

Chosen Wife 21

Chapter 21 - She Would Make Them Pay

Lin Jian laughed his butt off. "Did you really think you can swindle something out of Ji Xiehan? He is the expert swindler, okay? He swindles people. Have you ever heard of a swindler being swindled?"

Ji Xiehan glared at him. You are the damn swindler. Your whole family are swindlers.

"I will not play with you anymore. I have more important things to do." He said and left them alone.

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In his car, Ji Xiehan quickly took his phone and called his new assistant, Qiao Luna. "I'm giving you the details of a girl. Find out where she is."

While waiting for the reply, he thought of the best strategy according to Jiang Xingyu's wife-chasing class.

"Make the girl your friend? Perhaps it's too late for that. She already dislikes me.

Send the girl flowers and gifts every day? She might throw them away.

Got it! Tell the girl you like her."

As soon as he received Li Lanni's location, he rushed over.

"First, get a present." Even if she threw it away, it didn't matter.

He gave Qiao Luna another call. "What do girls like?"

Qiao Luna must have been surprised by this question but she was quick to answer. "Most girls like clothes and jewelry. If you don't know the type clothes she likes or her size, you may want to go for jewelry." According to the situation, Ji Xiehan didn't seem to be on familiar terms with the girl because he had just asked her to find out a woman's location a moment ago. Since she was the assistant, she may as well tell him everything he had to know.

Ji Xiehan got into a jewelry shop and looked around. Soon, he found a perfect diamond necklace. It was quite beautiful. Qiao Luna was right. If he was a woman, he would love it if someone gifted him something so beautiful as well.

Turned out hiring a female assistant wasn't such a bad thing after all.

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Confident, he rushed to the hospital, buying fruits on his way. Although he was giving her a necklace, she needed to eat fruits if she was sick.

However, he wouldn't ever expect that on his way in, he would see Li Yuming leaving the hospital with her daughter in tow.

His heart sank. How could he forget? This morning, she had called him out for kidnapping her. It wasn't going to be easy to get past Li Yuming.

A perfect chance had just been ruined. If they were still in hospital, he could still make up a story about being on his way to visit someone.

Forget it. There were many more chances.

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After drinking soup, Li Lanni went back home with her mother.

Once she sat down, she brought up the topic from earlier. "Mom, is it possible to have a home-schooling tutor as well as go to school? The home schooling tutor will help me remember everything I need to know that I have forgotten."

Li Yuming considered this option. "If that's what you like, then it's alright. I will hire more bodyguards for you."

"Are bodyguards really allowed in schools?"

"Of course. As long as they keep their distance and don't distract the other students."

"Then... Can I start soon? Tomorrow perhaps?"

"Why not? I'll make arrangements today."

Li Lanni hugged her mother. "Thanks mom. You love me the most."

Li Yuming glanced at her daughter who was clinging to her like a happy kitten and rubbed her head. "You're my little girl. Of course I love you the most."

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As soon as she was in her room, Li Lanni's smile froze and was replaced with a murderous glint. "Ji Feifei, I don't know what you are up to. But I will find out. I will kill you if you try to hurt my mother and I."

So what if she was a little girl? Ji Feifei was young too and she had already done many scheming things. She would not believe for a second that Ji Feifei was a clean woman. She must have done bad deeds before.

If not, there wouldn't be such a note warning her of her childhood friend.

She took a book and started reading. She had been doing this for many days already. If she read some of these books, she wouldn't be too dumb when she went to school, right?

The next day, Li Yuming told Lanni that she could return to school any time she wished.

"Lanni, you don't have to put too much pressure on yourself. You are only going to school to interact with your friends and recover your memory. That's why I'm taking you back to your old school.

If you fail in those tests and find the classes too difficult to understand, you don't have to worry."

Li Lanni felt her heart warm up. How could her mother be so considerate? She was so caring that being her daughter felt like the biggest achievement on earth.

No wonder that weird woman, Ji Feifei, was so jealous of her.

"Ah-cho! Who is cursing me?" Ji Feifei sneezed out all the juice she had sipped just now.

"Miss, I just received a piece of news from your school." Fang Xu reported.

"Don't bother me about trivial matters." Ji Feifei's mood today was awful.

Today, she had asked her father to let her go on a trip with her friends as a form of vacation.

That dumb old fart had the guts to refuse her! He even said that if she had so much time in her hands, she should use it to make her school grades better.

She would make that old fart pay for all this humiliation! She would really make them pay.

"Miss..." Fang Xu had to report this no matter what. If he didn't, he would be blamed for lack of competence later.

"What! You stupid man! Haven't I told you to scram already?"

Fang Xu trembled. Was she really a twenty year old girl? She looked more like a thousand year old venomous snake. Huu.... this job was so difficult. "It's related to miss Li Lanni."

"Lanni, that little b*tch? Why didn't you tell me before?"

Chapter 22 - Use Their Weakness

Fang Xu was speechless. Was it not you who told me to shut my mouth and disappear from your vicinity?

"Speak! What are you waiting for?" She roared

Fang Xu trembled. "Miss Li Lanni has been allowed to go back to school."

"Just that?"

Fang Xu sighed. It was really difficult so serve this temperamental pampered miss. He should have strived to remain with the warm-hearted Ji Xiehan instead.

But for the sake of his ailing mother, and since it was his fault, he could only suck it up. "Miss Lanni should not be allowed to go to school. Didn't you say she has amnesia? However, she was still allowed to go back. I'm thinking she lied about having recovered."

Ji Feifei suddenly broke into a smile and lifted her fair hand to check out her red fingernails. "That's just wonderful. I will let her stay and when she is at her highest point, release that medical report to the whole world."

That must be Li Yuming's and Li Lanni's weakness. By doing that, she would shame Li Lanni and make her enemies aware of her medical situation. That would make her vulnerable, killing two birds with one stone.

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City B University.

The luxurious maybach stopped and a girl was helped out. She was wearing the uniform of City B University.

"Mark, can we please use a less luxurious car tomorrow? I don't feel comfortable keeping such a high profile."

Mark was one of her bodyguards. "Yes miss."

Though he wondered, where to get a car that was not luxurious? He obviously wouldn't get it in the Li residence...

Never mind. He would tell master about it.

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As soon as she set foot in the school, it all felt familiar. It was as though one of the missing pieces of the puzzle was back. There were only a few remaining now.

"I'll go to class now." she said.

As soon as the car drove off, a young man rushed towards her like he had seen a ghost. "My queen! I thought I would never see you again."

Li Lanni was puzzled. "Who are you?"

The young man's enthusiasm didn't die down. "My queen, how can you forget me? I'm Yu Guang.

Right, which building are you going to? I will bring you there."

"Guang, stay away from Lanni. Haven't you had enough fun with girls? If you continue going at this rate, you will suffer from kidney failure."

The person who interrupted was a young man too.

"Lanni, don't be fooled by this guy. He is so promiscuous that the girls he has fooled around with wouldn't fit in this school."

"Ah Chen, what are you saying? This is slander! Lanni, don't listen to his rubbish."

Li Lanni was not listening to any rubbish. This 'Ah Chen'...

He was taller than most men, possessed an aura that made one subconsciously want to bow down to him. Every step of his exuded of nobility.

There was only one word to describe him... Gorgeous!

So gorgeous she was going blind.

Like any other girl, of course she would appreciate beauty when she saw it. It had nothing to do with falling in love - there was not a single person who didn't appreciate beauty, right?

But, she did not make a fool out of herself. "Ahem... thanks for the offer, misters, but no thank you. I have a blueprint of the whole school with me." She walked off right after saying this.

Yu Guang gave a puzzled look to his friend. "She really lost her memory?"

Ah Chen looked in her direction regretfully. "If you ask me, who will I ask?"

He put both hands in his pockets. Lanni, you didn't like me previously because I accidentally ruined my reputation before your eyes. If I use this opportunity to chase after you again, you might like me, right?

He didn't know that his friend was thinking the same way. If this Ah Chen didn't keep ruining his moments and tarnishing his reputation before Lanni, he might have a chance to win her heart. This Ah Chen must learn to control his huge mouth or he wouldn't have it nice.

Neither of them knew that from a wall a short distance from them, someone glared furiously.

"That sl*t! She has already managed to seduce Yu Guang? Forget about Yu Guang, that casanova. Even Ah Chen is in her web now? Just how did she do it? Turns out I underestimated her. The daughter of a b*tch is definitely one as well."

She maliciously called a little girl who was passing by.

When the girl came Ji Feifei clutched her stomach and looked pale. "Sorry, I feel unwell. Could you help me pass a message to my best friend? Her name is Li Lanni and she just went to the art building."

"Don't worry."

"Tell her to meet me in the abandoned building, yeah?"

The girl went ahead.

Ji Feifei sneered. "Tsk, as stupid as Lanni herself."

She called another little girl. This girl and the one from earlier were freshmen and didn't know much. "Excuse me, I don't feel very well. Could you help me pass a message to someone?"

The girl looked curious. "Senior, if you are sick, you should go to the infirmary. How about I take you there?"

"No no no!" Ji Feifei shook her head.

This girl wasn't as brainless as the first.

She blushed and held onto a note she had already written. "Actually, I lied just now. It's a confession letter and I don't know how to send it. Could you please help me?"

The girl saw that Ji Feifei really looked hopeful and considering she was a senior, it was difficult to reject it. Who knew what trouble she would face if she offended a senior?

"Okay. I'll take it."

"Great! The guy down there with a head of brown hair and both hands in his pockets. Hurry before he leaves.. By the way, my name is Lanni."

Chapter 23 - I'd Like To See What She's Up To

She watched the girl go to Ah Chen and hid away to only peek.

The girl was afraid of her so she really went to him. "Excuse me senior, are you Ah Chen?"

"Yes. What is it?"

"The girl over there...eh? where did she go?" she could no longer see Ji Feifei. It became awkward.

"Anyway, her name is Lanni. She asked me to give you this."

Ah Chen was astonished. "Li Lanni?" He took the note hurriedly. "Thank you."

The girl retreated, blushing. This senior was so handsome. No wonder that girl was head over heels for him.

Obviously, Yu Guang would be curious. "Open it quick! I want to know what my queen wrote to you."

Ah Chen was disdainful. "Get your hands off!"

"Eh, you are so fierce. You wouldn't be in love with my queen, right?"

Ah Chen sent him off with a kick. "Piss off! Who the heck is your queen?"

Anxiously, he opened the note.

There lay a beautiful handwriting. [Meet me in the abandoned building right now.] There was even a small heart shape drawn at the end of it.

"Lanni..." Lanni wants to meet me in private? She even wrote such a mushy note to me?

His heart raced wildly. Could it be that Lanni had taken a liking to him and wanted to confess?

Yu Guang had taken the chance to peer over and also saw the content. "Why do you look so happy? Have you also taken a fancy to my queen? You must know that she is only mine."

Ah Chen was so angry he could pull the hair off Yu Guang's head. He locked the idiot's hands behind his back. "I told you to scram! Didn't you hear me?"

Yu Guang howled like a pig. "Ah! It takes time to scram. Also, how can I scram when you're holding me so tightly?"

Some distance away, girls couldn't tear their eyes off.

"Two handsome men fighting. Ah! My heart can't take the cuteness."

"Kill me already! Are they fighting over a girl?"

"That girl must have saved two galaxies in her previous lifetime."

"Why do I think they look like a couple instead? The charismatic and serious Ah Chen must be the top. Only such a man can tame a playboy of Yu Guang's variety."

"Hey!" Yu Guang couldn't stand such a humiliating insult. Who did you just call a bottom? You're the freaking bottom!

"Ah Chen! Let go of me. I just realized that the note in your hands wasn't written by Lanni."

"What nonsense are you spewing? It's in Lanni's handwriting."

Yu Guang who had just been let off snatched the note. "If you don't know what Lanni's handwriting really looks like, you're a disgrace to our Lanni's admirers' club."

"What the heck is that?"

"Forget it. Look here. Although this looks like Lanni's handwriting, it is forged. Look at the letters carefully. Some of them are more slanting than others. Lanni's handwriting is perfectly neat with all her letters slanting at the same degree.

Besides, doesn't it feel too good to be true?"

Ah Chen took a closer look. Indeed, this fool was right. Some of these letters looked out of place.

Not only that, the pen used here was different from Lanni's. It would only take closer inspection to realize this.

So this fool was really interested in Lanni. It took a great amount of interest to realize such small details in one glance.

"Someone wants to play me." Ah Chen's eyes narrowed coldly.

"I know. It must be one of those girls who have crushes on you. Perhaps they found out that you like Lanni. How about I go and check out who they are? I will give you the feedback." In the next second, he retreated. "Not a good idea. If my queen were to find out that I went, she might misunderstand me."

"It's not like I wanted you to go on my behalf. I'll go. I have a gut feeling that it's something interesting."

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At the same time, Li Lanni rolled her eyes when she received the message about Ji Feifei feeling unwell. If she was sick, why couldn't she go to hospital? Who did she think she could fool?

Hmph. I'd like to know what she's up to this time.

She turned to the girl she had been sitting next to before she received the message. She didn't look like a bad person.

"Cheng Yu, I need to go somewhere but I'm scared of that place. Could you accompany me?"

The girl called Cheng Yu looked excited. She had always tried to be Lanni's friend because they had been friends in the past but the latter didn't seem to trust her much. How could she reject such a chance?

"Sure. Where are you going?"

"To the abandoned building. My friend is unwell."

Cheng Yu looked curious. She was sick, but went to the abandoned building?

But she followed on. "Then let's hurry before it's time for the next class."

The abandoned building was on the far end of the school, so it took a while to get there.

But, they didn't need to go in. Ah chen was waiting outside. "Lanni, you are really here. Just now, I almost thought someone was pranking me." The thought of that tiny heart at the end of the note made his ears heat up. But what was up with the girl beside her? People didn't bring their friends along when going to confess, did they?

Li Lanni smiled. So what was Ji Feifei's prank, then? "It's you? My friend wanted me to meet her here."

Ah Chen looked confused. "She did? But you also sent me this note to meet you here. I didn't go inside knowing that we might miss each other."

As evidence, he gave her the note.

Li Lanni took it. "I didn't write any. It must have been a misunderstanding.

Can I keep it? I'll look into it."

"Sure."

"Chen Yu and I will go back now.. It's almost time for our next class."

"I'm heading back too." Ah Chen said.

On their way back, he fought the urge to ask her out until he couldn't fight it anymore. "Lanni, could we go home together after school?"

Li Lanni wasn't an idiot. It was obvious that this young man liked her. She wasn't ready for any relationship. Who knew if she had a boyfriend already? Before she was sure that she remembered her past, she shouldn't simply get close to any man.

Hence, she rejected him politely. "After school, my mother will be waiting for me."

"How about tomorrow?"

"Sorry, I have to undertake extra classes at home."

Ah Chen was now sure that she was deliberately avoiding him.

If this was before, he would have cursed her and hurled rude insults at her. However, it was not the first time he was trying to ask Li Lanni out.

The first time he did so was a year ago when he first saw her. She had just entered university and was as innocent as any girl her age could be. At the time, she had given him the cold shoulder.

He was so angry that he ended up humiliating her in front of the other students.

One had to know that he was the heir of an aristocratic family. Not only that, he was also the most handsome guy in B City University as well as the one with the most excellent grades. His reputation was clean and he had only ever been with one girl before. What right did a girl have to reject him?

It was only later that he found out just how arrogant and immature he had been. The bad news was that Lanni had hated him already.

But, when he found out that she had lost her memory, he thought it would be a good chance to make up for his mistake. He would go after her and once she was his, he would treat her as best as he could. After all he still liked her.

This time, he didn't flare up when she deliberately rejected him. Had she recovered her memory?

He smiled like nothing happened. "Then I'll see you when you are free."

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As soon as Ah Chen left, the girl beside Li Lanni looked like her gossipy nature had been piqued. "Lanni, I think the campus hunk likes you!"

Li Lanni didn't look interested. "Honestly, the last thing I want right now is to hear about men. I just feel uncomfortable around them."

Cheng Yu looked at her timidly, as though hesitating to ask something.

"If you have something to say, go ahead."

"Does... does that include Senior Yang?"

Li Lanni squinted her eyes. "Who is Senior Yang?"

"Huh?" The girl looked shocked. "You don't know? Wasn't he your..." She suddenly stopped.

"Why did you stop? What was he?"

Cheng Yu looked conflicted. "He... I'm only saying what I heard other people say."

"Go ahead."

"He is supposed to be your boyfriend. However, the rumors say that the day before your accident happened, you caught him together with Ji Feifei – you know, the girl you're always hanging out with – and you were very angry.

Although the rumors say that they were in a relationship, I don't think they were. They were more like partners in crime."

Partners in crime... partners in crime...

Those words played in her mind on repeat.

"Where is Senior Yang then?"

Cheng Yu looked miserable to be the one to tell her. "He was with you that day when you had that accident. His legs were badly injured and he fell into a vegetative state. The doctors think he will ever wake up and even if he miraculously does, he will be paralyzed forever."

Li Lanni looked at the timid girl and pinched her eyebrows. "Where did you get this information?"

"Ah? Lanni, those are just rumors I heard. None of it has been proven for sure."

"There's no smoke without a fire." Li Lanni mumbled.

Why was it that she had never heard of this before? It was all so new.

Didn't the police report say that she was the only one in her car and that she was driving under the influence of alcohol? At least that's what her mother said...

So what was this new crap about a man being with her all about? How come the police didn't know about him? Or did the police lie?

Though this 'Senior Yang' name sounded familiar and for a reason, she trembled just by thinking about it.

Thinking back to her hypnosis session, she did remember walking beside a man. She turned back later and saw him receiving a check from a woman.

If what Cheng Yu was saying was true, then it was possible that the woman she remembered was Ji Feifei – that was the only troublemaker that could come to her mind at the moment.

If it was as she thought, then whatever happened seven months ago was no accident. It was all pre-planned!

"Do you know which hospital this Senior Yang is admitted in?"

Cheng Yu was frightened by Li Lanni's sudden angry tone. She looked like she was about to kill someone. "I... I don't know for sure. I heard he's in the military hospital in the North District. His grandfather has a military rank so he brought him there so he could receive better care."

Li Lanni glanced at Cheng Yu. This girl had kept saying that it was all from the rumors and that she didn't know anything. Despite that, the information she gave was too detailed. Could it be a lie?

No way. She had to investigate this. If it was true, then she would have found out something of extreme importance. If it was a lie, there was nothing to lose. At most, she will have just wasted some time. She wasn't that busy anyway.

"Let's go or we will really be late."

"Okay." Cheng Yu tailed after.

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Later, Cheng Yu made a call. "V, I have already done it. Lanni is going to investigate it. I made sure to make it sound like a rumor."

"Good." A metallic voice said.

"V, don't you think this method of telling her the truth was too..."

"Cruel? I don't care if it's cruel.. In fact, cruel will make her as fierce as she should be in fighting them back."

Chapter 25 - Our Boss Wants You Dead

As soon as Li Lanni left school, she told her mother that she would be late, using the library as an excuse.

When she was sure that none of her bodyguards was around, she went to the military hospital in the North District. Perhaps she would remember something if she saw that guy, Senior Yang.

However, they wouldn't let her in no matter what. The fact that she only knew that man's surname and didn't know his first name didn't make things any easier.

Never mind. She would ask Cheng Yu about it the next day.

'Strange... I feel like I'm being followed.' She thought as she left the North District. To avoid getting questioned by Li Yuming, she had taken a cab.

No one knew her whereabouts. Why did she feel like she was being stalked? The last time she felt this way, she was being followed by that pervert from the Ji family. She couldn't just ignore the feeling and pass it off as being paranoid.

'What to do... should I take a rougher path and ambush him?'

Soon she dropped this thought. She didn't know anything about her strength and self defense skills. What if it wasn't just one person? If it was a group, she would be outnumbered in case they meant to harm her.

She could only hail a cab, hoping whoever it was would give up.

At the same time, Mrs. Ji called Ji Xiehan home with a sense of exigency.

"Mother, what happened?" He rushed over immediately.

Mrs. Ji didn't look like anything was wrong. In fact, she was in a joyous mood.

In the living room, a middle aged woman sat on the sofa as though waiting for something, her daughter closely beside her.

Those who didn't know would think they were here for a marriage negotiation.

"Xiehan, this is Mrs. Gu and this is her daughter, Tianxi. She used to come over and play with you when you were kids."

Ji Xiehan was annoyed. When he received her call, he was on his way to see his little beauty. Of course he would be annoyed. "Is this why you called me?"

Mrs. Ji grabbed his hand. "Xiehan, don't be so mean. Say hi to Tianxi."

Her intention couldn't be any more obvious. She had brought a woman home so she could introduce them?

"Mother, I already told you. I'm only interested in one woman. I will find her and make her my wife."

Mrs. Ji felt embarrassed. How could he simply say it in the presence of Mrs. Gu and her daughter? Mrs. Gu was her friend, if her son was rude to Mrs. Gu's daughter, it might not turn out well. "Son, don't be stubborn. I only asked you to say hi to Tianxi. I didn't say 'say hi so you may become husband and wife'."

Ji Xiehan reluctantly shook hands with her just to save his mother face. "If there's nothing else, I have other things to do."

"What's the rush for? Tianxi just came back from overseas. You should show her around."

Ji Xiehan gave his mother a glance she had never seen from him. She could trace anger from his eyes. It made her feel chills down her back. "Alright, go ahead and do your thing. It's just showing Tianxi around. Do you have to look like you are being forced to give away your heart?"

Ji Xiehan remained silent. Not only are you trying to force me into giving away my heart, soon I might have to give away my body as well.

At this moment, Ji Feifei returned from school. Mrs. Ji found a way out of this. "Feifei you are back. Why don't you show Tianxi around? She just came back from overseas and some places seem unfamiliar to her."

Ji Feifei looked at Gu Tianxi then at Ji Xiehan. She could guess what had happened at a glance. She smiled, hiding her wickedness. "Sure. Sis Tianxi, a really cool store has been opened recently. Coincidentally, all their sales for today are discounted. We could get some really nice outfits there."

Gu Tianxi was displeased by Ji Xiehan's unwillingness to spend time with her. However, she could only go with the flow. To get to a man's heart, one had to treat his family well.

Don't get her wrong. She was not in love with Ji Xiehan. All she wanted was the wealth in the Ji family. Before marrying him, she would make him sign a contract with terms stating that if they ever divorced, half of his property in the Ji family would be hers as alimony. It would be nice if she were to get all of it but that was impossible. Still, he was the only son of the Ji family. He should have lots of wealth in his name. Half of it was good too. She would make sure to divorce him within the first year.

"Let's go then." She said to Ji Feifei.

Ji Feifei took an extra card with her and left.

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Since they had gone out, Ji Xiehan had no more business at home. He went to look for his little beauty.

According to Qiao Luna, she had started going to school. He should be able to find her in B City University.

Actually, it would be easy if he simply told his sister to help him out since Ji Feifei was in B City University as well. For some reason however, he couldn't bring himself to trust Ji Feifei no matter what. He had always had a bad feeling about her and it had gotten stronger lately.

He drove off to B City University.

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Li Lanni's uneasiness grew wilder by the second.

She had been observing a red car that was behind them. It had followed them for a while and when she was about to conclude that they were being followed, it went in the opposite direction when they reached a crossroads.

Just a few seconds later, another car appeared, this time it was a black one. After following for a while, it also disappeared, only for a white one to start doing what the previous ones had been doing.

Li Lanni got worried. Who were they, and what did they want? She deduced that if there were more, they would soon surround them.

Was the only option calling her bodyguards? That would make it known to her mother that she had left school on her own and gone to the military hospital. However, a little scolding wouldn't take her life. These thugs would.

Alas, she didn't have the time to call her bodyguards because it was right at this time that they got surrounded.

In the next moment, a gang of four heavily built men left those cars.

"We want the girl. You can leave." One of them said, obviously speaking to the cab driver.

"They are rude." Li Lanni mumbled.

As expected, the cab driver ran for his life at such a moment. He wouldn't get into trouble with an unknown gang because of a girl he didn't know. Though it was such a pity. This girl looked like a nice child.

Never mind. It was none of his business.

"What do you want?" Li Lanni asked softly.

"Nothing much. Our boss wants your life."

Li Lanni opened the zipper of her bag, held it tightly and left the car slowly. She didn't have anything to use to defend herself. Even if she did, these men looked too difficult for a normal person to handle, much less a little girl like herself.

"Tsk... how beautiful. No wonder boss doesn't want her alive."

"Don't be fooled by her beauty. Now, act fast. Boss wants the results soon."

Li Lanni wondered just who it was that wanted her dead.

"Little girl, you can be rest assured that it will not be painful. I will shoot you right through the brain."

"Are you crazy? We should torture her. She is quite lucky that boss didn't order us to play with her. It would be quite fun."

The first man knocked the second's leg. "Are you human? How do you have the heart to defile such a cutie?"

Li Lanni had an idea. She looked down and bit her lip, looking quite pitiful. "Can you... can you please give me a chance to live? I will not interfere with your boss."

"Eer..."

Li Lanni blinked the tears she had gathered just now and made them roll down her cheeks in a pair of thin trails. "Please. My mommy doesn't have anyone on her side but me. If you kill me, she will be on her own. Boohoo..."

"Well, this..."

Li Lanni used the chance when the others were confused too. When no one expected it, they all felt their eyes sting.

"Eh? Ahh My eyes!"

Li Lanni ran away after successfully spraying their eyes with perfume.

"That little thing! Catch her! I will skin her alive."

"Oh no..." She had provoked all the anger in them.

Chapter 26 - Getting On The Elders' Good Side

Before their eyes stopped stinging, she had to find somewhere to hide or get help. Li Lanni used up all the strength she could muster to run as fast as she could.

These thugs had probably undergone all kinds of torture because it was not long before they started catching up.

Li Lanni was out of strength. Her legs hurt from suddenly running too fast.

Was she going to die here today? But she didn't even know the person who was trying to kill her. She didn't know what her dreams were yet. She didn't know the truth about her accident either.

She couldn't die... she still had many things to accomplish.

Her legs suddenly gave way. There was nothing she could do about it. She was too tired to go on. Just as she fell to the ground, a car entered her line of vision.

Such a luxurious car... its owner had to be someone rich and powerful. Wasn't this La Voiture Noire?

Seeing a new ray of hope, Li Lanni got to her feet and stood in the middle of the road. The driver would have to stop no matter what.

"Haha! Little thing, I got you." Li Lanni could hear the tormenting voice in her ears. They were almost here. Just a few meters away.

"Do you think you can run away after spraying our eyes? We were previously going to kill you painlessly but now, we will use the most torturous methods.

...

Inside the car.

"Master Ji, a girl suddenly stood in the middle of the road. She seems to be in trouble. Should I ignore her?" lately, there were many robbery cases happening this way. People would pretend to be in trouble only to rob the person who helped them. It was not an uncommon scene.

Ji Xiehan looked up from his laptop with a frown. When he saw the girl he was looking for...

"Stop! Can't you see she's being followed?"

He jumped out as soon as the car stopped. "Are you alright?"

Li Lanni recognized this face. It was the white-haired pervert. However, she didn't resist when he carried her to the car. It wasn't like she had the strength to resist even if she wanted to.

"You! Don't get yourself into trouble. Leave that girl to us." A furious gangster couldn't take it. They had painstakingly followed this little girl and just when they were about to catch her, a man pops out of nowhere and carries her to his car?

"Idiot." Another hooligan kicked his leg. "Has the perfume completely blinded your eyes? That's la voiture noire."

"So what? Its owner can only be at most a spoilt rich young master. What can he do?"

"Tch. Is that so?" Ji Xiehan smirked coldly. "I can do this."

...

Two minutes later, the four of them lay with their stomachs flat on the ground, in a sorry state.

"Elder brother, we were wrong. We failed to recognize greatness."

"Elder brother, please forgive us."

"Grandfather, no, great grandfather! Please let us off this once." One of them grabbed his shoe to beg for mercy.

"Annoying!" Ji Xiehan kicked him in his stomach. The man rolled away in pain.

"Who sent you?"

"We don't know! The boss only wanted the little pretty miss dead. She communicated with us using different public telephones and left the money in an abandoned warehouse for us to pick."

Ji Xiehan kicked him in the face. Of what use was such information?

"Take care of them." He said to his chauffeur and the bodyguard who was sitting in the shotgun seat.

Earlier, they had tactfully made arrangements to have the road blocked so no cars would be passing here for a while.

Ji Xiehan sat in the driver's seat and grinned at the two men. "Have fun."

The chauffeur looked at the bodyguard. "Does fun... include killing them?"

The bodyguard was tempted to do this as well. "I don't think so. Master Ji has no blood in his hands. I don't think he would want to get some because of a little girl he just saved."

"Is that so... then if we beat them black and blue and leave them on the verge of death, that's not considered murder, right?"

...

Ji Xiehan drove to hospital. The girl in his back seat was asleep. He wanted her to get a check up, perhaps she was hurt by those men before she managed to escape. Her legs looked weak too. She might have run too much and got them swollen.

When the doctor was done running tests, he looked at Ji Xiehan. "She has not ingested anything harmful and aside from a few blisters and scratches on her legs, there are no other injuries. She will need to rest and not move about too much for two days."

"Okay."

"Do we need to contact her family?" From the looks of it, the girl must have been a victim of kidnap for the man to ask about such particular things.

"No need. I will take her home."

—

In the Li mansion, all the bodyguards had their heads hung low.

Mark was the most remorseful. "Madam, it was negligence on my part. I did not protect the young miss."

"Of what use is your apology? Find my daughter right away!" Li Yuming was so furious that her eyes almost exploded into flames. She had hired these people to protect her Lanni. What was their use if Lanni could sneakily go places on her own? Why was she not back yet? What if something happened to her? She had already sent a group of experts to track her.

"Madam, miss is back." A servant reported, his happiness boundless. They were finally going to be relieved of a death sentence.

"Lanni? Where?"

"Outside. She is in the company of a man. He is quite handsome."

Li Yuming was already on her way out and didn't hear the servant's answer.

"You! Why are you holding my Lanni? What did you do to her?" Li Yuming at this point wouldn't care who Ji Xiehan was. If he hurt her daughter, she would directly kill him.

Ji Xiehan wordlessly carried Li Lanni into the house and put her carefully on the sofa. Only then did he speak. "Aunty, if I did anything to hurt Lanni, do you think I would have the courage to bring her home?"

Li Yuming calmed down a little. He made sense. That wouldn't be any different from committing murder and remaining in the crime scene for the police to catch you there. "What happened?"

"She was being followed. She is still not speaking or reacting to anything because she is still scared." He narrated what had happened from what he made out of the situation he witnessed.

"This child... did she lose her IQ along with her memory? She knows that it is not safe but she still went to such a place on her own. It is all thanks to you this time."

Ji Xiehan thought of something and a smile slowly crept onto his lips. He restrained it by coughing.

~Jiang Xingyu's wife chasing class~

"If gifts don't work, be the hero that saves the beauty. Remember to be sincere and don't ask her to be your girlfriend as compensation right away. Girls hate men who take advantage of them.

Second step, get on the good side with the elders. They might help you in future."

~~

Ji Xiehan took a last glance at Li Lanni then turned to Li Yuming. "Aunty, I still have business to take care of. I will head out first."

"Ah? You are not staying for dinner?"

Bingo! Ji Xiehan, you just got on the elder's good side after playing the hero that saves the beauty.

"I would like to, but I really have a lot of work to do."

This way, he was creating an opportunity to be invited by Li Yuming again. It would give him another chance to see Lanni.

Li Yuming didn't force him to stay. "Child, I really don't know how to repay you. If you were not there on time, my Lanni might have lost her life."

Ji Xiehan smiled charmingly. "Aunty, you don't have to feel indebted to me. I wouldn't possibly sit back and watch an innocent person getting killed. I would have done it for anyone."

Li Yuming was even more pleased by his modesty. "You are such a kind young man. You are from the Ji family, right? May I ask if you have a girlfriend?"

Ji Xiehan chocked on his own saliva.

"Are you okay?"

"I'm fine. No, I don't have a girlfriend."

"What do you think..."

"Mom!" Li Lanni finally spoke for the first time since she was rescued.

"Lanni, you're finally back to your senses. This handsome man saved you. You should thank him."

Li Lanni's eyes widened.. "It's enough to thank him. Have you forgotten that he is the white-haired pervert who kidnapped me?"

Chapter 27 - The Big Fish Is Hooked. Time To Rile In

She couldn't believe that her mother was so easily swayed by good looks and flowery words.

Li Yuming took a good glance at Ji Xiehan who was about to pass out from tension. She scanned him like a robot before shrugging her shoulders. "Lanni, are you overthinking something? Xiehan doesn't look like that kind of person to me. He is, on the contrary, very polite and kind. He wouldn't hurt a fly."

Li Lanni glanced at the white haired pervert who supposedly wouldn't hurt a fly. No wonder he was a negotiation expert. That was one glib tongue.

"Aunty, what were you saying just now? Did you want to introduce me to a girl? I would really appreciate it. My parents just won't stop nagging me to get a wife. In fact, they have made sure everyone working close to my office is a woman."

Li Yuming widened her eyes. "But you are so handsome. How come you can't get a woman?"

Li Lanni was about to die from fury. What were these two up to? She glared at Ji Xiehan furiously. "You kidnapped me, and now you saved me from those men. We are now even, right?"

Ji Xiehan didn't want to start an argument with her. "Yeah. I'll be on my way now."

In her room that night, Li Lanni took out her phone. How could she forget to get Cheng Yu's contact number?

She would have asked her about Senior Yang's details. Today, it was rather unfortunate that she had to be sent off. She really wanted to meet that man who was supposedly her boyfriend as well as Ji Feifei's partner in crime. Would he be the same man from her memory?

On the other hand, she also wanted to know just how it was possible that someone knew her whereabouts and even managed to orchestrate her murder.

Could it be that someone else knew that she was going to the military hospital? Or was it that she was always being followed by those people and they only got a chance when she was on her own?

Wait, the second possibility would be strange. Her bodyguards would definitely find out if someone was trying to stalk her.

Thinking about it on her own, they said that their boss wanted her dead because she was beautiful. Logically, their boss was a woman. If it was a man, he would want to own her for her beauty - not kill her.

The only women she was associated with were three: Li Yuming, Cheng Yu and Ji Feifei.

Her mother was out of question and Ji Feifei didn't know her whereabouts. Was the culprit Cheng Yu, then?

—

"What do you mean she was saved?! Did I hire you to howl and do nothing?" Ji Feifei roared into a phone she rarely used. It was exclusively for this purpose.

"Missy, we don't know who the man is either. He beat us black and blue. You have to compensate us for being badly wounded."

Ji Feifei sneered. "In your freaking dreams! If you can't do anything right, why the f*ck did I hire you? Yet you even want me to pay you?"

"We didn't disclose the contact number you use to speak to us or the bank account you use to send us money no matter what. We made up a story about you using public telephones and leaving the money in an abandoned warehouse. At least you should be grateful for that, right?"

Ji Feifei bit her lip. "Okay. But since you didn't manage to kill that b*tch or at least harm her, I will only give you twenty percent of the agreed amount."

The man was overjoyed. Twenty percent was two million. It was worth the beating especially since they had nothing in their wallets. As a result, he said something additional to Ji Feifei. "The man who saved her owned La Voiture Noire. He had silvery white hair and possessed the aura of nobility. He must be the legendary Master Ji from the Ji family."

Ji Feifei clenched her fist so tightly it could break. "Ji Xiehan. Ji Xiehan again. Just why would he save that sl*t?"

...

It was already late at night. However, Ji Feifei didn't mind going to Ji Xiehan's room.

"Brother, you were not here for dinner. I thought you must be hungry so I brought you some dessert."

Ji Xiehan didn't spare her a glance. "Get out."

Ji Feifei didn't budge. She took a deep breath and went even closer to him. "Brother, are you not going to help me do my homework?"

"Why don't you get a home schooling tutor to help you?"

Ji Feifei looked wronged. "Why are you always so mean to me? Mom!"

Ji Xiehan really wanted to strangle her. He shouldn't have come to the Ji household tonight. He should have gone to his own mansion. This woman seemed to really take pleasure in angering him. He wanted nothing more than to strangle her to death. "Fine. I'll teach you." He sighed. He would only start an argument with his parents if she told on him.

Happy, she brought her maths homework to the study and called him.

"What do you find difficult?"

"Everything. Can you teach me everything?"

Ji Xiehan sighed about her stupidity but taught her anyway.

Halfway through, her phone chimed. It was right on top of the desk, within Ji Xiehan's vicinity.

Nothing was out of place except... her screen saver was a picture of Lanni!

That was still okay. However, Li Lanni seemed to be speaking cheerfully to another man. They were even holding hands.

His curiosity would obviously be piqued. "That's your friend?"

Ji Feifei secretly smiled wickedly. The big fish has been hooked. Time to rile in the net.

She took her phone innocently. "This pretty girl? She is my best friend as well as my classmate. In fact, you might know her mother since she used to be close to our family in the past."

She continued rattling on 'casually'. "The guy in the picture is her ex-boyfriend. He loved her so much but she..." She left the remaining part for Ji Xiehan's imagination to run wild.

"Sigh. We can't predict what happens in love, can we?"

Ji Xiehan was obviously interested. "If she is of the same age as you, she must have been too young to date when in her first relationship. How about now?"

Ji Feifei was even more irritated. So he was really interested in Li Lanni. That lecherous sl*t! Just what did she do to seduce Ji Xiehan? However, it wouldn't last long because she was just about to shatter it into pieces. "Right now... I don't know for sure. I see her hanging around with a senior from art class, but at the same time she is close to another senior from music class. She's the school beauty after all so very many guys will want to be with her."

Deliberately, she was trying to paint a promiscuous image of Li Lanni. No man would want her if she kept many guys by her side.

As expected, Ji Xiehan's expression darkened.

Ji Feifei pretended to snap. "Oh! I spoke too much just now. Anyway brother, why would you be asking so much about my friend? Don't tell me you're interested in her? If so, I will help you pass a message."

Ji Xiehan looked disgusted. "No! Get out of my sight right now."

Ji Feifei took her books and left with a smug look. Who said she was here to do homework? She didn't have a tinge of interest in school. Of course, she was here to tarnish Li Lanni's reputation in Ji Xiehan's mind. That was why she had not kept her phone in her pocket or left it in her room because she was going to do her homework. She had instead displayed it right on the desk where he could easily see it.

—

As soon as Ji Feifei left, Ji Xiehan's mouth twitched. "Tch. Lanni sure has terrible friends." What kind of friend would soil her friend's reputation that much?

Unless...

Unless Ji Feifei was only pretending to be Lanni's friend when she actually hated her. It did sound like something a pretentious woman like Ji Feifei would do.

He took out his phone and gave Qiao Luna a call.

Qiao Luna must have been woken up by his phone call. She sounded groggy. "Hello boss."

Ji Xiehan realized just what time it was when she picked the call. He couldn't turn it back so he just spoke. "Have someone track Ji Feifei's every move." He felt she was up to something not-so-good.

"Got it boss." Qiao Luna answered. "I'll do it right away."

Though she wondered, my dear boss, if people were to see what time you called me, wouldn't they misunderstand your intentions? For the sake of that girl you are chasing, can you not call me so late at night?

Chapter 28 - Will I Be Expelled?

The next day, Li Lanni was still a little unwell so Li Yuming wouldn't let her go to school.

She could only go two days after. As soon as she arrived, she had a feeling everyone was giving her a weird look.

She ignored them and went over to Cheng Yu. "Is something the matter? Why is everyone giving me weird looks?"

Cheng Yu looked like she was struggling to say it. "Lanni, don't pay attention to the rumors. They will die down soon and I know that you are not that kind of girl."

"Okay, I will not pay attention to it. But at least tell me what they are talking about?"

Cheng Yu had no choice. "They say you are a kept mistress."

"What?"

Cheng Yu knew that the matter would blow up any instant, so she may as well tell her right now to prepare her since she may be summoned by the school heads later. "They say that not only are you a mistress, the man who is keeping you is a senior professor in this university. And... he even has a wife."

The news claimed that she had returned to school despite her amnesia. Since she couldn't remember anything she learnt clearly, she was counting on that professor to pull strings and give her good grades.

"How shameless."

"I can't believe I'm in the same school as such rubbish." The students cursed angrily, not caring that she was within their earshot.

"She only just came back to school for one day but she has taken three days off after that. Isn't she just relying on the fact that she has seduced a professor?"

"Heh..." Li Lanni tittered. She turned to face the students who were blatantly scorching her with their accusing eyes and cursing her.

"So what if I'm in a relationship with my professor? It's because I'm so beautiful that he can't keep his eyes off me, isn't that so?"

"What?!"

The other students were shocked.

"She dared to admit it. How shameless!" A girl with a pixie cut gritted her teeth.

Li Lanni crossed her arms against her chest. "If I denied it, you would curse me all day. Isn't it better to admit it?" She glanced at the girl with a pixie cut. "What is it Miss Pixie? Could it be that you like this professor and are angry because you are jealous?"

"You!" the pixie girl was so angry she could scratch Li Lanni's face.

Another girl looked at Li Lanni like she was the most shameless person on earth. "He is a married man. He is even old enough to be your grandfather. Aren't you ashamed of yourself?"

Li Lanni maintained her calm. "Is he? But I like older men. What should I do?"

"You are shameless!" The girl's lungs were exploding.

Li Lanni picked her ears. Didn't they have something new to call her? They had been using the same word all this while. It was worn out already "This miss here. Since you think he is not good enough for me, how about you match make me with your father? The next time we meet, you will have to show some respect and call me 'mommy'."

"Li Lanni!"

...

Li Lanni left after infuriating those students. Since they were having such a good time talking about it, she would make them angry so she wouldn't be the only one feeling wronged.

When only she and Cheng Yu were remaining, she turned to the girl. "By the way, what's the name of the professor they say I'm involved with?"

"Huh?" Cheng Yu was about to faint from the sudden roller coaster. Just now, hadn't she claimed to be dating that professor because she preferred older men? Now she didn't know his name? She looked at Li Lanni carefully before slowly sticking out a finger to feel her forehead.

Li Lanni grabbed her hand mid air. "Drop it. Are you gonna tell me, or should I go and ask every professor I meet if I'm his mistress?"

Cheng Yu was rendered helpless. "You didn't only lose your memory. You lost your brain altogether. Sigh, the man is professor Marcus."

Li Lanni looked blank, not understanding why her friend looked so shaken by this fact.

"Professor Marcus is said to have been in relationships with many girls from this university. He has not been fired only because there has never been any concrete proof."

Li Lanni choked on her own saliva. She was rumored to be involved with such a man?

And it happened just soon after she returned to school? This couldn't be any more obvious.

"Ji Feifei..." she mumbled with her chest heaving.

"Lanni, did you say something?"

"No."

"Oh. I was saying, it will be harder to clear the rumors since you admitted it a moment ago." Cheng Yu looked like she wanted to knock some sense into Li Lanni's head. Can she recover her memory already?

Li Lanni smiled. "It's just proving my innocence. Where's the hard part?"

—

Outside the school, a black car was parked.

The man watched Li Lanni's every movement.

'It's just proving my innocence. Where's the hard part?'

"Interesting." The man caressed the girl's face on the screen.

"Boss, should I investigate the matter?" Qiao Luna asked.

"No need let her do it."

"Okay. Boss, are you going inside the school, or will you wait here until she comes out?" One had to know that it was still morning.

"I'll wait."

"But..." You still have work to do at the office.

"I want to abandon my work and wait for her all day. Do you have anything to say?"

"No, of course not. I have absolutely nothing to say." Qiao Luna adjusted her glasses. How come no one told her that being Ji Xiehan's assistant was this difficult?

...

Meanwhile, Li Lanni went to class.

Perhaps no one else found it strange, but she shared all her classes with Ji Feifei.

Was it a coincidence, or did Ji Feifei do this so they would be stuck together?

She had learnt one fact since she woke up from coma : the person closest to you possessed the capability to hurt you the most.

So this was Ji Feifei's strategy. Being close to her so she would hurt her?

She was now pretty sure that it was Ji Feifei who sent people to kill her when she went to the North District. She didn't know how Ji Feifei knew where she was going, and she didn't have any evidence yet, but she would be sure to make Ji Feifei pay for everything.

"Lanni, are you alright? Don't be too sad about the rumors."

Li Lanni dramatically put her head on Ji Feifei's shoulder. "But I'm sad. Boohoo... I'm so sad that I want to jump into the river and commit suicide."

"Eh? Lanni, don't do that okay? Even if you get expelled from school, you still have me."

How could Li Lanni miss the glint in those eyes? Ji Feifei was obviously overjoyed when she mentioned that she wanted to jump into the river.

Li Lanni put up the act. "I... will I be expelled?"

"I don't know Lanni. But in the past, all the students rumored to be involved with professors were expelled. For some, it was so bad that their bad reputations were reflected in their certificates. They couldn't get jobs anywhere afterwards."

"I don't want that kind of life! I wanna get a job. Boohoo."

Ji Feifei sneered inwardly. What's the use of crying? "Lanni, I know a way to clear your name. But you will have to lay low first and let the rumors subside."

It was Li Lanni's turn to sneer inwardly. Lay low and let the rumors subside? I'm afraid you will only help me become more famous by fanning the flames and making it seem like my silent admission.

'I, Li Lanni, will not let myself be fooled. Perhaps I was that gullible in the past. But now, my inability to remember my past will not stop me from protecting myself.' she declared mentally.

"I will go to that professor's home." Li Lanni suddenly said.

"Ah? That's a stupid move." Ji Feifei feigned concern.

"Don't worry. I will have a camera on me and record our conversation. I will later use it to prove my innocence."

Ji Feifei raised her eyebrows. "Good idea. Everyone will believe you and stop making up stories about you."

As soon as Li Lanni left her side, Ji Feifei sneered. "Stupid Lanni. What kind of trick is that?"

She sent Professor Marcus a text message. [Keep yourself in a good mood today. A present will deliver itself at your doorstep this evening.]

Heh, Lanni, watch me ruin you forever.

"Ah-Cho! ...

"The person cursing me must be Ji Feifei." Li Lanni mumbled.

Huh. Ji Feifei, do you really think I'd tell you what I plan to do to prove my innocence?

Of course I would be that stupid.

Chapter 29 - Unnamed.

After school, it was not easy for Li Lanni to go anywhere on her own. Her mother had hired new bodyguards to make sure she didn't manage to secretly run around on her own.

Besides, it was not like she would sneak away on her own after what happened the last time. This time, she needed someone to accompany her.

She walked towards her car calmly.

"Lanni?"

Li Lanni turned when she heard the familiar voice.

As expected, she was annoyed. "White haired pervert, why are you here?"

Ji Xiehan was speechless. What kind of nickname was this? Girl, I'm your future husband, okay? What kind of woman called her husband a pervert?

"If you have nothing to say to me, I'll make my move."

"Wait." Ji Xiehan grabbed her arm before she took the second step.

Li Lanni freed herself from his grip and crossed her arms. "What do you want?"

"I came to give you this." He handed over a box.

This present had been recommended to him by Qiao Luna. It was the latest diamond necklace from a famous jewelry brand. There were only three of them in the entire nation. One didn't just need money to buy them.

He watched anxiously as Li Lanni opened the box.

In the next moment, she gave a sly smile. "Thank you, but I already have this. I don't need two of them."

She took a necklace from her own bag. It was identical to the one in the box.

"What..." Ji Xiehan had forgotten something important. Li Lanni could afford to buy anything she wanted.

If this brand was popular among girls and their latest necklace was even more sought out, he should have guessed that she would try to get one.

"Does that mean... you don't want it?"

Li Lanni didn't answer him. She simply glared at him. "Master Ji, I don't know what you hold against me from our previous lifetimes but can you let me off? I really don't like being stalked like this."

Ji Xiehan's heart fell. His presence bothered her that much? It was already humiliating enough that she rejected his present because she owned an identical one. Did she also have to shatter his heart into pieces?

"Master Ji, please don't look for me anymore." She sauntered away.

Ji Xiehan gripped the diamond necklace tightly as he watched her back. What exactly did this girl have against him? Had he wronged her before? Logically, she shouldn't be this angry with him because of what his former assistant had done before. Why was she holding it against him?

...

As soon as he stumbled back to the passenger seat of his car, Qiao Luna was scared she would be killed.

She had been the one to suggest this gift because she knew how much every young woman wanted to have it. She had expected that the girl would be happy and so would Master Ji. Could it be that the girl had still rejected him and now he was too upset?

"Drive."

"Y-yes." Qiao Luna trembled as she started the car.

—

Li Lanni entered her car with a sigh. Although that man's assistant had kidnapped her, she could tell that the man didn't harbor ill intentions towards her. After all, he had rescued her recently and he didn't try to take advantage of her because of it.

However, that man's surname was Ji. He was Ji Feifei's brother. How could she have anything to do with him? She was not a naïve girl so she knew what it meant for a man to keep stalking a girl and trying to curry favor with her.

But, how could she be so sure that he was not doing this for Ji Feifei? Perhaps they were working together to trap her? Most importantly, she had forgotten her past. She didn't want to end up in a sudden twist about her being entangled with two men because she had temporarily forgotten her love.

She didn't mean to be rude to him just now, but that was the only way to keep him off her skin.

That wasn't important anymore. She had to deal with the news about her and Professor Marcus today. Her reputation might be soiled forever if she waited until she got expelled from school.

She took her phone and gave Ji Feifei a call, sounding helpless and pitiful. "I can't get Professor Marcus' private address no matter how hard I search for it. What do I do, I really want to get him to clarify this matter."

Ji Feifei was busy flirting with her new flame when Li Lanni called so she was a little pissed. But thinking about how terrible that girl's reputation would be the next day, she didn't mind it too much. "I'll send you his address right away."

"Thank you Feifei, you are a life saver. Do you have his contact number as well?"

"I do. Be careful, okay?"

"Mmh."

Li Lanni hung up with an evil smile. You keep calling me a fool. Just who is the fool between us?

—

One hour later, in a seafood restaurant.

"Honey, is the food delicious? You should eat more. Only then can you grow taller."

"Sister, the food is very tasty. Eat some too."

Li Lanni was having a meal with a little boy and his mother. The boy was so cute that Li Lanni couldn't stop herself from feeding him.

"Mrs. Marcus, please excuse me." Li Lanni took out her phone.

"Go ahead." The woman had quite a good impression of this girl. They had met at the mall a few minutes ago. The girl accidentally knocked into them and broke the little boy's new toy.

Not only did she buy a similar toy to replace the one that she had broken, she also invited them for a meal to make up for it.

She couldn't bring herself to reject such a kind and obedient child. Not to mention, she was wearing the uniform of B City university. That was where her husband worked so there shouldn't be a problem.

Li Lanni felt a little guilty for having to use such an innocent boy and his mother to achieve her goal.

However, she didn't blame herself too much about it. That man had shamelessly admitted to being in a relationship with her this morning. How was her life supposed to continue?

She went outside and made a phone call. "Hello Professor Marcus."

The man was eagerly waiting for the present from Ji Feifei. As soon as he heard a sweet voice, he knew that she must be the present. Even so, he acted hard to please. "What do you want?"

"It's about the rumors circulating the school, about me being in a relationship with you. You know that this would do good to neither of us."

"Tch. Are you recording this conversation and expecting me to spill something? You are too naïve. We are in a relationship.

We have been together for a long time but you might have forgotten about it. However, don't you try to deny it. "

Li Lanni's mouth twitched. "That's it? What should happen to my reputation, then?"

"Little beauty, you don't have to worry about that. Why don't I just make sure you have good grades as a reward? If you are obedient, you will be rewarded even more."

Li Lanni was terribly pissed off. How could a man be so shameless? "I didn't call because of this. I only called to inform you that... your wife and youngest son are having a meal with me. Can you imagine, the mistress and the legal wife eating together happily. Quite harmonious, don't you think?"

The man's heart trembled. This little girl was too audacious. "Don't you dare do anything to my wife and son!"

Li Lanni chuckled. "Please. Why would I hurt them? Your son is too cute.

However, I cannot guarantee how tightly I can shut my mouth. I'm quite loose-lipped you know.

Besides, I'm indeed naïve enough to record this conversation. What should I do?"

Professor Marcus was furious. What happened to the push over Ji Feifei talked about? Where was his present?

He was not afraid of being involved with a young girl. After all, this Li Lanni was too beautiful. He had had his eyes set on her a long time ago but had no courage to approach her. Now that she had been delivered to him on a silver platter, why was she still being this way?

If his wife knew about this... "Little girl, don't go too far!" He spat out.

Of course, Li Lanni knew why he was afraid of his wife finding out about his past deeds. To be exact, he was more afraid of his father-in-law than a mouse was scared of a cat. He would lose his life if that old man found out!

She glanced at the little boy eating heartily. "I will tell her. I'll give you five minutes to convince me otherwise.." Li Lanni hung up the call after stalling him.

Chapter 30 - Tear Off Her Pretentious Mask

Li Lanni's threat proved to work. Within just five minutes, there was a new post in the school forum.

[I was wrong. I framed a student as being in an illicit relationship with a professor. I hope everyone can forgive my crimes.]

He had used a new side account and tagged Li Lanni and Professor Marcus.

"Tsk. Sly fox." Li Lanni sneered.

He wanted it to seem like a third party had framed them and just like Li Lanni, he was innocent in all this.

Li Lanni curled her lips into a cold smirk. Since you want it this way, you shall have it.

The next morning, a new piece of news erupted.

The owner of the account that had posted the previous night claiming that he had framed a student and professor had been uncovered.

His real identity had been revealed and... he was unexpectedly Professor Marcus himself.

[How shameless! He used such a cheap trick to pretend to prove his innocence.] insults erupted.

[He is a shame to all professors. This time he must be fired!]

[I'm embarrassed to be in the school where he works. That lecherous man has to be kicked out.]

Before, there wasn't any clear evidence about his affair with students. However now that he posted such a statement in the school forum, it was akin to a guilty attempt to clear his name.

Now that it had been discovered, he was more likely to slip up and show his flaws. She had already found a way to bug him. As soon as she got evidence, he would be proven guilty and fired this time.

As soon as Li Lanni got to school that morning, she realized that the gazes all around her were even more fierce than before.

She was not surprised. Although she had dealt with Professor Marcus, she was still at the base of the flame. In fact, Professor being proven guilty only dragged her into the pit along with him. Of course, Ji Feifei was the most overjoyed. Just when she was starting to worry that Li Lanni might manage to prove her innocence, Professor Marcus doomed them both.

"Don't tell my mother anything about this." Li Lanni said to her bodyguards. "If you do, I will make sure you are all fired."

"Yes Miss." They were at a loss. Master said to follow miss' orders. She also said to report to her if anything happens to miss. However, the young miss didn't want them to report that such a huge thing was happening. What order should they follow in this instance?

Forget it. Master would be informed by the school management soon.

Sigh. Working for rich families sure was hard.

...

Li Lanni walked to class. She didn't want her mother to worry about her, so she would have to prove her innocence on her own before the school management informed her mother of this.

"Lanni, are you alright?" Amidst all the other students, Ji Feifei put up a 'very caring friend' front and approached Li Lanni.

The latter avoided her hug. "I couldn't be better."

"You went to speak to Professor Marcus, what did he say?"

Li Lanni's expression darkened. Her tone made it sound like she was concerned, but her words proved that Li Lanni secretly went to Professor Marcus' home. She was simply pretending to be worried while fanning the flames.

Not only that, she pretended to have realized that she said something wrong. "Oh! I shouldn't have said that. Lanni, I'm sorry. You wouldn't be mad at me, right?"

Li Lanni flashed a smile. "Why would I blame you? We are friends. I downloaded a new song. It's so cool. Do you want to listen to it?"

"Sure."

However, Li Lanni tapped on a recording instead. Her phone was very loud and everyone heard it.

("I can't get Professor Marcus' private address no matter how hard I search for it. What do I do, I really want to get him to clarify this matter.")

Li Lanni 'realized' that she had played the wrong file. She tried to stop it but it wouldn't stop.

While she was still stalling Ji Feifei, her response came through. "I'll send you his address right away."

Ji Feifei grabbed the phone to decrease the volume. Of course she remembered the conversation from the previous day. It wouldn't be nice if other people knew she could contact that old fart. Li Lanni was dumb, but not everyone was.

However, the volume functions were not working either.

"Thank you Feifei, you are a life saver. Do you have his contact number as well?"

"I do. Be careful, okay?"

Just when the recording ended, the volume button finally functioned.

But what was the use? It had failed at the worst time. Everyone heard the conversation. It would still be alright if it was just a voice similar to hers. She would have bluffed it out. However, they even heard the girl call her Feifei.

Silence filled the atmosphere.

Everyone was shocked.

What did they hear? Was this an update for the rumor? Li Lanni got Professor Marcus' private address and contact number from Ji Feifei?

What kind of joke was this? How could someone not know the contact number of the man she was in an affair with, and instead needed someone unrelated to get it for her?

Li Lanni scratched her head and drooped her eyes, biting her lips pitifully. "Feifei, I'm so sorry. I like recording all my phone conversations so I can listen to them again in case I missed important information or forgot something. I didn't know it would be like this."

Ji Feifei wanted to tear her apart. Dumb girl! How dare she?!

Li Lanni grabbed Ji Feifei's arm. "Feifei, I really didn't do it on purpose. I... I don't know what happened to my phone just now."

"Shut up!" Ji Feifei roared.

Li Lanni left the scene, leaving Ji Feifei in the limelight.

Cheng Yu couldn't waste such a golden opportunity. "I think It's normal for someone to want to look for a contact number if she wants to prove her innocence. However, how come Ji Feifei has Professor Marcus' private adress and contact number?"

Ji Feifei clenched her fists. "Nonsense! I only helped her look for it yesterday."

Cheng Yu crossed her arms. "But That's not what I heard from the recording just now. You said that you had it and would send it to her right after the call. Could it be... that you have been to Professor Marcus' home before?"

Ji Feifei couldn't be any more irked. Was this little girl asking for a beating? "I have been there before but so what? I only went for class related matters."

Cheng Yu held her chin between her thumb and index fingers, giggling. "But just now, you said that you didn't know his adress and only helped her find it. Miss Ji, if you were only there for class related matters, why would you lie about not being there before?"

Thanks to their love of gossip, the students's opinions were easily swayed. This time was no different.

In fact, they swayed even faster since this was a matter of more gravity. They all thought Cheng Yu made sense.

"Are you saying that I have something to do with him?" Ji Feifei was losing it. She really wanted to rip Cheng Yu's mouth apart. However, her father had warned her. If she caused any trouble in school, she would be punished severely.

She could only calm down for now.

Cheng Yu wouldn't be satisfied if she didn't provoke the devil out of her. "Who knows? Perhaps you are the true mistress he is keeping and you only used Lanni to cover up for yourself when someone discovered it?"

Ji Feifei, you always claim that Lanni is your best friend. Is this what best friends do?"

"You s!t shut up! You are spewing nonsense! I will rip you apart if you say one more word."

Cheng Yu didn't speak anymore. She didn't need to. All she wanted was to rip the 'gentle and reserved' mask off Ji Feifei's pretentious face.

Everyone had seen her curse and hurl insults like a shrew. It was enough for now. The rest should be left for Lanni to handle.

She took her phone. "Lanni just posted something in the school forum."

[I will prove my innocence in twenty four hours. Not only that, I will also prove that I don't need to use underhanded methods to pass any school test. The end-year examinations will be in two months.]

Her point was clear. She would score good grades in that examination and prove that she didn't need to have affairs to do it.

Li Lanni was in the school library. Two months wasn't much time, but it was enough for her.

She had studied before so despite not having any recollection of it, she would remember the things she had learnt before as soon as she read through them.

Speaking of which, what had happened to her phone? She was planning to pretend that it wasn't working but just now, it had really stopped working! Had it been hacked?