Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 111

Chapter 111 Your Reactions Have Been Over The Top

Mu Zhi sat on the bench, staring at Lu Jinye with a provocative smile.

She thought that after sending the photo, Xiao Qingqing would rush to the scene, so she was patiently waiting.

There was a little river that flowed in sweeping meanders behind her. The bright light of the moon shimmered on the surface of the water. Mu Zhi went to the riverside to enjoy the magnificent view while sitting on a piece of huge rock.

While Mu Zhi was ignoring Lu Jinye, he found himself struck by boredom while standing on the same spot.

He came behind Mu Zhi and stared at her, hardly able to accept the fact that a woman had completely disregarded him.

Thus, Lu Jinye was thinking to walk over to Mu Zhi.

At this moment, a worker scurried towards Lu Jinye from afar, telling Lu Jinye, "Young Master Liang is waiting for you, there's something he wishes to discuss with you."

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Lu Jinye turned around to glance at Mu Zhi one last time before reluctantly nodding at the worker and left.

When she saw that Lu Jinye had gone afar, Mu Zhi hurried to her feet and headed back to where she came from. However, she barely took a few steps before another worker came and called her.

"The water lilies are blossoming in the western area, it is a glamorous view that brings peace to one's mind. Mu Xiaomu is over there, playing. It's rather dangerous. I suggest you quickly go and check her out."

Mu Zhi looked at the worker suspiciously.

She did not end up questioning him, nimbly following him towards the west section.

At the entrance to the western garden, he pointed at the garden, "Miss Mu, please help yourself. I have other things to attend to."

Mu Zhi nodded at the man. After watching the man left, she turned and entered the garden.

The boasting moonlight continued to shine brightly. There were not a lot of garden lights in the west section, but the moonlight was enough to penetrate the darkness.

However, Mu Zhi figured that if water lilies were blossoming, she would have at least sensed an odor by now. That was not the case.

The further she walked, the darker it was.

"Xiaomu? Don't play here. Come on, let's go somewhere brighter."

Mu Zhi called out Mu Xiaomu's name as she walked but to no avail.

From afar, Mu Zhi had not arrived at the water lily viewing platform when she heard a plopping sound!

Her heart skipped a beat as she strode towards the platform.

On the platform, Mu Zhi scrambled to search the area. It seemed like a rigid platform, and there was no issue on the other parts she had walked on. However, when she stepped on a certain square, she heard a sudden squeak, and before she could react, she had plunged into the lake.

Mu Zhi could not swim. The base of the pond was a layer of mud to give the lotus an environment to thrive. She would choke on the murky water when she tried to scream.

Meanwhile, Lu Jinye had left with the worker towards the theater. As a tall man, Lu Jinye was used to walking faster than any ordinary folk, but the worker seemed to be keeping up with his pace, as though trying to flee from somewhere.

Lu Jinye suddenly came to a halt!

He asked with a deep voice, "Where's my brother, Yunzhan?"

The man replied, "Theater."

Lu Jinye gazed at the man, eyes as sharp as an eagle watching its prey.

The man immediately gulped after answering, seemingly frightened.

Lu Jinye nimbly turned around, walking back to where he came from as he dialed Liang Yunzhan's number, "Why did your worker tell me to go look for you? Did something happen to you?"

Liang Yunzhan was playing with Liang Jieyi when the call came in. Lu Jinye's remark put in a loss.

"Me looking for you?"

The confused tone told Lu Jinye that something was not right. He asked right away, "Are you with Mu Zhi? Is Mu Xiaomu with you?"

"Xiaomu is in here playing the <u>shoppingmode Lego</u>."

'Isn't Mu Zhi with you?"

It was not the sixth sense. Lu Jinye simply uttered Mu Zhi and Xiaomu's name out of instincts.

But when he got Liang Yunzhan's response, Lu Jinye suddenly felt his heart skip a beat.

Why would he care for much about Mu Zhi?

When he returned to the area where Mu Zhi was with him, she had disappeared!

He had not hung up the call at this point, so he went on to ask Liang Yunzhan, "Is there a dangerous area in your garden where people rarely go?"

Hearing Lu Jinye's tone, Liang Yunzhan dare not tease him. He said, "The western section. It's under renovation, nobody goes there because the newly-planted lotus hasn't blossomed yet."

"Ok."

Lu Jinye muttered and hurriedly hung up the call, while it dawned on Liang Yunzhan that there was an abnormally.

"Mu Zhi?"

Mu Zhi was flailing her arms in the water. She could faintly hear Lu Jinye calling out her name, but she had no energy to respond.

Meanwhile, Lu Jinye trusted his intuition and dove into the water. He went underwater, gaped his eyes to look around, and pinpointed Mu Zhi in a flash. Without hesitation, he swam towards her.

When he rescued Mu Zhi onto the shore, she had lost consciousness. Lu Jinye was conducting CPR on her when Liang Yunzhan showed up with his men.

Mu Zhi got a large amount of water into her airways. She remained feeble by the time she regained consciousness.

Jian Xiaoning rushed to the scene and did a brief check-up on her, then told Lu Jinye, "Bring her to the hospital right now!"

As soon as she finished her words, Lu Jinye bent forward to lift Mu Zhi. Xiao Qingqing was next to him, but he completely disregarded her existence. The anxiousness he displayed on his face while carrying Mu Zhi in his arms was unseen before.

Lu Jinye rushed Mu Zhi to the First Hospital, straight to the emergency room, and waited outside.

On the other hand, Xiao Qingqing was standing next to him, praying that Mu Zhi would not be resuscitated.

When everyone had arrived at the hospital, Lu Jinye glared at Liang Yunzhan like an irritated jaguar, "You must investigate this incident thoroughly!"

He refused to believe that Mu Zhi would go to a dark and dangerous place without a good reason, let alone jumping into the water!

His tone sent a chill down everyone's spine.

But Shen Mobo was seemingly upset. He pointed out, "There is a loose board on the platform, it's normal to fall into the pond under the circumstances. Jinye, look at you worried sick, don't you think your reactions have been over the top?!"

Shen Mobo could no longer hold his emotions when he saw Lu Jinye's concern.

Lu Jinye glanced at Shen Mobo coldly in response before striding up to him and seized his collar, "Where do you draw the line of overreacting?"

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Chapter 112 There's No Need To Explain Our Relationship

"Enough... That's enough, stop it."

The surrounding crowd noticed the quickly-escalating argument and promptly stepped in to pull them apart.

Shen Mobo snorted apathetically, glanced at the operating theater, pulled his jacket, and stormed out in a huff.

Meanwhile, Xiao Qingqing stood next to Lu Jinye awkwardly. She said nothing. Her emotions were disarrayed. She had no idea what to say, or what she was supposed to say.

The more she did, the worse the situation got.

Even though Lu Jinye did not admit, and Mu Zhi was running away from reality, Xiao Qingqing could see it. The affection between the two was too obvious.

Thus, Xiao Qingqing pretended to be sleepy. She yawned, and returned to the seats by the corridor, closed her eyes to get some rest, giving away the impression that she was exhausted.

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Meanwhile, Mu Zhi dreamed of her drowning. She was surrounded by water. She struggled in an attempt to wake up, but all she could feel was her body thumping consistently. She seemed to be in Lu Jinye's arms as he was running anxiously.

When Mu Zhi was brought out of the operating theater, she had regained consciousness.

The first person she saw was Jian Xiaoning.

Jian Xiaoning took a sip of water, and approached Mu Zhi gradually, "Great, you're awake, everything is alright now."

"I'm awake?" Mu Zhi stared at Jian Xiaoning doubtfully. She knew that Jian Xiaoning was a great swimmer, but it shouldn't be Jian Xiaoning who rescued her.

"You saved me?"

Mu Zhi asked Jian Xiaoning. She was at a loss.

Jian Xiaoning sniggered, "You should see how Lu Jinye was worried for you. He almost destroyed the hospital."

Listening to Jian Xiaoning's exaggerated description, Mu Zhi pouted her lips in disbelief right away.

"Why did you go to the western section?"

Jian Xiaoning suddenly recalled and asked.

"Someone told me that Xiaomu was playing over there and needed someone to look after her. I was worried so I went there."

Mu Zhi was pale as chalk at this moment. She was feeble.

She answered with a frown, trying hard to recollect what happened earlier.

Jian Xiaoning pondered briefly, then said, "So, you got pushed?"

"You've watched too much TV. I fell into the pond because I stepped on a loose plank."

Mu Zhi had not noticed that there was an issue with the whole incident.

While Jian Xiaoning kept her stern face.

In this instance, Xu Se slowly made his way towards them. He placed some food before Mu Zhi while looking at Jian Xiaoning disdainfully, "Enough, Sherlock Holmes. This is purely the workers' negligence. They overlooked the loose plank. Besides, a section of the platform was broken. Yunzhan had looked into it."

In between his words, Xu Se unpacked the food for Mu Zhi.

"This is what Jinye told me to buy, make sure you eat some when your appetite gets better."

Mu Zhi thanked Xu Se, while Jian Xiaoning rolled her eyes to the back of her head.

Watching their interaction brought a smile to Mu Zhi's face. She told Xu Se, "Don't worry about me, I'll get some rest soon. Do you think you can drop Jian Xiaoning off?"

"I don't need a lift."

"Sure."

Obliging to Mu Zhi's request, Xu Se was not bothered by Jian Xiaoning's unwillingness.

Mu Zhi watched the two of them as they continued to quibble on their way out of the ward. She could finally feel a moment of peace when the door was shut.

However, when she got to a lying position, closed her eyes in preparation for a rest, she could hear a series of approaching footsteps, followed by Lu Junnian bursting into the ward.

Mu Zhi stared at Lu Junnian. He held a thermos in his hand, slowly walking up to Mu Zhi, and handed the thermos to her.

Mu Zhi heaved a lamenting sigh.

"What is it? Disappointed that it's me but not Lu Jinye?"

Hearing her sigh made Lu Junnian upset. His words were laced with a tinge of anger.

Even if that was the case, he took a seat before Mu Zhi, opened the thermos, and poured a bowl of chicken broth for her.

"Don't worry about that, I'm alright."

Mu Zhi shuffled backward involuntarily to keep a distance.

Lu Junnian noticed her movements. He wore a faint smile, "Why would you constantly run away from me when I move toward you, but wouldn't hesitate to throw yourself to wherever Lu Jinye is?"

"What's the matter with you? Did you jump into the pond to get his attention because he's been intimate with Xiao Qingqing?"

His confrontation put Mu Zhi off. She turned her face away from him, and muttered, "If you only come to say things like this at this hour, please leave."

Gloominess came to Lu Junnian's eyes. He closed into Mu Zhi, "Explain."

"Why do I need to explain?"

Mu Zhi turned back, met his interrogating eyes without flinching.

"Because I've misunderstood."

"There's no need to explain our relationship."

Lying on the bed, Mu Zhi could only feel exhaustion, drained of every bit of strength.

Did Lu Junnian only come to argue with her?

However, Lu Junnian was merely frustrated... He noticed that he had been disrespectful earlier today. He went to the entrance of Mu Zhi's apartment, waiting for her so he could apologize to her. But Mu Zhi never showed up.

Following that, he received news from a friend that Mu Zhi had almost drowned.

In hindsight, after those hours spent waiting for her, all he got in return was her putting every effort to fawn over that man?

"Dr. Lu, please leave."

Mu Zhi no longer wanted to discuss the matter with Lu Junnian. She turned her face away, prepared to not say another word.

Lu Junnian lifted his eyes to look at her. He was clear of Mu Zhi's strong character. Therefore, he understood that Mu Zhi was currently driving him away.

He felt no need to linger. Standing to his feet, he threw another reluctant glance at Mu Zhi before leaving.

Mu Zhi did not meet his eyes. Thus, she would not have noticed the combination of affection, hesitance, and resentment in his eyes when he left.

When he stepped out of the ward, he ran into Xu Changshu, who was amid her round check.

He could not bother greeting her, brushing past her like he did not know her.

Meanwhile, Xu Changshu stared at Lu Junnian's back, exasperated, "What is he doing here at this hour? Is Mu Zhi hospitalized?"

Knowing what Lu Junnian was like, she asked the director who was accompanying her.

The director did not usually care about trivial matters like this. But the person in question was Mu Zhi, while it was Lu Jinye who sent her here. There was a fleet of luxurious cars that came with them, making the First Hospital look like the venue of an auto exhibition. They also caught the eyes of a group of nurses.

Hence it would've been difficult for the director to overlook the ordeal.

He nodded in response.

Xu Changshu's eyes were instantly overwhelmed with grimness. She lowered her head, contemplated for a moment, then said to the director, "Which ward is she in? Let me visit her."

The director informed Xu Changshu right away.

Mu Zhi had barely shut her eyes once again when she heard another series of approaching footsteps, immediately escalating the subsiding fury that was within her!

Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 113

Chapter 113 I No Longer Deserve Your Protection

It was destined to be a sleepless night.

The moment Mu Zhi saw Xu Changshu's face came at the door of her ward, she had the impulse to pack up and leave the hospital. But it was all too late.

All she could do was lift her eyelids, catch a glimpse of Xu Changshu, and when she ascertained that Xu Changshu was walking into the ward, she immediately shut her eyes.

She made it obvious that she did not want to be bothered by Xu Changshu.

Meanwhile, Xu Changshu cleared her throat lightly, slowly approached Mu Zhi, pulled out a chair, and sat next to Mu Zhi.

Mu Zhi was desperately keeping her eyes shut, pretending to sleep. But the aura coming over her was exigent.

After a long moment, before she would crack her eyes open, Xu Changshu first opened her mouth.

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"Mu Zhi, let's talk."

Mu Zhi said nothing.

But Xu Changshu continued to speak. The tone in her voice was different from her usual dominance. She was speaking in a harmonious tone that was never heard before.

"Just give me a price or conditions, as long as you will leave Lu Junnian."

Xu Changshu sighed lightly and gently, "Junnian is unaware about your daughter, but I am. If I leak this information to the public, it isn't going to do you any good."

While the former part of the sentence was said gently, her tone became increasingly menacing towards the latter.

"So, are you threatening me again?"

Mu Zhi mutter in a hostile tone. She had never had a good impression of Xu Changshu. Hence there was no intention to waste too much time on her.

In response, Xu Changshu chuckled softly, "If I had the intention to publicize it, I'd be done by now, I wouldn't be negotiating with you right now."

"I don't want to see you married to Lu Junnian. I trust that you're clear with who you are, and you wouldn't want to marry my son. So, why don't you name your conditions, while I fulfill them?"

Xu Changshu went straight to the point.

Mu Zhi smiled, raising her brows, "So, Madam Xu, am I allowed to ask for anything?"

"Or is this just an exchange?"

"As long as you can keep yourself away from Lu Junnian, I will fulfill any request you make!"

"Your mother's transfer for the treatment to the states has been approved. If you're willing to leave, the transfer could be executed tomorrow. Meanwhile, if you'd like to vanish, I can arrange for a new identity. There's a colleague of mine who is a highly successful doctor, he owns a research lab, if you're willing..."

Xu Changshu stopped there. She turned her gaze to Mu Zhi and did not continue talking, waiting for Mu Zhi's response.

Mu Zhi did not know what to feel.

She first sneered at Xu Changshu, "Madam Xu, what a bright mind you have."

Coming into the ward, Xu Changshu told Mu Zhi that she could make any request she liked.

But in reality, Xu Changshu came with a proposal. The proposal seemed tempting while putting herself on the moral high horse.

Mu Zhi chuckled, saying, "I can leave Lu Junnian, but I don't want that offer, Madam Xu."

"You can propose."

A dash of anger flashed across Xu Changshu's face, What an ungrateful woman.

But she ultimately suppressed her fury.

Mu Zhi just sniggered. She wore a confident smile, then said to Xu Changshu, "Madam, I want you to publish a statement to declare that the accusation of my research error years ago, was purely your mistake."

"Impossible."

Xu Changshu refused without hesitation.

While Mu Zhi turned away and lied on her side. She did not even give Xu Changshu another chance.

She was using her actions to proclaim that there was nothing else they had to discuss.

Xu Changshu stared at Mu Zhi's back, at her petite, yet adamant figure for a long moment before steadying herself, "That's all in the past, it doesn't matter if I make the statement now!"

"It might not matter to you, ma'am, but it does to me."

Mu Zhi uttered and did not bother saying another word.

At this moment, a figure showed up at the door out of the blue. It was Lu Junnian, who had returned.

He took on a cold expression coming into the room, "What are you doing here?"

His words were questioning Xu Changshu's motives, stinging to her heart. She scrunched her brows tightly, looked to Lu Junnian with a scowl, "You! What do you mean 'you'? Are you not willing to acknowledge me as your mother anymore?!"

"Mu Zhi needs some rest, it's late, please leave."

Lu Junnian completely ignored Xu Changshu's words. He muttered apathetically in response.

Xu Changshu was exasperated. She rose to her feet and glared at Lu Junnian, but he stood with his back straight, pointing at the door, gaze set at the exit.

Xu Changshu stuttered, as though wanting to retaliate. She looked to Mu Zhi, who had her back facing herself, and turned to her son's listlessness, then ultimately relented.

She stormed out of the ward with that same frown.

After ascertaining that Xu Changshu was gone, Lu Junnian closed the door, then sat next to Mu Zhi. He asked in the gentlest tone possible, "Did my mom trouble you again?"

Mu Zhi did not say a word. She had her back facing Lu Junnian, thinking that he could not see her as she shut her eyes, pretending to sleep.

She heard Lu Junnian heaving a sorrowful sigh before he added, "What did she say to you?"

"I know you're not asleep, you're not a light-hearted woman. When I brought you home to see my parent, you were so nervous that you stayed up the whole night. Now that she made a stir in your ward, it's impossible that you'll fall asleep that easily. Stop pretending."

"I have changed. I can sleep now."

Mu Zhi muttered at him as she could not hold it.

Unquestionably, she had not forgotten the exchange she had with Lu Junnian before Xu Changshu came. It was utterly upsetting.

She remembered the hurtful words she said.

But now that... Lu Junnian had returned, putting away his pride, gently and tactfully coaxing her.

That was not the same, arrogant Lu Junnian that she knew!

He used to be the listless prince in women's eyes, the adamant and prideful doted son of the gods!

In the past, Mu Zhi wouldn't dare to anger Lu Junnian.

She would give him the most tactful love.

Because she could not bear to lose him. She was afraid of losing him.

She knew that if they had a fall-out, Lu Junnian would never budge.

"What did mom say to you?"

"She told me to leave you."

When Mu Zhi turned around, her voice was starting to crack.

"Lu Junnian, why are you doing this? I no longer deserve your protection."

Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 114

Chapter 114 I'll Be Staying Here Tonight

It was the middle of the night. The hospital was reduced to a deafening silence.

There was only occasionally buzzing sound from the fluorescent lamps. After Mu Zhi finished her sentence, the air in the hospital quickly came to a still.

Lu Junnian kept mum. He waited for Mu Zhi to finish her words.

Meanwhile, she was waiting for a response. After a while, all she heard was a soft cough coming from Lu Junnian. He turned around and stared at Mu Zhi fixedly.

In this instance, Mu Zhi noticed how bloodshot his eyes were. The dark circles under his eyes were profound.

He must have been exhausted.

"It's my right to love you. I make my own choices. It's not yours to say whether you deserve it or not, I do."

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Lu Junnian looked at Mu Zhi solemnly.

But after finishing his words, he let out a few more light coughs before it dawned on Mu Zhi that Lu Junnian might have been sick. She quickly handed the glass of water on the table to him.

He took a sip of water, and then said, "Take some rest, I'll be staying here tonight."

Mu Zhi gulped involuntarily. She hesitated, then said to him, "You don't need to wait here, nobody else will come again. I'm tired, I need a good night's sleep."

In between her words, she tried to get off the bed.

But Lu Junnian swiftly stopped her, pressing one hand on her arm. The firmness in his eyes was dazzling brightly.

He stared at Mu Zhi with a stern face, asking, "How could you be so vicious? Why would you push me away one time after another?"

Every word that was on the tip of Mu Zhi's tongue retreated into her throat.

She did not end up getting off the bed. She returned to a lying position obsequiously, intentionally making her tone cold and listless, "I need to sleep."

She disregarded where Lu Junnian was going to go. Silently, she laid on her back, shut her eyes as she could feel his presence. Strange enough, that gave Mu Zhi a sense of security. She fell asleep in the blink of an eye.

••

Lu Junnian was drained of energy. He was busy with the acquisition of the hospital lately, which was a new playing field to him. Regardless of his talents, he needed to put in time and effort to learn.

He had been staying up late at night to go through the documents, despite his flu.

Thus, sitting next to Mu Zhi, it was the first deep sleep he had on many nights.

When he woke up, he realized that Mu Zhi had gone missing.

Lu Junnian stood up, scanned the area, and it wasn't until a moment later when he noticed that Mu Zhi had packed up all of her belongings.

That meant Mu Zhi had been discharged without informing him.

When she left the hospital, she first went to study the process of the transfer. It was Lu Jinye who signed the transfer application to the United States. Now that there was an update to the application, the next thing Mu Zhi had to worry about was money. She might not have enough to repay Lu Jinye, and she felt the need to inform him.

To avoid any misunderstanding, Mu Zhi rang Lu Jinye the moment she stepped out of the hospital to schedule a meeting at his office.

Upon her arrival at his office, she found out that Lu Jinye had been expecting her.

Linda looked at Mu Zhi zealously as she teased, "It's so awesome that you married Mr. Lu." Mu Zhi glanced at Linda helplessly. Instead of going along with Linda's jokes, she sighed mournfully and headed into Lu Jinye's office.

Lu Jinye was seated on the office chair. He showed no intention to stand up when he saw Mu Zhi, while Mu Zhi sat across him. He was drumming on the desk with his long, slender fingers as he lifted his captivating eyes, asking, "How can I help you?"

Mu Zhi took out two sheets of papers that she had prepared beforehand and slid them towards Lu Jinye.

"Take a look."

Lu Jinye glimpsed at the papers in confusion, reached out to open it, and realized that it was an IOU.

The note outlined the amount of money Mu Zhi owed Lu Jinye, which matched the medical bill he paid for Mu Zhi's mother earlier.

The other paper was a guarantee note that listed her assets in case she could not afford to settle the debt.

Mu Zhi stared at Lu Jinye. She knew that he did not want the money.

But she wanted to cut ties with him.

True enough, after skimming through the notes, Lu Jinye arched his brows, looked at Mu Zhi, "Do you think I care about the money?"

His words were laced with apathy, sending a chill down Mu Zhi's spine.

Mu Zhi's eyelashes were shuddering, but she insisted, "I know you don't, but in my eyes, this is not something I deserve, so... I must not take it!"

"Must you draw that line?"

Lu Jinye was infuriated at this point. He raised his voice without realizing it himself.

"Yes!"

After uttering the word, Lu Jinye's face had been overwhelmed by gloominess.

However, before he could confront Mu Zhi, her phone suddenly went off. It was a call from Mu Xiaomu's kindergarten. She hurriedly answered it.

It was Mu Xiaomu's teacher. She told Mu Zhi, "Miss Mu, after completing the termination procedure of Xiaomu, I noticed that there is a dancing competition trophy

that has just been posted to the kindergarten today. Would you like to come take it today?"

Listening to those words, Mu Zhi instantly frowned, and asked the teacher anxiously, "What procedure did Xiaomu do? Did you say termination?"

"Yeah, Xiaomu's grandmother just came to do her termination process. Don't you know about it?"

"What grandmother?!"

She didn't even have a clue who Xiaomu's father was, let alone her grandmother!

Hearing that news, Mu Zhi could no longer stay seated. She told the teacher nervously, "Where's Xiaomu? Did she get picked up by her so-called grandmother? Xiaomu doesn't even have a grandma!"

Mu Zhi bellowed anxiously. She could not even bother bidding farewell to Lu Jinye before bursting out of his office.

While Lu Jinye followed suit.

Mu Zhi took the elevator, headed to the ground floor, and left the building for a cab. However, before she could find one, Lu Jinye's car had come to a halt before her. He said, "Hurry up and get in! Let me bring you there."

Mu Zhi was worried sick at this point. Thinking that there was no time to waste, she promptly opened the car door and hopped into his car.

Lu Jinye revved the engine at once, setting off towards Mu Xiaomu's kindergarten.

Throughout the journey, Mu Zhi was panicking. Lu Jinye could feel her worry. He accelerated all the way, trying to get to the kindergarten in the shortest time possible.

Meanwhile, Mu Zhi called the kindergarten teacher to question them of the system they had in place, not informing the parent of their kids' termination!

Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 115

Chapter 115 Thirty Million of Pocket Money

Mu Zhi had steam coming out of her ears by the time she arrived at the kindergarten. The rage that was within her had taken over her ability to articulate her words! When she got off the car, Mu Zhi was not bothered by Lu Jinye. Coincidentally, a workrelated call came in. He sat on the driver's seat, answering the call but his eyes were fixed at Mu Zhi, who was outside at this moment.

Mu Zhi glared at the kindergarten principal as she saw her.

She had understood the reason behind the principal letting Xiaomu go. It was because the person who picked her up was Xu Changshu!

Both the principal and Xu Changshu were distinguished figures in the city. How could a prominent person of her stature kidnap a kid? Thus, the principal did not think twice before doubting Xu Changshu's identity as Mu Xiaomu's grandmother. Moreover, widespread rumors between Mu Zhi and Lu Junnian had taken over the headlines earlier. That made it even more convincing that Xu Changshu was Mu Xiaomu's grandmother!

While Mu Zhi was clamoring about, the principal had expressed her apologies. In the heat of the moment, both of them had forgotten the most important aspect of the ordeal!

After attending to the call, Lu Jinye saw that Mu Zhi was still anxiety-stricken from her movements. He stepped of the car right away, strode up to the principal, and asked, "What's the registration number of the car of the person that brought Xiaomu away? And what make is it?!"

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"Mercedes-Benz, S class, registration number 88988."

The teacher swiftly responded to Lu Jinye.

Lu Jinye let out a scowl and grabbed Mu Zhi's arm, dragging her into the car. As soon as they got into the car, he dialed Linda's number, commanding listlessly, "Look into a Mercedes-Benz, registration number 88988. The moment you find it, put an order to surround it!"

Upon giving his command, Lu Jinye turned his engine over and took off in another direction.

He did not see Xu Changshu on their way to the kindergarten. That meant she had left on a different route!

Lu Jinye had not gone far when he noticed Xu Changshu's car being surrounded by cars as a result of his orders.

When Mu Zhi caught sight of the car, she did not bother saying a word to Lu Jinye. She hopped off, dashed towards the car, and seized Mu Xiaomu from the car.

Mu Xiaomu was munching on snacks in Xu Changshu's car. She had no clue what was happening. When she saw Mu Zhi's appearance, she looked at Mu Zhi with a pair of expressive, round and confused eyes, asking curiously, "Mama, didn't you ask grandma to pick me? What are you doing here?"

Xu Changshu was currently wearing a screamingly grim expression as her car was being surrounded by the cars Lu Jinye sent.

She displayed frustration on her face when she saw Mu Zhi.

"What do you want?"

Mu Zhi first hid Mu Xiaomu behind her, then glared at Xu Changshu ferociously, interrogating her.

Her fists were clenched firmly, as though she was about to lash out at any moment.

Meanwhile, Xu Changshu did not find anything wrong with her actions. She spoke calmly and boldly.

"I've agreed to your request yesterday. My assistant is drafting the statement as we speak. I agree to release a statement to address claims of experimental data falsification. Also, I was just worried that you'd be occupied with work, unable to do the termination procedure for the girl, which is why I'm helping."

Instead of thinking that she had done wrong, Xu Changshu made it look like she was doing her a favor?

Mu Zhi eyed at Xu Changshu. Apart from the appeasing smile, her face was brimming with confidence!

That made Mu Zhi even more upset!

She scoffed, continuing to stare down at Xu Changshu, "So, should I thank you now?"

"Don't worry about it, as long as you keep your words, leave my son!"

The more Xu Changshu spoke, the more unbelievable and hilarious Mu Zhi thought she was.

"Madam Xu, I believe you've misunderstood. I had no intention to discuss terms and conditions with you yesterday. Whether or not I will leave Lu Junnian, is my choice. Meanwhile, you should be glad that I didn't call the police on you for taking Xiaomu away like that."

Mu Zhi's eyes were overwhelmed with contempt in this instance.

The expression of hers made Xu Changshu seethe. She clenched her fists furiously.

Sneering at Mu Zhi, Xu Changshu said, "I understand that you're young and able. You desire pride. But! You should be clear that it's a large sum to get treatment in the states. The maintenance fee that followed is also a hefty sum. You're jobless. Stop pretending like you have dignity. That is very foolish of you!"

Mu Zhi had been swallowing her emotions.

"Madam Xu, there's no need for you to worry about how much money I have."

Mu Zhi could not be bothered to dwell around. She figured Xu Changshu was simply someone with a psychiatric condition. Her actions had been irrational.

So, she held Mu Xiaomu in her hand, turned around, and prepared to set off to Lu Jinye's car.

However, she had hardly taken a few steps when Xu Changshu seized her arm from behind.

"It's not necessary to put up a tough front if you don't have the money. This is one million, to cover the medical bills, of course, in exchange for you leaving my son. I suppose you wouldn't like to put your mother's treatment in jeopardy, pulling the plug on her!"

Xu Changshu looked at Mu Zhi scornfully.

Mu Zhi's patience was quickly running thin, but she didn't like the idea of rebuking others before Mu Xiaomu. She did not wish to be a bad role model to Mu Xiaomu.

Meanwhile, Lu Jinye had gotten off from his car, slowly approaching Xu Changshu.

When he noticed the card in her hand, he started laughing, eyes flooding with condescension.

"Dear sister-in-law, haven't you gotten used to the life in the Lu Family after getting married to my brother?"

Lu Jinye asked Xu Changshu, seemingly caring for her.

Xu Changshu toned down on her attitude as she was greeted by Lu Jinye.

But she merely glanced at him without saying a word.

"They say brother would splurge over ten million a month on the women he loves. By the looks of it, I'm starting to doubt the baseless claims."

"Mu Zhi is my wife. Even if we're divorced, she casually gets thirty million a month as pocket money. Changshu, are you trying to insult the Lu Family with that one million of yours?"

Lu Jinye did not explicitly curse at Xu Changshu since the beginning, but his words made her fumed!

Xu Changshu had spent a tremendous effort to get into the Lu Family!

But the overtones in Lu Jinye's remarks were consistently reminding her that she did not belong to the Lus at all!

While Mu Zhi was stupefied, she came back to her senses when a thick and warm hand grabbed her cold, shuddering fingers, enveloping them inside his palm.

A sense of security instantly engulfed her!