Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 136

Chapter 136 What If I Enjoy Staying at This Side of the Boundary

Cold, apathetic air was clung onto Lu Jinye in this instance. Mu Zhi had witnessed Lu Jinye's wrath before, but she had never experienced the fright she was currently feeling.

His demeanor made her flinch involuntarily.

But very quickly, she gathered herself and looked up at Lu Jinye, putting up a bold front.

Lu Jinye never noticed Mu Zhi's stubborn nature. She felt like a thorny rose in this instance.

Bending over, Lu Jinye lifted Mu Zhi off the ground and headed towards the hotel that was not far away.

Mu Zhi was flabbergasted...

What the hell...



She thought Lu Jinye was going to reproach her until she felt her feet leave the ground when it struck her that he might have a different idea.

Being carried in his arms, she bellowed, "Put me down, what do you think you're doing?!"

Mu Zhi's right arm was immobilized by the plaster cast, while her left hand was heavily restricted by the bandages. In simpler words, there was no way she could put up a fight.

Lu Jinye could sense the petite figure kicking ceaselessly in his arms. He lowered his indifferent gaze to meet Mu Zhi's eyes, opening his thin lips, "If you continue to fight, you may break the other arm."

"..." Mu Zhi was stunned to silence.

Was Lu Jinye threatening her?

Obviously!

But Mu Zhi was muted. She could not gather a response.

All she could do was grit her teeth, glared at Lu Jinye, and ultimately relented.

From afar... Jian Xiaoning was withheld by Xu Se. She witnessed Lu Jinye carrying Mu Zhi away. When she was finally released, she aimed a violent kick at Xu Se's foot, shouting at him, "Lu Jinye is just going to abduct Mu Zhi like that?"

She could still see Lu Jinye carrying Mu Zhi in his arms as they entered a hotel... What's more, he's bringing her to the hotel?!

What the heck he is gonna do?

Meanwhile, Xu Se behaved nonchalantly. He only raised an eyebrow, saying, "Don't worry."

"Why would he abduct her into the hotel in broad daylight? Why can't he have a civilized discussion?"

Jian Xiaoning shot back at him before thinking twice.

A dash of slyness flashed across Xu Se's eyes. He curved his lips upwards while leaning towards Jian Xiaoning, towering over her, studying her, "There are plenty of things they can do in broad daylight, as long as they pull the curtains."

Listening to what Xu Se had to say, Jian Xiaoning flushed to the roots of her hair!

He had been relatively modest with his words, but did not expect to see the redness on Jian Xiaoning's face!

"Haven't you had a child before? What's with that coyness?"

Despite his peevishness, Xu Se could not take his eyes off her blushed cheeks.

Jian Xiaoning glared at him fiercely in response. She scurried towards her car and locked herself inside to keep Mu Xiaomu accompanied.

Meanwhile, after carrying Mu Zhi into a room, Lu Jinye locked the door before putting her onto the bed.

"I despise uncontrollability."

Lu Jinye fixed his eye on Mu Zhi. His malevolent gaze told Mu Zhi that he may swallow her whole at any moment.

Mu Zhi gulped involuntarily as she locked eyes with him.

Certainly, she knew what he was referring to, what he despised.

"And I haven't allowed you to lose control."

Mu Zhi turned her face away from Lu Jinye. She refused to see his face. Every time she did, she would be reminded of the decision Lu Jinye made. She could understand that Xiao Qingqing was bearing his child. There was true love between the both of them. It was rightful of him to choose Xiao Qingqing.

But... She could not bring herself to make peace with the truth.

She could not accept the clashing conflicts between her rational mind and her emotions.

She too hated uncontrollability.

Especially when she had lost control of herself.

"Mr. Lu, you're pushing your boundaries. Since you've decided to marry Miss Xiao, please refrain from coming too close to other women."

"In case Miss Xiao gets upset."

Mu Zhi raised her head to look at Lu Jinye with a deliberate smile. She intentionally said the words in a sardonic tone.

However, Lu Jinye was not bothered. He reached out to clutch her chin, forcing her eyes to meet his gaze, questioning, "You never cared about my paramours in the past. Why would you feel sorry for another woman now?"

"Because I can relate to such pain. I don't wish for Miss Xiao to experience the same pain I went through."

Mu Zhi was not consciously aware that she had been bringing up Miss Xiao's name profusely. It was obvious that she cared.

Her subconscious mind had been urging her to remind Lu Jinye of her existence.

However, the more she brought up Xiao Qingqing, the more upset Lu Jinye was.

Fury was burning furiously within him. What's the matter with this lady? Must she butt heads with me?

Lu Jinye stared into Mu Zhi's eyes, "So, you've been jealous of my paramours?"

Mu Zhi pushed his hand away from her, turned around, intentionally distancing herself from him, saying, "Nah, a woman only gets jealous when she loves the man."

She did not finish her words, but it was enough to send her message across. She did not love him, so she was not jealous!

"Then what are you doing now?"

Lu Jinye had never felt such uncontrollable rage.

In this instance, the more Mu Zhi tried to shake him off, the more he itched to clasp her in between his fingers!

"I'm calmly having a chat with you right now, Mr. Lu!"

Calmly chatting?!

How could she stay calm right now?!

Lu Jinye lugged her into his embrace. He disregarded Mu Zhi's retaliation, grasping her jaw, and pressing his lips onto hers ferociously.

His irregular panting told her that he desired her everything. He yearned to have her, to own her, to possess her!

Mu Zhi had never experienced such a fierce kiss coming from Lu Jinye before.

As if he wanted to swallow all of her.

What the hell is he trying to do?

Didn't he choose Xiao Qingqing the other day? What is he doing now? Why would he display such intimacy to mislead me?!

Mu Zhi tried to struggle, but Lu Jinye had constricted her within his arms. She failed to free herself.

Mu Zhi also tried to move backward, but Lu Jinye's stocky shoulders were too much to surmount. She could feel her soul sucked out of her.

She did not want to compromise, yet thirsted for more.

Clenching her teeth persistently, she was desperately stopping Lu Jinye to barge into her.

However, the more passionate Lu Jinye was, the more her body started to give in.

She must have a love for Lu Jinye. Otherwise, why would she be so conflicted right now?!

When Lu Jinye managed to intrude her mouth, passing the barrier of teeth, Mu Zhi could feel her heart surrendering.

Until Lu Jinye briefly released Mu Zhi, she raised her head to look at him, both of them panting heavily, "Mr. Lu, you've crossed the boundary, I'm no longer your wife."

"Then, what if I enjoy staying at this side of the boundary?"

A tinge of apathy flashed across Lu Jinye's eyes as he advanced towards her, and asked her.

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Chapter 137 Mu Zhi, Return To Me

Mu Zhi gawked at Lu Jinye in astonishment, her eyes flooded with disbelief.

Was Lu Jinye being... Angry right now?

What gave him the right to be mad?!

Besides, she was started to be confused by Lu Jinye. The Lu Jinye she knew was abstinent, calm, and difficult to figure. Throughout almost three years of the relationship, she had never witnessed Lu Jinye losing control of his emotions due to reasons outside of work!

But was Lu Jinye lashing out for no reason now?!

Mu Zhi studied Lu Jinye's face. In his eyes, she was pretending to be innocent! The more she behaved like so, the more unwilling he was to let her go.

He stretched out both arms, and pinned Mu Zhi against the wall, forcing her to examine him thoroughly.

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"If you continue to push it, I'm going to have to call Miss Xiao, to open her eyes to the true colors of you, Mr. Lu!"

"What true colors?"

Lu Jinye raised the corner of his lips to let out an ambiguous smile.

He bent forward to close into Mu Zhi. His pupils which resembled a pair of obsidian were locked onto her.

Meanwhile, Mu Zhi's pupils were amber in color. His menacing and malicious reflection could be seen on her glittering eyes!

"Tell me, what are my true colors?"

Lu Jinye intentionally breathed those words into Mu Zhi's ear.

Mu Zhi could feel a shock of electricity rapidly traveling across her body. That sensation could not be put into words.

At the end of the day, Lu Jinye seemed to have woken up the lust that was quietly hibernating deep inside each of her cells.

She tilted her head upwards to look at Lu Jinye, involuntarily tried to shuffle back to keep a distance from him. But the further she went, the narrower the gap between them was. He was gradually rubbing onto her.

Every small backward step she took, he would take a huge leap forward.

Mu Zhi was rather pink in the face. Her voice became sheepish when she started speaking again, "Your true colors are none of my business, so I won't judge you."

Mu Zhi suppressed all expectations she had for Lu Jinye. She refused to allow herself to have any form of expectations from Lu Jinye.

She told herself that she must wake up!

She should have cut ties with Lu Jinye a long time ago...

Who was she anyway?

She was merely an ex-wife who married Lu Jinye without any love. Having love between them was nothing short of a miracle to her!

None of your business? Her words had infuriated Lu Jinye.

He lifted her off the ground right away, placed her onto the bed, and pinned her down.

Staring into her eyes, he questioned, "How is it none of your business?"

"Please show some respect, Mr. Lu."

Mu Zhi crossed her arms and held them against Lu Jinye's chest, attempting to shield herself from his advancement.

However, Lu Jinye's eyes were overwhelmed with fury at this point.

"Are you that eager to have no association with me?"

Lu Jinye appeared to have ignored Mu Zhi's remark, continuing to interrogate her.

But he did not wait for Mu Zhi's response between landing a kiss on her lips. The soft and chilly sensation seemed to be paradoxically a source of ignition to his blazing desires.

The Lu Jinye she knew definitely wouldn't do this in the past. Even he felt that his emotions were over the top.

He was trampling her, punishing her with violent kisses. Her lips had gone red from the scuffling, making her even more captivating.

Noticing that he might be hurting her, Lu Jinye finally let Mu Zhi go.

Mu Zhi's struggle was to no avail. Despite her rational mind's exhortation, the cravings depicted in her eyes, woken up by Lu Jinye's actions, had given her away.

Lu Jinye gazed at Mu Zhi, saying, "Qingqing was kidnapped that night."

Xiao Qingqing was kidnapped, so was she.

So, Lu Jinye naturally chose to go to Xiao Qingging's rescue.

Mu Zhi could certainly sympathize with him. She chuckled softly, "Mr. Lu, there's no need to explain yourself, I don't need to hear that. It is only normal for you to save Miss Xiao."

Wasn't the answer obvious enough that who was the more important one?

Mu Zhi had long acknowledged that. She did not need constant reminders from Lu Jinye that Xiao Qingqing was the love of his life, and he must save her!

"No, listen, Xiao Qingqing's situation was more urgent."

Lu Jinye's tone became much calmer. He appeared to be eager to make himself clear.

However, Mu Zhi did not see that at all. She took his words out of context, and twisted his explanation, "From the psychological point of view, one would associate the more important individual to greater threats."

Mu Zhi's tone was insouciant, yet it almost drove Lu Jinye mad.

He continued to stare at her. The indifference in her eyes was infuriating!

"Mu Zhi! I've decided not to be a good father! I'm also forgetting the idea of being a responsible man!"

Lu Jinye gulped and contemplated for a long moment before blurting out those words.

But Mu Zhi had blocked out his words as a self-defense mechanism. She refused to listen to him.

Without thinking twice, she uttered, "Mr. Lu, I have nothing to do with your decision to be a good father, after all, you're not the father of my child. Similarly, whether or not you'd like to be a responsible husband is none of my business too, since you are not my husband!"

Lu Jinye clenched his fists fiercely, fuming as he listened to her remarks!

When did he ever have to say these words to a woman?

And when he did for the first time, the woman displayed absolute listlessness!

In the past, women would swamp him. He never needed to trouble himself with how women think. He would do whatever pleased him, and the upkeep of their relationships would be taken care of by the ladies!

Contrary to his customs! This ungrateful woman had been refuting him profusely!

What can he say?

Coaxing women was not his strong suit at all!

"Mu Zhi, what do you want?"

Lu Jinye decided to skip the idea of enticing her. He forwent his plans to explain himself. But Mu Zhi remained underneath him. He allowed no room for escape as he questioned her.

"I don't want anything other than keeping a safe distance with you, Mr. Lu."

"Mu Zhi... Come back to me!"

"No, thank you! I have zero intention to return to you. You have Miss Xiao by your side!"

Mu Zhi did not even process what Lu Jinye said before responding peevishly.

However, as soon as the words escaped her lips, she was astonished... She gaped her eyes at Lu Jinye in disbelief, asking reluctantly, "What did you say?"

"Come back to me."

Lu Jinye's eyes screamed affirmation.

He left her wordless. She had no clue what to say to Lu Jinye anymore.

Once again, Lu Jinye leaned in for a kiss, except this time, the anxiousness and violence were replaced by tenderness and gentleness...

Earlier, he received Xiao Qingqing's naked photo from a Young Master Shen.

Lu Jinye knew that man. He was the man who almost raped Xiao Qingqing. He was her nightmare.

He thought he could give Mu Zhi's location to his gang, and let them take care of Mu Zhi

But nobody knew what hiccup there was in the process that led to Mu Zhi covered in blood by the time she was sent to the hospital!

Lu Jinye was preoccupied. He could not leave.

Meanwhile, Mu Zhi was stunned. She did not manage to react when Lu Jinye's kiss fell onto her.

Lu Jinye then spontaneously progressed to the next stage, reaching out to undo her top.

While she could not retaliate as her arms were restricted... She could only allow him to do as he wished.

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Chapter 138 Well... Very Well!

Mu Zhi dared not move a finger. She did not even close her eyes, gawking at Lu Jinye to observe him.

Lu Jinye's words were still echoing in her head. He told her to return to him.

What did he mean by that? He already had Xiao Qingqing by his side. How was she going to return to him?

She could feel her body uncontrollably wanting more of Lu Jinye.

But, she was fighting to resist that urge.

Seemingly sensed that Mu Zhi was behaving oddly, Lu Jinye suddenly stopped to look at Mu Zhi, only to realize that she was trembling all over.

"What happened?"

Lu Jinye peered at her with a frown.

Tears were rolling in her eyes, but she insisted to fix them on Lu Jinye.

That brought a tinge of emotion to Lu Jinye.

"Are you unwilling?"

Although Lu Jinye had not attacked another pink castle in his life, he could imagine that the other women would never cry in his embrace.

This woman, Mu Zhi... Was beyond intrigue.

Lu Jinye ultimately relented. He stared at Mu Zhi with a stern face, stuttering hesitantly. Consoling someone was not his strong suit.

After a long while, he finally gathered some words, "Mu Zhi, I was not joking just now."

Upon steadying herself, Mu Zhi rubbed the tears off her eyes, sat up, tried to button her shirt, but she could barely assert any force on her wrists, struggling to even dress herself.

Lu Jinye waited for a moment but did not receive a reply from Mu Zhi. Seeing that she was having a hard time button her shirt, he reached out to help her.

Mu Zhi attempted to dodge him.

But Lu Jinye said patiently, "Don't move."

A mere two words that appeared to have carried no weights managed to make Mu Zhi comply.

Lu Jinye slowly dressed her, then asked Mu Zhi, "Do you hate me?"

Mu Zhi raised her head to meet Lu Jinye's gaze. She even had doubts to what was before her eyes. Lu Jinye's eyes were flooding with tenderness.

As though he cared.

However, regardless of how moved Mu Zhi was, she just nodded lightly.

Tacitly admitting.

Yes, she hated him!

Lu Jinye's brows were scrunched up. He stared at Mu Zhi solemnly. It was the first time Lu Jinye confessed his love to a woman, and he got rejected!

"Mu Zhi, do you have any idea what you're talking about?"

Lu Jinye asked once more. What tenderness in his eyes had swiftly transformed into hurt.

But the painful expression merely flashed across his eyes.

Mu Zhi gave him a firm nod, saying, "Yes, I'm sure."

After getting dressed, she took a great effort to walk towards the door, opening it as she said, "I grew up without a father. Mu Xiaomu grew up without a father too. Ordinary folks like us aren't in the same league as the wealthy. Growing up in a single-parent family, the trauma of not having a father figure would haunt us forever. We don't just get mocked for being fatherless since we were a kid, and it's not as simple as watching the other families enjoying their time during school events..."

Mu Zhi's voice started cracking at this point, "It is more like a thirst for something hidden in the corner of our hearts, the more we miss out, the more we crave for it. We might even be envious of someone else with a drunken dad, just because they have a father."

Following that, Mu Zhi turned to look at Lu Jinye, "Lu Jinye, if you won't be accountable for the baby in Xiao Qingqing's womb, I will look down upon you."

"Also, the marriage we had was not built on the foundation of love. Our bodies simply matched each other's. Don't be fooled by that. Take care of yourself."

Finishing what she had to say, Mu Zhi turned around with conviction and left.

Lu Jinye launched a punch at the wall, his knuckles instantly turned red.

How dare Mu Zhi refuse him?!

Shockingly, there was a woman who would refuse him?!

Especially the words 'take care'! Also, she had never loved him!

Well... Very well!

Lu Jinye swept around, stomped towards the wine chiller, and seized a random bottle off it.

. . .

After leaving the room, tears started surging down her cheeks uncontrollably.

How could she ever say those words? They were such harsh remarks. But for some reason, she could feel some sort of relief after expressing herself.

Just because she did not have a father, and Mu Xiaomu did not have one, she must not take away the father figure from another child.

She made way for Xiao Qingqing at the price of her love. Just to bless the child that was currently residing in Xiao Qingqing's womb.

As soon as Mu Zhi stepped out of the hotel building, Jian Xiaoning noticed that she was not in the right state. Jian Xiaoning then dashed towards her, and asked tactfully, "Mu Zhi, what happened?"

Standing at the side, Xu Se just lifted his arm to check the time. It had barely been half an hour since Lu Jinye and Mu Zhi went in.

Is that the longest Lu Jinye could last?

Is that why Mu Zhi was discontented and cried?!

"Hey, it can't be..."

Xu Se could not hear but utter, and Jian Xiaoning rolled her eyes at him right away!

She followed closely behind Mu Zhi, while Mu Zhi slowly moved towards the car. They entered the car. Mu Zhi was seated at the front passenger's seat and had her seatbelt fastened. Jian Xiaoning saw this and hesitated briefly. She knew Mu Zhi wanted to leave.

She glanced at Xu Se helplessly, then said, "Hey, Xu Se, move your car away, I need to go."

"No way!"

Xu Se was standing firmly, "Without any word from Jinye, nobody moves their cars."

Mu Zhi's eyes were lifeless. Even the word exchange between Jian Xiaoning and Xu Se felt like breeze to her, leaving no trail in her mind.

However, as long as Xu Se did not move his car, Jian Xiaoning would have no way to leave.

As they were butting heads with each other, Lu Jinye left the hotel. He glanced at the car Mu Zhi was sitting in listlessly, and then ordered Xu Se, "Move the cars away, let them go."

Xu Se hesitated briefly...

What is going on?

By the looks of their expressions, both of them seemed odd!

Isn't Jinye coming to redeem his true love?

However, Lu Jinye's temperament was too intimidating. Xu Se did not dare press on and obsequiously obliged.

As soon as the path was cleared, Mu Zhi told Jian Xiaoning to drive.

While Jian Xiaoning waited no longer, and took off.

Lu Jinye hardly batted an eye at Mu Zhi. He hopped into his car, took out his phone to ring Linda, ordering, "There's a debt note in the bottom drawer of my desk. It's from Mu Zhi. Make a call to her to enquire how long it'll take for the repayment."

"Huh?"

Lu Jinye's order instantly put Linda in a daze.

Is the boss asking Secretary Mu for money?

Doesn't he love Secretary Mu?

"Do as I say."

Lu Jinye's tone was cold as ice, sending shivers down Linda's spine. Thus, she obliged, and then scrambled to look for the debt note he mentioned.

Lu Jinye pondered briefly, and told Xu Se and the rest to return, while he made his way back to City A, and went into the nearest bar.

. . .

After getting home, Mu Xiaomu had just woken up but was still seemingly exhausted. Mu Zhi then ushered Mu Xiaomu back into her room for more sleep.

Having coaxed Mu Xiaomu to sleep, Jian Xiaoning set off to City S due to other arrangements at the hospital.

Mu Zhi saw her off and then slumped on the couch, preparing to get a good rest. However, she received Linda's call as soon as she took her seat. The call was made using Lu Jinye's office line.

Mu Zhi was puzzled, but answered the phone anyway.

"What is it, Linda?"

Mu Zhi asked in surprise. On the other end of the phone, Linda was seemingly troubled. She chuckled lightly, "Secretary Mu, how have you been?"

"I'm fine."

Mu Zhi and Linda were long-time colleagues. Thus, she could instantly pick up the strangeness in Linda's tone. She asked, "Linda, is there anything you need from me?"

Linda stammered reluctantly, "The situation is... Secretary Mu, I don't wish to say these, but..."

"Don't worry, just let me know."

Although Mu Zhi wasn't sure what Linda was trying to say, her intuition told her that it must be something coming from Lu Jinye.

Linda responded, "Mr. Lu told me to search for a debt note you left him. He told me to enquire for a date of the repayment."

The debt note summed up to tens of millions. Mu Zhi couldn't settle it within a short time.

Mu Zhi contemplated for a moment, and said, "I'll try my best to settle it before the end of next year."

"Sure."

Linda became even more troubled when she listened to Mu Zhi's answer.

The entire company, especially the secretary group, was aware of the unique connection between the chairman and Secretary Mu. Mu Zhi even taught them secrets to soothe Lu Jinye's anger!

What happened that she was demanded to repay her debts immediately?

Linda promptly noted down the timeframe Mu Zhi gave, and elaborated helplessly, "Secretary Mu, these are orders from the chairman, I don't have a choice."

"I understand, that's fine."

Sorrow took over Mu Zhi, but she had to accept the truth. After what she said to Lu Jinye, she was bound to cut ties with him completely. Thus, regardless of what he did to her, she had to tell herself to accept it.

"Umm... The apartment you're living in belongs to Mr. Lu too. He had me ask you if you have plans to move out, he wants to use it for other purposes."

"I'll start looking for a house tomorrow, I will try to move away within a week."

Mu Zhi was courteous and respectful. She acknowledged that Linda was just doing her job. So, she would not cause a stir.

"Thank you, appreciate your understanding, Secretary Mu. I shall report back to the chairman now."

"Sure."

Mu Zhi did not say another word. She hung up the call and prepared to go for a shower.

But as soon as she stepped into the bathroom, her phone went off again. She could only turn back for the phone and realized the call came from Linda.

Moreover, this time, Linda was even more hesitant.

She was seemingly unwilling to say a word.

"Did Lu Jinye give a new order?"

Mu Zhi had to initiate the conversation.

"Mmm," On the end of the phone, Linda just hummed helplessly.

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Chapter 139 Mr Lu Is Such a Cold-Blooded Creature

Mu Zhi curved her lips upward involuntarily to let out a scornful smile.

She thought she had Lu Jinye figured. But it seemed like she was too naïve to think so. The truth of the matter was, she never understood him.

"Go ahead."

Mu Zhi's tone was calm and composed.

"Umm... Secretary Mu, Mr. Lu said to settle the debt and move out from the apartment as soon as possible, which means he can't <u>wait for a week."</u>

Linda's voice became increasingly softer towards the end. She too, agreed that Lu Jinye had gone too far.

But it did not seem to bother Mu Zhi. She responded indifferently, "Mmm, ok."

"Umm..." Linda started stuttering once again, "I understand that what happens between Mr. Lu and you are personal, but I think you shouldn't be too adamant, Secretary Mu, that is humiliating to Mr. Lu."

"Linda, thank you, I need to go take a shower."

Mu Zhi felt every bit of strength drained out of her. She could hardly manage to keep on with the phone call, so she wanted to hang up the call.

Linda did not pursue further and hung up right away.

Mu Zhi entered the bathroom, carefully avoided her injured elbow as she took a shower. After that, she went to lie on the bed. Her mind was completely blank throughout the process.

She did not ponder on Lu Jinye's actions. Why he chose to do that and what his intentions were. She could not even bring herself to figure what was going through his mind during his decision making. Her mind was as blank as the eyeballs of the dead.

But she struggled to get some sleep. Her eyes were gaped open throughout the night until the first sunlight pierced the sky. She only managed to get a little sleep at dawn.

Mu Zhi was woken up by Liang Yunzhan's call. He chivalrously invited Mu Xiaomu to his home for a play date. Realizing that she did not have the time to take care of Mu Xiaomu under the circumstances, she agreed to his invitation.

Liang Yunzhan sent his man to pick up Mu Xiaomu. It was around ten in the morning.

But less than half an hour after Mu Xiaomu was gone, Mu Zhi heard a series of clamoring coming from outside. The noise grew by the minute.

Following closely, the sound appeared to be right by her doorstep, "Here, it's here, hang on, let me open it."

Mu Zhi's apartment was the only unit on the floor. Listening to the noise, she could not help but come to the door. Before the person outside managed to unlock it, she had opened it from inside. She stared and frowned at the fine-looking lady who rocked a youthful outfit, accompanied by an exceptionally arrogant demeanor.

The lady had plenty of servants following behind her, carrying her luggage of various sizes.

"How can I help you?"

Mu Zhi took the initiation to greet her.

The lady sized up Mu Zhi with a contemptuous smile, "How shameless of you? Why don't you move away? Didn't Ye abandon you? Hurry up and pack already."

In between her words, she did not even allow Mu Zhi to invite her before brushing past Mu Zhi and headed into the room, oblivious of anyone's presence.

She then comfortably sat on the couch, and waved a hand at the men outside, "Move them in, move them in!"

"Who are you?"

The moment the words slipped her tongue, Mu Zhi could not help but regret.

Who else could the lady be? She must be Lu Jinye's new paramour.

The lady scoffed proudly, "It doesn't matter who I am. All that matters is that you are nothing but a deserted woman. And what you need to do now is to quickly pack up and leave, I'm moving in!"

She lifted her watch, and added, "It is ten in the morning, I'll head downstairs for a spa session, followed by lunch. I will be back around twelve. When I'm back, I hope you'll no longer be around, Miss Mu!"

Mu Zhi raised her captivating eyes to look that the woman, then said with a smile, "Sure."

Then, she turned around to return to her bedroom and gave Liang Yunzhan a call.

Luckily... Mu Xiaomu had been picked up, so Mu Zhi had the time and space to pack.

It also saved her from having had to explain to Mu Xiaomu.

However, one of her arms was plastered while the other had graze wounds. Alas, in an awkward fashion, she had no way to tidy her belongings even if she wanted to...

Despite not having too much stuff, and most of which were daily necessities, it would take a while to pack them up.

Just as Mu Zhi was struck by trouble, Linda suddenly showed up at Mu Zhi's doorstep. She entered with an apologetic expression, saying, "I didn't know Mr. Lu would be like this. Let me help you."

Mu Zhi displayed a listless front. There was not a tinge of fury on her face. All she did was nod at Linda, "Appreciate it."

Linda did not waste another second... She hurriedly started tidying Mu Zhi's belongings.

The curiosity within her was itching. She had been dying to ask Mu Zhi about what happened between her and the chairman. It was obvious to Linda that Mu Zhi was irreplaceable in Mr. Lu's heart.

How did Mu Zhi get ousted by a random woman?

But looking at the apathy on Mu Zhi's face, Linda swallowed all questions that were on the tip of her tongue.

Because... Mu Zhi did not seem to be bothered.

With Linda's help, Mu Zhi managed to pack up all her belongings and called for a truck to move everything away. It was difficult to find a place to move to in such a short notice, so Mu Zhi ended up moving her stuff to a hotel.

While maneuvering the stuff around in the hotel room, Linda did not forget to show her disapproval for Lu Jinye, "I think Mr. Lu has pushed too far this time. You didn't even ask to move into his apartment in the first place, he was the one who insisted you to move in. How could he chase you guys away like that?"

With one hand, Mu Zhi carefully opened the zip of a little pouch to take out the facial products she was supposed to use during the day as she looked at Linda, and said gently, "Do you need to report back to Lu Jinye? You should get going, it's almost twelve now. If his new paramour catches you here, she might snitch on you."

"Oh damn, I should run now. Mr. Lu told me to observe your behavior, and report my observation to him."

Linda seized her bag anxiously and then stormed out the door.

She shut the hotel door behind her with a bang as she left. She had little awareness of how much force to assert. The loud bang echoed in the room, contrasting its desolation and bleakness.

Mu Zhi stared at the shut door for a long moment when the words 'out with the old, in with the new' flashed across her mind. But very quickly, she managed to dismiss the hilarious thoughts in her head.

She was not the 'old' because they were not lovers to being with. It was just a listless, contracted marriage.

Of course, she did not wish to cry.

She made the bed herself, so she had to lie in it. She must not cry over it.

Mu Zhi sat in the gloomy hotel room for a long moment before making a call to Liang Yunzhan, informing him of her new address, telling him to send Mu Xiaomu back to the Yunteng Hotel.

Shanze's building spanned into the clouds of the sky. Lu Jinye stood by the window, gazing down at the hustle-bustle of the city with a frown.

At this moment, Linda knocked on the door, to report what she had seen.

Lu Jinye did not turn back. He ordered her to come in, and when she did, she had her eyes on his back as she reported, "Mr. Lu, Miss Milan has moved into your apartment."

"Sure."

Lu Jinye answered clearly, yet there was no trace of emotion in his tone.

"Mu Zhi has moved away too."

Linda added. She glimpsed at Lu Jinye, hoping that he would turn around so she could see his expression.

But he didn't. Disregarding Linda's remark, all he said to her was, "You may leave."

Linda could not help but comply.

She felt sorry for Secretary Mu Zhi. How great was Secretary Mu! Regardless of looks and intelligence, Mu Zhi was superior to the Milan lady. Milan was nothing but a fine-looking vessel. She... Could not even compare to Xiao Qingqing!

Why? Why did Mr. Lu suddenly take a liking on another woman, and choose to drive Mu Zhi out?!

That was unfair!

Mr. Lu was such a cold-blooded creature.

After Linda had left, Lu Jinye finally turned around. Showing no emotion, he sat by his desk and started going through the documents.

He was barely two lines into the document before Xiao Qingqing's figure appeared by the door.

She walked into the office slowly, and then gently said to Lu Jinye, "Jinye, I miss you, so I dropped by to see you. I've just finished my check-up, the baby is doing well."

She let out a dazzling smile.

However, before Lu Jinye could say a word, a series of rapid, clanking sounds arose from outside the door. Following closely, an alluring figure entered his office with a wiggle in her walk.

Oblivious to Xiao Qingqing, Milan made a beeline to Lu Jinye, wrapped her arms around his waist, and said in a coquettish tone, "Ye, I've moved in. Thank you for the accommodation."

"Take your hands off him!"

Lu Jinye had not shown any response when Xiao Qingqing uttered the order apathetically.

Her voice frightened Milan.

She seemed to have just woken up from a dream as she turned around to glance at Xiao Qingqing, provoking her with scorn, "Yo, when did you come here? I didn't see you. Sorry, you are..."

"Scram."

Xiao Qingqing did not even bother letting Milan finish her words. She pointed at the door and commanded.

"Who the hell are you to tell me to scram? Do you have any idea who I am?!"

"Scram!"

Milan was just asserting her dominance over Xiao Qingqing when...

Lu Jinye's voice sounded behind her.

In this instance, Milan hurriedly spun around to look at Lu Jinye in disbelief. Her gaped eyes were paired with a pair of expressive, dark pupils, thinking that she had heard wrong.

Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 140

Chapter 140 Ex-Husband's Proposal To His New Love

"Just leave."

Lu Jinye reiterated himself coldly.

Milan was starting to get perturbed. She hurriedly threw herself towards Lu Jinye, reaching out for his arm, but he dodged her with a side-step.

"I'll make sure my secretary gives you a satisfactory sum of money. Take the money and get out of my company, I don't want to see your face again!"

"Ye, what did I do wrong?"

Milan asked nervously, her eyes were brimming with tears.

But Lu Jinye's expression remained cold and listless.

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He completely ignored her, refusing to spare even a glance at her.

Milan then switched her helpless gaze to Xiao Qingging, who was standing at the side.

Lu Jinye only started to be upset after what she said to this woman. She must have crossed the woman...

Thus, she scrambled to run up to Xiao Qingqing, and bow at her from the waist, "Sorry, sis, I didn't mean it. I don't mind sharing Ye with you. I'm ignorant. Please don't mind me, please don't make Ye chase me away."

Xiao Qingqing could not be bothered to look at her. She walked straight up to Lu Jinye, and said to him, "There's a new florist downstairs, shall we go and buy some flowers?"

She disregarded Milan's existence.

While Lu Jinye spontaneously allowed Xiao Qingqing to hold his arm. He did not bat an eye at the sobbing Milan as he headed out his office with Xiao Qingqing.

When Milan wanted to chase after him, Lu Jinye's cold glare instantly pushed her away.

She waited for a long while before going into the elevator alone, headed to the ground floor in the gloom.

Linda and an intern came out of the pantry with coffee in their hands. Upon witnessing the scene, both of them could not help but tremble.

The intern looked at Linda, and asked curiously, "The chairman drove Secretary Mu out of his apartment for this Milan lady, then dumped Milan for Miss Xiao Qingqing... Does that mean we can deduce that Miss Xiao Qingqing is superior to Miss Milan, while Miss Milan is greater than Miss Mu Zhi in Mr. Lu's eyes?"

Linda stared at the shut doors of the elevator sorrowfully before heaving a lamenting sigh.

She had no idea.

She could only shake her head lightly, saying, "Who knows what the chairman is thinking? Sigh."

Xiao Qingqing clutched Lu Jinye's arm all the way out of the Shanze building.

She felt as though they were a pair of a loving couple.

But there was no joy in her heart.

Before making her way to the company, she had heard the news of Lu Jinye's visit to the bar. Subsequently, she had also heard about Mu Zhi being chased away by another woman.

At the time, Xiao Qingging was unquestionably delighted to hear the news.

After all, Mu Zhi had lost her footing in Lu Jinye's heart. She should be glad about that.

However, when Xiao Qingqing came to the company and saw the 'heroine' who drove Mu Zhi away, she became greatly disappointed.

The woman did not belong to their league at all...

She could hardly even meet Xiao Qingqing's eyes, let alone replacing Mu Zhi in Lu Jinye's heart.

At that thought, Xiao Qingqing raised her eyes to look at Lu Jinye, who was gazing at the lilies in a fair distance away.

She swiftly brushed off her train of thoughts, and grabbed the bouquet of lilies Lu Jinye was eyeing, "Jinye, this is pretty."

"If you like it, I can buy the entire shop for you."

"..." Xiao Qingqing gawked at Lu Jinye in shock, clasping the bouquet of lilies in her hands.

But Lu Jinye did not look like he was making a joke.

At the same time, he had lifted the phone in his hand, dialed Linda's number, and told her to take care of the acquisition of the florist.

Linda placed the cup of coffee on the table with a clank and rushed to the ground floor.

Following that, Lu Jinye canceled every appointment in the day just to spend time with Xiao Qingqing.

Xiao Qingqing was a celebrity. Despite her pregnancy, she was able to attend some easy-going events. Lu Jinye chauffeured her to a talk show recording, accompanied her to a banquet, and brought her to the company for a meeting.

Xiao Qingqing had been in the limelight recently due to the exposé revolving around Lu Jinye's divorce from Mu Zhi, just to get married to her.

But! Having Lu Jinye followed her around for the entire day was a rare sight, hence members of the media were enthusiastically making a big deal out of it.

Xiao Qingqing was not bothered. She rather enjoyed staying in the limelight, allowing reporters to snap numerous photos of them together.

In the past, Lu Jinye would never attend such events. But he was surprisingly cooperative today.

. . .

Meanwhile, after Mu Zhi had settled down, Liang Yunzhan informed her that Mu Xiaomu would stay at his place for dinner, and he would drop her home after the meal. Mu Zhi then went downstairs to buy some takeaway dishes and brought them back into her hotel room.

The deafening silence in her room was uncanny. She could almost hear her breathing echoing in the room. It was the first time Mu Zhi realized that she hated the feeling of loneliness. Thus, she turned on the TV.

Alas, it was just in time for the entertainment news, as the daily news broadcast had just finished airing.

Any channel that Mu Zhi switched to, she would see Xiao Qingqing and Lu Jinye's intimate interaction. She did not feel like seeing Lu Jinye's news. This type of news did not interest her at all.

So, she started switching channels like a madwoman.

At this moment, a sudden glittering light illuminated the sky.

There was a fireworks show.

Mu Zhi put down the TV remote control, left the TV on, and walked towards the window to enjoy the magnificent fireworks just to distract herself.

Numerous fireworks brought glamour upon every corner of City A.

Some of the fireworks showed delicate designs of different artworks. The heart shapes told Mu Zhi that it might be a love confession.

At the time, it did not occur to Mu Zhi who might be behind the fireworks. She figured it might be a game of a prodigal son from a wealthy family. When she lifted her head, she could see an airplane zooming across the sky. Trailing the airplane was the dazzling glow of lights that wrote, 'Jinye loves Qingqing'.

Those words made Mu Zhi's heart skip a beat as she did not see it coming.

Lu Jinye was confessing his love for Xiao Qingging.

It meant that the fireworks were released as part of his surprise confession for her...

At that thought, Mu Zhi had lost all interest in watching the fireworks show. She swiftly returned to the TV screen and started flipping channels to find a drama series to divert her attention.

When she came before the TV, it was still showing the same channel before the fireworks. Coincidentally, the channel was airing footage of Lu Jinye and Xiao Qingqing, where the reporter had interviewed Lu Jinye, "When do you plan to propose to Xiao Qingqing, and when do you plan to marry her?"

Lu Jinye answered, "We can't tell you that yet, that'll ruin the surprise."

The interview was recorded during the day. After all, it had only been hours between the interview to his proposal at night.

True enough, the element of surprise was kept flawlessly.

Mu Zhi was putting all efforts to persuade herself not to dwell on it. These should all be well within her expectation... But she could not help but feel upset.

She had lost all her appetite for the dinner she just bought.

She realized that she did not understand Lu Jinye at all. She could not comprehend how Lu Jinye managed to forget everything that happened a day prior within a day.

He even acted as though nothing had happened.

Or, in the other words, Lu Jinye might have never loved her.

Otherwise, why would he change so easily...

Regardless of how convinced Mu Zhi was that she might never be a significant figure to Lu Jinye at all, she could not help but feel upset when the truth struck her.

The sorrow was uncontrollable.

On the TV screen, Xiao Qingqing's dazzling smile was soring to Mu Zhi's eyes. Lu Jinye's smile was even more unpleasant.

But she did not switch channels, forcing herself to watch them, as though torturing herself.

Mu Zhi made herself finish the entertainment news and had no intention to switch channels even during the advertisement session.

The fireworks outside lasted for over a full hour. After an hour, gossips of Lu Jinye's glamorous proposal swiftly took multiple social media platforms by storm.

Mu Zhi read every single article, from the top page to the last.

Great... Time to let go.

Mu Zhi put down her phone. Her eyes were dry and uncomfortable, so she headed to the bathroom to wash her face. When she was done, her phone went off. She headed to the lobby to pick up Mu Xiaomu.

Mu Xiaomu looked at Mu Zhi in confusion, asking her why they were living in a different place.

Mu Zhi explained, "Because grandma is going another place to get treatment. We need to pack our things and follow grandma."

Mu Xiaomu had a great play date today. Exhausted, she did not spend too much time chatting with Mu Zhi. Mu Zhi would usually be required to coax her to sleep, but Mu Xiaomu fell asleep next to her eyes after just playing on her own briefly.

Mu Zhi carried Mu Xiaomu to the bed, then went to sit down on the chair next to the bed, staring at the air blankly.

What is Lu Jinye doing right now? He might be over the moon...

Her phone rang once again, Mu Zhi did not look at the name before answering the call. From the other end of the phone came Lu Junnian's voice. "Where are you?" He merely said the three words.

Mu Zhi rose to her feet and gazed down the window. Her mind was empty. She had forgotten where she was...

After a long pause, she said, "The hotel."

"Do you want to get a drink?"

"Xiaomu is asleep, I can't go out now."

Lu Junnian was silenced for a moment before saying, "Then, give me your address."

Mu Zhi did not read much into it. She just sent her location to Lu Junnian.

Not long after, a series of door-knocks arose. It was not Lu Junnian, but food delivery.

The food deliverer brought a serve of crayfish, meat skewers, and three bottles of beer.

After receiving the food, Mu Zhi noticed a note on the bag, 'If your alcohol tolerance is still the same, three bottles should be enough to settle you to sleep. Don't push yourself.'

Mu Zhi stared at the few lines of words. The unreadable chicken scratch resembled how a junior school student would write.

But the tone sounded exactly like Lu Junnian...

He was the only person who was clear of her alcohol tolerance.

Mu Zhi chuckled helplessly. Realizing that what she experienced felt like a scene taken out of the drama series.

Her ex-husband had just proposed to his new love, while her ex-boyfriend came forward to comfort her.