

## Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 126

Chapter 126 You Physically Can't Handle This

Lu Jinye did not look up which was why he did not know how she was dressed.

Xiao Qingqing was wearing barely-there lingerie with seductive underwear. She slowly approached Lu Jinye and almost straddled him.

She leaned forwards, pressing herself onto him.

“Jinye, let's go to bed.”

Even though one couldn't really tell from what she said but the breathy way she said it was more than inviting.

Lu Jinye looked up at Xiao Qingqing and hugged her. He then carefully removed her and said, “Right now, your body cannot physically handle this.”

Despite this, Xiao Qingqing persisted. She pressed closer and started to remove Lu Jinye's clothes.

She spoke as she stripped him, “Do you remember the last time you touched me?”

Hah...

Xiao Qingqing's blood boiled when she brought it up. The last time Lu Jinye and she had been intimate were few years back!

This time around, he had barely touched her!

Just thinking about it made Xiao Qingqing angry.

But Lu Jinye only looked up at her once more and said, “Your body cannot physically handle this right now.”

Yet another rejection.

Xiao Qingqing was hurt.

She slowly got off and glared at him, “Jinye, are you going to refuse to touch me no matter what I do?”

“During pregnancy, because of the hormonal changes in their body, women tend to be more demanding in this area.”

Xiao Qingqing wanted the ground to swallow her up. How much more shameless could she be for just one night with Lu Jinye!

But instead of embarrassed, she felt miserable for herself.

However, Lu Jinye just picked her up and carried her into the bedroom. After tucking her in, he turned to leave for the bathroom. He still refused to touch her.

The next day.

After waking up, Mu Zhi decided that she was going to head to the hospital to have a look at the treatment that was sent from the United States and also to confirm the scheduled transfer time. But with everything that had happened, including Zhang Baiyan finding out where she lived, Mu Zhi did not feel comfortable leaving Mu Xiaomu home alone.

Mu Zhi opted to bring Mu Xiaomu to the hospital with her. Children's immune systems were not as strong and bringing her to the hospital would be exposing her to germs, so Mu Zhi had Mu Xiaomu put on a mask. Mu Zhi led Mu Xiaomu by the hand and collected the treatment report. The report was in English and it would have been harder to translate the medical terms by herself at home. To increase efficiency, she sat down with another medical student and they went through the report together. There was no harm in learning more.

And Mu Xiaomu stayed by her side.

Soon after, Mu Xiaomu had to use the bathroom. Coincidentally, so did the medical student, which was why Mu Xiaomu went with her.

However, when the medical student returned, she was by herself. Mu Xiaomu was not with her!

Mu Zhi stared at her suspiciously, "Doctor Liao, why are you alone?"

"Xiaomu did not come back?"

Doctor Liao was shocked by Mu Zhi's question. She started to explain, "We were at the toilets and my professor came over to talk to me. Soon after, a man calling himself Xiaomu's father came and took Xiao Mu away. I thought... He was your family."

Mu Zhi started to panic.

"What do you mean Xiaomu's father? Xiaomu doesn't have a father!"

She threw the documents aside and quickly ran towards the entrance. Doctor Liao only realized the seriousness of the matter by Mu Zhi's alarm.

Mu Zhi ran to the entrance but no one at the hospital remembered seeing that man.

Mu Xiaomu had been taken away way earlier.

At this moment, the student rushed over and said apologetically, "I'm sorry Miss Mu. I checked the surveillance tapes and saw Mu Zhi with a man. This is the photo of the man."

She showed Mu Zhi the photo taken from the surveillance camera.

With just one look, Mu Zhi was shocked beyond words!

Even though the man in the photo was wearing a mask, concealing his identity, Mu Zhi could tell that it was the same man who came to her house yesterday. Zhang Baiyan!

How could it be Zhang Baiyan?!

Now that she knew it was Zhang Baiyan, Mu Zhi started to panic more. She didn't even know if he was Mu Xiaomu's father and he had taken her away!

And she had no way of contacting him at all!

"I understand. Send me the photo. I'm reporting this to the police immediately."

However, after she reported to the police, they had no way of finding where he was by just one photo. The best they could do was to find out what route he took and find his car plates.

Mu Zhi carefully recalled Zhang Baiyan introduction yesterday.

He was the CEO of a media group. Mu Zhi made use of that information and contacted the company. Although she did not have much information about him, there was still some information made available to the public.

However, when Mu Zhi made the call, she was laughed at by the front desk.

Their response was rude and lacked courtesy, "Everyday, we have people calling in, offering themselves to give our chairman a baby. And yet this is a first I've heard of someone trying their luck like this."

"Missy, here's some advice. Our chairman does not kidnap children. He has twenty or more children and cannot be bothered with one more. And you, you would have a better chance if you actually checked the name of our chairman! Zhang Baiyan! There is no such person here!"

Mu Zhi was close to hysterics.

This meant that whatever information he had given her was false.

Previously, Mu Zhi had always been coolheaded. But today, she could not do it. She could not even pretend to be calm.

Mu Zhi sat at the police station all afternoon waiting for news. Even though it was still within the time frame for it to not be considered a missing person's case, but the police still tried their best.

But that entire afternoon that she sat there, despite the passing of time and concluding that he had given false information about himself, there was no other progress, only disappointment.

She watched as the sky darkened and felt more and more helpless.

She had no other choice but to call Lu Jinye!

There was no one else that could help her except Lu Jinye!

## **Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 127**

Chapter 127 She Lost To A Contracted Woman?!

Lu Jinye arrived back at the villa only to find the living room filled with people. Among them was his secretary, Linda.

Lu Jinye walked to her side. Linda greeted him when she noticed his presence. Only then did Xiao Qingqing notice him. Her face was flushed and glowing.

"Jinye, you're home! Look! Is this wedding dress beautiful?"

Xiao Qingqing lifted her arms and spun, allowing Lu Jinye to see the dress in its full glory.

However, Lu Jinye barely spared her a glance and turned to Linda, "It's 8 p.m. You can go back now."

Xiao Qingqing remembered that he had had Linda accompany Xiao Qingqing in the morning. And yet she was still here at this hour. This was not what he expected of his chief secretary.

This was a waste of time and resources.

After hearing Lu Jinye's order, Linda was so grateful that in her eyes, Lu Jinye started to glow.

She quickly nodded and bowed, "In that case, I'll be heading home, Mr. Lu."

She then nimbly packed her bags and left.

Xiao Qingqing gave Linda a look but did not show her displeasure before Lu Jinye. She continued trying on dresses and slowly said, "Linda was with me all day trying on dresses. I've forgotten how many I have tried on but didn't know which one you would like so I came home and tried on some more."

Lu Jinye looked at the designers who were trying fluttering around Xiao Qingqing and slowly walked over. "How many has she ordered?" He asked.

"Miss Xiao picked out ten. She was hoping that you'd come and decide on one for her," one of them reported.

"That's enough. Leave the dresses here. You guys head back and give Miranda my regards."

Hearing this, the designers were delighted. It was as if they had received a pardon from a beheading. They happily packed up their things and left.

Only now did Xiao Qingqing realize that Lu Jinye was deliberately dismissing them. She pouted at him and said, "Jinye, why did you make them leave? What am I going to do now?"

Lu Jinye gave the dresses around them a sweeping glance and looked at Xiao Qingqing, "Are you not tired after a day of playing dress up?"

"In any case, a designer like Miranda is hard to get a hold of. She doesn't usually entertain people. Although these people are her assistants, they are at a different level from other designers. You cannot take advantage of them like that."

"I..." Xiao Qingqing was speechless. Was Lu Jinye saying that she was hard to deal with?

Xiao Qingqing was in fact, deliberately making thing difficult for Linda. After all, Linda was the one who stood with Mu Zhi against her before.

However, she couldn't be too obvious with what she was doing so she made the designers stay with them too.

Despite that, Xiao Qingqing was still unhappy. But she was also afraid that Lu Jinye would misunderstand. So, Xiao Qingqing bit her lip and pouted. "Weddings are a once in a lifetime event, especially if you're marrying someone you love. I want you to remember me at my prettiest state."

“You are already very beautiful.”

This was the truth.

Xiao Qingqing was a rare beauty.

Otherwise, she would not have been able to rely on her looks to get out of poverty.

His compliment pleased Xiao Qingqing. She spun round and asked again, “So, am I pretty?”

Lu Jinye gave a long look at her dress this time. The floor length wedding dress gave her an ethereal look and the curve of the skirt accentuated her figure.

Her hair was not styled and draped across one shoulder but there was still something alluring about it.

She was indeed beautiful.

But Lu Jinye did not understand why whenever he saw Xiao Qingqing in a wedding dress, it reminded him of Mu Zhi when she married him. At that time, they were in a hurry to get married and Mu Zhi had quickly picked out a dress at a bridal shop. It was the first year that Miranda had come to City A and many celebrities were interested in her designs. Additionally, it was during peak wedding season and their schedule was jam packed. By the time Mu Zhi had been able to make it, it was late at night and there was only one light pink wedding gown left.

Mu Zhi had no choice but to try that one on. The color of the dress set off Mu Zhi’s complexion. At that time, Mu Zhi had been pale from not having enough to eat, and the color of the dress hardly managed to bring out the flushness of her skin.

Despite that, Lu Jinye was still stunned by her beauty.

Maybe it was because it was my first marriage?

Lu Jinye thought.

After all, he did not love Mu Zhi.

When Lu Jinye was still pondering this, his phone buzzed from his pocket.

Lu Jinye did not answer Xiao Qingqing’s question and quickly answered his phone. The moment he picked up, he could hear Mu Zhi crying.

“Honey, what do I do? I can’t find Xiaomu. I’ve lost her.”

With that one word and the sound of her crying, Lu Jinye heart tightened.

Mu Zhi had always kept herself under control and had never made the mistake of calling him 'honey'.

But now, when she was in a panic, the word slipped out.

"Where are you now? Don't cry! I'll be there immediately!"

As he said this, Lu Jinye looked out the window and saw the dark sky. A flash of lightning lit up the sky.

And suddenly, the sky opened, and rain came thundering down.

Xiao Qingqing stood nearby, wearing one of the most beautiful dresses in the world but her fists were clenched.

Lu Jinye's tone, his anxiousness, was noticeable even to someone who hadn't spent much time with him, let alone her, who had been with him for so long!

Xiao Qingqing gritted her teeth tightly. She was shaking with anger.

Whereas Lu Jinye barely said goodbye to her and left in a rush.

Because of how anxious he was, he barely noticed the rain until he was soaked in it. But he did not waste time coming back for an umbrella.

In the past, Xiao Qingqing would have used the weather to stop him but now, she could not bring herself to it!

So what if she stopped him?!

So what if she had used a child to stay with him?!

She had once again lost to that contracted woman!

## **Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 128**

### **Chapter 128 His Heart Clenched**

Xiao Qingqing ripped open a drawer in anger. She took out scissors and began to cut the dress off her body and then into pieces. The pieces floated around her in the air and fell onto the ground. Only then did she get out of the dress.

Xiao Qingqing picked up her phone and without hesitation made a call, "You piece of shit! Where are you?! Have you done what I ordered you to?!"

Her held the scissors in her hand as she spoke in anger. Subconsciously, her hold tightened.

Drops of blood began to slowly drip down the scissors and onto the floor where the torn up dress was. The red bled onto the white of the dress. It was a shocking sight!

The voice of a man replied her nonchalantly, his voice was teasing as he said, "Hey Miss Xiao, there's no need to be so rude. After all, I am your senior in the film industry. Show me a bit of respect. Even if you don't refer to me as such, at least don't call me a piece of shit!"

"Stop talking shit!"

Xiao Qingqing yelled uncontrollably into her phone, "What about what I told you to do? Did you do it?!"

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"Mu Zhi is a no go."

The man said confidently, "She is too cautious. And the character that you gave me is too restrictive. There is no chance of any feelings developing. The man with her is also too perceptive!"

Zhang Baiyan said while swirling his glass of red wine around. He looked out onto the colorfully lit up city through his floor length window.

"The man with her?!"

Xiao Qingqing did not know who he was talking about.

Zhang Baiyan took another sip of his wine and sat down onto the bed in his hotel room. He picked up the dice on the cabinet next to him and rolled it between his fingers, "That Lu Junnian guy!"

"What the heck did you do? I'll just say it. If you have failed me, you won't have a chance in paying back the money you owe Wanhui Casino. I'll tell them where you are and soon you'll be swimming with the sharks!"

"Don't! Don't!"

Zhang Baiyan panicked. He hurriedly said, "Miss Xiao, be patient just a bit longer. I can pay you back. I still have a card up my sleeve! I... I have a hostage and tomorrow Mu Zhi will come to pay the ransom. I've looked it up! Lu Junnian is your husband's nephew. He's from the Lu family and definitely has the money to pay the 80 million I've lost!"



Zhang Baiyan was pleased with himself.

Xiao Qingqing was stunned, "What hostage?"

"I kidnapped Mu Zhi's daughter."

Zhang Baiyan announced proudly! With the dice in his hand, he rolled a six.

"Where are you now? Come find me now!"

Xiao Qingqing gritted her teeth and bit out the words, "You idiot! That child is not Mu Zhi's daughter! I've check the hospital records and Mu Zhi doesn't have a child! That child is Mu Zhi's best friend's, Jian Xiaoning's, daughter!"

"Impossible!"

Xiao Qingqing's accusation made Zhang Baiyan anxious, "I brought Legos to her place yesterday to test her and brought up the issue regarding Mu Xiaomu's birth. Her expression did not change. According to what I saw and how she reacted, that is definitely her daughter."

"Miss Xiao, your information might be wrong."

Zhang Baiyan explained.

"Trust me, I studied behavioral psychology before becoming an actor."

"You better get your ass here to me now! Stop talking nonsense!"

Xiao Qingqing hung up and threw the scissors to the side.

Only now did she realize that the scissors were covered in her blood.

She hung up on Zhang Baiyan and found out that she had five missed calls from Shen Mobo.

She was about to call him back when the doorbell rang, and the housekeeper had let Shen Mobo in.

Shen Mobo noticed her injured hand immediately!

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Lu Jinye arrived at the police station only to see Mu Zhi sitting in a chair with her head buried in her arms, crying.

Instantly, Lu Jinye's heart clenched tight.

When they had been together, he had never seen her without a smile on her face.

But now that she's left him, he had seen her helpless at least twice.

He walked towards her without thinking and wrapped her into his embrace. Lu Jinye gently wiped away her tears.

"Honey, I've lost Xiaomu. It's my fault! All my fault! I didn't watch her properly. I knew that that man was trouble and yet I let her out of my sight! I was so worried that I brought her out with me but at the hospital, I was too busy trying to make sense of my mother's treatment plan and forgot about her."

"This is all my fault! I've never given her the proper care and love that she needed! And now... Now I've even lost her. "

Mu Zhi was in such a state that she had let slip what she normally wouldn't.

Lu Jinye carefully wiped away her tears and said, "Don't be scared. I'm here now. I'll find her for you."

With his offer of help, Mu Zhi was stunned. She looked up at him, her eyes filled with tears and ask him in seriousness, "Will you really?"

The moment Lu Jinye spoke, Mu Zhi was filled with a sense of security.

Why was it that all these years, only Lu Jinye could provide her with security?

Why was it that he always seemed to appear when she needed him the most?

"You spoke of a man? Do you know him?"

Lu Jinye stopped comforting Mu Zhi and now rationalized. He knew which was more important right now. Every moment lost was a moment of anxiousness for Mu Zhi.

"Zhang Baiyan! He said he was called Zhang Baiyan!"

Mu Zhi remembered.

She then described his features.

After that, she quickly explained about her one-night stand and how Zhang Baiyan had showed up at her house to introduce himself as her lover for that one night. And quickly after that, Lu Jinnian's appearance and how he had met Mu Xiaomu.

She did not go into detail.

Lu Jinye wanted to ask for more details but he knew that this would not help the situation. It was just an opportunity for him to understand her.

He suppressed all his questions for later and picked up his phone and called Linda. He ordered Linda to get in touch with his group of friends.

Very soon after, Liang Yunzhan, Xu Se and Wang Yilun arrived at the police station.

They then put in all the influence they had to help.

Liang Yunzhan was deeply involved in the theatre industry. He had contacts in the literary industry and the entertainment industry. Some of with were actors and artists who had been in the industry for a while now.

Lu Jinye was involved in investment. In any other situation which needed professional, he'd be able to be of more help but in this scenario, he couldn't as he was not as well connected with those who ran the ground.

The third, was Xu Se. He was second-generation triad and was deeply involved in the night club scene. His family also had a hand in entertainment industry. In short, these three were from all different backgrounds.

Wang Yilun was from a family of educators. All the famous predecessors in the education world were all his close relatives. He would not be of much help today but chose to come to help anyways.

Only Shen Mobo was absent. Shen Mobo's family made a fortune out of illegal underground gambling houses. The people involved in that business were darker and more dangerous. But Shen Mobo's secretary answered the call instead of him saying that he was abroad and could not make it back in time.

## **Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 129**

Chapter 129 Turning The Entire City Upside Down For Her!

As soon as the men had arrived, Lu Jinye gave his orders, and the peaceful, rainy night of City A instantly burst into a hustle-bustle like the day.

Countless headlights illuminated collectively and numerous phone calls floated the city.

The fleet of cars zooming around town woke up the silent night.

The prominent young masters, Liang Yunzhan, Xu Se and Wang Yilun, were standing on the corridor of the police station, quietly waiting for updates while giving Lu Jinye and Mu Zhi some space to themselves.

Meanwhile, in the reception area, Lu Jinye was staring at Mu Zhi.

Mu Zhi did not dare to say a word. She did not expect Lu Jinye to mobilize his entire gang to look for Mu Xiaomu. She knew that they were distinguished figures.

Gathering the troop to look for a child might be a little over the top.

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However, she was astonished to see Lu Jinye willingly turning City A upside down for her.

Lu Jinye had been tactfully studying Mu Zhi's reaction. He was firmly holding her hand, but felt like he could not bring his warmth across to her.

Her fingertips were icy-cold.

Moreover, he could feel her body shuddering lightly from worry.

Lu Jinye failed to gather any comforting words.

It had barely been five minutes. The sound of a door-knock arose. "Come in," Ordered Lu Jinye steadily. Liang Yunzhan, Xu Se and Wang Yilun all came before him.

Liang Yunzhan was the first to speak. "I found out from a senior that Zhang Baiyan had changed names. He might be an actor called Zhang Bai, who used to be a celebrity kid. But he doesn't have any works when he grew up. He's pretty good at acting, but is addicted to gambling."

"This is his photo, Mu Zhi, please verify it."

Liang Yunzhan slid a photo towards Mu Zhi as he was talking. The actor in the photo looked cocky. He kept a moustache, acting like a famous celebrity, and had half of his face covered for the photo. However, Mu Zhi could instantly tell that it was the same person from yesterday.

She promptly nodded in acknowledgement.

At this moment, Xu Se slowly approached her. There was a rare solemn expression on his usually-frivolous face. "Brother, if you've confirmed that this man is Zhang Baiyan, then things get much simpler from here, because I have found information regarding Zhang Bai. There was a period of time when he frequented a brothel under my family for a lady called Rose. Rose has been missing for a few days now. Finally, according to her best friend, Rose was last seen gambling at an underground casino in City S."

Following Xu Se's remarks, Wang Yilun took a step forward, "I can't do much here. All I did was looking into Zhang Bai's educational background and his home landline. Let's see if this is of any help."

Lu Jinye had his men look for Zhang Baiyan's number at once. But when he tried calling his number, it could not go through.

Everyone made a unanimous decision, and decided to rush to City S for Zhang Baiyan!

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Meanwhile, after dressing Xiao Qingqing's wounds carefully, Shen Mobo's face was brimming with resentment. He bent his head forward to look at Xiao Qingqing, and said with a pang of heartache, "Why don't you cherish yourself?"

Following that, he ordered the housekeeper to clean what was remaining of the blood-stained wedding gown.

Xiao Qingqing suddenly raised her head to stop Shen Mobo, "Don't."

She wanted to leave them for Lu Jinye to see. She wanted Lu Jinye to notice her discontentment, and how she had hurt herself to deepen his remorse for her.

Shen Mobo could not help but sigh at the menacing expression on Xiao Qingqing's face.

He tightened his arms which were around her.

Little did he know that what he did to protect her would gradually push her to who she was today.

He hated himself for being a part of making her who she was, and felt sorry for her.

Xiao Qingqing suddenly left Shen Mobo's embrace, as though something had come to her mind. She glanced at the clock on the wall. It had been two hours after the call to Zhang Baiyan, telling him to come and look for her. Why was he still not around?

Xiao Qingqing had a bad feeling.

Just as she wanted to remind Shen Mobo, his phone rang. He answered the call, and was greeted by a slightly troubled voice.

“Young Master Shen, did you tell Mr. Zhang Baiyan to pick up Rose? Are you sure you want to use a kid to exchange for Rose and clear her debts?”

Xiao Qingqing could hear the words coming from the phone.

Before Shen Mobo said a thing, she clasped his hand, saying, “Mobo, don’t let him get away!”

“Seize him!”

Shen Mobo’s glare emitted an apathetic ambience as he commanded the man on the phone listlessly.

“Sure.”

The man swiftly complied and hung up the call.

But Xiao Qingqing could not hold it any longer. She said to Shen Mobo, “Mobo, I’m scared. I’m afraid that things could go wrong the longer we wait. Let’s go and find Zhang Baiyan.”

She suggested.

Shen Mobo raised his eyes to gaze at the ceaseless rain, and ultimately decided to hit the rainy road for Xiao Qingqing.

She grabbed a coat, and followed closely behind him into the car.

Throughout the journey, she had a hand on Shen Mobo’s thigh to show her gratitude.

She was hoping that the glimmer of warmth she gave him was enough as a gesture of appreciation.

Shen Mobo had seemingly bought into that.

City S was not too far away from City A, but it still took five hours drive to reach there. Shen Mobo raced to the Wanhui Casino as soon as they got into town, asked for the manager of his casino, and ordered to bring Zhang Baiyan to him.

When Zhang Baiyan was brought forward, Xiao Qingqing noticed that he was alone. Mu Xiaomu was nowhere to be seen.

“Where’s the kid?”

Xiao Qingqing was anxious when she saw Zhang Baiyan's face.

Zhang Baiyan thought in the first place that he had a trump card up his sleeve after abducting Mu Xiaomu. He came to the casino in a smug manner.

However, after getting locked up for a few hours, all the cocky air that came with him had vanished!

He slumped to his knees at the sight of Xiao Qingqing and Shen Mobo, and gave them three loud kowtows. "Miss Xiao, how would I dare to bring the kid here? Please let me see if Rose is still alive."

He was somehow cowardly yet stubborn.

And had the gall to negotiate under the circumstances!

Xiao Qingqing snorted at him. Her eyes were filled with contempt!

## **Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 130**

### **Chapter 130 He Gave Her Courage**

It was a rainy night, which was a rare sight in the recent years.

The roads were dark, combined with the fact that it was a considerable drive between the two cities, the journey felt like a torment to Mu Zhi.

Mu Zhi kept mum since getting into the car. Lu Jinye could feel the tenseness in her body. He hesitated before reaching out to hold her hand.

She subconsciously retracted her fingers the second she felt his warmth. Then, she raised her eyes to meet Lu Jinye's tender gaze.

Mu Zhi bit her lip, desperate to stop her tears from streaming down.

Knowing that Mu Zhi needed company, Xu Se offered to give the both of them a ride, instead of letting Lu Jinye drive.

Xu Se glanced at Mu Zhi through the rearview mirror, and said reluctantly, "Isn't Mu Xiaomu Jian Xiaoning's daughter? Should we inform her? I think she's in City S too."

"Don't worry about it."

Mu Zhi promptly stopped him. Realizing that she might have overreacted, she hurriedly explained, "She's currently fighting an outbreak at the hospital. Let's not distract her. I can find the child."

She did not wish for Jian Xiaoning to be concerned.

Upon hearing Mu Zhi's cracked voice, Lu Jinye involuntarily squeezed her hand with his fingers out of grief.

A few moments later, Lu Jinye's phone rang. He picked up the call, and said indifferently, "Hello?"

From the other end of the phone came the hoarse voice of the man Lu Jinye sent. "Mr. Lu, I was informed by the security guard that a man who resembled the one in the photo you sent went in an hour ago. He hasn't left."

"Go in and search for him."

Lu Jinye sent his order right away.

Since hearing news of the abduction, Lu Jinye had been following up with Zhang Baiyan's whereabouts closely.

Mu Zhi could hear that there was frustration in his tone. She trembled internally and looked at him with gratitude.

"Thank you."

Mu Zhi seemed to have collected herself from the courage Lu Jinye gave her through the warmth of his palm.

She thanked him softly.

"Never say those two words to me again."

Lu Jinye's gaze was locked on the road ahead, obscured by the downpour. His voice was calm as usual.

Mu Zhi did not respond to him. She was secretly urging herself that what she felt was purely gratefulness for Lu Jinye, and consciously telling herself that affection was nonexistent between them.

The fleet of cars was making headway rapidly, unshaken by the rainy night.

Due to Lu Jinye's presence, what terror Mu Zhi initially had within her disappeared. It suddenly occurred to her that life was full of hope.

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Xiao Qingqing had been sitting on the couch, staring down at the kneeling Zhang Baiyan for a long while now. She refused to let him see his woman – Rose. In this instance, the receptionist suddenly came in, reporting to Shen Mobo, “Mr. Shen, there’re a few men at the front desk asking for you. They mentioned that they’re here to investigate a man. Their leader introduced himself as Lu Jinye, citing that you know him. He told me to ring you, he doesn’t seem to be aware that you’re around. What do I do?”

Shen Mobo glanced at Xiao Qingqing. After listening to the report, Xiao Qingqing started shuddering in rage!

She clenched her fists fiercely, and said, “Tell Lu Jinye to come in and search the place!”

She squeezed the words through gritted teeth.

Following that, she gave Shen Mobo a look, “Bring him away, you can’t let Lu Jinye see you here. I need to go with you too.”

Shen Mobo promptly nodded. He hurled Zhang Baiyan into his car, and took off into the dense and heavy rain.

Xiao Qingqing devised her next move only when she got into the car.

Since Lu Jinye was here to look for Mu Zhi’s kid, she was curious to see who he would choose between the child and herself. Xiao Qingqing wanted to make it known to Mu Zhi that her child wouldn’t be abducted if she had kept a distance with Lu Jinye!

At that thought, Xiao Qingqing said to Zhang Baiyan, “Bring the kid here, record a video, and send it to Mu Zhi. Have her ransom the kid alone. If she informs anyone, especially Lu Jinye, the kid will not see the next sunlight!”

“Ok.”

Following that, Xiao Qingqing diverted her attention to Shen Mobo, “Mobo, where’s the location of your place in City S? Bring me there, I’m tired, can you please see to the rest of the matter for me?”

She was referring to Zhang Baiyan.

“Sure.”

Shen Mobo made a U-turn, dropped off Xiao Qingqing at his villa in City S, then drove off into the rain once again. Zhang Baiyan led him to where Mu Xiaomu was. He put on a mask to prevent getting recognized, and made Mu Xiaomu record an excruciating video with Zhang Baiyan.

Mu Xiaomu had always been a timid girl. She had cried her voice hoarse at this point, after starving for the whole day. She was scared like a little rabbit when Shen Mobo and Zhang Baiyan showed up at the rented house.

Mu Xiaomu would start wailing fearfully as long as Zhang Baiyan shouted at her.

Thus, the resulting video was convincing and heart-wrenching to watch.

At the Wanhui Casino, while Lu Jinye and the rest had failed to gather any clues, Mu Zhi suddenly received a call.

Before she could say a word, the man commanded, "Get away from the guys next to you, bring the phone with you to the ladies' toilet."

Mu Zhi could only comply and head to the washroom.

When she received a video of Mu Xiaomu heavily tied up, eyes as lifeless as an extinguished bonfire, Mu Zhi could no longer hold control over her emotions.

She immediately made a return call and yelled at the man, "What do you want exactly?"

"I'm not the man who had a one-night stand with you. I'm just a simple man who wants to play a game! Listen, break off from the group and leave the casino. Come to the address I'm about to send you, using the exact routes, to save your daughter. Do not inform anyone, if you do, especially Lu Jinye, then in the next video, you will see your little girl cut up into many little pieces."

Mu Zhi held a hand over her mouth firmly to muffle her crying sound.

She had no idea what else she could do at this point. All she could do was succumbing to the man's instructions.

She headed straight towards the exit when she left the ladies' washroom, into the dark, rainy night. The route flawlessly avoided every surveillance camera that might catch a glimpse of her. Eventually, she disappeared into the downpour, and ended up at an abandoned warehouse.