

## Chapter 81: Revenge

Zhao Zhuangzong shot a fierce glare at Jiang Yao. "It's all because of you that I've lost everything! Alright, since you are so ruthless, I'll let you have a dose of your own medicine! I wonder if Lu Xingzhi still wants you after you're raped! Let's see if Lu Yuqing still accepts you as her sister-in-law! Let's see if your parents still want to take you in as their daughter! I bet they'll say that it's you who seduced them in the first place! Jiang Yao, I'm waiting for you in hell!"

"Zhao Zhuangzong, you're crazy!" Jiang Yao was so angry she shivered. "What does your divorce have to do with me? Do you think I encouraged Sister Yuqing to divorce you?"

"It was you who saw me and Peach at the restaurant. Lu Xiaoxiao is too much of an idiot to know any better, so it must be you who told Lu Yuqing about me. That's why she hired a private investigator to follow me! Jiang Yao, it's all your fault that I've ended up so miserable! I've waited for you here for many days and you've finally appeared! Jiang Yao, I'll make you pay double for what you did to me!" Zhao Zhuangzong growled. Impatiently, he waved at those men to urge them to hurry up.

Jiang Yao gritted her teeth anxiously. She hurled her books out with great effort, smashing them right on two of the men's faces. As they yelped in pain, Jiang Yao quickly pushed them away and ran down the slope while shouting, "Help! Help! Robbery!"

Of course, Jiang Yao wouldn't yell that some guys were attempting to rape her. She was a brilliant thinker. In order to protect her reputation and attract people's attention, calling for help due to robbery was the most convenient excuse and also an effective way of preventing unnecessary gossip later.

However, no matter how fast she ran, she could never outrun the guys pursuing her. Her shoulders were pinned down and her movements were restricted but there's still no one in sight. This was the first time Jiang Yao regretted focusing all her attention on her studies instead of exercising once in a while. If she gained enough energy for a 100-meter sprint, she would be able to run a little faster, and the further she ran, the greater the chance she had of escaping.

"Quick, cover her mouth and grab her into the woods, Hurry before someone notices us. After that, you can do whatever you like to her as long as she stays alive!" Zhao Zhuangzong panted as he chased behind her and urged those men.

Jiang Yao was not a quitter. She shouted for help loudly as the men dragged her back. She bit down hard on the hand that stretched to cover her mouth until blood spurted out.

"D\*mn it! B\*tch!" The man whose hand was bitten shrieked in pain and retracted his hand. Then, he lifted the other hand and slapped Jiang Yao right on her face.

Disregarding the pain on her face, Jiang Yao struggled with all her strength and yelled for help.

When she was dragged to the side of the road, she hugged the ginkgo tree tightly. The men punched and kicked her but she held on and didn't let go.

She could endure such pain. She would rather be beaten to death than be raped.

If she was destined to die here today and became a ghost, she would drag the b\*stard Zhao Zhuangzong to hell with her!

Jiang Yao had lived through two lifetimes. The first time, she felt despair was when she was holding Lu Xingzhi's dead body. This was the second time.

In the first, she felt the excruciating pain in her heart and soul. This time, it was the physical pain.

At the corner of her sight, she spotted a small-sized animal, which was about as big as her palm, dashing towards her. At this moment, she was so exhausted that she almost lost her grip on the tree. She smirked a painful smile as she stared at the splash of white in front of her sight. She didn't expect to see such a cute little thing before she died.

## **Chapter 82: Rescued**

Just when Jiang Yao was about to faint from pain, she was shocked to see the cute little thing leaping incredibly and scratching Zhao Zhuangzong's face with its claws. They were razor sharp and the excruciating pain made Zhao Zhuangzong cry and curse out loud.

"Get over here right now and help me get this animal off me! F\*ck! What the hell is this thing?" It was not until Zhao Zhuangzong was being chased around by that thing that the men rushed over to catch the white figure for him.

Jiang Yao was stunned for a few seconds and could not respond to the situation. Suddenly, she saw the white figure turn its head towards her and speak to her in disdain, "Stupid woman, don't just stand there, run for help! Do you want me to die from exhaustion?"

Only then could Jiang Yao react and she ran as fast as her legs could carry her while screaming for help.

Fortunately, there was a family with kids walking up the hill and they were about to have dinner at a relative's house. They were shocked when they saw Jiang Yao and gathered around her immediately.

Jiang Yao saw that they were kind-hearted people and she spoke anxiously, "Robbers, four men, they want to beat me to death, help me, I'm living with the Lu's, please help me notify them!"

After she finished, Jiang Yao felt weak and sat on the ground in exhaustion. She held her back and gasped for air. In order to protect her front and head, her back was the most injured place. After she asked for help, she no longer had the energy to say even one more word. It was even more painful when she panted for breath.

"I will go downhill and get some help. You guys stay here to protect this young lady," the eldest sister spoke while running away. Her powerful cry for help got the attention of more than ten men in the blink of an eye.

On Zhao Zhuangzong's side, the men were scared when they saw the crowd and fled into the forest immediately.

Jiang Yao knew nothing about what happened afterward. As she heard more and more people were concerned about her, she blacked out. Before she fainted, her heart felt warm as she was grateful for the many kind-hearted people willing to lend her their help, and also for the little thing that could talk.

By the time Jiang Yao woke up again, she was already at the hospital. She heard Lu Xingzhi's parents and her parents' voices beside her.

"Yao Yao's awake." Jiang Yao's mother was the first person to notice that she was awake and her voice sounded hoarse. Clearly, she had been crying for quite some time and her eyes were still red.

"Dad...Mom..." Jiang Yao moved a little and called them.

"Lie down and don't move, you have a lot of injuries on your back." Mrs. Lu pressed her back onto the bed. "Luckily the wounds were not fatal. The doctor said that you were smart to let them hit your back and protect your front, or else the wounds could have been more serious."

Mrs. Lu felt unpleasant in her heart. Her tears trickled down as she said that. "Zhao Zhuangzong, that b\*stard! Seems like we went too easy on him!"

"Mom...don't cry...it's okay." Jiang Yao curved up the corners of her lips and smiled. "Look, I'm all good, right? You just said that my wounds aren't that serious. I just need some rest. Oh yeah, where are the people who helped me? I need to thank them greatly. If it wasn't for them, I would be screwed."

Before Mrs. Lu was able to say something, Lu Xiaoxiao, who barged into the room, bawled out of a sudden. "Sis, I'm so sorry! If only I had accompanied you back home instead of dining out with my friends! Sis, I'm sorry, so sorry, if I didn't drag you out for a movie, you would not have come out of the house! Sis, I made a call to my brother's troop. He said that he'll rush here immediately."

"You told Xingzhi already?" Jiang Yao felt helpless once she heard that Lu Xiaoxiao told Lu Xingzhi everything. Lu Xingzhi had just returned to his troop and he needed to rush back here again. Would his job be affected? Judging by his personality, it was safe to assume that he was going to blow up once he knew that she was injured.

### **Chapter 83: An Apology**

Lu Yuqing came back with exhaustion written all over her face. She entered and saw that Jiang Yao was awake. Immediately, she expressed her concern. "Zhao Zhuangzong and his men were caught. They were hiding in the forest,"

"That's great!" Mr. Jiang forced out a smile after he heard the news.

Jiang Yao totally did not deserve to have something like that happen to her.

Should we talk about how precious Jiang Yao was to the Jiang family? It would have made every family member's heart ache even when she tried to help by sweeping the floor and accidentally hurt her finger with a wooden splinter. Although the Jiang family was poor, Jiang Yao never had to suffer any hardship. Usually, Mr. and Mrs. Jiang were not willing to let Jiang Yao suffer, not even a little bit.

So, when they suddenly received news about Jiang Yao being beaten and sent to the hospital unconscious, both of them were extremely worried. When they arrived at the hospital, they were heartbroken to witness Jiang Yao's face and the wounds on her back. They could not even speak a word as their hearts were aching.

"Jiang Yao, I dragged you into this pile of mess but don't worry, Uncle Lu and your parents will not let that b\*stard get away that easily." Lu Yuqing's mind was jumbled up. If those things never happened, she would never have believed that the man she used to fall in love with was so disgusting. This was not referring to his looks but the ugly soul he had inside him.

She found it hard to believe that after betraying their marriage and relationship, Zhao Zhuangzong wanted to use the Lu family to raise his child. He had even wanted to take advantage of the Lu family. He was greedy and never learned to appreciate. She had never expected that apart from being greedy, he was also a man who was dirty and without conscience.

Lu Yuqing believed that her body had been contaminated by that animal all these years. She spent so many years of her life with Zhao Zhuangzong, only to find out that it was laughable and pitiable.

Lu Yuqing used to feel sorry for not being able to be pregnant with his child. But now, she felt that she was very lucky that she was still able to pull herself out of that mess.

"Luckily the wounds were not fatal, or else...". Even if Lu Xingzhi did not look for her for trouble, she would feel sorry for her for the rest of her life.

"Sis, you are also a victim in this matter, so stop blaming yourself. Also, the doctor said the wounds are not fatal, so I'm really fine." Jiang Yao gave Lu Yuqing a sweet smile. "I might look terrifying to you for now, but all of these aren't serious injuries. I'm going to be a doctor in the future and I have read a lot of books about this recently. I know how to avoid my weaknesses and protect myself. Sis, how did I perform? I am a fast learner, right?"

Jiang Yao sounded as if she was making fun of herself. Although everyone could tell that Jiang Yao was comforting Lu Yuqing, they still could not hold it in and laughed.

"By the way, aren't there people who went into the forest to chase after Zhao Zhuangzong after I lost my consciousness? Did anyone see a white animal? It looked like a kitten and it was very tiny." Jiang Yao asked out of concern. She could not figure out the species of the cat.

A little thing which scolded her for being a stupid woman had saved her out of a sudden and could speak like a human. Didn't that seem shocking and ridiculous? That was why she did not dare to say that a cat had saved her life.

"I did not hear anyone mentioning that." Mrs. Lu said.

"Cat?" Lu Yuqing spoke out all of a sudden. "I heard from the police that Zhao Zhuangzong's face was scratched by a cat and it looked very serious,"

Jiang Yao heard her and added, "That's right, sis! A cat jumped out of nowhere and started to scratch Zhao Zhuangzong non-stop. That's why I got the chance to run away and escape. As a matter of fact, that cat helped me a lot. I don't know who the cat's owner is but I would like to greatly thank the little cutie."

## Chapter 84: Heartache

The people in the ward found it hard to believe the story. After hearing the story from her, they assumed that the cat's owner had seen the incident but did not show up because he was afraid that he could not stand a chance against the gang of people. He could only help Jiang Yao by sending out his cat to scratch Zhao Zhuangzong.

After thinking for a while, everyone nodded. "We do need to thank the owner. Although he didn't show up, he didn't just act like a bystander and did lend his help. Later, I will go around and ask the neighbours if they have a cat."

Mrs. Lu's words were also the thoughts of all the adults in the room. Surprisingly, no one realized Jiang Yao had described the little thing who helped her as a kitten. Let's perceive this with our sense of logic, how could a normal little kitten scratch the face of a grown-up man?

Upon knowing that Jiang Yao had encountered a mishap, Lu Xingzhi did not even have time to arrange the duties in his troop and insisted on taking leave no matter what. Then, he flew straight back to town, took the cab that Lu Haixing had arranged for him, and rushed to the hospital of the town.

By the time he arrived, it was already about 5 o'clock in the morning the next day and the sun had just risen. The corridor in the hospital was quiet, with no one awake yet.

Lu Xingzhi walked straight into Jiang Yao's ward. Jiang Yao was the only one in the ward and she was lying on her stomach. It was perhaps due to the pain on her back, causing her to be unable to sleep well. The sound of the door opening woke her up. She opened her eyes slowly, blurrily turned her head around, and looked at the man who entered.

No one else was in the ward. Jiang Yao had asked everyone to go back home last night and to only deliver breakfast to her the next morning. The extra beds provided by the hospital were hard and narrow. Typically, adults would have trouble sleeping and would be unable to have a good night's sleep by putting up with the poor circumstances.

"Did I wake you up? Or did you not sleep at all throughout the night?" Lu Xingzhi put down his luggage that he was holding and strode towards her. "Does it hurt? How bad are your wounds?"

He walked to her and had a closer look. Jiang Yao's face was still obviously reddish and swollen. There were even bruises on the corner of her lips. Lu Xingzhi's fists, which were hanging beside him, clenched and loosen up before clenching up again.

He could not put the pain in his heart into words.

No words were able to express his anger.

"I slept, but it wasn't a good one." Jiang Yao reached out and held Lu Xingzhi's fist which was slowly clenching up. She gave him a slight pat. "I'm fine, I only look scary. The doctor asked me to stay overnight for observation. If nothing happens, I can be discharged and rest at home."

“That’s great.” He could feel the warmth from Jiang Yao’s palm. She was gently caressing his palm with her fingertips while slowly squeezing into his clenched fist as if she was telling him to not worry about her and that she was fine.

Although he knew that her wounds were not serious, Lu Xingzhi was still heartbroken looking at her lying on the sickbed. “Lie down, let me have a look at the wounds on your back.”

“No.” Jiang Yao flattened her lips. After she was admitted into the hospital, Mrs. Jiang and Mrs. Lu had helped her change into the hospital gown which was made out of pure cotton. Her wounds were covered with ointment. Therefore, she did not wear anything else underneath that set of clothes.

Lu Xingzhi did not realize that Jiang Yao was shy. He gazed at Jiang Yao, whose mind had wandering off elsewhere. He gently propped Jiang Yao up and let her lay on his thigh with her face facing the floor. Without any delay, he reached out his hand and pulled up the clothes on her back.

After a night, the wounds on Jiang Yao’s back were not as terrifying as they had initially looked. The wounds were covered with white ointment and some of the injured parts could not be seen clearly. Even so, it still looked horrifying in Lu Xingzhi’s eyes.

“Is it very painful?” Lu Xingzhi asked in a low voice after noticing Jiang Yao, who was lying on his thighs, taking a deep breath in. Then, he smoothed her clothes.

“Painful! Of course it was painful!” Jiang Yao was holding back in front of the elders because she did not want them to blame themselves and be worried about her, but she did not want to act tough and endure it anymore in front of Lu Xingzhi.

## **Chapter 85: Get Up Here**

She wanted to shout if she was in pain and cry if she was in a bad mood.

Lu Xingzhi was her husband and there was no need for her to pretend that she was alright in front of him.

Jiang Yao gave a seemingly distressed reply. Her tone was partly coquettish, while at the same time, she was seemingly whining and complaining. Lu Xingzhi’s heart wavered. “I will take care of Zhao Zhuangzong for you.”

“He has been arrested.” Jiang Yao chuckled. “Seems like he was in bad shape.”

Jiang Yao could tell that Lu Xingzhi had rushed back home through the night and had probably not rested as he was worried about her. Jiang Yao looked at Lu Xingzhi, who was standing beside her, lost in his thoughts. Then, she gave him a slight nudge in his palm by using her hand, which was being held in his. “Get on the bed. Cuddle with me and sleep for a while. The doctor has asked me to lie on my stomach but it’s not comfortable. I want to sleep on your chest.”

He would do anything Jiang Yao wanted, especially at this particular moment. He would not only be her personal bolster, but even if she wanted him to fly for her, he would figure it out and grow a pair of wings to cheer her up. Perhaps it might help ease the pain on her back.

Lu Xingzhi immediately went to the washroom and changed into his pure cotton clothing before getting onto the bed. The bed was very small. As soon as he got onto it, he reached his arms out and placed Jiang Yao in his arms to avoid squeezing her off the bed. Then, he helped Jiang Yao adjust her sleeping posture and let her lie on his chest.

“Close your eyes and sleep. Mom and the others will be delivering breakfast at around eight o’clock. There are almost three hours left, get some sleep.”

Upon hearing what Jiang Yao said, Lu Xingzhi only realized then that she was concerned about him not being able to sleep for the whole night.

Perhaps Jiang Yao was really sleepy, or perhaps it was because Lu Xingzhi was by her side, Jiang Yao was fast asleep in no time as she leaned on Lu Xingzhi.

However, Lu Xingzhi could not fall asleep despite not getting any rest throughout the night.

By listening to her gentle breath, Lu Xingzhi could sense that she was emotionally attached to him. Perhaps her transformation was really sudden, but Lu Xingzhi was enraptured by that.

He used to imagine both of them as who they were at this moment, a lovely couple. She would smile at him, act like a big baby in front of him, get angry and never hide her emotions from him, like a wooden puppet which had no true feelings.

However as time passed, he could only afford to imagine because he knew that it would never happen in real life.

But for now, what he had imagined became reality. She gradually opened up to him and revealed her truest self.

Their relationship finally started to have a turn of events. Lu Xingzhi had been very afraid that when he got back, Jiang Yao would cry and question him about where he was when she was in danger and why he never showed up?

And other stuff like that.

He was a soldier. He could not be like any other husbands, where he could stay by his wife and protect her at all times.

However, when he got back, she neither lost her temper nor questioned him or blamed him. She was even concerned about him being worn out as he did not get any rest throughout the night.

Her thoughtfulness was way beyond his expectations.

When Lu Xingzhi was lost in his thoughts, the phone in his bag rang. He used his leg to hook the bag over and picked up the phone instantly to avoid waking her up from her slumber.

“Are you there yet?” Liang Yueze and the others were calling. They were also told that Jiang Yao was involved in a mishap. They gave him a call as they assumed that Lu Xingzhi had arrived.

“I’ve arrived a few minutes ago.” Lu Xingzhi lowered down his volume and replied.

On the other end of the phone, Zhou Weiqi kept forcing Liang Yueze to ask about Jiang Yao's injuries. Liang Yueze found him very annoying. He picked up the phone, walked straight to the study room, and shut the door.