

Chosen Wife 16

Chapter 16 - White Haired Pervert

As soon as he left his office, Ji Xiehan drove off to the Li residence.

He had already done his background check on Li Lanni the previous night. It was actually a shocking coincidence that Li Lanni's mother was someone he was familiar with.

By familiar, it of course didn't mean they had a close friendship. They had only met a few times many years ago. Although he was only a little boy back then, he just couldn't ever forget about her.

Ji Xiehan parked his car some distance away and walked up to the Li residence.

He was about to ring the bell but his hand stopped mid-air. What was he going to say to Li Yuming? That he was here to see Lanni?

Li Yuming might not remember him. It might be troublesome and last night, Lanni had been offended by him. It was going to be harder than expected.

"Forget it. I will find a more suitable time to speak to her. She's probably still angry." He turned to leave.

However, he didn't expect to hear an angry voice exclaiming. "Eh, you white haired pervert, what are you doing here?"

Ji Xiehan felt his back go cold. What did Li Lanni just call him? He turned sharply. "You..."

He stopped in the next moment. Li Yuming...

"Lanni, do you know him?" Li Yuming asked, surprised by how frightened her daughter looked.

"Hello auntie..."

Before Ji Xiehan could introduce himself, Li Lanni thoughtlessly blurted. "Mom, why are you listening to him? He's a pervert! He kidnapped me yesterday."

Li Yuming glared at the young man. But the main point was, "Lanni, you were kidnapped? Why didn't you tell me about it?"

"I was scared I didn't have any evidence. But here he is, sneaking around our house. Mom, we should call the police."

"Wait, you have misunderstood."

Li Yuming was even angrier. "You have the guts to speak? Leave right now or I will really call the police. Don't even dare to get near my daughter again."

Ji Xiehan was defeated. Well, it might take some time.

Li Yuming was taking her daughter to hospital for a routine check. Because Li Lanni insisted on walking, they were not driving.

"Lanni, don't leave the house on your own again. Have I not told you to always take your bodyguard with you? You still don't remember many things and might run into people with evil intentions."

Li Lanni pouted. "But I don't like being followed around by bodyguards."

"It's for your own safety, okay? Be good."

Though unwilling, she nodded. Her mother was right.

Li Yuming thought of a possibility and laughed. "Lanni, are you sure the man just now was a pervert as you put it? He is so handsome... he looks more like an admirer."

Li Lanni was annoyed. "Mom, are you simply going to be swayed by looks? He really is a huge pervert! I don't even know him on personal terms."

"Really? I think he looks familiar."

Li Lanni had her arm hooked with her mother's. "He is Ji Xiehan. Of course he's familiar."

"Ji Xiehan?"

"Shocking, right? I didn't expect the well-known Master Ji to be so unreserved. I don't even understand why he's picking on me either."

Li Yuming wasn't thinking of that. Her mind was filled with the image of a cute little boy sitting at the roadside. He had silver-white hair and a pair of eyes that could charm anyone to hug him. However when they first met, the little boy was injured. No one cared to help him despite his pitiful state and only minded their business.

She couldn't bear to see anyone so helpless, much less such a young child. "Little boy, what's your name? Where are your parents?"

The boy was so scared that he didn't say anything and only kept crying. Li Yuming couldn't bear to leave him on his own. He was just too pitiful.

Decisively, she brought him to hospital and paid the bill. His injury was unfortunately so deep that he had to stay in hospital for further observation.

But, she had to take care of other matters so she could only leave after giving the little boy a card. "Little boy, I have to leave. If they can't contact your parents, you can contact me."

"Ji Xiehan." the boy spoke to her for the first time.

"What?"

"My name is Ji Xiehan. I'm scared my mother will scold me if I call her. Could you contact them for me?" He fished out of his pocket a card with his mother's name and contact number.

As for what happened afterwards, it was a roller coaster.

"That scaredy little boy has grown into a man. He might even like my Lanni."

"Mom, what are you mumbling about?" Li Lanni had been rattling her mouth off for such a long time but her mother hadn't spoken a word in response. What was she thinking about?

Li Yuming jolted. "Nothing. You were saying?"

Li Lanni sighed. "I was thinking, I could take a school test and see if I can go back to school. You know, it's so boring to just sit in my room all day doing nothing but growing mould on my backside. Who knows? Perhaps I might just..."

As Li Lanni chatted on and on with her arm snuggled around her mother's closely, she failed to notice the eyes blazing with hatred and jealousy a meter or two away.

Li Lanni felt chills suddenly creep up her back and turned sharply. Why did it feel strange? She looked in a certain direction for a long while, trying to check for something or someone.

"What's wrong?"

Li Lanni averted her gaze. "It's nothing mom. I think I have been to this place before."

Li Yuming felt glad. So it was something good.

After walking on for a few meters, Li Lanni suddenly hugged her mother. "Mom, I love you very much."

Li Yuming was pleasantly stunned by the sudden shower of affection. "I love you too honey."

Li Lanni opened her eyes and scanned the area behind Li Yuming while still hugging her. Then she saw him. her reason for hugging her mother like that was to check out the stalker.

She racked her brains. If she was not wrong, she had seen this man before. He was speaking to Ji Feifei although she could not remember where and when she saw them.

It would be normal if they just met coincidentally today, but she was sure that he was stalking them. He must be harboring ill intentions. She was also sure that the first time she felt someone following them and turned, she vaguely saw a white scarf flash before her eyes before its owner completely disappeared behind a wall. If she was right, that could only be Ji Feifei. Why in the world would she be stalking her?

Her question was answered a few meters later. They were using a path with less people and the nearer they were to the hospital, the more deserted the streets became.

Perhaps Ji Feifei... wanted to hurt them.

"Mom, I'm getting tired. I have been taking walks frequently lately. Can we hail a cab?"

"Pfft. Now the sudden affection makes sense. My dear Lanni is still just like a child."

Because her daughter wanted to, Li Yuming happily hailed a cab. "Honey, about your school, can you do home schooling instead? No matter how you look at it, it's more convenient to have your own tutors at home. It will be easier to catch up and when you do, you can go back to school."

Li Lanni was still thinking about Ji Feifei and only heard part of what her mother was saying. "I don't think so."

"Why not? I'm afraid that in school, you might find it too hard." Actually, what she was scared about the most was that her daughter would be bullied. One had to know that many students had been jealous of Lanni before. So jealous that she had no friends. If they took advantage of her condition to bully her... her heart would break.

To prevent that, it wouldn't matter even if it cost much more to hire home-schooling tutors. As long as Lanni was safe.

The girl had thought about emigrating and in the end, she chose to stay in the country. Her reason was that if she went to an unfamiliar place before recovering her memory, she might feel scared.

For this matter, Li Lanni preferred to think when her mind was clear. There as too much going on at the moment.

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In the hospital.

"Miss Li, is it? Before we start, I want to tell you a number. You should remember it by the end of the session."

"Okay. What's the number?"

"11."

"11?" Li Lanni was stunned. And here she thought it was going to be a huge number with countless digits. What did this doctor think she was, a two year old baby?

"I will ask you a few questions." The doctor ignored her shock.

"When did you wake up from coma?"

"Six weeks ago." She had been taking so many bitter pills that she couldn't forget even in her dreams.

"What's your name?"

Li Lanni couldn't understand. Was this a hospital or an elementary school? Nonetheless, she answered. She was the patient. "Li Lanni."

"Do you remember it that way, or did someone tell you?"

Li Lanni racked her brain. "It did feel like my name when I first heard it."

The doctor asked a few more questions that she found laughable before he asked, "I asked you to remember a number. What number was it?"

"Eer..."

...

"Doctor, how is she this time?" Li Yuming asked when the doctor was done running tests on Li Lanni.

The elderly doctor looked like he was encountering something novel. His expression screamed, 'this is quite weird.'

Li Yuming got nervous. "Doctor, what happened?"

The elderly doctor adjusted his glasses with an awkward smile. "Don't worry. Miss Li is fine. However, her memory loss seems to have worsened."

He had told that girl to remember such a simple number as 11 but when he asked her, forget about recalling it incorrectly. She blinked innocently and asked him, "You asked me to recall a number? When was that?"

When he asked what they had talked about just now, she didn't seem to remember it either. Telling her something was like pouring water to the ground. It would disappear after just a few breaths.

"Ma'am, she seems to only be able to remember things that she finds significant. She will forget everything else. In this case, we will have to try hypnosis."

"Are there any risks?" This was the main point. If it would hurt her Lanni, then she would rather let her regain her memory on her own no matter how slow.

"I have never heard of hypnosis hurting anyone, at least not the patients I have treated. If it is not that bad, she should be able to remember most of her past after a few sessions.. If you are ready, the first session can be now while she's still willing."

When she was sure that there would be no negative effects, Li Yuming let her daughter be hypnotized.

The doctor went back in and looked at the girl. He asked her to sit on the couch and be comfortable.

She didn't understand what the doctor was doing. All she saw was that he was holding a thin string with a big pearl attached at its end. He asked her to focus on it.

"Lanni, the pearl grew bigger. Did you see that?"

"Yes." Not only was it big, it was also getting closer to her. It was very beautiful....

A little girl sat on the bench outside her school, looking sad. "Why is mommy not here yet? The other kids are all in class."

She hugged her bag tightly. Just as she was about to leave, a man approached her. "Hello little girl, are you on your own?"

She cowered. "Mommy said to not speak to strangers."

The man laughed and took a candy from his pocket. "I'm not a stranger. Your mommy is a good friend of mine. Your mommy's surname is Li, right?"

Since he got it right, she was pleasantly stunned but she only lowered her guard a little. To make her believe him, the man showed her a photo of Li Yuming. To be exact, both of them were in the photo.

"Little girl, why are you on your own?" He finally asked.

"Mommy went to look for money to pay my school fees. She has not returned yet so the teacher said I cannot go to school."

The man rubbed her hair. "Don't worry. Since mommy is not here and she is my friend, I will pay your school fees for you, okay?"

Although she was only eight, she didn't think it was alright. "But that would bother uncle too much."

The man shook his head. "Not at all. Actually, my job is to make sure kids are not sent away from school for lack of school fees. Your mommy must have encountered some difficulties on her way here. In actual fact, she will owe me."

Since it was like that and she didn't want to miss classes either, she agreed. She was just a little girl and this uncle truly didn't look harmful. He looked friendly and even loving.

However, before he left, the man looked at her carefully. "Little princess, can I hug you?"

At the time, she didn't understand. She only knew that people will want to hug you if they liked you. She was such a cute child that everyone would want to rub her hair, pinch her cheeks, kiss her face and hold her. She didn't find it strange at all.

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The scene in her mind changed. She was playing in the theme park with her mother when she saw that uncle again. The last time, she had forgotten to ask for his name.

As soon as she saw him, she happily blinked her eyes. "Un..."

However, the man signaled with a finger over his mouth for her to remain quiet. Not only that, he also hid away as soon as he saw Li Yuming following her line of site.

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The scene quickly shifted to another.

This time, she was a grown up girl. A man was on her side. They were walking back home together. When they arrived at the familiar Li mansion, he kissed her cheek. "See you in school tomorrow."

She hugged him and went in. Just a minute later, she realized that she was still holding his phone. She rushed back out to give it to him.... Only to see a woman give him what looked like a stack of bank notes.

Her mind was in a swirl.

"It hurts..." she groaned. Her head felt like it had been run over by a truck.

"It's so painful.."

"Go to sleep." The doctor said.

—

Outside, Li Yuming was anxiously waiting. As soon as the doctor came out, she rushed up to him. "How is she, did she recover her memory?"

"You have nothing to worry about. Because she wants to remember it, it's easier to make her recover all of her memory."

"That's great news. So... she did remember something?"

"From my observation, she has remembered two fragments. It all depends on what she wants to know the most."

"Only two?" Li Yuming, who was waiting to hear that her Lanni was fully recovered, sounded disappointed.

"Don't be impatient. This is in fact better than expected. Most of people in this case wouldn't make sense of anything in the first hypnosis."

"I see."

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When Li Lanni finally woke up, she was dizzy. "Where am I?"

Li Yuming was overjoyed. "You finally woke up. We are in hospital. The doctor said we could go home when you wake up."

"Mom, I'm hungry."

She had slept for a long time. Of course she would be hungry. Li Yuming had brought over a bowl of soup. "When we get out of here, I will cook you more delicious dishes."

Li Lanni drank it obediently.

Although she still had amnesia, some mysteries could now be solved.

She had been wondering whether her father ever cared about her and her mother.

From what she remembered now, that man she met when she was a kid must be her father, right?

If not, how could a random man care about her so much? And why would he follow her and her mother? She might not have known it as a child but when this picture flashed in her memory, she thought she could see paternal love in his eyes.

Luckily, she could still remember this event after waking up. It was good progress.

Her heart swelled with happiness.. Her desire to find him became even wilder.

Chapter 19 - Our Xiehan Is Getting Laid

"Did you remember anything useful from your hypnosis?"

Li Lanni was about to blurt out what she remembered but held it in. If she remembered correctly, her mother had only given her vague information when she asked about her father. Perhaps she may not want to hear about him.

"It's nothing significant. Just some little snippets of my childhood."

"I see." It was better than nothing.

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In the West golf course owned by the Ji family.

"You look like your entire life has been sucked out." Lin Jian mocked.

Ji Xiehan glared daggers at him. "Mind your own business."

Lin Jian clutched his chest like he had suffered a huge heartbreak. "How can you do this to me? Ji Xiehan, am I not your adorable little friend anymore?"

Ji Xiehan gave him a side glance before ignoring him to continue playing golf.

Lin Jian was his best friend.

He was the eldest son of the Lin family, one of the most prestigious families in the capital. When he was still very young, he took over the family business. However, putting his titles and achievements aside, he was the world's infamous playboy.

Rumor had it that he changed girlfriends more frequently than he changed his underwear.

Despite that, countless ladies still clung to him and tried to please him. You could as well say that all the beautiful women in the capital had his private contact number.

What a waste of his looks...

"Eh, Xiehan. Are you in love?"

Ji Xiehan didn't intend to speak to him. Why had this guy come to bother him at such a time?

"You're not in love? Then are you lovelorn? You look more moody than a woman on her period!"

The lovelorn Ji Xiehan was speechless. Was it that obvious?

Lin Jian skipped over to his best friend like he had won the jackpot. "You are really in love. Hahaha this is breaking news." He slung an arm around his shoulder. "Is it... is it a man or a woman?"

"You!" Ji Xiehan kicked him away. "What nonsense are you spouting? Do you have too little work to do?"

Lin Jian wasn't put off by his weird temperament today. "I'm only trying to help a heartbroken bro. Whatever. I'll let you be. Let me stay here silently. When you need my help, I'll be right here."

One second...

Two seconds...

"Xiehan, have you heard?"

Ji Xiehan: "..."

Was this guy a hornbill? He couldn't keep his mouth shut for three seconds.

"The nation's most beautiful woman is coming back from overseas tomorrow. The Fu family are throwing a banquet to welcome her. I want to see how beautiful she looks now he he he."

Of course the main point was that he wanted to hit on that 'nation's beauty'.

But Ji Xiehan's mind was filled with another woman.

He clutched his chest to soothe his broken heart. "She called me a pervert..."

Jian, from what angle do I look like a pervert?"

Lin Jian took a few seconds to process what he had just heard.

Pervert?

Someone called Ji Xiehan a pervert?

"HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!"

Ji Xiehan glared at his friend, who was holding onto his ribs and laughing his lungs out.

"This is hilarious. Someone called Ji Xiehan a pervert?! Hahaha. The main point is, Ji Xiehan went after a woman? Wait, don't you hate women and avoid them like plagues? Why would you go after one?"

Ji Xiehan felt even worse. Is this how to console a heartbroken friend who has been called a pervert?

"Seriously, Jiang must know this. Wait, you are serious?"

Ji Xiehan's eyes reddened in anger. "Scram!"

Lin Jian knew that he had poked a beehive and scurried away.

Before Ji Xiehan sighed in relief, that idiot's voice was heard again. "Eh, Jiang, you are here. I was just talking about you."

The newcomer was Jiang Xingyu. He was also Ji Xiehan's childhood friend.

Ji Xiehan's head hurt intensely. Could this day get any worse?

Jiang Xingyu walked towards Lin Jian and slung his arm against the latter's shoulder naturally. "Miss me already?"

Lin Jian pushed him away disdainfully. "You are despicable! How can a grown man miss a fellow man? F*ck!"

Jiang Xingyu didn't look fazed. "You think it's disgusting now, huh? Who was it that wouldn't go to the bathroom unless I held his hand and accompanied him because he was afraid of being bullied?"

"You!" Lin Jian couldn't be any more embarrassed. "So what? I was just an elementary school kid. Can you stop using those incidents from elementary school to shame me?"

Ji Xiehan sighed. These two had started with their banter. It was wise to leave them alone. "Tell me when you are done with your couples spat."

"Eh? Who is having a couples spat with this guy? You are freaking having a couples spat."

"Even if I liked men and wanted to be a couple with one, it wouldn't be this blabbermouth. Jeez! Just how many screws in your mouth are loose?" Jiang Xingyu shoved the blabbermouth aside and went to Ji Xiehan.

"How's the going? I heard you are looking for a new assistant. You fired Fang Xu?"

"Mmh." Ji Xiehan wasn't in the best mood after witnessing this crazy duo's 'lovers' spat'.

Luckily, Jiang Xingyu wasn't as loose mouthed as Lin Jian. "If you have not found one yet, I can recommend a few good ones that I know."

"I already found one."

Lin Jian who was eavesdropping, looked like he had just swallowed a 1000 watt light bulb. "Aah!"

Jiang Xingyu was annoyed. "Are you trying to swallow the sky?"

"No. It's even better. The day our dear Xiehan finds an assistant, he comes back looking like a woman having emotional instability from her period pains. If my guess is right, his assistant is a woman. A very beautiful one at that."

Jiang Xingyu looked at Ji Xiehan then his eyes bulged and shone brighter than the light bulb Lin Jian must have swallowed. "How can you not tell me such an important matter? Our Xiehan is finally going to get laid!"

Ji Xiehan: "... " Get laid your a**

Chapter 20 - Sly Businessman

Lin Jian looked mournful. "As soon as you got here, you started scolding and fighting me. I didn't have time to tell you."

Jiang Xingyu held his chin between his thumb and index finger. "But since it's good news, why does Xiehan look like he swallowed a hundred carrats of angry explosives?"

Lin Jian looked deep in thought too. "I don't understand this either. Perhaps this beautiful assistant rejected him? I heard he was even scolded as a pervert. Pfft."

"Ah. Now it all makes sense. This girl is so blind to reject Xiehan. We must get her and show her just who she is casting aside."

"Right. What do you think we should do? Get her and forcefully drag her here?"

"That's too rude." but it did sound like something an idiot like Lin Jian would do.

"Then we should take her to a room? We can have it decorated perfectly in her style and send our bro over. No girl can resist sweet romance hehe."

"Is your brain filled with nothing but sh*t? How do you manage to be so stupid?"

"How am I being stupid? I'm only trying to help a friend. Hey! I will become more stupid if you keep hitting my head."

Ji Xiehan was speechless. I'm still here, you know.

Jiang Xingyu suddenly looked like he had hit the jackpot. "I know! My dear Xiehan, I know a perfect method to pin down any woman. Whether she's a moe and cute angel or a wild kitty, she will be all yours in a snap."

Hearing this, Ji Xiehan's attention was piqued. "What?"

Jiang Xingyu laughed like an evil monster. "Don't be too fast. What's in it for me, eh? I'm a businessman after all."

Ji Xiehan almost puked blood in fury. What kind of sh*tty friends were these? One was a dumb fool who just wouldn't shut up while for the other one, business was everything. He would ask for profit even when breaking a piece of news. What insane duo was this?

Through gritted teeth, Ji Xiehan spat out, "The mall in Country A will be yours."

Jiang Xingyu widened his eyes in the next moment, not believing what he had just heard. The mall in Country A? That girl must be much more beautiful than he imagined. One had to know that that mall

was Ji Xiehan's own sweat and blood. He had spent great effort constructing it when he was just a young man many years ago. He could give it up for a girl?

Wait, to be exact, he was giving it up so he would be given advice on how to chase her. Just what goddess was she?

"Ahem... let go of my shirt first."

Ji Xiehan let go as though that shirt had been forced into his hands in the first place. "Speak. Li Lanni won't be single forever." Heaven knew she was so beautiful that many men must be trying to chase her. He didn't want to be too late.

Jiang Xingyu didn't know her, while Lin Jian's mouth dropped open. "Eh? Li Lanni, that little girl who used to hang out with your sister in the past? No wonder you got scolded as a pervert. How is that girl even legal yet?"

But thinking about it, she's quite cute. I would have chased her already if she wasn't too young."

Ji Xiehan: "..."

If someone didn't shut this fool up, he would send him to hell with a kick.

"Eh, Xiehan likes a minor? That's illegal." Jiang Xingyu looked scared. He wasn't surprised that Lin Jian knew the girl Ji Xiehan had taken a fancy to. It would in fact be extremely strange if he didn't know her. He looked at Ji Xiehan accusingly. Was his friend a pedophile?

"Who is in love with a minor? She's an adult!" He glared at Lin Jian. "Even if you had a mouth multiple times bigger than your brain, it shouldn't be like this, right?"

"Forget it. I was wrong. Jiang, tell us what you have in mind."

~Jiang Xingyu's wife-chasing class~

"Chasing a woman and making sure she is yours can only be summarised into one word - marriage.

Don't glare at me yet. I'm not done. If you cannot manage to chase her, there's another method. You can...

Or...

Finally...

Blah blah blah.

...

One hour later.

By the time Jiang Xingyu was done, Lin Jian was on the verge of falling asleep. "Jeez... how do you manage to talk for so long? You made it sound like a real class."

Jiang Xingyu looked smug. "So what if I talked for too long? That Country A mall is totally worth it." Wiping off his imaginary sweat from his forehead, he looked at Ji Xiehan like a kid asking for candy. "So, when do I get to check on my mall?"

Ji Xiehan looked down on him like an idiot. "What mall?"

Jiang Xingyu: "Just now, you promised to give me that mall in Country A if I teach you to chase your wife. I've accomplished my mission, haven't I?"

Ji Xiehan's lips curled into an indifferent smirk. "Is that so? I did say it would be yours. But when did I say that I would give it to you as a reward for helping me chase my wife?"

"What? You! You are going back on your word."

Ji Xiehan: "Is that so? I recorded our conversation just now. Listen to it and let me know when you hear the part where I said that I was exchanging it for this favor."

Jiang Xingyu wanted to explode. This man had played him. "You... you!"

He couldn't speak and could only keep spitting a succession of 'you's.

"Are you done? Actually, I will not be too harsh to you because we are friends. Wouldn't I be slapping your face if I didn't honor my promise?"

Jiang Xingyu brightened up when he heard this. However in the next moment, "I will let you have that mall if you work hard enough and manage to acquire it."