's almost a hundred million yuan. I'd be so afraid of losing it, I wouldn't wear it out. I might as well not have it. I'd rather you spend more time with me."

Yang Chen shook his head silently. It was very hard to understand women, though they were adorable.

Both of them watched the sea silently, taking a moment to listen to the waves.

Cai Yan suddenly rubbed his shoulder. "Sometimes I feel like being your lover is much more comfortable than being your wife."

"What do you mean?"

"Uh... Although I can't see you every day, at least I don't have to be too sad over you having other women. I don't need to worry about you coming home late. I wouldn't have to fake being proud of you, and I wouldn't have to feign displeasure over the cruel things you do."

He listened intently. In the end, he couldn't help but squeeze her hand. "Is being my wife... that awful?"

"Not all of it..."

She suddenly looked up, walked up to him, and gazed deeply into his eyes. Smiling, she said, "While I might always feel like you're betraying me as your wife, with the cruelty of your actions, it doesn't matter if it were me, my sister, or any other woman by your side. Everyone envies Ruoxi as your wife."

He looked at her, puzzled. "Why? Isn't it miserable being my wife? I'm a burden. If it weren't for the fact that no one is able to kill me, I think I would've been killed many years ago either by a lover or an enemy."

"Don't you understand?" She laughed coldly. "Although you love us, when we're sad, you would only look for ways to love and comfort us."

"But when Ruoxi is hurting, you're hurting too. It's just something you haven't been brave enough to face. It's because you're hurting at the same time as she is. Of course you wouldn't know how to comfort her immediately."

"The deeper the love, the more it hurts. You love Ruoxi more than you do for any of us which is why you tread more carefully with her."

"But this is the kind of painful, bone-chilling love that women are attracted to."

The woman's words were louder than the waves, crashing into his ears.

He looked at the tearful girl, his own eyes reddening. He felt a surge of suffocation.

After a long time, he finally smiled. "Yanyan, I've always thought you were all fire and passion. What you just said sounded like what your sister might've told me."

Her eyes flashed with confusion. "I'm not as smart as my sister but I'm not stupid. How would I fight crimes then?"

"I'm sorry, I was supposed to make you happy. I didn't expect to make you cry after bringing you to the beach," he said gently while wiping a stray tear from her eye.

"Then shouldn't you make it up to me?" she asked mischievously.

He stopped for a moment. "How?"

"Make me happy..."

"What, you want a ring?"

"Hey!" she whined as she pressed her body against him. Her full breasts enveloped his arm. "I made you happy in the car just now. Yo—you should make me happy too..."

He finally understood. Laughing, he replied, "Looks like my Yanyan just can't get enough. I'll make you happy until the sun rises!"

When he finished, he picked her up with one arm. Ignoring her squeals, he draped her hips onto his shoulder and pulled her pants down to her heels!

She wasn't very light, but in his arms, she seemed to be as light as a feather.

Cai Yan felt a sudden breeze on her buttocks, even her lingerie was pulled down to her heels- leaving her entire lower torso exposed!

"Ah! You... You want to do it here?"

He chuckled. "It would be a waste of time to get back to the car. We should just start here."

As he spoke, he put the half-naked Cai Yan down. He took his pants off, stuffing them into her hands.

Without waiting for her to realize what was going on, he picked her up and allowed her to wrap her slender legs around his hips. The hard muscles she felt only made her heart beat faster.

He held Cai Yan's beautiful, perky backside in both his hands, then came into a solid union between them.

Although the moonlight was faint, Yang Chen's vision was not affected. It didn't take him much effort to insert himself into her newly moist depths!

"Mmm..."

Her face transformed into one of euphoria. She almost dropped the pair of pants in her arms. She shivered at the contrast between the cool breeze and the fire that was within him. The clash of ice and fire plunged her into deep ecstasy!

Yang Chen stared at the emotional woman. She was exceptionally attractive like that. He took aim at her small, open lips and planted a heavy kiss!

At that moment, their passion was as fiery as lightning and thunder.

Both of them enjoyed only the company of the other in their passionate affair, slowly walking back to the car.

The night was long. Seafoam sprayed all around, as white as the moon, who had hidden herself beneath the clouds.

Chapter 786 - Recycling

Recycling

The sunlight streamed into the window of the pink-themed bedroom, giving it a soft warm glow.

On the soft bed lay a woman with her arms stretched out fumbling for something. The arm felt around like it was frantically looking for something before stopping on a nightstand by the bed.

When she grabbed the phone, she reluctantly pulled the covers away from her head to reveal a beautiful but sleepy face.

In the faint sunlight, she looked like a morning glory which had just bloomed.

After confirming it was a weekday, Lin Ruoxi scratched her disheveled hair before lazily sitting up.

Her bed was the biggest size one could get in the market. This made her look especially tiny when she slept on it alone.

She sat for a moment and stared at the four walls of her empty room.

Lin Ruoxi was wearing a set of white, floral pajamas that she'd worn for many years. Clambering on all fours, she slowly made her way out of bed.

If anyone else had seen this, they would not have believed their eyes!

This woman was crawling out of bed like a panda. The same woman was also an icy CEO of a multi-billion-dollar company. What a difference!

She wasn't aware of how she looked in her own room. It was like the time she ate glutinous rice balls. It was a little odd, a little silly and clumsy. But all these quirks had become natural to her.

There was a white dumpling doll lying quietly at the end of the bed.

Yang Chen had given it to her after eating winning a competition by swallowing eighty-eight dumplings during New Year's. When Lin Ruoxi brought it home, she'd initially put them with her other soft toys. However, in recent months when Yang Chen had upset her, the dumpling doll had been deliberately placed at the foot of the bed.

Her reasoning was simple. Every night before she slept, she would kick the doll. But for some reason, it didn't feel like punishment at all. He'd probably enjoy that.

However, this childish method helped Lin Ruoxi stabilize her emotions better as if seeing the doll's perpetual smile would melt away her hatred for the jerk.

There was a lot of hurt and frustration in this. But he had an adorable side too. And sometimes dare she say it, lovable?

She stared at the innocent doll. Lin Ruoxi pouted then reached to hit its head.

"What are you looking at? You jerk, why did you give her the diamond ring! Why were you mad at me! And you gave me..."

Lin Ruoxi's mind went blank after a while. Her brain short-circuited in the morning. But wait, where was the pocket watch the jerk had given her last night?

After looking around, she realized that she'd put the watch next to her pillow!

Maybe she fell asleep staring at the watch.

Lin Ruoxi crawled to the other side of the bed, picked up the old-fashioned watch, and spaced out for a moment.

It looked old. There were many hands on the clock. It had many functions and even had tiny text printed in the middle.

But she didn't spend time reading it. Looking at the watch triggered her memory of the pink diamond ring. The difference between them was too big, she couldn't even compare them.

To a woman, the temptation of something so bright and shiny was just too strong. The money took a backseat in that issue.

She spaced out looking at the pocket watch again, then sighed. She hesitated for a moment, then crawled towards the nightstand to shove the pocket watch into the Hermes Birkin bag she always brought around with her.

Although the watch didn't look the best, the antique aesthetic matched her bag giving it a mature vintage look. It had the air of an older European aristocrat, perhaps she could occasionally take it out as an accessory for the bag.

That was what she thought to persuade herself that bringing it with her wasn't because it was a gift from him, but rather 'recycling'!

When she was done, she finally slid off her bed to wash up.

She did not head off to work yesterday because of Zhenxiu's exams. But she couldn't avoid going to work today. Zhenxiu would have to let that jerk take her today. Why did she have to do everything in the house?

On the other hand, when Lin Ruoxi was cursing him, Yang Chen had just arrived home after a passionate night with Cai Yan.

Cai Yan drove the car back. As for Wei Tinghao, he must've been released from the mental hospital. Yang Chen couldn't care less about how he was doing.

After listening to Cai Yan's words last night, Yang Chen felt much better.

He couldn't give Lin Ruoxi the perfect love but that didn't mean he was not doing his best to love her.

It was because he cared for her more than any other woman that he didn't dare to touch her gentle but dignified heart. He'd been worried he might hurt her too deeply.

Rather than worrying helplessly, he would love her sincerely as he'd always done in the past.

He believed that after a period of time, his wife would understand why she was his only wife.

When Yang Chen walked into the house, he was holding a few bags filled with fresh fish and vegetables. Since it was early, he'd taken the opportunity to buy them from the market.

When Wang Ma and Guo Xuehua, who'd been busy in the kitchen, saw this, they weren't very surprised. They did not know that Yang Chen was not home last night.

"Ah, why did you go to the market this early? That's good though, now I don't have to." Guo Xuehua thought Yang Chen had left early that morning. She approached to take the ingredients from him.

He didn't bother explaining but instead asked, "Are Ruoxi and Zhenxiu up yet?"

"It's still early," she said smilingly. She peered up the stairs to confirm there wasn't anyone there, then asked softly, "Son, how is Qianni? Is she alright?"

Yang Chen didn't know if he should laugh at the irony of the situation. "Mom, you really do care about everyone."

She smiled bitterly. "I'm conflicted too. I couldn't help myself with that girl. It must be a very deep love for her to say such honest things. I can't control you as a mother, but I hope you'll treat them well. As for Ruoxi... She needs to be strong. If she doesn't bring it up on her own, you shouldn't say anything. Deep down, she must understand that as a wife, she might never be able to truly accept all of this."

Yang Chen nodded. "Right, Mom, I'll bring Zhenxiu for her exams today and tomorrow. I'll be home for lunch and dinner. It might be a problem if Ruoxi stops working suddenly, so it'd be better for her to get to work as usual."

"Sigh, at least you know how to take care of your own wife." Guo Xuehua sighed.

Soon, Lin Ruoxi, clad in full formal work attire, walked down the stairs with a very energetic Zhenxiu by her side.

Yang Chen was carrying a pot of porridge from the kitchen when he saw Lin Ruoxi. He smiled. "No dark eye circles, at least I don't need to worry. Looks like you slept well."

Lin Ruoxi pretended not to see him whilst taking a seat next to Zhenxiu on the dinner table. She stroked her hair. "Zhenxiu, I need to work today so I won't be taking you. That person will send you today and tomorrow."

That person?

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. He didn't even have a name now.

Although Zhenxiu had sensed something wrong between Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi, she assumed it was one of their usual arguments. She nodded, grinning. She didn't take it to heart for the number of arguments between them in this household had been way too many.

When Guo Xuehua heard her, she only shook her head and smiled. "Yang Chen had already mentioned that he'd take her. Don't worry."

Lin Ruoxi looked up at Yang Chen in surprise. She didn't expect Yang Chen to offer his help. To be honest, if he didn't go to America, she wouldn't have taken off work. She was the head of a multinational. Any interruptions in her daily routine would disrupt other matters in work.

Yang Chen blinked at her mischievously. "I guess 'that person' isn't too bad after all."

Lin Ruoxi maintained her blank face. She ignored him, only turning to give a few words of encouragement to Zhenxiu.

Marriage was as such. An unexpected bout of caring and love would melt away most of the unpleasantness.

What a woman wanted was a man who would stand in her shoes. If she knew the man had her in his heart, naturally she'd feel much more secure.

Both of them had weathered many storms together. They would be lying to themselves if they said they didn't understand the other person's feelings. It was only the unsolvable problems they had that were driving them apart.

The entire family ate breakfast while watching the news, not much different from any other day as if the storm yesterday had faded.

At this point, Lin Ruoxi's phone vibrated. She put down her chopsticks, looked at her phone, then picked up without hesitation. "Chris, what's the matter?"

What Chris said seemed to cause Lin Ruoxi to hesitate but in the end, Lin Ruoxi answered, "Alright, I'll be punctual."

When she hung up, she sighed deeply then looked up at Yang Chen, who was devouring a corn bun. With a low voice, she asked somewhat uncomfortably, "Are you... free tonight?"

Chapter 787 - A Vacation in the Maldives

A Vacation in the Maldives

When Yang Chen heard Lin Ruoxi's question, he was so surprised he almost spat his bun out!

Was she asking for private time together to deal with their cold war once and for all?!

He hurriedly covered his mouth, forcing the food down his throat. Finally, as if attempting to please her, he grinned. "Of course I'm free. My darling Ruoxi, are you asking me out on a date? Don't worry, I'll behave! Where do you want to go? I'll be down! Why don't we spend a few days in the Maldives? Would one day be enough for me to express my love for you?"

Yang Chen was thinking about how he didn't have an opportunity to prove himself. So at this point, his brain went into overdrive.

Setting Lin Ruoxi aside, even Guo Xuehua, Wang Ma, and Zhenxiu had their eyes wide in shock. Yang Chen realized that he might have overdone it. Scratching his head, he smiled sheepishly and asked, "What's the matter?"

Lin Ruoxi reddened, badly wanting to laugh out loud. But she was quite upset at him a few moments ago. Laughing now might signal that she lost. Hence she did her best to suppress her laughter. "Chris' wife, Jennifer, has recently arrived in China too. They want to call for a gathering with their good friends. I used to be his student, but we're friends outside of that. And I worked with him so I'll have to go..."

"Oh, a gathering for couples?" Yang Chen asked knowingly.

She nodded. "Needless to say, they will all carry certain statuses. Although I'd started working before graduating from my doctorate, all those under Chris have become successful. Although it's a private gathering, everyone wants to network through Chris' contacts. There might be around twenty people going. It'd be best if... you came with me."

Lin Ruoxi hoped Yang Chen wouldn't be as rough as he was normally. It would be embarrassing for her to meet them with his attitude.

She knew that the man knew how to act.? In fact, he was very familiar with their etiquette. The problem was his carefree attitude.

Hence, Lin Ruoxi trailed off not knowing how to continue. She wanted to start the conversation but was worried she might say something awkward to ruin the atmosphere.

Luckily for her, he saw through her awkwardness. “Don’t worry. I’ll wear proper clothes and I’ll obey all instructions.”

She pursed her lips slightly before relaxing them. “I’ll be back from work before six tonight. It’ll be at the Shangri-la Hotel. Wear something formal.”

Yang Chen was slightly disappointed. He didn’t like social events like this. To him, walking through a night market or watching a play would have meant more to him. However, to comfort her, he still agreed.

After breakfast, Lin Ruoxi went to work while Yang Chen brought Zhenxiu to the examination hall.

It was a day of traffic jams and crowds, he didn’t feel safe sending Zhenxiu in alone.

Along the way, he played Hui Lin’s newly released songs. Ever since she successfully held her solo concert in Beijing, she had been busy with her nationwide tours. At the same time, she was releasing a few English singles so her influence would spread across every corner of the world.

Her naturally soulful voice meshed beautifully with the trendiest beats. With her funding, there was no doubt that she was going to be one of the most famous singers.

Yang Chen wanted Hui Lin’s concert in Zhonghai to come quickly. Then he’d be able to bring his whole family to watch it from VIP seats. He imagined it would be a happy day for the family.

He brought Zhenxiu to the exam hall and watched her enter before driving off. He then found a quiet location and took his phone out to call Cai Ning who was in Beijing.

Cai Ning seemed busy, for immediately after picking up she asked, “What’s with the sudden call? What’s up?”

Even after confessing her feelings, she didn’t become any gentler. She was still as mild as always.

“Ning’er, are you free?” Yang Chen grinned through the phone. “Would you like to accompany me to the Chuan province?”

“Why?”

“I want to go to the Tang Sect,” he said.

Cai Ning fell silent, then replied, “I... don’t really like that place.”

Yang Chen stopped.? *Why did she say that? Isn’t it where she used to train? Isn’t her master going to be there??* he thought.

But soon, Cai Ning added, “But I can go with you. Why though?”

Yang Chen heaved a sigh of relief. He'd thought she would refuse to go with him. If that happened, he'd have to risk his pride to interact with the people at the Tang Sect. Maybe even with force.

Very quickly, Yang Chen told everything about him wanting to obtain information on different techniques for the people around him to train to Cai Ning.

Cai Ning, who was an expert close to attaining the Xiantian realm herself, was in shock for a completely different reason compared to Rose!

Cai Ning hadn't known he'd attained such unimaginable heights!

To her, crossing into the Xiantian realm was the hardest thing in the world but to his man, it was nothing.

This time, the silence on the phone was longer than before, as if digesting the information she'd received wasn't an easy task.

After a long time, she finally said, "I'll go with you but in a few days' time. I've been given a few missions and I'm still in the middle of an investigation. Perhaps we'll have to do it sometime later."

"Missions? Are they dangerous?" Yang Chen was privately cursing Cai Yun. He was cold indeed. He wouldn't let Cai Ning have some downtime.

"It'll be fine. It's actually about the wife of Premier Ning, Luo Cuishan's death..."

"What? Luo Cuishan is dead? When?!" asked Yang Chen, confused.

Cai Ning was surprised. "I thought you knew. Didn't her disappearance in Zhonghai have something to do with you?"

He furrowed his brows. He was in America so he didn't keep up with the news. The last time he met her was the rainy day at the alley. He thought she'd eventually be taken back by the Ning clan, but he didn't expect her to die so suddenly. "Luo Cuishan had a peculiar death. Although the media all respected the premier's requests and didn't report much about it, according to what we know, there were no records stating her return to Beijing after her disappearance in Zhonghai. Her death might be related to something much deeper. It's too bad we don't have any evidence. To avoid provoking the Ning clan, the general could only send me to conduct a private investigation," explained Cai Ning.

The beggar Cripple's face suddenly appeared in his mind. Thinking, he said, "If that's the case, Ning'er you should investigate. Be careful. I have a lead for you though. Check to see if there is a crippled youth going to and fro from the Ning residence. If I'm right, she should have been with the cripple when she died."

Cai Ning asked curiously, "You sound like you know of her whereabouts before her death? You're not the killer, are you?" Her voice overflowed with worry.

"Relax, I'm definitely not the killer. Though, I wonder who the culprit is."

Cai Ning didn't ask any more questions. She was intelligent enough to have already figured out a lot from the conversation. There wasn't a need to make him uncomfortable.

Grinning, he asked, “Ning’er, I’ll teach Rose cultivation first. Will you be uncomfortable with this?”

“I won’t,” she declared. “I understand. Drawing on a blank sheet of paper is easier than drawing on a drawing.”

Yang Chen marveled. “You sisters are smarter than I give you credit for. Looks like I was overthinking.”

They chatted for a bit. He made the solemn Cai Ning happy, enjoying her witty responses and finally, he happily hung up.

Yang Chen found a shady area among the trees and laid there for a while until Zhenxiu was done.

She had combined sciences that morning, then a foreign language paper in the afternoon. Yang Chen was practically playing parent.

When it was almost six, Lin Ruoxi arrived home, punctual as usual.

After taking a shower, she put on a fitting black, slitted dress with a round collar. She exuded an air of elegance. Though simple, it was quite a sight to behold. She wore red heels with a crystal-like texture. Yang Chen’s eyes almost fell out of his head when he saw her.

Yang Chen himself wore a long-kept suit with a red tie. It was a little hot wearing this attire in June. Fortunately, he could regulate his own body temperature so he wouldn’t look as pathetic as many men in this weather.

When he saw Lin Ruoxi’s hint of approval towards him, he finally stopped worrying. The event didn’t matter to him. The key was making his wife happy.

It was a gathering among familiar people, formal but not grand. Yang Chen was in charge of driving the car out of the garage. A maroon Aston Martin DB9.

The car had cost Lin Ruoxi over four million Chinese yuan. It was quite simply, the world’s best sports car. It was too flashy to be driven out so unless there was an event, she could only leave it to rot in the garage.

With the wind in his back, Yang Chen wanted to drive faster but was afraid it might make Lin Ruoxi sick. Thus, he carefully drove around a hundred kilometers per hour. It was perhaps even more difficult to drive slow in such a car.

Lin Ruoxi felt it too, that her man was trying his best to please her. She felt a tinge of warmth but she didn’t show it. She was grumbling at how he was only deciding to behave now. Then what about the things he had done then? She was waiting to see how long this act would last...

Chapter 788 - Back in College

Back in College

The Shangri-La resort in Zhonghai was located next to an artificial lake. The night lights from the city reflected on the lake, creating a mythical ambiance that was mesmerizing to say the least.

Yang Chen drove his Aston Martin to the entrance of the resort and handed it off to the valet.

The experienced valet quickly realized that the guest was a significant one, as he humbly received the key and carefully steered it over to the garage.

Unlike those abroad, no tip was required for the valet parking. Being the cheapskate that he was, Yang Chen was naturally appreciative about it.

Yang Chen instinctively raised his arm for Lin Ruoxi to hold onto.

Lin Ruoxi barely hesitated as she followed suit. After all, it wasn't the first time she had held onto his arm. "This is as far as you go, don't test your luck."

What she meant exactly was to warn Yang Chen from moving his perverted hands onto the parts that she was most sensitive about.

Yang Chen stoically replied, "I am yours to command."

Lin Ruoxi nodded, satisfied with his answer.

Just when the two were about to enter the lobby, a metallic sports car with a canopy rolled up to them, preventing them from entering.

After taking a good look, it was none other than the British made Rolls-Royce Phantom. It was a seven-point displacement, limited-edition sports car costing its buyer north of seven to eight million yuan. It was a novelty car that money might not even be able to guarantee a purchase.

Yang Chen frowned, knowing for a fact that the owner of the car intentionally halted right in front of them.

Lin Ruoxi seemed to be reminded of a certain something, as her hand by Yang Chen's biceps gripped slightly harder than she would usually have.

As the doors opened, a pair hopped out of the car.

The man with perfectly maned hair was dressed in a custom-made bespoke Armani suit and a pair of gold-framed glasses, which made for a suave look.

As for the lady, her hair was elegantly bundled. She wore huge crystal earrings which dangled from her lobes. It was paired with a white floral lace dress, clearly accentuating her cleavage in all its glory.

After the pair handed the keys over to the valet, they lined their arms signifying that they were a couple.

The couple did not proceed with entering the hotel lobby, but instead turned around and faced Lin Ruoxi.

"Ruoxi, long time no see." The man broke the ice with his raspy voice.

Lin Ruoxi's gaze fixated the gorgeous face of the man while her eyes shone with complex emotions. She then turned her focus towards the proud woman by his side. "Not long enough."

The woman seductively combed through her hair by her ear. "Glad to see you're still the same old stone-cold Ruoxi."

Lin Ruoxi kept her silence as she held onto Yang Chen's hand and went straight into the hotel.

Yang Chen was naturally frustrated because Lin Ruoxi had no intention of introducing them to him despite obviously having a history with them.

Back then, even the class monitor Zeng Xinlin's appearance had hardly gathered such reaction from Lin Ruoxi, which meant something was behind her relationship with this man.

Right at that moment, the man asked, "Ruoxi, are you not going to introduce your husband? I heard from Chris that you got married. Yaxin and I weren't too convinced at first, but I guess it's true."

Lin Ruoxi's feet were glued to the ground. She avoided his gaze, as she mumbled, "You think you both are the only ones who can get married?"

"I'm sure that's not what he meant." Yaxin giggled as she replied, "Just that we wouldn't have expected the ice queen from college to get married this early. Both of us were friends with you for a year in college, and as friends, we're keen to know how you've been."

The man shifted his gaze to Yang Chen, as he diminishingly proclaimed, "So this is Ruoxi's husband. Mr Yang Chen, it's my pleasure to meet you. My name's Li Jianhe, or you can call me Hanson. I was the teaching associate during her university years. This here is my wife, Shen Yaxin. They were classmates."

Lin Ruoxi didn't even offer Yang Chen an opportunity to interact with his new acquaintances as she quickly said, "Now you guys know one another, let's go in."

Upon finishing, she quickly dragged Yang Chen and went straight into the building, leaving her husband in a daze.

As he watched Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi leave for the lobby, Li Jianhe chuckled lightly.

Shen Yaxin coyly asked, "Babe, you miss that woman, don't you?"

Li Jianhe smiled as he replied, "She's even prettier than she was back in college. A beauty that has only grown, how can I not miss that?"

"Hmph, aren't you worried that I'll get jealous?"

Li Jianhe burst into laughter. "Back then when she rejected me, I completely disregarded her from my mind. A woman that dares to reject me, no matter her beauty is nothing but a pitiful insect."

Shen Yaxin flirtatiously gave him a smooch on the lips as a reply. Twisting her hips, she once again latched herself onto her husband as they went into the hotel lobby hand in hand.

Yang Chen could visibly feel his woman shivering from the encounter. He felt like it was not his place but he just had to ask. "Ruoxi, what's going on with you, who the hell are they?"

Lin Ruoxi took a deep breath, cleared her throat, and replied, "Li Jianhe was Chris' handy assistant back when I was doing my master's under his guidance. Shen Yaxin was my fellow classmate."

"Not bad, what's he doing now?"

"Li Jianhe's clan is a powerful international financial group. But since they mainly operate in Europe, they aren't as well known in the country. I too only found out that they were heavily involved in

automotive manufacturing after I graduated from university. They even have their own automotive parts manufacturing factories located all across the globe.

“Not to mention significant investments of their clan in the German BMW, Italian Fiat and a few others. As for Shen Yaxin, her grandfather and parents were nobles in the Jiangsu province, undoubtedly the local kingpin.”

Yang Chen added, “So that’s why they came in a Rolls Royce. Chances are it was made in one of their factories.”

As both of them strolled through the lobby to the elevators, Lin Ruoxi pushed onto the ascending button. “I didn’t get to mention, but now I think it’s about time I should tell you about it. Chris may just be my mentor on the surface, but he is internationally well-accolated.

“He was once approached by the Morgan family in America to be their right-hand in banking management. He wasn’t a fan of the job though. He loathed the feeling of being pinned down, which was why he rejected it. Nonetheless, other notable companies have reached out to him too. He undoubtedly has a good reputation. Otherwise Li Jianhe and his wife wouldn’t have come tonight.”

Yang Chen sneered in bewilderment as he mentioned, “A person even the Morgans couldn’t recruit, yet here he is as my wife’s vice president. My babe is impressive indeed.”

Lin Ruoxi rolled her eyes at his half-hearted tease. “I’m not kidding here, the job within his responsibilities are fairly light, plus if it wasn’t for our intimate friendship and close ties, paired with his love for Chinese cuisine, I wasn’t even confident that I could get him here.”

“According to what you said, the couple’s background is clearly no second fiddle to yours. I wonder if we’re the worst among Chris’ guests,” Yang Chen joked with a grin on his face.

Yang Chen naturally noticed that Lin Ruoxi was not too enthusiastic about the turn of events. He decided to let it go with a joke and chose not to question her about it. He noticed that Lin Ruoxi was not eager to explain anyway, so he chose the safer bet to avoid further disputes with her.

Lin Ruoxi, however, took the joke to heart as she nodded. “I’ve been working so hard all these years just to make sure I’m on an equal speaking ground, but I guess regardless of how Yu Lei had grown, I’m just a businesswoman.

“People like Li Jianhe and Shen Yaxin have official authority backing them up. The people you’ll meet today are mostly leading entrepreneurs and business pioneers, the cream of the crop.

“Back in the days, because Chris was an internationally acclaimed business consultant, people like us got to learn by his side. Grandma thought to let me build my connections, which was why I attended his courses.

“This was the reason I had no choice but to attend this event. Upon my absence, not only will I offend the connections I took years to build, the people who are present today wouldn’t hesitate to swoop in and lure him over for their own benefit.”

Yang Chen didn't think that a simple gathering would mean so many things to so many people. Nonetheless, the only thing he cared about was Li Jianhe and Lin Ruoxi's undisclosed relationship. Power and wealth were mere trivial things to him.

Lin Ruoxi's eyebrows wrinkled as her emotions were visibly unsettled. Li Jianhe and his wife's return to China certainly had much to do with it.

Eventually, the elevator arrived at their designated floor. The pair left the elevator and glossed through an intricate hallway to an elite functional room with an exquisite lake view.

Upon entering, there were already a dozen couples chatting and mingling. Among those naturally included the host Mr Chris and his wife, as well as their classmates and old timely friends whom Lin Ruoxi hadn't met in years.

"Oh my beloved Lin, you're finally here! So this is your husband Mr Yang I suppose?" A Caucasian woman with cherry red lips noticed Lin Ruoxi from a distance and came running to greet her!

Chapter 789 - Not Meant for Each Other

Not Meant for Each Other

Lin Ruoxi was not accustomed towards such affectionate interactions but she nonetheless gave the woman a hug in return. "Jennifer, welcome back to China."

The woman called Jennifer was Chris' wife. "When Kris told me that he was personally invited into Yu Lei International per your request, I thought it was a splendid idea!

"You have no idea how miserable he was all these years back in the US. So I thought now that he was given a chance to return to China for a decent position, it would be the perfect opportunity."

Lin Ruoxi recalled the time when Chris mentioned how he had cheated, so she could instantly visualize Jennifer's words. "I too am really glad that he agreed to come for my assistance."

Chris heard the mention of his name, which led him to crack an awkward chuckle.

Meanwhile, Jennifer scanned through Yang Chen. "Mr Yang, what a man you must be. What magic do you possess to get Lin to marry you? She's well known for her reclusiveness and discreet way of living."

After she's doped, it gets much easier...? Yang Chen thought, but ultimately answered in fluent American English. "I guess it's something that has happened between the two of us. I would tell you but I don't think Ruoxi's keen on that."

"Oh, haha..." Jennifer giggled as she held onto her husband's arm. "You're a humorous person Mr Yang. It's fair to say I've never seen Lin embarrassed before."

Lin Ruoxi bit onto her bottom lip, gripping onto Yang Chen's waist with her fingertips.

At that moment, a decent-looking couple came towards them. The woman was slightly chubby, her bubbly eyes matching her round face. Her outfit was trendy and fit for the occasion. The man was instead dressed rather conservatively, but somehow exerted a look of politeness and charm.

"Ruoxi, do you still remember me?" the chubby-faced woman teasingly asked.

Lin Ruoxi seemed to be rather welcoming with her statement as she replied, “Huang Lele, how could I forget you?”

Huang Lele happily tugged onto her husband’s hand. “Hubby look, I told you Ruoxi wouldn’t forget about us.”

The polite man nodded lifelessly by his wife’s remark, as he turned towards Lin Ruoxi. “I can’t help it with her. I was just joking about whether you’ll remember who she is, but she turned it into a bet.”

Lin Ruoxi was slightly confused as she asked, “You’re Wang Haitao, right? Are you both married?”

“Yeah, who would have thought right? It wasn’t easy getting here,” Wang Haitao replied, slightly emotional.

At that moment, the crowd started settling down on their seats.

Yang Chen couldn’t help himself into the conversation, as Lin Ruoxi continued interacting with her old acquaintances.

Turns out, Huang Lele was the admiring sidekick of Lin Ruoxi’s years in college, but because Lin Ruoxi was a shining star during her time, ladies around her would hardly be noticed. The people from her university even referred to her as ‘the one next to Lin Ruoxi’.

Wang Haitao, on the other hand, was a student from the Faculty of Arts and was the only one genuinely in love with Huang Lele. Unfortunately for them, the Wang and Huang clans were in a generations-old feud with one another.

The reason behind that was because both clans were antique enthusiasts. Within their ranks were avid collectors, painters, calligraphers, and auctioneers. One clan consisted of high-ranking officials in the Ministry of History and Culture, while the other was a top-ranked broadcasting clan. It was almost destined that they were to clash with one another.

This caused Wang Haitao and Huang Lele’s relationship to be kept secret for all those years.

But fate had its ways, and years later the ill-fated couple finally got their share of happiness.

Everyone was naturally a big name official in their particular sectors. If it was not for Chris’ role as their research mentor back in university, they wouldn’t even have batted an eye at his invitation.

But they all stood on equal ground, which led them to put their noble mentalities aside and interacted as they did back in the old days.

Among them, it was undoubtedly Yang Chen who had the least credibility. Everyone else gradually found out about Lin Ruoxi’s marriage, but when it was revealed sooner or later by Chris that Yang Chen was just the director for Yu Lei Entertainment, it shocked the crowd.

It seemed to everyone that Yang Chen was leeching off her!

Lin Ruoxi naturally wasn’t too happy about that, but she was not comfortable talking about Yang Chen’s actual background. She just pretended as if nothing significant was there to reveal.

Yang Chen was unfazed through it all. The only thing he was looking forward to was the dinner menu.

After a while, Chris checked his watch. "Why aren't Hanson and Yaxin here yet? I'm quite sure I invited them along."

Upon finishing his question, the doors were flung open from the outside and the aforementioned couple walked in with all smiles, greeting and interacting with everyone they saw.

Naturally, the influence of the Li couple on the present crowd was significant, as many even took to stand up as they applauded their entrance.

Li Jianhe merrily held onto his wife to escort her to her seat, as he proclaimed, "Sorry to keep everyone waiting. We'd actually arrived twenty or so minutes ago but we were fortunate to meet a beloved elder who was coincidentally having dinner in this resort as we speak."

"I guess it's fitting for the protagonist to come last, we wouldn't mind waiting, do we all? Nonetheless, if it's someone Mr Li looks up to, I'm sure he is no ordinary person." A bootlicker took the opportunity to give him praise.

Li Jianhe waved his hands in denial as he humbly replied, "Well I might be slightly well-known in Europe, but here within the boundaries of China I'm just everyone's guest. The elder heard of Professor Chris' attendance, so he'll stop by in a while to pay his respects."

Chris was slightly confused. After all, he had been in China for some time, and among the people he had been acquainted with, it was tough to figure out. "Hanson, stop beating about the bush, who is this person you're talking about?"

Li Jianhe brushed it off. "You'll know in a bit, professor. Let's start now, shall we? I'm sure everyone's tired of waiting by now."

Chris jokingly lectured his previous assistant, before he hinted the waiters to serve the dishes and fill the guests' glasses with respective drinks of their choices.

After a long while, everyone was in a jolly mood over this reunion.

The Li couple received the most attention. In terms of international connections, nobility, family backgrounds and their influence in national politics, they were undoubtedly the unmatched leader of the pack.

Comparatively, Lin Ruoxi who was once the talk of the town had to play second fiddle.

Halfway through her drink, Shen Yaxin stood up with her wine glass, turned towards Lin Ruoxi across the table as she proclaimed, "To Ruoxi, for being so kind as to pass on Hanson, which indirectly led to our fulfilling marriage."

Shen Yaxin half-encrypted joke seemed to have brought along some peculiar glances from the crowd towards Lin Ruoxi.

Lin Ruoxi, who was already not in the mood for a conversation, stood up as pale as a sheet while she held onto her glass and replied, "I'm sure this has nothing to do with me. Thanks anyway."

She then took a sip of wine and sat down.

Yang Chen was unamused by everything around him as he nibbled on his roasted pigeon, even went as far as to slice it up with a steak knife. But inside, he was sympathetic towards his wife for the things she had to endure.

But what he was most agitated by was Shen Yaxin's intentional provocation on Lin Ruoxi's emotional wounds that were yet to be healed.

Huang Lele saw the scene and instantly added, "Honestly, I was sure back then that Ruoxi would get together with Mr Li, but it turned out that Yaxin ended up with him instead."

"Well, I guess it's fate that brought Yaxin and Mr Li together. Now she's the envy of us all." Another woman added in hyperbole.

Li Jianhe shook his head in denial and said, "Everyone's comments are truly humbling. But I think it's because Ruoxi and I weren't meant for each other. Yaxin and I were fated, and now I just want to treat my wife the best I can."

"How humble of you Mr Li. I had a call with Yaxin a month ago, you gifted her with a beachside mansion for her own personal retreat. How sweet!"

Li Jianhe proudly replied, "Well money is there to be used, isn't it? When a husband makes money it's only fair if he shares it with his beloved wife."

The crowd was pleased by his statement. A beachside mansion was easily worth millions of Euros and was not something anyone could just get despite being wealthy. His words were a dream that many could not realize.

Shen Yaxin added with a grin, "Well actually, I think Ruoxi and Mr Yang are a good pair too, the husband working for his wife. I'm sure he did it for love."

The crowd was aware that Shen Yaxin was intentionally insulting Yang Chen as a wimp and a failure, but they nonetheless acted like it was nothing as the crowd burst into laughter.

Yang Chen brought himself close to Lin Ruoxi's ear. "Babe, I've got this sudden urge to toss this bone over to that woman. Hmm, I wonder why..."

Lin Ruoxi's composure took a slight hit as she mumbled, "I know you aren't afraid of any of them here, but it's still Chris' event. Everyone here was classmates at one point. I think it's better if we keep it cool for now. Can you hold it in, we just have to make it through this dinner."

Yang Chen took a deep breath. "I'll do as you say, for now. But the next word out of her mouth that is aimed at you, I'm not holding back."

Lin Ruoxi felt a sense of reassurance surged through her heart. He could have chosen to ask about her past with Li Jianhe, but instead, his first thought was to make sure she was safe.

Just when the guests were bonding together, Shen Yaxin appeared to have something in mind as she turned to Wang Haitao who had remained silent this whole time and proclaimed, "Haitao, you're clearly the most knowledgeable among us. Hanson has gifted me something a few days ago. Could you authenticate it for us?"

Chapter 790 - Good Time

Good Time

Wang Haitao humbled himself. "You're too kind. I know nothing but the basics."

"It's totally fine, we can all look into this together. I'm just worried that Hanson might have spent money on counterfeits. After all, this is not something you see every day."

Shen Yaxin subsequently told the waiter to bring about her leather brown Gucci handbag and retrieved an exquisite plywood box.

The crowd grew curious as to what she had contained within it.

Shen Yaxin covered her mouth as she giggled. She then brought the wooden box and placed it in Wang Haitao's hands.

Wang Haitao chuckled lightly at the crowd before he cautiously unlocked the metal slab on the box.

Once the box was opened, the item within left the crowd in a daze.

It was a patented gold watch motionlessly situated in the box.

The reason why it left the audience in amazement, was because the watch was crafted with gold.

Everyone in attendance was hardly professional in the watch industry, but common knowledge in antiquities was a given among the elite.

"What a pretty watch! Haitao you have a knack for watches, don't you? What is it?" Huang Lele asked from curiosity.

Wang Haitao was confused for a second before he withdrew the watch from its holder and took a good look. After gently fondling its rims, he exclaimed, "My god, could this be... a limited edition Vacheron Constantin?"

After hearing his words, two other collectors in the hall applauded in astonishment.

"There are only seven of these made in the world!"

"Haitao, are you sure?"

Wang Haitao turned towards Li Jianhe and Shen Yaxin. "It's undoubtedly a limited edition Vacheron Constantin. Besides, if it wasn't one, Yaxin wouldn't have given it to me to verify."

Li Jianhe replied in a nonchalant tone, "I won this from a bid in the UK last month. It cost me about three million pounds. It was the perfect gift for our third-year anniversary. I heard there were only seven ever made, one of which is in a museum and not for sale. I thought to have you do a cross-verification to make sure it's real. I was told that there are many carbon copy counterfeits in the market these days. It's hard to tell the difference."

Shen Yaxin appeared to be indulged in the envy and amazement of the crowd. At that moment she was so happy that she could explode, but she decidedly kept her composure and smiled.

"I opposed to Hansen spending so much money but he really wanted to. Look at this watch, it's so rare and precious that I couldn't bear to take it out of the box. This is the first time I've shown it to anyone."

She might have craved the praise from the people in attendance, but her audience weren't idiots. A watch of this price wouldn't possibly be fake! It was nothing but boastful flaunting of her wealth now that she had married into a conglomerate. At one point it wasn't just about the money anymore, it was about your position and power.

Hence, the reaction she gathered from the crowd wasn't the gasps of her valuable watch, but acknowledgments towards her successful manipulation of her marriage as a leap in the ranks of society.

Simultaneously, she prompted the crowd to share their attention towards Lin Ruoxi who had wasted such an opportunity and gone for her husband instead.

"Really? That expensive? My gosh, you could buy 2 Boeing planes with that money," Huang Lele stated, engrossed at the watch. "Haitao, why's the watch this expensive? Is it because it was made from gold?"

Wang Haitao lovingly caressed the exterior of the watch, before he stoically replied, "The limited-edition Vacheron Constantin was released to commemorate their 250th Anniversary.

"It's a given that the materials used to create it was nothing short of the best, but the craftsmanship placed into building this watch renders it the most functional, most complex core structure found in a watch ever. Despite its modest size, it has a total of 834 different parts complementing one another. Paired with the dusk sky exterior and hand-crafted gold crescent, it could accurately depict phases of the moon.

"Look on the display ring. There's even a ten-thousand-year calendar spanning from left to right.

"It shows the actual time of the sun's self-orbit in contrast with the time on Earth. The best part of the watch is that the graphic of the constellations could accurately reflect that in which it was below."

The audience was flabbergasted by his detailed explanation. Never ever had they come across a watch which could accurately depict phases of the moon.

As Wang Haitao explained, the crowd were in complete envy of Li Jianhe and Shen Yaxin's situation.

Among the many gazes in the crowd was Lin Ruoxi, as she couldn't help but remind herself about that dated watch that Yang Chen had given to her.

Yang Chen could see the hatred Lin Ruoxi had towards him by the edge of her eyes, which gave him chills.

C'mon, that's real good stuff from the FBI Commissioner!? he thought.

Clenching his teeth, Yang Chen decided that it was about time to retaliate. "Seeing how enthusiastic everyone is discussing watches, we would like to participate."

In a flash, everyone was now contemplating if they heard right. They were talking about extravagant watches worth three million pounds while Yang Chen was just a spineless employee of his wife's company. If it wasn't for Lin Ruoxi, he didn't even deserve a seat there!

Shen Yaxin saw the chance to humiliate Lin Ruoxi once again. Faking a laugh, she said, "Oh I suppose Mr Yang here has something to share too?"

Yang Chen shook his head in response. "Not really, but I do have a watch I gave my wife two days ago. I guess now's a good time to show it to you guys."

How did he know I sneaked it into my bag and brought it along with me?? Lin Ruoxi was instantly pale from bewilderment.

The watch did have an age tag on it but it was not a competition of age. What about it made him so eager to show it off?

Yang Chen had gone through Lin Ruoxi's bag prior to this to ensure that she had brought it along. That was why he was confident about bragging.

Lin Ruoxi resented the idea but it was too late to pull any kind of stops. Moreover, it would further dent her image if she were to blatantly rebuke Yang Chen. That, however, did not stop her disapproval to be felt as she glared soul-piercingly at her husband. *You're so dead when we get home, you hear that?!*

Yang Chen awkwardly smiled without a word as his arm reached into Lin Ruoxi's bag, retrieving the analog watch from within.

Just the casual reaction led to a chain reaction of dejection from the crowd. How good could a watch be without even a box?

As Yang Chen subsequently handed the rustic, faded analog watch to Wang Haitao. A few sneers were heard from the crowd.

"Mr Yang, from the looks of it, your watch has been through a lot. Must've been a while since its release I suppose? Haha."

"Give it a chance, you never know."

Even as hosts, Chris and Jennifer awkwardly chuckled as they shook their heads in disbelief.

Li Jianhe and Shen Yaxin had ominously satisfied grins on their faces as if they had seen the light of day in their competition against Lin Ruoxi. Glancing over at the pale and wary Lin Ruoxi, they pitied her for marrying an idiot as a husband!

As far as it mattered, they had finally had a victory from Lin Ruoxi. It was safe to say that it deeply satisfied their hatred for her in their earlier years.

Wang Haitao courteously received it to do a quick inspection. A watch that was among the only seven ever made was already the cream of the crop. It wasn't something that anyone would come across in their lifetimes, let alone owning one.

Lin Ruoxi held her eyes shut, unable to fathom the catastrophe that was bound to follow the insulting actions of her husband. He could have just bought something decent for her with the money he had. Not only did he get her some scrap, he decided it was a good idea to bring it out in front of all the nobles!

Just when everyone took the situation as a laughing matter, Wang Haitao who was inspecting the watch gradually went terrifyingly stiff.

Wang Haitao's hands were shaking and his expressions contorted from one of un-amusement to utter and complete shock!

"Haitao, what is it, why are you zoning out?" His wife Huang Lele, slightly frustrated, shook him slightly.

Wang Haitao snapped out of his daze and carefully held it with both hands as if fearing for his life.

The crowd noticed to his actions and waited patiently before someone yelled out, "Haitao, what's with it? Is it broken?"

"HENRYG....." Wang Haitao's pupils were enlarged in amazement, even his words started to fail.

"What?"

Wang Haitao took a huge gulp to make himself clear...

"It's... Henry Graves!"

Wang Haitao was visibly exhilarated that he was about to yell in astonishment.

The crowd was dumbfounded. *What's wrong with this fellow? Besides, what's this Henry Graves?*