

Chapter 391 - Surprise(1)

When they finally recalled that they were not battling over a piece of clothing that they would wear in public, the twins decided to pick identical pieces.

However, Luna looked troubled. "But I'm pregnant now. Will I really look good in it?"

"Of course you will! Is that even a question?" Lanni was baffled at her insecurity.

Cheng Yu walked over to them and scanned the former's stomach. "Actually, you don't even look pregnant." She was not just saying it to console her friend. Because Luna had just entered her second trimester, her stomach was just a slight curve that could not be noticed if she wore clothes that made her stomach less conspicuous.

Lanni looked at her and added, "Not to mention, it only adds to the charm. You are carrying his baby, of course brother-in-law will be multiple times more smitten by you."

Luna placed her arms over the shoulders of her sister and her friend. "You girls always know what to say. I have always been scared that I will soon not look beautiful anymore and that Xingyu will lose his interest in me and fall for someone more attractive."

Cheng Yu slapped her forehead. "Can you be a little less imaginative?"

"Who said having kids will make you less attractive? Just look at our mother and your future mother-in-law." Lanni added.

"Uh...you have a point." Luna had to agree. Although she was not in the best terms with her mother, she had to agree that Li Yuming really was beautiful for her age. Probably due to her healthy diet, she still had a perfect figure. On the other hand was Xinghe. She could easily pass off as a thirty-year-old with her flawless body and youthful skin!

"Now that you mention it, I really should ask my mother-in-law how she takes care of her skin." Luna looked like she had just snagged a jackpot.

"You will tell us, right?" Lanni's eyes glowed eagerly and so did Cheng Yu's. Which woman didn't want to look beautiful?

Luna smugly flipped her hair. "Please. If I tell you, how will I be the most beautiful granny when I grow old?"

"Geez.."

The girls all intended to try on the lingerie to know whether it suited them. Since Luna's had many straps on its back, Cheng Yu and Lanni helped her tie them.

Cheng Yu frowned when she realized that Xiaoshi was no longer in sight. "Where is Xiaoshi?"

"She must have gone to help Ruby." Lanni guessed.

Luna thought of something and found it amusing. "Speaking of which, aren't they a bit too simikar? Forget the hair. They have the same height and slightly similar eyes."

Lanni frowned as she thought about it. Could they really be cousins?

Xiehan had sent the DNA samples to the hospital, and only when the results came out could she confirm it. Before that, she did not intend to shoot her mouth.

At the side, Cheng Yu chuckled. "You are the most identical pair of twins in the world."

Lanni raised an eyebrow. "Uh huh... Even our boyfriends once got us mixed up some time."

Luna added curiously, "But why would you say that?"

"Not only can you pass off as each other, your boyfriends are so much alike too. They are best friends at that. Even your love rivals are almost like clones of each other."

Lanni laughed while Luna shook her head. "Your point of focus..."

While they spoke, Ruby came out of a changing cubicle and as expected, Xiaoshi was with her.

Ruby walked over and gushed at Luna. "You look ravishing! Even as a woman, I almost can't take it."

"My God! You are the one I should be saying that to." Luna twirled the other in awe. She was wearing a simple black piece with a little see through dress and a pair of stockings. Although the whole set was black, her red hair stood out as it tumbled down her back in waves. If she wore red lipstick, she would drive anyone insane.

"You both look dashing. Why don't you get together?" Cheng Yu teased them.

Ruby looked like she had been struck by lightning. "And evoke the wrath of Jiang Xingyu? No thanks!"

"Lin Jian would kill me!" Luna reacted at the same time, then narrowed her gaze flirtatiously and zeroed her gaze at Ruby's chest. "Though, the idea itself isn't too bad. This miss here is quite gifted in a particular area."

"Get lost." Ruby covered her chest as she blushed.

"Are you giving Lin Jian a surprise tonight?" Lanni asked.

She hesitated. "I don't know. Should I?"

"Not yet. Since you are still in doubt of his feelings for you, you may regret right after." Xiaoshi finally spoke up for the first time. "At that point, no matter what tiny mistake he does, you will subconsciously interpret it as him having lost interest in you."

"She is actually right." Luna had not thought too much about it. "Now that I recall it, Xingyu and I started off...that way. After what should have been a one-night-stand.

After that, I didn't dare to a free to be in a relationship with him exactly because of this. I was always paranoid about him not loving me anymore since we had slept together.

The point is, if you are one to get insecure easily, you may want to stabilise your relationship first."

Ruby was a little surprised that Luna had uttered so many words, even revealing her own past just to advise her. She smiled, her previous negative feelings fading. "Both of you are right. I'll keep this in mind."

Cheng Yu looked at her seriously. "Though I must add, to a man who truly loves you, it doesn't matter whether you do it as an accident, before getting into a relationship or after marriage. He will treasure you nonetheless. Because what matters is your heart, not just your body. But if it's a jerk, even if you meticulously prepare your honeymoon and do it on the moon with stars twinkling all around you, he will still ditch you if he wants to."

" Uh... when did you become a love guru?" Lanni raised an eyebrow as she held her piece.

" Yeah, you have never had a boyfriend." Luna was baffled too.

" Please. I'm a comic artist and I draw romance comics." Cheng Yu was smug.

This time, Ruby was even more surprised. "You are a comic artist?"

When Cheng Yu nodded, she smiled and was happy for her. If she remembered correctly, Cheng Yu's parents were always going off about the latter's interest in painting and art and always tried to hold her back from it. Since they had been friends before, she was happy for her now that she was pursuing her dreams.

Lanni gushed at the side. "She is so awesome. She is responsible for my dark circles."

"Huh? Why would I be..." Cheng Yu was baffled.

"Isn't it because your comics are too good? I end up sleeping very late because I can't keep my eyes off!"

"Lanni isn't lying. I can testify to that." Xiaoshi said.

Luna patted Cheng Yu's shoulder. "Didn't I tell you that you are awesome? You are Xia Yu comics' star."

Ruby looked surprised. "Right. Xia... Yu... Xia Yu comics is yours? I found the name familiar but didn't dare to jump into conclusions. Nonetheless, I installed it and started reading. I especially like the comics of an author called "Beautiful Moon".

When she finished speaking, she realized that everyone was chuckling.

"That's our Xiao Yu." Luna winked proudly.

"Beautiful Moon..." Lanni raised an eyebrow and looked at her sister. "Xiao Yu is clearly expressing her admiration for you even using her pen name. I can't take this display of affection!"

Luna finally realized it. She had not thought about it before and only assumed that Cheng Yu liked the word "moon". But now that she thought about it, it was the exact meaning of her name. She smiled gently, so touched she could almost tear up.

Xiaoshi peeked at the two mischievously. "If Luna wasn't engaged, I would have shipped them." She whispered to Lanni.

The latter lowered her voice. "You are asking for a beating. Actually, I used to think they are a good match too, but my sister beat me up when I mentioned it."

She thought she was whispering, but Luna raised an eyebrow. "I don't think I have ever beaten you up, but it's a good idea." She then cracked her knuckles viciously.

"Hey! We have been here for too long. We should go and complete the purchase." She made an attempt to flee.

"But you haven't tried it on..." Ruby pointed at the lacy material in Lanni's hand.

The latter held it up and glanced at Luna then sighed. "I don't need to. It will look good on me."

"Right. Luna tried it on for you already. I'm so jealous. Why don't I have a twin?" Ruby lamented and went to change back into her clothes.

Luna changed too, and laughed.. "Right, sis, I may need to trouble you."

"Can I say no?" Lanni joked.

"Nope. I will trouble you even if you said no." Luna giggled like she would be the most annoying thing if she got rejected. After joking for a while, she got serious. "It's our company. I feel the exposure is a little too lacking."

Lanni thought about it briefly. "Got it. I will try my best on my end, but I may need to interview you, Xiao Yu and Xingyu. Is that okay?"

"It's okay for me." Cheng Yu agreed, then frowned a little. Would it make a difference? After all, she had zero popularity. Even so, she decided to trust Lanni's arrangement.

"I'll ask Xingyu if he minds." Luna responded. Even though they were engaged, she was not going to use his name for publicity without finding out whether he was comfortable with it.

"Tell me about it when he responds. I will schedule an interview for the three of you."

"Thanks, sis." Luna hugged her gratefully.

They had all come to the mall in Lanni's car, so they decided to drop Xiaoshi and Ruby off first.

When it was just the three of them in the car, the atmosphere turned serious.

"You..." Luna didn't know how to start.

Cheng Yu started, "She didn't seem suspicious to me."

"Ruby?" Lanni confirmed. When Cheng Yu nodded, she thought about it. "She didn't seem suspicious to me either. And neither did Xiaoshi."

Luna mulled over it. "Perhaps we really are being paranoid. They couldn't have put on an act the entire time, right?"

Lanni raised an eyebrow. "One can put up an act for decades, let alone a night. But don't worry, I didn't get any red flags from their attitudes earlier."

Cheng Yu didn't like the direction this was taking. "So, we should consider them our friends? Let's not talk about how Xiaoshi still likes Luna's fiancé. Who is to say that her jealousy won't flare up and make her want to hurt Luna later?" She didn't believe a word about Xiaoshi having found a boyfriend.

"And Ruby... are we really going to trust Ji Feifei's former friend?"

Lanni started the car and glanced at her worried friend. "Ruby's situation is a little complicated. I will explain it later, okay?"

Cheng Yu was barely pacified. But when she thought that this could have something to do with how strangely Xiehan and Lanni were acting at the beach, she nodded and decided to patiently wait.

Goldenwing Apartments was closest, so they dropped Cheng Yu off.

As she got off, Luna couldn't help taunting her. "I would have stayed with you tonight but I'm no longer single so goodnight."

"Are you seriously flaunting to me the fact that you are going to seduce your man?" Cheng Yu was speechless.

"Can't I?" Luna teased. "Let's not talk about my sex life. Go to bed early, okay? Hug a pillow and don't be scared."

"That's enough. Who will Xiao Yu complain to if you tease her too much?" Lanni pretended to speak up for Cheng Yu before teasing her as well.

Cheng Yu glared at them. "You horrible sisters. I'm no longer your friend." She then fled to the elevator before they could make fun of her again.

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After taking a bath and making a cup of coffee, Cheng Yu settled in her room to draw. She had just drawn for a few minutes when her phone screen flashed with an incoming call.

Seeing who the caller was, she was a little puzzled but stilled herself. "I wonder why Young Master Han couldn't wait to talk to me at the office and had to call me this late at night?"

"I miss you." The other party sounded aggrieved.

Cheng Yu was helpless. "I'm sorry. If you don't have anything important to tell me, I need to get back to work."

"Don't you miss me at all?" Cedric lamented inwardly but didn't dare to voice it. Knowing that she must really be busy, he went straight to the main point. "My sister agreed to be your marketing director and wishes to report to work tomorrow."

"Really?" Cheng Yu was pleasantly surprised and stood up excitedly.

"Yes. Also, since she is doing her little brother a favor, she doesn't need any remuneration for now."

Cheng Yu's surprise turned into shock. "What? But she will be working so hard. How can she not receive any income?"

As she finished speaking, she realized the oddity of it. Moonlight Studios was just a start up. In comparison to the jobs that Natalie had undertaken in the past, her pay at Moonlight would probably only be enough for her breakfast.

"You can discuss the details with her tomorrow. I'll give you her contact number and email address right away." He added.

"Thank you." She was so excited that she was inarticulate. She could only get these two words out.

Cedric wanted to continue talking to her but he had nothing to say except express his feelings. However, it was not the best time to do that; it would only seem like he was taking advantage of the fact that he had done her a favor. Hence, he reluctantly said, "Then I will go to sleep. Don't stay up too late yourself."

Cheng Yu chuckled at his tone. Why did he sound like a boss?

"Goodnight."

When the call ended, she checked the time and decided not to call Luna. The latter must have already arrived at the Jiang mansion, so she didn't want to accidentally disrupt something she shouldn't.

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Jiang Mansion.

"You are back." Xingyu looked up from his laptop and stood when he saw that Luna had arrived.

He had wanted to pick her up but she said that Lanni would drop her off. He checked behind her and was curious. "Lanni didn't come in?"

Luna hugged him and sat down. "She was in a hurry to go to Xiehan's."

Xingyu nodded and didn't probe further. He carried Luna onto his lap and kissed her. "Did you have fun?"

"Uh-huh. The movie was awesome. She blabbered on about the movie they had watched, then mentioned that they had gone shopping as well.

"I'll have the chef warm your food." He stroked her and was about to summon the chef.

However, she shook her head. "I already ate dinner. We had a meal at Lanni's place before going shopping."

"What did you buy?" He was curious.

"Uhm... a dress." She blushed when he asked. Now that she talked about it, she remembered that she had planned to give a certain someone a surprise tonight.

She wiggled out of his arms with a pout. "I'm sleepy. Let's go to sleep."

"Okay." Since the wife had said it, he shut his laptop and carried her upstairs.

Once he reached his bedroom, he gently placed her on the bed and went to get her pajamas from the closet.

"I want to take a shower first." She slid off the bed and grabbed the pajamas he had brought. When he was not looking, she sneakily grabbed the lingerie from the shopping bag from earlier and disappeared into the bathroom.

The bathroom door was translucent so he could see the outline of her body as she showered. Swallowing, he took a book to read in an attempt to calm himself.

After reading at the speed of two words per minute, he finally managed to keep his mind off the sound of running water from the bathroom, and her alluring voice as she sang.

After half an hour of this indirect torture, the sound of water finally stopped.

Then came her sweet voice after a long time. "Love, are you going to take a shower too?"

He turned to answer her and was stunned silly. "You..."

She had let down her hair and had no makeup since she had just taken a shower, but her skin looked radiant and beautiful. The red, lacy material clung to her supple skin, nullifying all the progress he had made at suppressing his desire.

He almost forgot to breathe and struggled to get a word out.

She walked over to him provocatively and climbed onto his lap. "Do you like it?"

"Honey, you are pregnant." He reminded, trying to avert his gaze from her boobs that were now in front of him. They looked fuller and more seductive under the red lace. He so badly wanted to touch them...

She took his hand and pulled it to her chest. "It's okay as long as we are not too rough at it. Didn't the gynecologist say that?"

He squeezed one of her breasts gently and almost went insane when she unconsciously bit her lip and closed her eyes. "How am I supposed to be gentle seeing you like this?"

She smiled and kissed his lips as she pushed him gently, making him fall back onto the bed. She knelt over him and whispered in his ear, "Then let me take the initiative."

Lanni gave Xiehan a call as she exited the Jiang Mansion.

"Where are you? Are you busy?" She asked when the call connected.

"I just left my office and I'm heading home now. Shall I pick you up?" He asked.

"No, I drove out. Did you work overtime today?" It was way past working hours, he must have had a lot of work to do.

"I was waiting for something. Do you want to talk about it tonight or tomorrow?" He asked mysteriously.

From his tone, she could guess what he was talking about. He must have received the DNA results. She was caught off guard, not having expected it to be so fast. Even so, it was better that they would not need to waste too much time on this matter.

"I'll go over right now." She said decisively. She would not be able to keep her curiosity in for a whole night. Most importantly, she missed her man too much even though they had only seen each other the day before.

She arrived at his mansion just as he arrived, and as soon as he got out of the car, she jumped right into his arms. "Did you miss me?"

He looked down at the girl clinging onto him and looking up cutely, his lips curling into a loving smile. "I miss you as soon as you get out of my sight." He was not exaggerating.

Contrary to Lin Jian's belief about a couple's love fading after being together for a while, what he felt was the opposite. He and Lanni had been together for almost a year and their feelings only grew deeper each day.

He carried her by the waist and walked towards the bedroom, as the butler brought in his things. He placed her on the bed and kissed her lips as he shrugged his coat off.

She helped him take it off and asked curiously, "Did you get the DNA results?"

"Mmh." He trailed his lips down her neck.

"Did you check the content?" She asked, out of breath.

"No."

"Do you want to..."

"Later." He interrupted with one word before pinning her hands above her head. He then proceeded to use his teeth to slide off the straps of her dress from her shoulders. His moves were torturously slow...

Lanni couldn't believe that after all the plans she made for an entire evening to seduce him, paired with all the preparations she had made including buying a set of lingerie, she was the one who had been seduced out of her senses.

After intense lovemaking, they took a shower and changed into pajamas. Xiehan's was royal blue with a white button strip, while Lanni's was a pink nightgown with a hem identical to Xiehan's button strip and an overcoat of a soft lace material of the same color as Xiehan's pajamas.

She looked at them with a smile. "Couples pajamas?"

"Do you like it?" He couldn't help admiring how cute she looked in the pink and blue combination.

She snuggled into his arms. "They're adorable."

After embracing for a while, he finally brought out the briefcase with the DNA report.

He took out the document and his hands trembled slightly. After a few seconds, he passed the document to her instead.

"Love, are you nervous?" She wanted to tease him but this was not the right time, so she opened the folder carefully and read through the document.

When she reached the conclusion, her lips twitched as she glanced at Xiehan.

Based on her reaction, he could pretty much guess the result. He still took it to confirm and his eyes narrowed at the 0% compatibility. "She is not my sister."

She was about something when she realized how odd his tone sounded. "You...hoped for her to be your sister?" Otherwise, why would he sound disappointed?

He shook his head. "Not particularly. Still, I had almost believed that she is my sister based on her similarities with my family members. She looks so much like my aunt, Xiaoshi, and my paternal grandmother. There are some aspects of her I think resemble my mother's too."

She could comprehend his confusion. Even if one were to find an impostor and send them to the Ji family, it was almost impossible to find one that resembled both parents.

"Let's confront her tomorrow. There may be another side to this."

The next day, Lanni invited Ruby for dinner at her place.

The latter was pleasantly surprised by the invite, but she found it strange that it was just the two of them.

She took a sip of the juice that Lanni had served her and looked around. "It's just us?"

She had just finished her question when the front door opened and Xiehan walked in.

She smiled happily. So it was a dinner with all the friends together. Did this mean they were starting to accept her into their circle?

Lanni leaned back in her chair as Xiehan sat beside her. "Ruby, I guess you must have figured out why you are here."

Ruby was confused. "What do you mean?"

"Why would you lie to us? You told such an outrageous lie!" Lanni didn't beat around the bush and slapped the document onto the table.

Ruby picked it up hesitantly, more or less guessing what it was. Sure enough, it was a DNA test report... and the result was that she and Xiehan were not biologically related!

Her eyes widened and she almost didn't know how to speak up. "This... this can't be! We really are siblings!"

Xiehan finally spoke up coldly. "Then, explain why the compatibility is 0%."

Ruby was confused too. "This, I don't know. But I'm telling you the truth. After my dad told me about my past, I didn't truly believe it so I got close to Ji Feifei and stole your parents' DNA samples when I went to your house. I did the test and had 99.99% compatibility with both of them."

Xiehan studied her expression and she really was surprised. The shock was not fake. Then, what was up with the different results? Could they have been faked?

Apparently, Ruby was thinking about this too. "The chances of anyone faking the results is too low. The only people I told were the two of you, after all."

"What are you implying?" Lanni questioned.

"It could be a mistake made by the hospital. Perhaps they accidentally messed up the samples?" She suggested, then sighed at the only other possibility. "If someone else found out and deliberately switched the results, it could be fatal. It would only mean that the masterminds know that I told you the truth, and it might put everyone in danger."

Xiehan looked at her seriously. "Are you telling the truth?"

"Yes." She didn't flinch.

He scanned her and dropped a serious question. "Then do you dare to take the test again?"

Ruby nodded in affirmation but said, "But what if it is switched again?"

"I will take it to a more reputable hospital." He declared.

Initially, he didn't want to bother his doctor friends but now it seemed like he didn't have much choice. Even if there was bribery or threats involved, he knew that his friends would never fake the results.

"Actually, Xichen minored in genetics." He recalled.

"Xichen?" Lanni found this name familiar.

"Han Xichen. That busybody doctor who hypnotised you before." He explained.

"Oh, I remember him now and yes, he can be trusted." She suddenly lowered her voice. "I know a way to determine whether the results were switched on purpose."

"What way?" Xiehan asked. Ruby remained silent since she knew that the suspicion around her was yet to be cleared.

Lanni whispered something into Xiehan's ear, and his gaze darkened.

"Who is going to do that? Don't even think about going to such a place on your own." He warned strictly.

"I can go with Ruby and Cheng Yu. Luna is pregnant so we can't bring her along." she looked forward to it.

"Go where?" Ruby asked when she was mentioned.

"To the prison." Lanni's eyes lit up excitedly.

Ruby frowned. "Are you planning to conduct another test between Ji Feifei and the Ji family? But she can simply have whoever is supporting her fake the results, right?"

Lanni shrugged. "What can a criminal do while behind bars? I don't believe there is anyone supporting her or they would have helped her escape from prison ages ago. They may have given up on her when she messed herself up."

"You have a point..." Ruby thought about it. "When do you want to go?"

"Tomorrow!" Lanni almost couldn't keep still.

Xiehan massaged his temples. "There are other ways but you just had to choose this. Are you sure you're not just seeking an excuse to poke fun at Ji Feifei?"

"Of course not." She laughed guiltily.

"It's not that you can't, but you have to be careful." He compromised, knowing that the little thing would bug him to death if he didn't let her go.

Ruby smiled confidently. She would strip that woman of the identity she stole from her. She was rejuvenated thinking of the fact that she had gained half of their trust. "Let's go tomorrow then.. We can get our samples taken in the morning then head over to the prison later."

Chapter 394 - Second Test

"It's already quite late. Do you mind spending the night with us?" Lanni invited politely.

Ruby knew that it had nothing to do with time. This was a security measure. They were probably afraid that if she left the apartment, she would scheme ways to have someone change the results later, or even come up with some excuse to miss the test. The guest room she would be staying in will probably be bugged too, just in case she called someone to help her carry out the plot.

Even so, she pretended to be dumb. She couldn't blame anyone for being cautious against her. After all, the first test had made their little trust plummet.

So she nodded as though she didn't realize a thing. "That's alright."

Lanni stood up immediately, as though she was worried that Ruby might change her mind. "Then I will clean up the guest room. It has been uninhabited for a while."

When she got to the guest room, she quickly changed the sheets and replaced them with a new pair. Although the guest room had not been used since Xiaoshi moved out, the part-time housekeeper always cleaned it along with the rest of the house so all the surfaces were clean.

She checked that the air-conditioner was in good shape then took out her phone and called Luna and whispered into the phone. "Sis, I need a favor. The SOS emergency type."

"What is it?"

She could hear the tapping sound of keys from the other side, so she guessed that Luna must be busy. She suddenly was not sure whether to ask for her help. But since she had already made the call, she may as well go through with it. "I need a bug as soon as possible. Do you have any?"

Luna paused for a while, probably because she was confirming. After a few seconds, she answered, "I do. I will get someone to send it to you."

"Thanks, you're a lifesaver." She sighed in relief, then asked for the bug to be sent as a mysterious gift. She was relieved when Luna said that she would keep it in the pockets of new jeans, then send the Jiang Family's butler to deliver it.

What followed was a series of curious questions, which Lanni ignored.

The jeans arrived as soon as they finished having dinner. To Lanni's relief, there were three bugs as precaution. She used "equipping the room with toiletries and towels" as an excuse to place the bugs at different parts of the room. She also stuck one into the pockets of the new pajamas she gave Ruby to wear.

When she returned to her room, Xiehan pinched her waist. "You're being too obvious. She almost noticed what you were up to from your exaggerated kindness." He warned.

Easing herself onto the bed, she tilted her head to look at him. "That's the point. I don't actually plan to spy on her. I just want to scare her into giving up. If she has any intention to do something fishy, that is." Which was why she would place a bug in her pajamas. It was all so she would be alert of the fact that she might be watched all night.

Actually, Lanni had intended to really watch her at first. However, she would merely lose a whole night of sleep. Besides, it would be awkward for Xiehan if they accidentally saw a scene they shouldn't. It was already bad enough even if it were someone else, and the fact that this woman could potentially be Xiehan's sister made it worse.

The next morning.

Lanni was the first to wake up. She peeked at the man beside her and patted his handsome face. While he looked harmless with his eyes closed, one shouldn't be deceived. This man had tortured her all night! Though when she thought about it, she remembered that it was she who had asked for it.

She moved slowly to avoid waking him up and freshened up, then went to the living room. The sun had already risen and Ruby was already waiting in the living room. She had dark circles and was trying not to nod off on the couch.

Uh...

Lanni halted. Had she gone too overboard?

She was merely trying to instill some fear in the girl, not make her entirely sleepless!

"You're awake. At what time are we going to the hospital?" Ruby asked, holding no grudge for the mentally exhausting night.

Lanni could only walk over and sit on the couch. "The doctor will come over in a while." Last night, she had heard Xiehan ask(threaten) Han Xichen to obediently make his way over. "Why, are you in a hurry to go somewhere?"

Ruby looked helpless. "I have a class later this afternoon."

She was still a student of B City University. After playing around and even going to Star Art International when she didn't exactly need to, she had failed her exams terribly and had to repeat a class. Her father had suggested sending her to an overseas university but she had declined. After all, it didn't matter which school she went to. It would be useless as long as she did not want to learn. However, she had settled down and decided to take her studies seriously, and didn't want to miss any of her classes.

Lanni looked surprised when she heard the latter's words. Indeed, people change. She could only smile. "He should be here soon. After taking the samples, there should still be a few hours before it's time for your class."

As they spoke, Xiehan woke up and joined them, and Han Xichen was brought over by Xiehan's chauffeur too.

"Sorry I'm late!" He glanced at his golden watch. He was two minutes late.

Ignoring Xiehan's glare, he went ahead to greet the girl. "Hi, pretty ladies." He was suddenly stunned when his eyes met Ruby's. Wasn't this... that girl who sought him to erase her memories after a heartbreak?

When he looked carefully, he realized that it was just a resemblance at first sight.

Since Xiehan had already told him what to do, he went ahead and opened the briefcase of equipment he had brought. He took Xiehan's and Ruby's samples swiftly. "That should be it. The results will be out this evening."

"Sure thing." Xiehan observed that Ruby didn't look flustered when her blood was taken, and showed Han Xichen out.

"What do you want to tell me?" Han Xichen knew that the latter must have something to say.

"You know how many people you should tell about this, right?" Xiehan looked at the other threateningly.

"Of course I will tell no one. Are you doubting my professionalism?" He raised his eyebrows, then grinned. Who would have thought that even the legendary Ji family could have such a huge scandal? he wanted to ask for more details but let it be.

More than that, he wanted to ask about the little girl. He had investigated and found out that the little girl was Xiehan's cousin. However, if he asked about her, he would basically be admitting that she had sought him for therapy and that would be against the rules. Hence, he could only hope that the little thing was fine.

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The process had gone faster than Ruby thought so she decided to accompany Lanni to the prison as planned. They had already obtained permission but as they neared the place, Lanni's expression changed into a curious one. "I can't believe she listed us among the close family members and friends she trusts to visit her."

Ruby was baffled by this outcome too. "Perhaps she knew we would look for her. And she must also be prepared to smugly reject us if we ask for any favors."

The thought of it was frustrating. Lanni suddenly realized what they had overlooked. "What if we are only allowed to see her and communicate through a glass wall? How will we be able to get her hair then?"

"We didn't think of that, did we?" Ruby thought of a way and asked, "Are you a lawful citizen? A hundred perfect law-abiding?"

Lanni turned her head to Ruby curiously. "What do you mean?"

The latter made a call first, then said to Lanni, "I cannot go in. I will not be able to stop myself from tearing her face off."

It was understandable. Who could stand the sight of the person who robbed their life? It was still alright if Ji Feifei did not know the truth. But ever since she learnt that Ji Feifei had known the truth all along, she was so furious that killing her wouldn't be enough.

Before they entered the detention center, she lowered her voice and said to Lanni, "I asked my father to pull some strings. Later, you may be allowed to hug her. You know what to do then, right?"

Lanni was shocked but she nodded. She had underestimated the Chan family's influence. They could even pull strings at a detention center...

But that was not her business.. All she knew was that she would use this chance wisely.

Chapter 395 - Cupid

When Ji Feifei was called out to meet her visitor by the prison warden, she didn't look in the slightest bit surprised. When she saw that it was Lanni, a glint flickered in her eyes but she didn't look surprised by this either.

Without waiting for her to speak, Lanni stood up and hugged the other party emotionally. "Feifei, I missed you!"

Ji Feifei was startled, then she tried to pull away from Lanni's arms. The latter quickly used this chance to tangle her bracelet in Ji Feifei's hair. Thanks to the struggle, Ji Feifei managed to pull away after a short while, leaving behind a few strands of her hair in the process.

Lanni was relieved when she saw the few black strands. She had been afraid that the bracelet was too smooth and would simply slide through.

She sat down like nothing had happened, after secretly securing Ji Feifei's hair. "How have you been?"

"You bitch!" Ji Feifei was so angry that she cursed on the spot. She almost went mad with rage from this woman's theatrics.

Lanni smiled indifferently. "Sorry I asked. You're definitely not doing well." After all, her hair was so weak that it could be plucked with a slight tug.

"You must be happy to see me here, aren't you?" Ji Feifei snarled.

Lanni scoffed and shook her head. "Don't tell me it's worth noting that I managed to swat a fly?" She then took a glance at the time on her watch. "Ah look at the time. I have things to do so..."

Standing up, she took out wet tissue from her small purse and wiped her hands, then dumped it in the trash can with a disgusted expression. "Enjoy your time, Miss Ji."

The last two words were said with so much sarcasm that Ji Feifei gritted her teeth. Li Lanni, how dare you!

Once she left this place, she would skin that woman alive.

...

"That was cool." Ruby commented when Lanni returned. "Ji Feifei views herself as a goddess that should practically be worshipped. By wiping your hands after hugging her, you humiliated her so much that she will remember you for the rest of her life.

Lanni was calm contrary to Ruby's look of admiration. "Let's go."

"Are you going to let Doctor Han test her sample as well?" Ruby did not understand. Wasn't it the same whether she or Ji Feifei took the test? Since Wen Lin only had one daughter, if one was real then the other was evidently fake.

Lanni had something else in mind. "I will take it to the same hospital where the first test was done."

"Okay..." Ruby could not fathom her thoughts.

Lanni smiled as she started the car. "This is the only way to find out whether what happened last time was a mistake, or whether the test results were deliberately tampered with."

"What would you do...if they were deliberately tampered with?" She asked curiously.

Lanni's expression did not change but her eyes held a venomous glint. "If someone tried to deceive my man... Of Course, they have to pay for it."

Ruby smiled gently. She really cared for Xiehan...

At the same time, Moonlight Studios.

Cheng Yu was sitting on needles all morning as she waited for Natalie Han's arrival.

At the conference room, she ordered for drinks to be prepared beforehand and looked through the employment contract.

She then looked at Luna beside her, who was calm as though the guest they were waiting for was a close friend.

"You are so calm!" Cheng Yu exclaimed.

Luna shot her a funny look. "Why wouldn't I be? We have already made perfect arrangements."

Cheng Yu looked through the list of things she had taken care of and frowned. "Is this enough? Are you sure we shouldn't do more...like throw a party for her arrival or something?"

Luna laughed at her friend's anxiety. "Relax. We have done many things to make her stay comfortable. Not only have we prepared an assistant, we are also giving her one of the best offices in the building and it has been decorated specifically for her. If she still doesn't like this and thinks it is too lowly, we can find someone else to fill in the role. Otherwise, if we try too hard to please one person, our company might be taken too lightly."

Cheng Yu couldn't deny this. "I'm impressed that you can even think of this. Is this really your first time managing a business?"

Luna laughed. "Technically, yes. But I used to help my dad once in a while."

Cheng Yu understood. No wonder she had such a great understanding of everything despite not having graduated.

A knock resounded at the door and as expected, Cedric walked in, leading in an elegant woman.

Cheng Yu was the first to react. She jovially greeted the woman and showed her to her seat. "It's nice to finally meet you, Miss Han."

Natalie sat down and extended a hand to greet Luna, then Cheng Yu. "It's nice to meet you too. You must be my new superiors, Miss Cheng and Miss Xia. Cedric told me many things about you."

"Good things, I hope?" Luna chuckled, infected by the woman's smile.

Natalie wore a simple, black skirt suit and had her hair in a Bob-cut. She looked elegant but not arrogant. For a woman of her abilities, she really was down-to-earth and her smile was infectious.

Both Cheng Yu had a good first impression of her, and the opinion was two-way. She felt these two young women were easy to get along with. Besides, she had a great level of admiration for them, based on Cedric's description. He had stated that these two had started the company from scratch and managed to get an investment from Jiang Corporation. Even though Luna was the fiancé of Jiang Corporation's CEO, one could tell that she was capable of handling her own matters without having to rely on her fiancé.

After a short chat, Cheng Yu finally presented the employment contract. She was hesitant. Should there really be a contract when the woman had decided not to receive any income?

Natalie seemed to detect her hesitation, so she took the contract and directly signed it without reading through it.

"Uh... You're not afraid we might sell you off?"

She smiled nonchalantly and leaned in her chair. "While my brother is quite willful at times, his judgement of people isn't bad."

What she meant was, since Cedric trusted them so much that he freely introduced her to them, she was sure that no problems would arise from this agreement.

Cheng Yu and Luna were satisfied. They didn't expect it to be this easy.

Cheng Yu stood up. "Luna can't walk around too much so I'll show you around the building."

Before Natalie could respond, the neglected Cedric finally had something to say. "Me too! I want to be shown around the office building. Why does Natalie get this special treatment when I don't?"

Cheng Yu shot him a fierce glare. "Will you die if you shut up?"

"You only know to shout at me." He grumbled, watching with intense jealousy as his sister effortlessly got what he had to work so hard for. He had to come up with so many schemes just to get to be at her

side for two extra minutes, while Natalie merely had to appear and she willingly showed her around?
How biased!

"You better not cause trouble." Cheng Yu warned him, then led Natalie away.

"Pfft... How cute." The woman suddenly laughed, then coughed.

"Uhm... What's cute?" Cheng Yu looked at the woman beside her curiously.

Natalie smiled and glanced in the direction of the conference room, where Cedric was standing and watching her enviously. "My little brother had never been an attention-seeker, much less such a jealous one." She smiled dotingly. It appeared that the relationship between her and Cedric was much better than that between Cedric and Han Xiaoli.

In regards to her words, Cheng Yu was rendered speechless. Not an attention-seeker? Not jealous? Was Natalie really talking about Cedric? Heaven knew how much torture she had been through because of that man's pettiness!

Natalie seemed to understand this, and she smiled. "It was only until he met you that he started displaying such characteristics. Not only does he get mad when anyone else gets near you, he wants to cling to your side all day as well. I can tell from one look that you are also the reason why he agreed to come to this company."

" Really? He caused so much trouble with his employment contract that we almost gave up on him."
Cheng Yu wanted to roll her eyes.

What Natalie said next baffled her even more. "Of course he would be willful and cause trouble! His aim of coming here was to get your attention but you were not giving him any. He really likes you."

Cheng Yu was speechless.

Did Cedric really recommend his sister to be the marketing director?

Because, she really felt that Natalie was more of a cupid than any department's director.

Chapter 396 - Fools Falling Into A Trap

The employees' cafeteria, at lunch time.

Cheng Yu was just about to finish her food when a figure slotted himself opposite her. "Can I sit here?"

She looked up at the anticipating Cedric and realized that he wanted to sit with her. "Sorry, I'm full and I have to rush."

She was facing the door so she had to pass Cedric to head out. He grabbed her hand as she walked past him and went straight to the point. "You have started avoiding me again. I already explained that my family wouldn't interfere with us but... Did I do something wrong? Or is it..." He looked dejected. "Is it because you hate me?"

"What? Of course not." She was baffled at how he was able to come to such a bizarre conclusion. Knowing that arguing with him would merely waste her time, she looked straight at him. "Cedric, you didn't do anything wrong. It's just..."

She closed her eyes for a second and took a deep breath. She knew that her words may hurt his feelings but she didn't have much choice at the moment. "It's just that I can't give you as much attention as I want. I have many things to do, Cedric. You know that I'm already playing two roles at the company, not to mention, I'm preparing for the graduation."

"Graduation?" He looked confused then suddenly understood. Their graduation at Star Art International would be in a few weeks. If she didn't mention it, he would have forgotten all about it. He had almost forgotten that he was still a student and had only got a job using his natural talent.

"Yes. Now you know why I can't be at your beck and call, right?"

He nodded but still found it baffling. "Why are you working so hard? Doesn't it exhaust you?"

She smiled helplessly. Of course it exhausted her. She was not a machine, okay? However, it was the only thing she could do to earn as much money as possible in a short time. She wanted to enroll her brother into a better school and be able to give him the kind of luxurious life that he had never experienced.

She had already discussed it with Luna; once the latter got married, she would terminate her lease contract and Cheng Yu would fully rent the apartment, since she liked the place. She would have her brother stay in the other room.

Although it sounded far-fetched for a girl her age to think of taking her brother to move in with her, she knew that there was no better choice. The poor boy would merely continue to suffer if he continued staying under the care of their heartless parents.

She didn't explain any of this to Cedric and the young man didn't probe either. He nodded, looking relieved although she had not said anything about making time to spend with him. He flashed a charming smile. "Thank you."

"What are you thanking me for?" Cheng Yu was confused.

"Thank you for not ignoring me. And thank you for explaining the situation to me."

She was amused. Why did he look like he had been pardoned of a death sentence? She smiled and spoke before her brain could process it. "I was thinking of inviting you for dinner sometime. Are you free this weekend?"

His eyes widened then narrowed almost immediately. Was he dreaming?

He must be!

If not, why did he hear Cheng Yu invite him for dinner?

"You are too busy?" It was her turn to be nervous. She was planning to use the dinner date to explain a few things to him and confess her feelings but he seemed unwilling so her eyes dimmed. "If you don't want to come..."

"Want, want, want! I'll be there on time! Where and when?" After confirming that he was not dreaming, he was so excited that he could grow wings and fly off.

She bit her lip to prevent a smile. "Saturday, at my place. See you then."

Then, without waiting for a response, she rushed back to her office. She had to make up for lost time.

(Author's teasing note: Or maybe, she was just too embarrassed to be in the same space as Cedric after asking him out on a date.)

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That evening.

As Han Xichen promised, the results were out within the day. He brought the file to Xiehan's mansion where Lanni, Ruby and Xiehan were already waiting.

Lanni observed the potential siblings and raised an eyebrow. Xiehan looked calm on the surface but knowing him well enough, he was anxious deep down. On the other hand, Ruby did not look tensed in the slightest. It was as if she had already predicted the outcome.

The atmosphere was eerie, so she coughed and glanced at Han Xichen. "Why don't you just spill it?"

He was relieved at her request. The awkwardness was too much for him to handle so he joyously took out the results and read through a series of medical terms that probably only he understood. The trio listened carefully and tensed up when he introduced the conclusion.

"The DNA compatibility is 50%. This proves that the hypothesis of Ji Xiehan and Ruby Chan being siblings is true."

A long spell of silence followed.

Ruby took a peek at Xiehan nervously. Since the test had been done by his trusted friend this time, he would no longer suspect her, right? She suddenly didn't know what to say.

Lanni knew she was not in the position to break the silence, and Han Xichen was starting to feel awkward again.

"Uhm... Is this the part where the siblings should embrace and cry emotionally about missing out on each other for so many years?"

Lanni jabbed him with a slight laugh.

Xiehan finally reacted. He glanced at Ruby in disbelief. "You really are my sister."

"I am." Ruby felt as though she was sitting on needles.

"While I'm not used to having a sudden sister-swap, at least you are an upgrade from that scheming Feifei." He joked.

The mood lightened up a bit. As long as he didn't particularly hate her or blame her for being away for all these years, she was happy.

Lanni was about to say something when her phone rang. She answered the call and when it ended, her eyebrows raised. "So fast?"

"What is?" Xiehan looked over and asked.

She frowned as she thought about it. "The other DNA test, the one with Ji Feifei's sample. The hospital called and said that the results are out, and the file will be delivered here in a few minutes."

Han Xichen had vaguely heard Lanni and Ruby discuss this, so he frowned too. That certainly was fast.

"I bet they didn't even do the test." Ruby rolled her eyes and crossed her arms, anticipating the fake results.

Within fifteen minutes, the butler brought over a package addressed to Xiehan.

Lanni raised an eyebrow to that. "Isn't that so clever? They think I would have hidden the results or lied about them, so they sent it directly to Xiehan."

"Like you would need to hide fake results." Ruby laughed out loud. Ji Feifei's supporters must not have known that they had already done an authentic test. They must have bribed all the hospitals in B City to change whatever DNA test was related to the Ji family. However, they forgot that Xiehan had his own connections.

The man slid his long fingers along the white file and opened it curiously. He too, wanted to see the result.

As expected, the conclusion was that Ji Feifei was Xiehan's biological sister.

Han Xichen didn't know what exactly was going on so he was confused. "I thought it was a case of being switched at birth. could it be that it was not the case? Instead, it is a case of one twin being lost at birth?"

"It is a case of being switched at birth." Lanni explained. "The impostor has supporters who are helping her secure her position in the Ji family. She is in jail, so she would not be suspected of doing anything behind-the-scenes."

"If they find out that we already know about Ruby, they might make it seem like Ji Feifei and Ruby are fraternal twins." Xiehan analyzed.

"That's not impossible." Lanni had not thought about it.

"How creepy..." Ruby had goosebumps just thinking about it. Being twins with that witch?

"So what do you plan to do? Do you need my help exposing her?" Han Xichen offered.

Lanni suddenly laughed like a sly fox. "You don't need to. I simply lay a trap and they fell right into it like the fools they are."

"What do you mean?" Han Xichen had a bad feeling. What was the little beauty scheming?

Ruby had a bad feeling, and Xiehan was curious.

Lanni cradled her chin and deliberately kept them waiting for a while before smiling. "You see, I didn't really submit Ji Feifei's hair. I only took it to alert them. However, the only way for them to get out of the trap I lay is if I'm actually a daughter of the Ji family.. Yup, I submitted my own hair in the name of Ji Feifei's."

"Don't say such terrifying things." Xiehan was startled by what she had just said.

Ruby chuckled, while Han Xichen was in awe. "It's an excellent idea. Lanni is so smart."

Xiehan smiled dotingly at his girlfriend. Well, he had to agree that she was intelligent to come up with such a sure-win trick. However, the mere thought of having her as his sister almost drove him crazy. He was certain that she didn't know what that would have meant. It wouldn't be funny.

Seeing his expression, Lanni laughed helplessly. "Of course, it is just a trap. You cannot be my brother, you already know that. I did a DNA test with my mother for official reasons before."

He pulled her to his side. "When do you plan to expose them, and what can I do to help?"

"Uhm..." She was about to speak when she realized that Han Xichen was still present. Unsure whether she could talk about such confidential matters in his presence, she looked up at Xiehan.

Han Xichen caught her movement from the corner of his eyes and looked at his watch. "I'll let the three of you have a chat."

When he left, Lanni shifted her gaze between Ruby and Xiehan. "That depends. Who do you think is backing Ji Feifei up?"

Ruby thought about it and shook her head. "I don't know. I have tried to find clues before but I couldn't come up with anything. I'm afraid that if I'm discovered, I would endanger everyone."

Xiehan was not used to suddenly having Ruby as his sister but his heart softened when he saw how frightened she looked. He couldn't help reaching out to pat her shoulder. "You don't have to do it on your own anymore. You have us."

"Now it all makes sense." A restrained exclamation left Lanni's lips.

When they both looked over at her, she smiled and waved it off. "It's nothing important. Ruby, Xiehan is right. You have us now so you don't have to worry about doing anything on your own. Just tell us everything you know so we know how to start our investigation."

Ruby was still giddy after receiving a brotherly pat on her shoulder. She was still smiling happily when she answered Lanni. "I actually know nothing except the fact that they exist. I suspect that they are the culprit behind my kidnapping when I was a teenager but it's not proven." She sighed at her uselessness. "If only mother could tell us who told her the truth years ago."

Realizing what she had just blurted, her eyes widened in excitement. "Right! We can ask mother. If we know which nurse it was that told her the truth, we can look for that nurse and find out who convinced her to do it. She couldn't possibly have randomly made such a decision."

Lanni analyzed her words. "That's such a thin lead, but it's better than nothing."

"How do we contact your mother?" He was referring to her foster mother.

"Uh...I don't know." She suddenly looked dejected. Her father had said that she was dead but Ruby didn't believe it. He must have lied just so she wouldn't feel so bad about having been rejected when the truth came to light.

"When were you born?" Xiehan suddenly asked.

"Uh...15th August." She blinked, not understanding why her brother would ask this.

"Do you know which hospital you were found?" He probed.

She shook her head. "I will ask daddy."

Lanni finally comprehended his plan. "You want us to use this as a lead instead?"

"It's safer." He explained. While Ruby's foster mother could tell them the truth, it was also possible that she was bitter about the fact that her daughter had turned out to be a fake daughter. What if she channeled this bitterness into vengeance? Lying to them deliberately would be the best outcome.

Lanni thought about it and nodded. "Then, let's follow this lead."

The following day.

Han Xichen had arrived at the underground parking. Just as he left his car and headed towards the elevator, he noticed a familiar figure leaning against the wall and holding a cute basket in her hands. He walked towards her curiously. "Yun Xiaoshi?"

The girl smiled nervously. "H-hello Doctor Han. I'm sorry to audaciously stop you. I was afraid the receptionist would not let me in so I waited for you here."

"I... I wanted to thank you so I made you a bento. If you don't mind, you can have it for lunch. There... There are also some fruits and snacks." She spoke in one breath, as though she had been practising what to say to him and let it out before she could get too nervous to speak.

Han Xichen studied the girl before him. She was wearing a blue floral dress with high heels and had her long, red hair in a neat ponytail. When she raised her head to timidly give the colorful basket in her hands to him, her fringe swayed to reveal a beautiful little face and a pair of radiant eyes. It really was a breath of fresh air from his initially gloomy morning.

He wanted to reject the gift; he was a doctor and was merely doing his duty. Not to mention, he didn't do much. However, he couldn't bring himself to reject a gift personally prepared by such a pretty girl. In the end, he reached to take the basket with his long fingers. "Thank you."

"You don't need to thank me. I enjoyed cooking..."

He smiled. "Do you like cooking?"

Although he had asked a normal question, his serious tone made her a little nervous and she shook her head. "Not usually. It's a new interest."

Who knew what he was thinking, but he nodded in satisfaction. "Then you should do it more often. Partaking in hobbies will help quicken the recovery of your mental health."

"Thank you, doctor." She thanked him once again. "I guess you need to go to work now? I'll go to work too." She then happily bounced to her car.

He chuckled as he watched her drive off, then entered the elevator and went to the office.

...

By telling her to partake in her hobbies more often, he meant that she should cook more. Yet the girl seemed to have misunderstood him. Not only did she prepare a bento and fruits for him every day, but she also waited for him at the parking lot to give it to him. It was the same for three consecutive days and each time, she would run away as soon as his hand grasped the basket.

When he arrived on Friday, he didn't see the jovial figure at the spot where she usually waited. For some reason, his mood dampened. Could it be that he was looking forward to seeing her?

He frowned and slapped his head.

'Xichen, get a hold of yourself. She is your patient. Even if she no longer is, she once was. Besides, it has only been three days.' He berated himself.

So what if she was a patient? He was just happy to see her smile and do something she loved so cheerfully. It had nothing to do with being or not being his patient.

Stopping the mental battle before it could make him start having thoughts he shouldn't, he exited the car and headed for the elevator.

"Doctor Han!" An anxious voice sounded just as the elevator doors slid open.

He stopped in his tracks. Although he was a psychiatrist and could understand people's thoughts from a mere glance at their expressions, he was suddenly at a loss. He couldn't understand why he smiled when he turned to see a radiant-looking beauty in a short, red dress rushing over. Or maybe, he understood but was just neither ready to accept or admit it.

As usual, she walked up to him, handed over the bento box and retreated. This time, he stopped her. "Wait."

She stopped but didn't dare to turn. "Doctor Han, is there anything else?"

"You don't have to come tomorrow." He went straight to the point.

The girl turned, suddenly looking deflated like she had just lost her remaining meaning of life. She forced a smile and asked, "Why?"

He intended to tell her that he thought she didn't need to continue sending him food and that she could cook for the people close to her instead, but he couldn't bring himself to do it under her saddened expression. Afraid that she may be depressed, he shut his eyes and frowned. "I don't work on Saturdays."

"Oh." She looked more cheerful. She was scared that he didn't like what she cooked. Although she was a rookie, she had been trying her best. Her food was passable, if one were to be fair. Hearing that it was because he would be busy, she sighed in relief. "My parents are coming over on Sunday. See you on Monday then!" She skipped away happily.

Mini theatre:

Doctor Han: I don't want to dampen her mood. She looks so happy.

Author Ava: Are you sure it's not just because of how cute she looks when she smiles?

Doctor Han: Well, that too....

Chapter 398 - The Awaited Date

Saturday, 5pm.

Cheng Yu finished cooking and left the food on low heat so it wouldn't get cold. When she was done, she took a shower and changed into a short, peach-colored dress and a pair of diamond heels. After applying a thin layer of nude makeup and straightening her hair out, she sprayed a tiny bit of perfume at the side of her neck and let out a sigh.

Cedric would arrive in about twenty minutes and her stomach was in knots. She walked to the dining room for the umpteenth time, to check if it looked perfect. She had simply lit a few candles and placed a few elegant lamps on the floor, so it wouldn't be over the top. Even so, she kept thinking it was not enough. Decisively, she pulled out her phone and made a video call to her friends. "Is this okay?"

"Oh my God...don't you look ravishing?" Lanni was the first to connect to the call.

Cheng Yu blushed. "That's all thanks to you girls. Cedric will be here soon."

Luna connected to the call and looked at Cheng Yu's background. "It's lovely! Is the guy almost there?"

Cheng Yu nodded. "I'm so nervous."

"Don't be. Remember, he already likes you. You are only trying to make things official, so there is 100% chance of success." Luna reminded her.

Lanni echoed her. "Besides, you look so beautiful. Even a monk would fall in love."

The three of them burst into laughter at Lanni's exaggeration.

"Hey, remember to update us later, okay? I'm dying of thirst for gossip." Lanni made her promise.

"Sure, sure. If you promise to hang out tomorrow." Cheng Yu countered.

"Of course. I don't have much going on tomorrow. Are you coming along, Luna?"

Luna laughed teasingly. "I will. If a certain someone will be able to get out of bed and hang out, that is."

"Hey! Why wouldn't I be able to get up?" Cheng Yu was done with these dirty-minded twins. As they chatted, the doorbell rang. Her heart once again picked up its pace. "I better go, girls! Wish me luck."

Lanni blew her a kiss. "There it comes."

Luna realized that the call was still on even though Cheng Yu had already rushed to the door, so she poked at Lanni's icon. "Hey, do you think we should keep the call on and eavesdrop?"

"Uh... If you want to watch them make out later, be my guest." Lanni fled from the call, so Luna ended it with a sigh.

...

"You're here. Come in." Cheng Yu showed Cedric in. He was dressed up formally and had his hair combed nearly, looking more handsome than usual. He gave off a mature and responsible vibe, and the fact that he was carrying a bouquet of roses made her heart race even faster.

"You look beautiful." He smiled charmingly as he gave the bouquet to her.

"Thank you." She stood aside to let him in, then found a vase to place the flowers. While she arranged them, she found a box of chocolates stuck in between the stalks. She smiled and took it out, then led him to the dining room.

She had prepared a few topics to talk about beforehand but as soon as they sat down, her mind was blank. It was starting to feel awkward so she asked, "Are you hungry? I prepared dinner."

He seemed to have run out of topics to talk about too, so he offered to help her set the table.

She led the way to the kitchen and told him what to do. "Just don't break anything, okay?"

"I won't." He laughed, but he was indeed careful. They managed to set the table without any breakage.

She reached to pour wine into her stem glass.

"Did I say you look beautiful?"

She didn't expect him to suddenly speak, so she was startled. Her hand shook and the stem glass toppled, emptying its contents onto her thigh.

She looked down and cursed a million times in her head. The dress she was wearing was made of thin fabric and was already showy. Now that it was wet, it wasn't a decent sight. She so badly wanted to slap herself.

"Are you okay?" He stood up worriedly and took out a handkerchief to give to her.

"It's okay." She forced a smile. This was so embarrassing... "I'm sorry, I need to get changed. Wait for me, okay?"

Before he could say a word, she rushed to her room and grabbed a random pink dress. She wasn't sure whether it would suit her makeup but she draped it on anyway. The dress she had so meticulously prepared was ruined so it no longer mattered what she wore.

Luckily, the pink dress ended up looking better than the one she had chosen. She was pleasantly surprised, her bad mood instantly fading as she rushed out. Alas, because she had rushed too fast, her foot sprained just as she reached the door. "Ow..."

"Is everything okay?" Cedric rushed over as soon as he heard her yelp of pain. When he saw her crouching and holding onto her ankle, he held her shoulders. "Did you sprain your ankle? Let me help you."

She remained silent, so he helped her take off her shoes and carried them in one hand as he helped her to the living room.

"Let's eat first, or the food will get cold." She suggested.

He went to the dining room and brought her food over. "Here. Don't move too much."

She nodded and scarfed down the food to mask her embarrassment, barely saying a word.

"I'll do the dishes." He announced when they finished eating.

She shook her head with a frown. "You don't need to. I'll do it later."

He looked down at her foot. "You're still in pain. I'll get you a pain-reliever cream." Before she could respond, he left. He returned a few minutes later with a small bag from the pharmacy on the ground floor. Rolling his sleeves, he opened the tube. "Shall I help you?"

She shook her head immediately, not willing to continue embarrassing herself in his presence.

He insisted on doing the dishes so he let him, and used that time to apply the cream onto her ankle and massage it. It was a little red from the impact and she had to shut her eyes to contain the pain.

He returned from the kitchen just as she rested with her eyes closed. Hearing his footsteps, she opened her eyes lazily and burst into laughter at the scene that met her eyes.

The guy had water and soap all over him, including his hair. "Were you washing the dishes, or were they washing you?" She clutched her stomach and laughed.

"Uhm...first time." He scratched his head awkwardly, getting more soap into his hair.

The sight was difficult to look at. "There is such a thing as a dishwasher, Cedric."

"Oh, there is? I mean, I know that such a thing exists but there are too many appliances in the kitchen. I couldn't tell which one is the dishwasher."

Cheng Yu facepalmed. This young master had never set foot in the kitchen before, had he?

Well, he had. At her apartment, when he ended up wrecking her kitchen while trying to flaunt his nonexistent cooking skills.

She laughed at him. "Do you want to take a bath? There's a small clothes store downstairs, tell me your size and I'll get the staff to bring some up."

She took out her phone and dialled the store's official contact number.

He paused and decided that it would be best to take a shower after all. "You can just get casual clothes. It doesn't have to be formal. My pants size is M, S for shirt and boxer briefs..."

Cheng Yu coughed, her face immediately turning red.

Cedric looked at her innocently. "Did I say something wrong?"

She shook her head vigorously. "Go and take a shower. You can use my room." She pointed towards her room and quickly made the call.

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The clothes were delivered within ten minutes and he was out of the bathroom soon. When he was done changing, he didn't know what to do. Should they watch a movie?

He knew that she was in a bad mood so he was afraid of asking her anything.

"Could I bother you to help me?" She asked and tried to get off the couch. Her ankle was still in pain and she didn't want to apply too much pressure onto it.

He rushed over and carefully held her. "Do you want to go to your room?"

When she nodded, he helped her to her room and let her sit on her bed, then prepared to leave.

At this moment, she grabbed his hand. "Stay with me tonight."

"What?" He was puzzled.

She frowned slightly to mask her embarrassment.. "I planned it out for so long but the date turned out to be a total failure. I feel horrible...could you stay with me?"

Chapter 399 - I Like You

"Yu, I..." He was troubled. Would it really be appropriate?

"It will not be the first time." She shrugged.

Now that he thought about it, it was indeed not the first time that they spent the night in the same room and on the same bed. However, the other times, there were other people in the house. This time, however, it would just be the two of them and that made things more awkward between them.

He was just about to come up with an excuse about having work to do but when he thought about how painful her ankle must be, he couldn't bring himself to say no to her. He nodded in the end. "Okay."

Feeling a little better, she freshened up and changed into a modest nightdress, then sat on the bed to have a chat with him.

They talked about different topics, from drawing to international artists, then ended up talking about embarrassing and strange events in their past. Unknowingly, the topic of discussion eased into their future.

"Since I was a little boy, I have always wanted to have a villa filled with all sorts of painting. I wanted to fill the walls with landscapes before but now, I would love them to be paintings of something else." He said casually.

"What?" She tilted her head to ask.

"You."

She blinked when she heard his response. He didn't seem to have realized the impact of that word he had just uttered and went on to explain the best spots where he would very much love to hang her smiling face and the various occasions he would select as backdrops.

"I once drew an anime version of you out of frustration in the past." She laughed.

"You did?" He was surprised. Although she said that she had done it out of frustration, the fact that she had thought about him so much that it inspired her to draw was the greatest honor he had ever received.

She nodded. "I don't remember where it is. I must have torn it later. But I can redraw it."

"I'd love to see it." He nodded in anticipation.

"Help me get my drawing tablet." She sat up and pointed at the long study table at the side. He rolled off the bed and took the tablet, then brought it to her and waited nervously.

He watched as she drew every stroke purely based on her memory. It was almost as though she had drawn him so many times that she no longer needed any reference. She was done in just a few minutes, then she grinned as she quickly filled in the colors.

"There, done." She showed it to him when she was done.

He glanced at the anime on the screen and was caught in between laughter and tears. Not only had she drawn an anime of him, it was also a chibi version. Who would have thought that he could look so cute?

"How adorable! I suddenly want to make you a character in my comics."

He smiled as he poked the adorable thing on her screen. "What kind of character?"

"The male lead." She blurted without much thought.

He smiled as he inched closer to her. "A romance comic? I wouldn't mind being the male lead as long as you are the female lead."

Before she could react, he added, "However, I have already started drawing a comic with you as the female lead. You wouldn't mind, right?"

"Really? Let me have a look." She anxiously asked. "Oh...you didn't bring your drawing tablet with you, right?"

"I can use my regular tablet." As he spoke, he reached for the nightstand and retrieved his tablet, which had been folded to the size of a phone. Unfolding it, he launched an application and swiped through it, then a drawing of Cheng Yu showed up.

It was the cover picture, and she was wearing an elegant wine-colored gown that was off the shoulders. Holding a scepter in her hand, she looked like a fantasy queen in her garden.

"I used your image without permission. Do you mind?" He asked cautiously.

"It's so beautiful. Can I use it as my wallpaper?"

"Of course." He sent the picture to her. "I drew the comic for fun but if you don't mind, I could publish it."

She nodded, not minding in the slightest. "Who is the male lead?" Of course, she would be curious about who could be paired with her in the comic world.

He grinned and said, "The female lead is a strong queen. She doesn't need a male lead."

An idea popped up in his head. "Why don't we create one comic with the two of us as the leads?"

He expected her to scold him but instead, she smile. "Why do we need to be a couple in a fantasy comic when we can be a couple in real life?"

"What?" Her words caught him off guard.

She had blurted out without thinking through it, but since she had already said it, she could no longer change her mind. She took a deep breath and looked up at him. "What I mean is, we like each other, so why not?"

He gazed into her eyes, not daring to believe what he had just heard. Did she just say that they liked each other?... She liked him too?

Gathering her confidence, she took his hand in her small, trembling one. "Cedric, I like you. Perhaps, I even love you. Can you...can you be my boyfriend?"

When he felt her soft, warm hand in his, he finally dared to believe in the scene unfolding in front of him. His heart was racing so fast that he didn't know what to do.

However, his silence made her so nervous that all her anticipation was starting to fade into embarrassment. Could it be that he had thought too much, that he didn't actually want to be with her?

When he saw her saddened expression, he snapped back to his senses. "Yu, you... you like me? It's even possible that you love me? You also want to be with me?" His voice was still full of disbelief. "I'm not dreaming, right? quick, pinch me!"

In relief, she emotionally pinched his cheek then kissed the part she had just pinched, before blushing and pulling away.

His ears stained red and he was so happy he could fly to the sky. Holding her hand, he pulled her back to his side so she would face him. In the next second, he leaned over and pressed a gentle peck on her lips.

She suddenly didn't know where to place her eyes and resorted to curling herself and disappearing into the duvet. She didn't need a mirror to know how red her face must be.

After using up almost all of his self control to prevent himself from breaking into a happy dance, he stretched his hand to turn off the light and then lied down next to her.

He couldn't help pulling her into his arms. "Yu, are you really my girlfriend now?"

"Mmh." She nodded without turning to face him.

He smiled like an idiot and said nothing more, afraid that whatever he would say might anger her into changing her mind.

After battling his thoughts for a while, he finally said, "Then, would you like to go out on another date with me?"

"Sure." She answered in one word, her voice flustered.

"Yu, I'm not dreaming, right?" He confirmed yet again.

"If you ask again, I will say that you are dreaming." She warned and turned to glare at him.

Under the Moonlight, the guy's handsome face looked even more charming when he smiled, and his eyes seemed to have a glow added to them. He chuckled at her threat. "Don't even think about it. You have already agreed to be my girlfriend so you are mine. If you say anything to change that, I will cry so hard that I will pass out."

"You don't need to cry, you crybaby." She pinched his face and pecked his lips, her heart racing. This must be the boldest thing she had ever done.

In response, he pulled her into a tighter hug and kissed her for a little longer, prying her lips open as his hand held her waist. They were both inexperienced so they were basically biting and licking each other's lips, but their hearts were filled with contentment.

She wrapped her arms around his neck and just as she shifted the position of her leg, she felt something stiff against her thigh. At her age, she obviously knew what that was, and her face reddened even more as she looked at him. "You... that..."

Cedric coughed awkwardly. "It's okay. Don't worry about that."

"Oh..." She looked relieved.

In reality, his body had always reacted to her presence, it was only natural. However, he knew that she was not ready for it so he didn't dare to touch her yet. He could only hold her and go to sleep with her in his arms.. This was the happiest night he had ever had.

Chapter 400 - Don't Say Such Misleading Things

The following morning.

Cheng Yu woke up to an intense stare. She sat up with a start. "What is it?"

Cedric shook his head that was being supported by his hand. "I'm just happy. I can finally confirm that you really are my girlfriend. I thought I was dreaming."

She didn't know what to do with him. "Is that why you didn't sleep a wink? Your eyebags are swollen and dark."

He once again shook his head, looking embarrassed when he was exposed. "I was afraid that I would wake up to find that it was all a dream, so I didn't dare to fall asleep."

She pinched his face with a chuckle. "You are not dreaming, silly."

He hugged her and kissed her lips once again, only then did he calm down.

"I'll go and make breakfast." She rolled off the bed, feeling hungry.

He followed her to the kitchen to obediently continue taking lessons from her. However, his mind was filled with the softness and sweetness of her lips; he didn't grasp a word of what she said. In the end, he wrapped his arms around her waist.

She giggled as she let go of the spatula in her hand. "You didn't hear anything, did you?"

She found it surprising that she was able to tolerate the feel of a man's arms around her. In fact, she even liked it. After her horrible encounter with her stepfather, she had thought that she would never be able to tolerate a man's presence, let alone kiss and hug. However, when Cedric held her, she did not feel any of the fear she would always feel when any man got close to her. On the contrary, she felt safe.

Her phone rang, so she turned off the stove and answered the call. As expected, the caller was Lanni, and she was asking for gossip.

"You gossip girl." Cheng Yu berated with a girl.

Lanni laughed on the other end. "So, are you going to tell me or not? Did you confess? Did the two of you end up having sex all night?"

"You..." Cheng Yu didn't know what to say about her dirty-minded friend. Seeing Cedric's shocked expression, she knew that he had definitely heard Lanni's words. She was so embarrassed that she so badly wanted to chop her friend into pieces.

"You didn't? What a bummer. At least, you did it for half the night, then?" Lanni continued probing.

Cheng Yu moved to the end of the kitchen, out of Cedric's earshot before lowering her voice into a whisper. "Just shut up. We didn't do anything all night, okay? We only hugged and kissed."

"Really, just kissing?" Lanni was at it again.

Cheng Yu frowned. "If you keep doing this, I'm gonna have to call the police."

"Ha-ha... I'm so scared."

Not wanting to listen to that busybody's taunting, she directly hung up.

On the other hand, Lanni was reeling with laughter as she kept her phone away.

Xiehan, who had just woken up, tightened his arms around her waist. She stopped laughing and pecked his head gently. "Did I wake you up?"

"What are you doing?" His voice was raspy from having just woken up, making her heart almost skip a few beats. She laughed when she thought about Cheng Yu's reaction. "I'm teasing Xiao Yu. She was so flustered, her face must be as red as a tomato!"

He chuckled at her naughtiness and got off the bed, heading for the bathroom. "Do you want to join me?"

"Of course!" She swallowed and followed him into the bathroom. Obviously, she would not miss the opportunity to treat her eyes to the drool-worthy visual feast. The more she looked at his body, the more she found it irresistibly attractive.

Turning on the shower, he pinned her against the wall and slid off the straps of her nightdress. He then pulled her soaking hair to her back and cupped her face. Kissing her gently, he said, "I will go to pick up my uncle and aunt from the airport later. Do you want to come with me?"

She thought about it with a slight frown. "Can I? I mean, will it be appropriate? After all, we are only in a dating relationship."

"It is." He nodded. "We were going to make a trip to Australia to meet them anyway. It doesn't make any difference to meet them today. Besides, they will be living here during their stay, you would have to bump into each other someday."

Xiaoshi's apartment wasn't spacious enough for them to stay over with her. On the other hand, his aunt and his mother were not exactly friends so they couldn't stay at the old Ji Mansion either. However, he couldn't let them stay at a hotel when his mansion had so much space, so he would have them stay here.

Lanni thought it made sense as well. "Then, we can go to meet them. I don't have anything else to do today. At what time will their flight land?"

"11am." He responded, then pulled her into his embrace to kiss her.

She held the back of his head and stroked his abs with the other hand. "Honey, I want you."

In response, he deepened the kiss and pinned her against the wall.

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B City Airport.

As Xiaoshi waited for her parents, she noticed two familiar faces and walked over. "You guys are here too."

Xiehan flicked her forehead. "Why not? Are you scared I will tell aunty and uncle about how naughty you have been?"

"Hey, I've not been naughty!" She complained and retreated to Lanni's side. "Cousin-in-law can be my witness, right Lanni?"

Xiehan laughed smugly. "Don't even try. She will not speak up for you."

"But I really didn't do anything." Although she was sure that she did nothing wrong, she couldn't help being curious. Did her cousin find out about how she had been preparing bentos for the doctor? But that was not a crime, right? Even though she did nothing wrong, why was she suddenly feeling flustered?

While they spoke, a middle-aged couple noticed them and went over.

Lanni knew from one glance that the woman before her was Ji Meiling, Xiehan's aunt. She looked so young that no one would believe that she had a daughter of Xiaoshi's age. Looking at the man beside her, she guessed that he must be Xiaoshi's father.

"Hello uncle, aunt. Lanni, meet uncle Yun and aunt Meiling." Xiehan introduced them when he noticed that they were giving his girlfriend curious looks.

"Hello, Uncle, aunt." She greeted politely.

"Lanni!" Forgetting about her daughter and nephew, Ji Meiling gave Lanni a hug. "It's nice to finally meet you. How adorable! No wonder Xiehan hid you away."

"I didn't hide her away." Xiehan coughed. In fact, he flaunted about being her boyfriend to the whole world.

Ji Meiling ignored him and gave a little box to Lanni. "You are so cute, this bracelet should look awesome on you."

"Aunty, you don't have to..."

"It's nothing. It didn't cost much." She responded.

Even though she said that it didn't cost much, Lanni was stunned when she got to see it. It was a delicate, diamond bracelet and if her information on accessories was correct, it should cost a few million. It had obviously been meticulously prepared but since she couldn't possibly reject a gift from an elder, she accepted it with a smile.

"Lanni, do you want to go to the spa together sometime? I have a lot of time in my hands lately and my useless daughter would rather travel the world than spend time with me." She happily invited.

"I'm still here..." Xiaoshi half-whispered. "How was your flight?"

"I'm tired." Uncle Yun finally spoke, before hugging his daughter. "How is it going? Are you adapting to the environment here?"

Xiaoshi nodded as she gave their luggage to Xiehan's bodyguards. "I made a few friends."

The middle aged man grunted in approval, then turned to his nephew and shot him a stern look. "What's up with you and that girl?"

"As I said earlier, she is my girlfriend." Xiehan had a bad feeling about his uncle's tone.

As expected, came his grumpy response. "I do not approve of this relationship."

Xiaoshi was shocked, while Xiehan frowned. "Whoever said I needed approval?"

"You punk. How could you say something so rude?" The man knitted his brows.

Xiehan shrugged. "You just met my girlfriend a minute ago and have yet to get to know her. What reason could you possibly have to disapprove of her?"

"One look and I can tell that she is a sly schemer." The man harrumphed, looking in the direction where his wife was cheerfully fawning all over the girl. "Besides, isn't this the girl who dared to ruin my daughter's future? After getting together with Shishi's man, she still has the audacity to be with you? How could you be with a woman like her?"

Xiehan facepalmed. It turned out, just like many people in the past, his uncle was yet to know that Lanni had a twin and thought that she was dating him and Xingyu at the same time. He thought about it and clarified. "Xingyu's fiancée is my girlfriend's twin. However, Xingyu does not belong to Xiaoshi. Although she has loved him for years, he didn't ever reciprocate the affection, nor did he promise her anything.. So, no matter how much I respect you, I would very much appreciate it if you don't say such misleading things."