

Chapter 501 - Wedding Bells(2)

"You bunch of meanies! I will not help you get to the bridal chamber later." Lin Jian sulked, referring to the part after all the celebration, when the bride's friends were fond of stalling the groom and having him pass tests before they could let him into the bridal chamber.

Xingyu was deflated. "Didn't we already do that?"

"That was the engagement party. I'm certain those naughty girls plan to do it all over again since this is the wedding." Xiehan thought aloud.

"And since it's the wedding and their last chance to do it, the tests might be hellish." Cedric mumbled.

"Urgh... kill me already." Lin Jian groaned, but Xingyu suddenly smiled.

"We have a secret weapon with us."

"So you're discarding me." Lin Jian harrumphed.

"Don't be mad. We're all playing around." Xingyu laughed at his friend who was acting like an attention-seeking child.

"Hmph." The latter crossed his arms.

"Are you going to sulk all day? We still need to try on the groomsmen outfits." Xiehan dragged him to try on his clothes.

"How sad that I have to." He couldn't resist his friend's pull. That, and the fact that he really had to.

"Xiehan, when are you and Lanni planning to get married?" Han Xichen asked curiously.

"When I return from Cauldron Island." He explained, suddenly wishing they could get married before his departure. However, he needed something to look forward to, and his upcoming wedding was the best thing to keep him on his toes throughout his stay at the island.

The wedding was held in a large garden. There were only a handful of guests from the bride's side, so the groom's family had only invited close family and friends.

The seats were arranged to face a small stream flowing through the colorful garden, providing a beautiful and romantic background for the bride and groom to exchange their vows.

Li Yuming, who was wearing a beautiful purple gown, made her way to the bride's room. "It's almost time."

"The bride is almost ready." Lanni and Cheng Yu finished up on Luna's makeup and helped her with the accessories, while Xiaoshi and Ruby helped her straighten the layers of her dress.

"You look so beautiful, Luna." Li Yuming felt emotional seeing her daughter in a wedding gown.

"Thanks mom." Luna stood to hug her tightly.

Before this, Li Yuming didn't comprehend why mothers often cried on their daughters' wedding day. It was a complex mix of emotions. Her baby had finally grown up, she had found her own happiness. More than that, she didn't think she was losing her daughter. With a man like Xingyu, she believed that she was gaining a son instead.

"Lanni, please take care of the naughty alarm clocks." Luna requested through a laugh. The twins had been dressed up to look like a mini bride and groom—Linhou had a baby tuxedo onesie while Xiaomu wore a pink dress with a lacy skirt, and a pink bow in her soft hair.

Lanni tickled them as their mother prepared to leave with their grandmother.

"Of course. I would even if you didn't ask."

"Are you certain that they don't mistake you for Luna?" Cheng Yu joked at the side.

"Don't say such scary things." Lanni, Ruby and Xiaoshi laughed, wondering if it was really possible. They hoped not, or else they would have a crisis to deal with later.

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The wedding finally began, with the bridesmaids walking down the aisle with the groomsmen.

'Such a coincidence that everyone ended up walking down the aisle with his girlfriend.' Lin Jian thought with a soft chuckle.

Xingyu was wearing a white tuxedo with black lapel, looking handsome and impatient as he waited for his bride beside Xiehan, the best man.

Just when he thought he would die from waiting, the grand bell chimed and the priest instructed everyone to stand.

Luna finally walked in through the gate, with her arm hooked around her mother's. She was wearing a long-sleeved white dress that brought out the most beautiful version of her as she walked down the aisle with her arm hooked around her mother's.

Every step she took felt like she was taking steps towards his heart, and his eyes stung by the time they reached him. Li Yuming unhooked their arms with a gentle smile, letting him take her hand.

"I love you so much. You are so beautiful, I can't believe you are mine." He croaked in a low tone.

"I love you too, Xingyu. Let's get this done fast so I truly become yours." She smiled so she wouldn't cry either. When she met Xingyu, she didn't think she would ever want to marry him and spend the rest of her life with him. However, he had shown her all there was to know about love, and made her feel everything a woman could ever dream of.

He took her hand in his and walked to the priest. The proceedings were faster than she expected and before she realized it, she was being asked what she thought of as the magic question.

"Xia Luna, do you take Jiang Xingyu as your husband?"

All the tears she had been holding came gushing out. "I do."

Xingyu smiled as he took out his handkerchief to dab at her eyes. "My love, don't cry too much or the babies might think I'm bullying their mum and bite me to death."

The venue roared in laughter, as the priest focused on Xingyu.

"Jiang Xingyu, do you take Xia Luna as your lawfully wedded wife?"

"Of course! I do." He had been waiting for this question ever since he proposed to her. As soon as he answered it, he took her hand and pressed a soft kiss on it then leaned to cup her face—before it was time to kiss the bride.

The venue once again roared in laughter at his impatience, as the priest tried to stop them. "You..."

"Stop!" He was interrupted.

Xingyu and Luna snapped their heads to see Old Master Yun, making his way towards them.

She cursed in her heart while he wondered why no one was killing him yet.

"I object! Why are you letting this man marry another woman when he got my daughter pregnant?" He roared at the priest.

"What?" The guests were in an uproar at the sudden piece of shocking news. Jiang Xingyu had cheated on Luna? He even got another woman pregnant?

Xiaoshi shot up from her seat. "Dad! What's the meaning of this? You are..."

"Shishi, stay out of this. I will get it right for you." He interrupted her.

"Dad, stop embarrassing yourself and me." She pleaded as her father made her way to the couple who had stopped before they could kiss.

"I'm not. I'm only making sure my daughter doesn't have to suffer on her own while the man who destroyed her life has all the fun in his life and marries another woman." He glared at Jiang Xingyu like he was a traitor. "My daughter is pregnant. What do you have to say for yourself?"

"That's none of my business." Xingyu felt his knuckles crack, itching for violence.

"The girl said that you are lying." The priest tried to intervene.

"Is that so?" Old Yun frowned at his daughter. "Tell everyone the truth. Are you pregnant or not? I'm sure there are doctors here and they can run a test."

Xiaoshi knew that lying was not the wisest thing to do at this moment. "I am, but..."

"See?" He interrupted before she could say that it had nothing to do with Jiang Xingyu.

"I cannot believe this. For the sake of personal grudges, you could push your daughter to a married man? You even want him to leave his family for your granddaughter who is not his child?" Han Xichen chided as he stood up.

"Stay out of this!" Old Yun roared.

"Why should I? I am Xiaoshi's boyfriend and my daughter is being taken away from me. How can I stay quiet?" He pulled out a document to present to the priest. "We did a DNA test before, for procedural purposes. Who would have thought that we would need it in such a setting?"

The priest went through it and saw that Han Xichen was indeed the father of Xiaoshi's unborn child, so he did not call off the wedding.

"I'm sorry that my dad caused such an interruption. I have nothing to do with the groom. I'm so sorry!" Xiaoshi apologized.

"You bitch!" Old Yun erupted, only to be taken down by the police officers who had been called by Xinghe, in case he became violent.

She landed a slap on his cheek. "That's for trying to frame my son."

Yet another slap landed. "For trying to ruin the wedding."

Unfortunately, the police took him away before she could teach him a good lesson.

"Shall we continue?" She reminded the priest who seemed to be in a daze.

What a dramatic wedding, he sighed. "Xia Luna, do you..."

"We were about to kiss." Xingyu reminded, making the entire venue roar in laughter.

"By the power granted to me, I declare you husband and wife. You may now kiss the bride.." Hearing the part he was waiting for, Xingyu held Luna's waist and kissed her deeply.

Chapter 502 - Let's Make A Baby

By the time evening came, Luna was so tired that she wanted nothing but to kick her heels off and slump onto a random chair to take a nap. Noticing her discomfort, Xingyu stood up to leave the hall and when he returned, a pair of flat sandals appeared beside her feet.

She impatiently took off her high heels and slid her feet into the sandals. "Thank you."

"If you want to thank me, don't make yourself suffer silently." He scolded her. She had been wearing high heels for the last four hours and if he wasn't paying attention, she would have hid her discomfort.

"I didn't want to trouble you over trivial matters. Besides, it's our wedding day." She explained, making his eyebrows knit closer.

"It's exactly because it's our wedding day that you should be having more fun than anyone else—not suffering just to give the guests a show.

"I'm sorry." She said softly, her fair fingers caressing the back of his hand. "Can you not frown at me like that? The guests will think there is trouble in paradise."

He chuckled at her words and a soft smile remained on his lips.

As they spoke, his mother made her way to them.

"My dear, how are you doing?" Xinghe asked, and her question was obviously directed at Luna. Her own son had been totally forgotten.

"I'm fine, mother." She smiled.

The word melted Xinghe's heart, so much that her eyes stung. "What did you call me? Can you say that again?"

"Mother." Luna gently said the word.

Xinghe pulled her into her arms tightly.

"Are the two of you going on your honeymoon tonight?" She asked them. They were unable to decide before, and Xinghe knew that it was because of the kids. "Don't worry about Xiaomu and Linhou. I will take care of the little darlings while you're away." She promised, so they wouldn't miss out on anything because of the twins.

Luna was at a loss. "I would love to, but they are still too young. I will worry about them every second."

Xingyu didn't think they would be able to enjoy their time away either. Those two were such attention-seekers. They were only calm at the moment because they were sleeping. Else, they would be screaming their lungs out.

"How about we take them with us?" He suggested.

"That's a better idea." Her heart softened when she thought about it.

"It's time for the opening dance." Xinghe reminded them softly.

"We can't do it." Xingyu rejected the idea because Luna was tired, and she pecked him on the cheek.

"I can do it now that I'm more comfortable."

"Okay." Since the wife had spoken, he could only comply and stand up to hold his hand out to her. She gently placed her palm on his, and he led her to the dance floor where the music had started playing.

She was not very good at dancing but she followed his lead, letting herself enjoy the dance instead of giving a show to the guests.

"You are doing well, my love." He whispered in her ear, which surprised her. Now that she focused on it, she realized that she had not missed a beat nor had she stepped on him at any point. "It must be the magic of love." She exaggerated, despite having realized that it was because she was no longer wearing the troublesome high heeled shoes.

He chuckled as he let her spin before pulling her back against his body.

"Did I tell you just how beautiful you look?" He whispered close to her ear. She had changed out of her wedding gown to a white dress with much fewer layers and was floor-length, which made it easier for her to move around and dance. The dress was fitting around her upper body, making him swallow and try to keep himself sane. Heaven knew how much he wanted to drag her away to elope and be on their own, especially after catching several male guests staring at her in desire.

He pulled her closer to him, showing off his left hand as a way to shoo them off and remind them that she belonged to him.

Xiehan pulled Lanni to the dance floor when it was time for the best man and the maid of honor to do so.

"You look so beautiful, my love. You almost stole the limelight from the bride." He complimented as he kissed her cheek, even though she would steal everyone's limelight no matter where she went.

"Luna would kill me." She joked and laughed, as guests started filling around them to dance.

"I need to change out of these shoes." She left the dance floor and hurried down the corridor of the hotel.

He followed her, and he was yet to tell her that they could step aside when they heard a stifled cry.

"It's Linhou, he's awake!" She rushed to the next room where the babies were in their cribs, in the company of a nanny.

The nanny was no longer in the room. Lanni stalked to the crib and poked the boy who then realized that there was someone in the room. He stopped crying as his bright eyes wandered around for a moment. She remained still, and he whimpered, flailing his tiny limbs and putting his fist in his mouth.

"Our little nephew is hungry." Lanni chuckled and picked him up, then took a milk bottle from the shelf. Sitting on a comfortable chair, she fed him as she rocked him. Xiehan watched at the side gently, his heart melting. Why was he suddenly starting to imagine Lanni as a mother?

Recalling that Xingyu had once complained about Luna having to wake up innumerable times during the same night because the twins fed almost a few minutes apart, he gently picked the sleeping Xiaomu and held her upright, making her wake up.

Lanni watched as Xiehan picked up a pink bottle to feed the girl, and when she was full, he started teasing and playing with her to earn excited mumbles.

What a loving father he would make, Lanni thought at the side. If they ever had a daughter, she was certain that Xiehan would spoil her to the heavens. She wondered how he would interact with their son if they had one.

Pulling herself from her trance of thinking too far ahead, she put the sleepy Linhou back into the crib.

"What are you thinking about?" He asked while gazing at her, and she shook her head. He raised an eyebrow, not believing that it was nothing. Especially not with the meaningful smile on her face.

"Are you thinking what I'm thinking?" He teased her, moving to sit next to her with Xiaomu in his arms.

"And what are you thinking?" She feigned ignorance.

"That we would make an excellent pair of parents if we had a baby. Let's make one." He proposed in all seriousness.

"Don't joke around." She pretended to ignore him and play with her niece, who suddenly grabbed a fistful of her hair and was leading it towards her small toothless mouth.

"Didn't you drink enough milk?!" Xiehan asked teasingly, trying to gently open her hand that was closed tightly.

Lanni chuckled

Chapter 503 - Adorable Accident

"She's so cute." Lanni laughed and gently opened the little girl's hand, to take her hair out without hurting her delicate hand.

Xiehan observed her as her hands clenched into tiny fists, then she started drifting to sleep. He had to agree that she indeed was adorable. "Mmh she is cute. But not as cute as our daughter."

She raised an eyebrow at his absurd comparison. "We don't have a daughter."

He nodded and put the little princess to sleep before facing Lanni. "We will soon and who knows? Maybe we have one on the way." he glanced at her stomach meaningfully, giving her chills.

"You joke around too much. I'll go and get changed." She knew that it was impossible for her to be expecting a baby. They used protection every time they made love unless she was in her safe period, but that didn't mean she wouldn't appreciate it if an adorable accident happened and they ended up as parents.

The nanny returned, who had just gone out to find some food to eat. Since she had taken over her duty of taking care of the babies, Lanni stood to go and change. "I'm coming with you." Xiehan announced as he followed her out.

"Uhm... okay." Lanni hoped the nanny wasn't paying attention to them. Why would anyone need company when going to get changed?

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Two days later, in the city's detention centre.

"Yun, you have a visitor." The warden announced, and Old Master Yun finally looked up. He had been silent since he got arrested and luckily, no one tried to bother him and let him keep to himself. It was already bad enough that a wealthy businessman of his calibre had been detained by the police. If anyone tried to poke trouble with him, he would have gorged their eyes out.

He walked out of his room and the police cuffed his hands as a formality. He looked around when they reached the visitation area, and his eyes brightened when he saw Xiaoshi sitting on one of the benches.

"I knew you would come to bail me out." He smiled happily as he sat opposite her.

"That's not why I'm here, father." She responded apologetically, knowing that he had expected her to bail him out.

"Why are you here?" Came his baffled question, as expected.

"I'm here to see you." She sighed softly as she looked at him, while trying to mask the sadness she felt. "I hope you have learnt your lesson, father. I appreciate that you were looking out for my happiness but that's not how to do it." she scolded without sugar-coating it. It was not that she was not grateful, but she didn't advocate for hurting innocent people for the sake of her happiness. "Besides, I'm happy now. He's a good boyfriend."

He looked at her scornfully, wanting nothing more than to scold her. How could she even choose to be with a man like Han Xichen? If he had a choice, he would have ripped the damned baby out of her womb to set her free, so he would help her find a better man. But he knew his daughter well enough and knew that talking ill of the father of her baby would only anger her into leaving. He tried to change his approach instead.

"I did nothing wrong! Why won't you bail me out?" He bellowed.

"You didn't do nothing wrong... yet." She pulled her hands off the table. "The police found the bombs you had planted at the venue. Don't you realize how many people you could have hurt?"

"It was all for you!" He insisted, and she shook her head.

"As I said, I appreciate it, but it doesn't excuse the wrongs you did. I will try my best to help you get a lighter sentence. Aside from that, you have to pay for your crimes, father. I will wait. I hope you will revert to your true, kind self. Goodbye dad. " She stood and turned to leave, hoping that the next time she came to see him, he would have realized his mistakes.

Han Xichen was waiting for her outside the detention centre. He would have gone inside with her but he knew that the man would go crazy if he saw him. Besides, he knew that he would never hurt his own daughter, so he allowed Xiaoshi to go on her own.

She returned sad and dejected, it was not an easy feat to see her father in jail and not bail him out.

"It's okay." He pulled her into his arms.

"Mmh." She nodded against his chest. She would have to get used to it.

The next week on Friday morning, Lanni was the first to wake up.

She had barely slept the previous night despite having slept over at Xiehan's mansion. She gazed down at his bare chest with a smile as she ran her fingers down his skin. Pulling out of her trance, she double checked his luggage and went to the kitchen.

She was almost done preparing breakfast when a pair of hands wrapped around her from behind.

"I'm still cooking." She raised the spatula to show him, in case he had not seen.

"Yes, you are. The eggs look as delicious as you." He rested his head on her shoulder as she resumed. She could only let him do as he pleased, or she would accidentally burn the sunny side ups.

When she was almost done, she shooed him off to take a shower before they had their breakfast by the kitchen island.

The clock ticked away the minutes faster than usual, making her wonder whether it had anything to do with the fact that she wished time would slow down.

As though noticing what she was thinking, he patted her head. "It's okay if time flies fast. It means I will be back sooner." He consoled. He was leaving in about an hour, and it wasn't easy for him either.

She nodded and finished her breakfast before they left for the Ji family's private airstrip.

Aside from her, his friends and family were also here to see him off. Because it was a private airstrip, Luna and Xingyu had taken the opportunity to give their babies a trip and let them see how beautiful the outside world was. They had returned from their honeymoon two days ago and still had love written all over their eyes, as though they were the only ones who existed in their beautiful world.

It was the same with Lanni and Xiehan, only that they were hugging each other tightly, reluctantly to part. If only they could go together. If only the training could be done online.

"I will miss you so much my love." She nuzzled against his chest, as the pilot prepared himself to leave in a few minutes.

He kissed the top of her head longingly. "So will I. I will give you a call and write to you whenever I have the chance." He promised.

She pulled away while still holding his shoulders. "You know the drill. Don't forget about me, keep warm when the weather is cold..." She started a round of nagging, which she had been doing at least twice every day. She even started getting scared that Xiehan would find her too naggy and grow tired of her, but the man found it cute which was a relief.

"And eat healthy?" He added the next item on her list with a laugh. "I will do all of that as well as think about you frequently."

"That's enough. We want to hug him too." Complained Lin Jian who was standing at the side with Ruby, with flowers in their hands. Lanni had pretty much said everything they would say.

She chuckled and stepped aside for his friends to bid him as well. Wen Lin enveloped her son in a hug. "Your father did well and I believe that so will you. Do your best but don't be too hard on yourself." She tried not to pull him back home, It was not easy for a mother to see her son leaving for long periods which happened frequently, but she didn't have a choice.

Ji Huifen hugged her comfortingly and stated a few words to their son, then they hugged Ruby who was already starting to miss her brother.

"Don't worry, we will take good care of Lanni. Take care." Xiaoshi whispered to him and hugged him.

He smiled and thanked them for seeing him off, then held and poked the twins one last time. They would be much bigger and older by the time he returned, so he savored the moment before putting them back. With a last kiss from Lanni, he entered the plane which took off soon after.

Chapter 504 - Family (1)

Li Yuming's villa. Xiehan had just left a few hours ago and Lanni couldn't sit still. She rested her head against the armrest of the sofa as she sighed softly.

Li Yuming saw her and patted her head, tousling her hair. "Do you miss him already?" She asked.

"Yes." Lanni nodded and confessed. She had started missing him from the moment he entered the plane and she didn't know what to do to make time fly faster. Was there a way to convert two years into two months? If there was, she would prefer to directly convert all the time he had to be away into two hours so he would be back within the time she needed to take a nap.

"He will be back soon." Li Yuming consoled her for the umpteenth time. "They say, distance only makes the heart fond, right?"

Lanni smiled at how much everyone was trying to ensure she didn't feel too lonely. She already knew that time would fly so fast that she would not realize it, she just felt empty inside.

"Though I'm more interested in your love life." She added as she looked up at her mother.

"What love life?" Li Yuming frowned as she asked. There was no such thing as her love life, at least none that she talked to Lanni about. What in the world was her daughter talking about?

"You and Mr. Chan." Lanni chuckled mischievously. "Neil Chan, Ruby's former father, the man who has been sending you lots of gifts lately."

Li Yuming laughed and smacked her on the shoulder. "You and Luna have such a busy imagination. What made you think there was a love life between us?"

Lanni knew that although her mother was not embarrassed, she was flustered at the mention of whatever was brewing between her and the man she had been spending a lot of time with lately, so she did not stop teasing. "Isn't there?"

"Well..." Li Yuming wasn't sure what to say. Was it really alright to discuss her personal matters with her daughter? Why did it feel so wrong?

Lanni took her silence for a blush, and it made her throw her head back and laugh. "You know, I've never seen you blushing all my life. I almost thought you were incapable of loving."

"And you wouldn't mind having a step dad?" She no longer knew what to do with her daughter, who was becoming naughtier by the day. She had to admit that she had always wanted to know what Lanni thought of it, whether she would be comfortable with the idea of having a step family or be saddened by it.

"Why would I mind?" Lanni wondered aloud. She knew that step families were not everyone's dream, but it was hers. If Li Yuming found love again, she would be happy and that was all that mattered. She chuckled as she added, "I might just end up being a real elder sister with cute babies waddling around me. It will be a breath of fresh air from Luna who is always teasing me about being her younger sister because she became a mother earlier."

Li Yuming laughed when she recalled their silly banter, where both of them would fight over who was the elder of the two. They were impossible, but that was not the point right now. "Don't be silly. I don't want Luna's kids to have an uncle or aunt much younger than them." Even if she were to conceive right away, her child would still end up at least a year younger than Linhou and Xiaomu. Would it really be alright?

"It's not illegal." Lanni retorted. It was up to her when she wanted to have her children, and there wasn't any rule about age limits.

"I just don't want kids of my own." Li Yuming finally laughed. "You and Luna are enough. Besides, I have grandchildren already and probably more coming soon."

"You're not wrong..." Lanni chuckled when she thought about how she had been teased lately. What if she was pregnant? She would give Xiehan a huge surprise on his return.

However, she did not want to obsess herself over the idea which she knew was merely her imagination. The odds of such a coincidence happening were way too slim, not that she wanted it any other way.

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Meanwhile, Xiaoshi felt lonely too, but it was not about Xiehan's departure. It took one glance for Han Xichen to realize that it had something to do with her father. She still missed him and wished he could come around as soon as possible but he didn't, which made her sad.

He wrapped his arms around her and pulled her head to rest it against his shoulder. "Your dad will change his mind soon. With time, he will realize that he is merely making his own life difficult as well as yours. He will have no choice but to see the truth for what it is."

She nodded. Even though she knew it would take some time, she would wait. She only hoped that it would not take the end of his life to realize his mistake. She also hoped that he would not be sentenced to a long time in prison, so he would regain his freedom sooner.

He tousled her hair. It was not easy to report one's own relative and testify against them, especially the most special person. However, she decided to stand for the truth even if it meant betraying her father who doted on her. He knew it would take a while for her to stop feeling guilty and be convinced that there was no other right choice she could have made. "Would you like me to introduce you to my family?" He asked.

"Mmh." It was not the first time he was asking and she was finally ready for it so she nodded against his chest.

"Let's go later today, if that's okay with you? You will certainly be busy tomorrow." He suggested.. He knew her schedule like the back of his hand.

Chapter 505 - Family (2)

"Today?" The thought of it being so soon made her have butterflies in her tummy. "What should I prepare? What kind of gifts should I bring, and what should I wear?"

"Don't worry. You don't need to prepare anything, just be yourself and they will appreciate you this way." He urged. He knew that whether or not his relatives liked Xiaoshi, they knew that they had no right to give opinions about her and would keep their sentiments to themselves. It was only out of respect that he wanted them to know who he would be married to in a few months.

Hearing his assurance, she rushed to her closet and picked out what to wear. She tried on several outfits, making him want to burst into laughter.

"Don't fuss too much. Just dress the way you want to." He assured her. "If you like, you can as well wear the emperor's new robe. Though I would not like you to wear that in public because only I can enjoy the beautiful view."

She paused in her tracks and looked at him with her mouth gaped. "When did the topic take such a dirty turn?"

"What dirty turn? I only spoke the truth." He laughed, and she ignored him.

She didn't want to listen to his excuse that might just be something naughty, so she selected a simple and modest blue dress to change into.

The A-line dress reached just on her knee, and she tried not to add too many accessories. Carrying a simple handbag and letting her hair down, she applied a tiny bit of lip gloss and went back to him.

"You look beautiful. Let's go before I change my mind and pull you into bed instead." He warned.

She knew he might just do that, so she quickly took a pair of shoes to wear and rushed out, as he chuckled behind her.

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The residence of The Han Clan was in a district of its own, which was secluded from the rest of the world and probably the most calm place she had ever been to.

He drove to a grand estate with a few villas, which she guessed must all belong to members of the Han family. How luxurious.

"You are finally back! We almost thought you were going through the formalities of disowning us." A beautiful woman hugged Han Xichen as soon as they left the car. Based on the similarities on their faces, she guessed that they had to be cousins.

"Why would you think that?" Han Xichen asked her through a laugh with his arm hooked around Xiaoshi's waist.

"It's been so long. Is this your wife? I can't believe you got married without informing us." The woman scrutinized Xiaoshi. "Hello, sister-in-law. My name is Qianqian."

"Hello." Xiaoshi wasn't sure whether or not the woman was fond of her so she chose a meek greeting.

"We are engaged." Han Xichen stated.

"That's great. She's so beautiful, and she's pregnant. We must throw a party to celebrate. "

Xiaoshi widened her eyes at Han Xichen, who shrugged to imply that he hadn't said anything to anyone. Xiaoshi blushed when she remembered that this was a family full of paramedics, they could probably guess such things in a flash.

"Don't make a fuss. Shishi likes everything simple." He said to stop his cousin from throwing a party to invite the entire country.

"That's okay." Qianqian walked beside Xiaoshi as she showed them in.

"Xiaoshi, could you do me a favor? This imp often forgets that he has a family. When it slips his mind, could you kick his butt and send him home to us?"

Han Xichen slapped his forehead. "Don't embarrass me." How could she say such things for Xiaoshi to hear?

His cousin harrumphed at his self-defense. "Then don't disappear for ages and not care about us."

"When did I ever neglect you?" Han Xichen retorted, and the topic shifted back to how he had disappeared for ages without saying a word.

Xiaoshi burst into laughter. They were so much like she and Xiehan. They would often bicker endlessly about things that didn't even matter, but they rarely ever talked about serious matters.

Speaking of Xiehan, she had missed him so much. Even though they didn't always stay together, it was always because they didn't want to. They could visit each other whenever they wanted, but this time it was different. They wouldn't see each other even if they wanted to.

On the bright side, her cousin would gain all the experience he needed so she was no longer sad about it.

Han Xichen's family was more friendly than she would ever expect. They chatted with her and congratulated her for her pregnancy, which she still didn't know how they found out. Perhaps in the midst of experienced medics, there really was no secret related to one's body. However, she felt as though she had known them for years thanks to their friendliness, so she didn't mind them knowing about it.

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Meanwhile, in Xingyu's new villa.

"Luna?" Xingyu called out for his wife when he had just woken up from an afternoon nap. He checked the kitchen and music room, then the gym and didn't find her. He scolded himself. Of course, there was only one place where she spent most of her time lately.

"I knew I would find you here." He spoke with a smile when he opened the door to the nursery, to find her sitting beside the cribs and playing with the twins.

She looked up with a smile, her hand still in Xiaomu's crib. "They are so lovely, Xingyu. I still can't believe I'm a mother. It feels like a dream."

He walked over and hugged her in his arms. "I still can't believe I'm a husband and a father at that."

They were the two best things that had happened in his life, and he couldn't help checking out the ring in his finger for the umpteenth time.

Chapter 506 - Family(3)

Luna poked her son's cheek and he giggled, making her heart melt into a puddle. She stood to hug her husband. She wrapped her hands around his neck and kissed his cheek as she whispered, "I need to resume work soon, my love."

Xingyu held her into his arms for a while and pressed pecks on her face. She looked more beautiful than ever, and she smelled even sweeter than ever now that her flowery scent was mixed with that of the babies. He couldn't help pulling her into a deeper hug, as though he wanted them to mould into one. He was just about to kiss her when Xiaomu stirred and whined, and he paused in his movements and picked her up. She seemed to recognize her father because she stopped crying as soon as he held her and smiled at her, kissing her forehead.

He cradled the little girl as he raised an eyebrow at her statement that he remembered long after she had said it. "It's still too soon. You should stay at home and rest some more. Do not rush to overwork yourself."

"I will not be overworking." She knew he was probably worried about what he had read in all the books and articles he had been reading to research on pregnancy and childbirth, about women needing to take a break and rest for long after having their babies. He was worried for nothing, because it had taken only a few days for her to be able to move around as usual. "It's already been two months." She added.

Her babies were growing fast and although she wanted to stay with them as much as possible, she knew that she couldn't turn into a lazy bum and stay at home all day.

"Nope." He retorted against her idea, thinking that she could stay at home as much as she wanted. "Honey, please take your time. I can provide for the family, and we can still live luxuriously. Don't feel pressured to give me a hand because it has never been hard on me."

She laughed at his response, enjoying the sight of him making funny faces at Xiaomu who blabbered in response. "Are you sure you don't just want me home?"

"I just want you in my bed. What will I do?" He teased her shamelessly.

"Have me." She offered herself with a teasing smile, and her grin set his body ablaze. He gently placed Xiaomu back in her crib but just as he pulled away to hug Luna, Xiaomu let out a cry.

"Aww our little princess is hungry." Luna quickly pulled away from him and picked the little girl up, certain that she was hungry. She sat on the nursing chair in the room to feed her while Xingyu watched with a smile.

"I thought we were friends." He was speechless. How could she become hungry just when her parents were about to get busy? "Don't you want to have siblings? Who will you play with when you grow up?"

Luna laughed while Xiaomu concentrated on feeding, paying zero attention to her father's tone of disappointment.

"Linhou is enough for her." Luna laughed and poked the little girl's face. Her skin was so soft that she couldn't help poking her once more.

Xingyu peeked over at his son who was playing and stretching once again. He would never have enough of this. The boy rubbed his eyes with his tightly clenched small fist and brought it to his mouth to take a toothless bite.

"He is chewing his fists again." He chuckled. He was starting to wonder whether what his mother said at the twins' full moon party was true. Did he really chew his fists when he was little?"

"He does that when he is hungry." Luna smiled. "Could you bring him over?"

"I'll feed him." Xingyu took a pale blue bottle and sat near Luna to feed his son.

Luna watched him, then her daughter who was full and smiling. She didn't know it felt this nice to be a mum.

"Do you think Lanni is doing well?" Xingyu asked at some point, when he remembered the twins' aunt who liked playing with them and holding colorful toys above them.

"I don't know. She must miss Xiehan so much." Luna sighed, and she was right.

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At work, Lanni crossed out another day out of the calendar. She was counting the days left before she could see her fiancé again.

"You have been working hard." Her assistant remarked when she arrived and saw that Lanni had returned to work.

Lanni looked up with a gentle smile.

"I'm preparing everything including myself. Once my fiancé is back, he will not have to worry about anything. We will get married soon after his return."

The young woman smiled since Lanni's smile was infectious, but then she lowered her voice to a whisper. "What if he gets another woman on the island?"

Lanni's eyes furrowed into a frown. Who says that kind of thing? She didn't doubt Xiehan's loyalty, but she didn't appreciate anyone talking about such possibilities.

"I'm only saying, men are rarely faithful." The young woman corrected her statement, only to make it sound much worse. She still meant that it was almost impossible for Xiehan to not be infatuated by another woman on the island while his fiancée was so far away.

"Xiehan would never betray me." She answered resolutely, neither meekly nor rudely.

As if on cue, her phone rang. Xiehan had finally called, and she answered it without minding the presence of her assistant.

"My darling." He sweetly called.

"I miss you so much." Although she had been holding back and trying not to do or say anything that would tempt him to rush back before completing his mission, she couldn't help telling him how much she had missed him.

"I miss you too, my love. I miss you so much." He couldn't hold back anymore either. One year and nine months wasn't too long, but it seemed like forever and just like her, he kept counting the days left for him to return.

Chapter 507 - Shameless(1)

"How have you been?" He asked.

"Lonely until you called." She confessed, and her assistant took it as a cue to leave so she would not keep witnessing this lovey dovey call.

Xiehan let out a low laugh. "If you miss me, hug the pillow beside yours. I'm certain it still has my scent." He suggested in all seriousness.

"I do that already." She responded with a smile, rolling her pen. "How is everything over there?"

"I'm doing great." A man spoke on the other end of the line, and Lanni overheard him state that Xiehan had to go back to work. "I'm sorry my love. I have to go now. I'll be sure to call you again as soon as I can."

"It's alright honey." She was no longer reluctant for him to leave, because she had realized just how fast time was flying. It wouldn't be long before she could hear him speak for as long as she wanted, until she could hold him and kiss him to her heart's content.

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Meanwhile, Ruby dropped by Lin Jian's office because the latter had asked her to come. She was done with school, so she went over and found the man buried in work and typing at an insane speed.

"Jian, what are you up to?" She asked with a raised eyebrow. Why would he call her over when he had so much work to do? It wasn't like she could keep him company when he was so busy.

He looked up at her and smiled brilliantly. "Could you please give me just one minute? I'm almost done."

She finally comprehended what he was trying to do, which made her heart melt. He must have been rushing through his work to create time to spend with her. She smiled and let him finish up. "Don't be too hard on yourself." She walked over to him to gently massage his shoulders.

Placing a hand on hers, he smiled as he felt all his strength return. "I feel rejuvenated now."

It was indeed the case, because thanks to Ruby's magical hands, he finished his work much faster and stretched before pulling her into a hug. She sat on his lap and wrapped her arms around his neck. She was getting more used to being this close to him, so she did not feel awkward when he kissed her neck.

"Do you want to go swimming together?" He asked.

She didn't mind but, "I still don't know how to swim." The last time they went to the beach together, he had attempted to teach her but she was yet to get over her fear of water before it started raining and they had to stop. After that, she had never had the chance nor the interest to learn anymore.

"I can teach you." he offered. "It will not take long and if you have me as your teacher, it will only be a few minutes until you are professional."

"How narcissistic." She jabbed him with a laugh. Not that she doubted him. She knew that he could teach her in a short time, and she would be swimming laps with no time.

"So, will you come with me?" He asked with a smile as he slowly rocked his legs, making her sway and land on his chest with a smile.

"I will." She promised, and a kiss landed on her cheek.

—

Meanwhile, Cedric also asked Cheng Yu out after work.

"Sweetie, let's go for dinner together." He suggested as he stalked to her before she could leave, sucking up to her.

She was yet to respond when she saw a woman walking towards them. It was none other than her mother.

Her eyes narrowed as she watched the woman take quick steps towards them. Cedric followed her gaze and frowned when he saw the audacious woman.

"What do you want?" Cheng Yu asked when the woman finally reached in front of her face, and she almost couldn't resist her urge to send a slap right onto her arrogant visage.

"Xiao Yu, you have to help us." The woman cried as soon as she arrived. "Your father owes a huge debt. We will be kicked out of our house if he cannot repay it."

Cheng Yu held back a laugh. "And why is that my business?" Since when was it ever her business what happened to the Cheng family? Even though it had not been set in stone, there was no such thing as a familial relationship between her and the family that had brought her up. It was only a surname they shared, because they had never acted like a family to her.

Especially the woman in front of her, who had the audacity to make a disgusting claim matter-of-factly. "You are our daughter" She insisted, crying what Cheng Yu saw as a fake bout of tears.

"No I'm not. I'm just a useless girl to you." she crossed her arms, not ready to believe this insanity.

She had thought that the woman would leave, but she became even more shameless and even started yelling while pointing at Cheng Yu. "Watch out. This wretch refuses to help out her own family."

Cheng Yu's and Cedric's mouths gaped as the employees leaving the building, looking over.

"Do you see this? Ever since she started earning some money and gaining a little fame, she has forgotten her roots and sees her family as trash."

Cheng Yu burst into laughter. "Are you really trying to make us fight about this in public? Since you so badly want that, I will gladly play along, mother."

The last word was said sarcastically. She no longer cared about her mother, so she didn't feel hurt by her behaviour.

"This woman caused me mental trauma as a child." She dished out the same favor and pointed at the woman. "I'm not sure she wants me to spill everything."

"Leave." Cedric shooed the middle aged woman off. He did not want to let Cheng Yu spill anything because it was part of her, and it might change the view that everyone had of her.

"Xiao Yu is not that kind of woman." he scolded her.

"You have tortured her for so many years and tried to snatch her dreams from her. Just because she is successful despite everything you did, you want her back? How shameless."

"I'm her mother! So what if I claim her back when I want to?" The woman yelled, narrowing her eyes. "Besides, I did not make life difficult for her. I only taught her to be stronger. Look at her now. Isn't she strong enough? She is even the COO of such a great company at her tender age. What does that have to say about my training?" She shamelessly took credit for things that she did not do, changing the tale from torture to training.

Not just Cheng Yu and Cedric, even the employees watching from the sidelines were baffled by her character.

"I've been waiting for this day." Cheng Yu shook her head with crossed arms. "Wait for my parcel today. I will send the required documents to sever the ties between your family and I. That way, I will no longer be obliged to do anything for you, nor would you have to call a useless piece of garbage like me your daughter."

She used her mother's words against her, and smiled when she realized that she had struck a chord at her. The woman was now baffled, which was in line with what she wanted. "I would like you to let go of my brother too." She added. "I wouldn't appreciate you taking out your anger on him, nor would it be great if you tried to use him against me."

"He is not your son! He is mine." The woman threw her handbag at Cheng Yu in frustration, but it was caught by Cedric who then shoved it back at her.

There were things that would seem disrespectful if Cheng Yu did them herself, but Cedric didn't think he was obliged to respect a woman like the snake before them. Not that she deserved it in the slightest.

Cheng Yu didn't deny the fact that Cheng Ying was her son, but she grinned. "And he is not your brother, he is mine. Please leave before I call the police and have you arrested for basically everything you need to rot in jail for."

The woman wanted to curse and yell, but she didn't know her daughter anymore. She was no longer weak and pitiful, and it was indeed possible for her to call the police. She could only grit her teeth and leave after threatening to come back.

"You did well." Cedric pulled Cheng Yu into his arms and rubbed her shoulders, proud of her for shutting her out.

Cheng Yu smiled matter-of-factly. "I am not going to let her make life any more difficult for my brother and I. " They had already suffered enough. She had been unable to take her brother to a better school because her mother was still alive and the law would never allow her to take custody of her brother. However, she thought it was the right time to provide valid evidence in court that her mother and stepfather were dangerous people and should not be allowed to live with Cheng Ying.

Cedric smiled, proud of her. "You have become stronger."

"Thanks to Luna, Lanni and Aunt Yuming. And you." Cheng Yu smiled and kissed his cheek. "You all helped me slide out of my shell and become more confident in myself."

"Then you have many people to thank." He grinned.

She nodded in response. "Some people only need themselves to be successful, while others need an entire city of mentors and friends just so they could take the first step." It was the difference between her and Luna, and it made her appreciate their friendship even more.

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Li Yuming's villa.

The doorbell rang while Li Yuming checked through her cookbook to decide what she would cook for Lanni. She was planning to call her over for dinner and if possible, she would call Xingyu and Luna over too. She had missed them a lot, especially the little darlings who were so cute that they could make one's heart warm just by looking at them.

The doorbell rang, and she let the housekeeper open the door while she looked over curiously.

"Neil?" She was surprised when she saw the man being shown in. She stood up and went over to say hello.

"I'm Sorry I dropped by without saying that I would." He apologized for his shamelessness.

"No, it's okay. You are always welcome." She showed him to the couch. "What would you like to eat? I was about to start preparing dinner."

He thought about it but couldn't come up with a definite answer. "I really don't know how to choose. I feel like everything will taste yummy as long as you touch it."

"Such flattery." She laughed, though she didn't mind the compliment. No woman hated to be told that she was good in the kitchen, and the fact that she liked cooking only made the comment more meaningful.

"I can get even more flirtatious." He winked playfully. It seemed like as long as he was within Li Yuming's line of sight, he would cease being an adult his age and start acting like a teenager. Luckily, she didn't mind it.

"Then I'll cook whatever I decide after seeing the ingredients. Is there anything you are allergic to?" She asked, to which he nodded.

"Yes. There is one."

"What is it?" She asked, ready to note it down so she would not mistakenly include it among her ingredients whenever he was to come over.

"I'm allergic to..." He looked up at her with a smile. "Your absence."

She laughed at his pick up line. "Where did you get such a cheesy pick up like?"

"Didn't I sound cool?" He grinned.

Chapter 509 - Keep Her Company

"I don't know about cool." Li Yuming laughed and went to cook.

"Do you mind if I join you in the kitchen?" He followed her to ask. He would like to help out if there was anything she needed help with. She knew this so she allowed him, and gave him some vegetables to wash and chop.

"What are you cooking?" He asked.

"Fish. Do you like it?" She turned around to ask. If he didn't like it, she would cook braised pork instead.

However, his mouth seemed to water as soon as he heard about it. "I will love whatever you cook." He said yet again.

She nodded and started cooking, chatting with him once in a while. She had to admit that despite having confessed his feelings for her out of the blue, he was a good man and easy to talk to.

"Did you need to tell me something?" She asked about his sudden arrival as they ate.

He shook his head. "I just wanted to see you. I had missed you."

She didn't know what to say to that so she simply nodded, making the atmosphere start to get awkward.

"Didn't you miss me, Yuming?" Neil asked with a smile, cunningly pressing for an answer, which made her laugh.

"Are you trying to use some of those tricks that are used on little girls? I'm too old for that."

He laughed despite having been caught red handed. "But you look so young. No one would doubt me if I claimed that you were Lanni's sister. And you are so beautiful." He added.

There wasn't any woman who disliked compliments. Li Yuming smiled and added more food to his plate. "You need to eat more. Being so flirtatious must be exhausting too much of your energy."

"Are you saying that I'm weak?" Neil raised an eyebrow and stood to close in on her.

"What are you doing?" She wasn't sure why he was suddenly beside her and dragging her chair back, until she felt herself floating in the air.

"Hey, stop!" She ordered as her fork dropped on the table.

However, he held her to his chest while carrying her in his arms. "While I may be weak in your terms, at least I am strong enough to do this."

"Uh... I'll pretend I didn't see anything." Said Lanni, who had just arrived.

"Hey, Lanni." Li Yuming shuffled out of Neil's arms and glared at him. How could he let her daughter witness such a scene?

Lanni awkwardly averted her gaze, making Li Yuming internally scream. It is not what you think!

"Why are you back so early?" She asked.

Lanni still couldn't bring herself to look at her mother. "There are documents I need, which are in my room. I didn't know who to send. "Besides, they were in the vault that only she could access. "I'll go and get them." She turned to leave.

"Join us for lunch." Li Yuming said as she settled back down in her chair, and glared at Neil to make him sit too. "There is still a lot of food."

Lanni nodded and went to get the file she needed. When she returned, she decided to only eat a few bites so she would be done fast and let her mother and Neil have some alone time. However, she realized that Neil was done and he made an excuse to leave.

She stood up instead. "Bye mom. Mr. Chan, do you mind keeping my mum company for a while longer? She is so lonely on her own."

"Lanni!" Li Yuming scolded her, and the latter dashed away before her ears could be pulled for her naughtiness.

"I'll be on my way. Adios!"

Li Yuming shook her head as she watched the silhouette of her daughter disappear. She was naughty. She should indeed pull her ears later. She turned to Neil apologetically. "She jokes around too much. Please don't mind her."

"I don't mind." He said with a smile, making Li Yuming raise an eyebrow in confusion. Did he mean that he didn't mind Lanni's naughtiness, or spending more time with her to keep her away from the loneliness that Lanni had mentioned?

"We should go out more often, so Lanni will no longer have to worry about her mother being too lonely." He smiled in mischief.

Great. Now Lanni had given him a perfect excuse. Luckily, she didn't mind spending time with him or she would have kicked him out already.

Cheng Yu later learnt that her mother had not lied about her stepfather owing a debt. They were kicked out of their house, which she didn't care about because their business had nothing to do with her. All she wanted from them was her brother, and she sued them for being abusive. She knew it was not going to be easy to get him under her custody considering that she was only a few years older than the teenager and might be deemed too young to take care of a boy his age. However, she was willing to try her best and hire the best lawyer.

Besides, her mother made it more difficult by claiming that she wanted to use her brother for her dirty deeds. She had to prove her innocence which took a while thanks to the gravity of the accusations.

Luckily, she won in the end even though the case had dragged on for months.

Cheng Ying moved in with her and since she had full custody of him, she transferred him to the best school she could find.

The young man was so grateful that he was on the verge of tears as he thanked her. "Thank you, sis. I will not disappoint you."

She flicked his forehead with a laugh. "Just do your best okay? I'm not talking about my best or anyone's best. Don't be hard on yourself just to please anyone."

He was baffled. His mother would never say such words to him. She had always scolded him for not doing well enough, even when he had worked hard and was proud of himself for what he had achieved. Indeed, his sister understood him best.

"I want to be a great man in future. I will surpass you and Sis Luna." He declared.

"Challenge accepted." Cheng Yu chuckled. Who would have thought that she would one day be someone's motivation? It meant a lot, especially knowing that she was not just her brother's motivation. Countless young women looked up to her, and the employees at Moonlight Studios admired her and Luna all the more. She had finally achieved her dreams.

After talking about her job with Xingyu, Luna decided to work from home for a while.

She was still the CEO of Moonlight Studios. However, she stayed at home and did all her work at the comfort of her study, while taking care of the naughty twins. Although they had a nanny, she preferred to spend more time with them.

"Linhou, don't chew your socks." She said to the little boy who was sitting on the carpeted floor. He had just pulled his sock off his small foot and was about to take a toothless bite of it.

The boy recognized his name so he looked up curiously.

"Don't eat that." She shook her index finger to signal that he was doing something he shouldn't, then crouched in front of him and gently took the sock to place it back on his foot.

In response, he grabbed her hair to eat instead. She was helpless. Linhou ate everything that came his way, and it didn't matter if he was just done eating and was full, he would still find something to chew.

Luna laughed and turned to find Xiaomu. "There you are my love." She hugged her and kissed her face. The little girl was growing prettier by the day, and had eyes identical to her paternal grandmother's.

She giggled in her mother's arms when she was hugged, then immediately tried to wiggle. Unlike her brother who liked staying in the same spot, Xiaomu liked crawling away whenever she had the chance.

"How is my beautiful family?" Xingyu arrived with a joyful smile as Luna tried to hold back her daughter.

"Papa!" Linhou shouted the only word he could successfully pronounce. He stood to waddle to his father but ended up falling twice before arriving for a hug.

"Good boy." Xingyu praised, proud of his son. He took his clueless daughter and hugged her as well, then gave them to the nannies and kissed his wife.

"You are early today." She observed.

"I came to spend more time with my family." He smiled from ear to ear. He was the happiest man in the world after his marriage.

Chapter 510 - The Return Of Xiehan (1)

Li Yuming's villa.

Lanni hummed as she tried on a few sets of clothes, then rushed downstairs to her mother and Luna who had come to visit. "How do I look?"

The two women looked up almost simultaneously and were awed by Lanni who was in an ankle length red dress. She had become more beautiful in the last two years and looked amazing in the sleeveless dress.

"You look perfect." Li Yuming commented, proud of her daughter.

"You're so stunning, sis." Luna seconded. Even the little boy habitually sitting by her feet seemed awed by her aunt.

Lanni rushed back to her room and changed into another red dress, a shorter one with a sparkly chest area. She ran back to show them. "How about this?" She twirled.

"It's even more beautiful." Luna immediately clicked a photo of her.

"Is Xiehan coming back soon? You are so happy!" Li Yuming made a guess when she saw how cheerful her daughter looked. It had been ages since Lanni was this happy, because she had been missing Xiehan the whole time.

"He is coming back tomorrow." She cheered. She had just spoken to him over the phone. Since he finished his training, their phone calls were no longer restricted. He would give her a call as many times as he could, and she would always make time for them to video chat.

"That's good news!" Luna cheered along with her.

"Good news!" Shouted the little girl who had just waddled through the door, in her adorable incoherent voice.

"You think so too, mumu?" Lanni picked her up and kissed her forehead to earn a happy giggle from her. The toddler wiggled out of Lanni's arms and rushed some distance away, indirectly asking to be hugged and kissed again. Lanni's heart melted. Her niece was so adorable that she simply wanted to steal her.

"Come on, come with Aunty. I will buy you snacks." She waved the girl over, and the toddler paused when she saw Luna.

"I don't think she sees you as her aunt." Luna chuckled at her daughter's gaze. The kids had always mistaken the two of them and they probably didn't even realize that they were two different women.

Xiaomu looked at Lanni then at Luna and as usual, she tilted her head and seemed confused about why there were two of her mother. Running to Lanni, she opened out her short arms to be carried.
"Momma!"

"She sure doesn't." Lanni laughed and picked up her niece who had never once called her "aunt."

"We are going shopping. Do you want to come along?" Lanni asked her mother and sister.

"I think I'll pass. I'm still grieving the fact that my daughter has been stolen from me." Luna joked and when she tried to take Xiaomu back, the girl hugged Lanni tightly and hid on her chest for protection, making Li Yuming and Lanni burst into laughter.

Hence, Lanni went to the mall with her niece in tow.

"I would like to buy a few things." Lanni entered a store and started looking around.

"Miss, what would you like? Would you like to buy a dress for your little darling?" A sales girl cheerfully asked Lanni as she waves at Xiaomu.

"Dress!" Xiaomu went along in her cute voice, even though it was uncertain whether she knew what a dress was.

"She's so adorable! She takes after you." The sales girl had to hold back her urge to pinch the girl.

Lanni chuckled and saw an adorable dress. "I'll buy her this white dress. Do you have a matching pair of shoes?"

"There is, and it's absolutely cute." The sales girl rushed to bring the shoes along with the items that Lanni wanted to purchase.

Xiaomu wanted to get down and waddle around the mall, but Lanni did not let her because there were too many people in the mall, which made her whine sadly.

Feeling her heart ache from the toddler's pitiful whine, she bought a pretty doll to placate her.

However, the girl seemed to hold the grudge and as soon as they returned to Li Yuming's Villa, she ran to Luna while hugging her new doll. "Momma!"

Luna laughed and took her daughter up. "You finally recognized me. Can we go home now?"

"Why don't you stay a little longer? We can welcome Xiehan together. I'm sure Xingyu won't mind." Li Yuming tried to convince her daughter to stay a little longer. It wasn't everyday she came to visit.

"I'll call him over." Luna knew that Xingyu could not take it if she and the kids stayed away from him for another night.

However, she didn't have to make the call because he arrived before she did.

"Papa!" Xiaomu rushed to him and so did Linhou.

Xingyu lifted them up at the same time, then realized that they were becoming heavier. "You are growing up, my darlings."

"Did you think I was going to steal your wife?" Li Yuming joked, pretending to be the jealous mother who was upset about her daughter being taken away.

"Of course not." Xingyu laughed guiltily. "I only came because I knew Luna would want to stay over." Since he came over, Li Yuming would not miss her daughter and grandchildren nor would he miss his wife and children. Everyone would be happy.

The following day.

Lanni went to pick Xiehan up at the airport while her family stayed behind to make preparations to welcome him back. The Ji family knew about his return too, so they joined the Lis in preparing.

Xiaomu once again followed her when she realized that the latter was going out, so Lanni brought her along.

She arrived at the private airstrip just when Xiehan had landed, so it wasn't long before he made his way to her.

"Xiehan!" She jumped his arms and wrapped her arms around him.

"Lanni, I missed you." He closed his eyes to take in her scent as he hugged her tightly. It had been two years and she was more beautiful than ever. He had missed her so much that if he stayed at the island for a day longer, he might have simply died.

He pressed his lips against hers, savoring every moment of what he had missed the most. She caressed his face as she emotionally kissed him back, her heart racing as she felt her life return to her.

Her eyes stung and her throat felt tight, and she smiled her tears away before they could fall. "Come, let's go." She pulled his hand and dragged him towards her car.

"You're in a hurry." He laughed as he let her pull him away.

"Of course." She chuckled. She had left Xiaomu in the car so she would not be affected by the noise, but it didn't mean she was not afraid that the toddler would wail her lungs out upon realizing that she was on her own.

"Xiehan? Why do you look shocked?" She realized that when they arrived, Xiehan did not move an inch and blankly stared at the toddler drifting to sleep in the toddler seat.

"She..." Xiehan was even more confused as he stared at the little girl. "You..."

Lanni wondered why he was suddenly stammering before it dawned on her. She slapped her forehead. "She's two years old, Xiehan. She is not our child."

"She is Xingyu's daughter?" Xiehan's brain finally returned in its place. It was because Xiaomu took after her mother and automatically resembled Lanni too that Xiehan had thought that she was Lanni's daughter. He had even forgotten all about Xingyu and Luna having twins even though he had been looking forward to seeing them again.

"Xingyu is so lucky, isn't he?" Lanni smiled at the girl who was stirring awake.

She rubbed her eyes and looked curiously at the man before her, who was looking down at her in adoration.

"Hey Little princess. I'm your uncle, Xiehan." Xiehan introduced himself.

"Uncle." The girl mimicked, perhaps because she found the term interesting.

Xiehan chuckled and carried her in his arms, carefully securing her so she would be comfortable. "Yes. I missed you when I was away."