

Falling for the Contract Bride Chapter 186

Chapter 186 Are You Saying That You Love Me?

His words made the pinkness of her cheeks dissolve into crimson red.

Mu Zhi held her palms over both sides of her cheeks, "You must've turned the heater up too high in the car, and my face becomes red due to the sudden temperature change."

She thought that it was a solid justification.

But Lu Jinye smiled from ear to ear.

After all... There're moments when this woman loses her wits.

He chose to expose her with a pretentiously caring and tolerating smile, "What month is it? Why would I turn on the heater?"

At the sound of the words, Mu Zhi blushed to the roots of her hair. She turned her face away in embarrassment, then said, "Umm, I'm tired and I need to take a shower."

Following that, she disregarded Lu Jinye and scrambled to enter the bathroom for her shower.

During shower, Mu Zhi could feel her heart thumping rapidly due to what Lu Jinye said to her.

However, Mu Zhi managed to cool herself from the shower.

She must not succumb to him.

Lu Jinye was irrational. He was not aware of how pitiful a child could be to grow up without a father.

He might have been misled by Mu Xiaomu's adorable temperament. Thus, Mu Xiaomu received preferential treatment from him.

Meanwhile, Xiao Qingqing was handicapped because her baby was still in her womb. Without Lu Jinye, the baby would only bring Xiao Qingqing anxiousness and misery. He would never understand what Xiao Qingqing was going through.

Mu Xiaomu grew up without a father. Just because Mu Zhi's child was fatherless, it did not give her the right to rob another child of their father.

She had concluded during the span of her shower.

After drying herself, Mu Zhi changed into her usual pajamas, then left the bathroom.

Lu Jinye was sitting on the couch, going through work documents with knitted brows.

Seeing that Mu Zhi was done, he looked at her and explained, "I need to do some work, you can go to bed first."

"It's fine, I'll wait for you."

Mu Zhi refused Lu Jinye and slowly headed to the couch adjacent to him. She started reading a book while waiting for Lu Jinye to be finished with work.

Lu Jinye did not spare any attention to Mu Zhi in the beginning, fixated on the documents.

He raised his eyes to glance at her when he was done, only to notice that Mu Zhi had furrowed her brows adorably as she was reading the book.

Sensing Lu Jinye's gaze, Mu Zhi lifted her head and blushed yet again in the blink of an eye, "What is it? Are you done with work?"

"Yeah."

Lu Jinye responded.

He had his eyes locked on Mu Zhi's appealing charms.

Mu Zhi pursed her lips and placed the book at the side, then looked at Lu Jinye with a stern face, "I think there are some things we need to discuss."

The smile of Lu Jinye's smile vanished into his listless expression upon noticing her adamance.

"Ok."

Lu Jinye's reply made Mu Zhi feel a little nervous.

She swallowed and raised her eyes to meet his gaze, "Lu Jinye, I don't think I could rob Xiao Qingqing's child of their father. Please organize another wedding with Miss Xiao."

Judging by how madly in love Xiao Qingqing was with Lu Jinye, regardless of what he had done to her, he should be able to easily coax her into marriage.

However, Lu Jinye stared at Mu Zhi, seemingly upset as he asked, "Why are you so eager to push me away?"

Mu Zhi trembled. She did not know what to say.

When did she ever become an overly sensitive woman before Lu Jinye's eyes?

Throughout their contracted marriage, she had always been a carefree lady!

"Because I grew up without a dad, Xiaomu grew up without a dad too, I know how tormenting it feels to not have a father."

Mu Zhi explained with her head hung.

Lu Jinye was planning to put the work documents away when he was done in the first place. But in this instance, he was clutching a file in his hand with a pause.

"I'll give Mu Xiaomu a father now."

Answered Lu Jinye.

He was a little overbearing when he said those words.

Mu Zhi was startled briefly. She insisted on maintaining her composure. She put all efforts to make herself sound as calm as she could. "But, that's not fair to Xiao Qingqing's child."

Listening to what she had to say, Lu Jinye placed the document in his hand on the desk.

A concoction of confusion and upset flashed across his eyes. He stared at Mu Zhi intently, and in response, Mu Zhi... Backed off a little.

"So, if I marry Xiao Qingqing, is that fair to Mu Xiaomu? Is that fair to you?"

Lu Jinye questioned.

"And is that fair to me?"

"I recognize my mistakes from the beginning, but even if I'm in the wrong, I should have the right to choose what I want to do. Besides, just because I loved the wrong person in the past doesn't mean that I should be bound to my mistake for the rest of my life. As the matter of fact, if I choose to do that, it's even more unfair to Xiao Qingqing and everyone else!"

Mu Zhi's heart skipped a beat. She did not expect Lu Jinye to say these at all.

Hesitating, she had no idea what to say to Lu Jinye.

Her lips were shuddering. She was left wordless for a long moment.

Meanwhile, after staring at Mu Zhi for a while and seeing that she did not say a thing, Lu Jinye added, "I used to hate Master Lu in the past, which is why I swore to never take after him! I wanted to be loyal, to stay with the same person throughout my life."

"But I later noticed that I don't love Xiao Qingqing anymore."

"So, I was beginning to understand Master Lu."

"It is not wrong to stay with who I love, and if it is wrong, I don't want to be right."

Lu Jinye gazed at Mu Zhi solemnly. His eyes were brimming with care and affection for Mu Zhi at this point.

And the shock in Mu Zhi's heart could not be put into words!

Did Lu Jinye say that... He only wants to stay with who he loves?

He isn't staying because he wants to be responsible for Mu Xiaomu?!

What did that mean? The person he loves is... Her. Mu Zhi!

Mu Zhi clenched her fists tightly.

"Lu Jinye, are you saying... That you love me?"

Mu Zhi took her time to muster her courage and articulate the few simple words but somehow ended up stuttering in the end.

Her teeth were chattering when she said that.

With his eyes locked on her, Lu Jinye said nothing. He strode forward and came before Mu Zhi's eyes, then cupped her face in his palm.

And placed a kiss on her lips.

The kiss felt anxious and a little possessive.

Lu Jinye was eager to squeeze Mu Zhi towards himself.

Panting rapidly, Lu Jinye let go of her and proclaimed, "Yes."

Mu Zhi stood rooted to the ground. She had no idea what to say anymore!

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Lu Jinye understood Mu Zhi's concerns. He gently placed both hands on her shoulders, stared into her eyes fixedly, and said, "Not only do I want to give Xiaomu a home, but I also want to give you a home too."

Mu Zhi looked at Lu Jinye.

It was rare for him to express his feelings. She could not sense anything odd from his facial expression.

She wouldn't notice it even if a man like him tried to deceive her.

Thus, Mu Zhi turned her face away.

She drew a quiet, deep breath, turned around, and walked towards the window, opening it to air the room. She desperately needed a breath of fresh air.

Lu Jinye watched her for a long while before slowly headed towards her, "What are your worries?"

Before Mu Zhi could respond, Lu Jinye's phone went off.

He lowered his head to glance at the screen. It was from Master Lu. So, he promptly answered it.

The butler came from the phone, "Master wishes to see you, he's just been discharged from the hospital."

Lu Jinye looked at Mu Zhi reluctantly, then responded, "Got it, I'm on my way."

After hanging up the call, he came next to Mu Zhi, "I need to visit master Lu, can you please wait for me?"

Mu Zhi raised her head to gaze at him. She was hesitant but ultimately nodded at him.

Lu Jinye embraced her before leaving.

Meanwhile, after he left, Mu Zhi slowly moved towards the couch and turned on the TV, hoping to distract herself.

Then, the sound of the doorbell nudged her back to her senses.

Who could be visiting at this hour?

Mu Zhi was dumbfounded. She swiftly headed to the door and found out that Xiao Qingqing was standing outside. She faltered and opened the door. Without inviting her in, Mu Zhi asked, "Miss Xiao, how can I help you?"

Xiao Qingqing chuckled, "Am I not allowed to visit you? Secretary Mu, I must say that your schemes are admirable!"

It was a breezy night. The bottom of Xiao Qingqing's white veil skirt floated in the air from the listless breeze. Her facial complexion looked pale and feeble. Mu Zhi could not tell whether it was the lack of light or makeup that gave Xiao Qingqing that appearance.

Standing in the windy night, it felt like Xiao Qingqing might be blown away at any moment.

Mu Zhi then glimpsed at the lounge and invited Xiao Qingqing into the house, "Miss Xiao, come in. It's windy out there, let's talk inside."

Xiao Qingqing uttered a snort. She replied with a scornful expression, "There's no need, we can stand here. Miss Mu, I don't like it when you're bragging your position as the hostess."

Mu Zhi would normally sympathize with Xiao Qingqing.

But her attitude made it difficult for Mu Zhi to keep her heart compassionate.

Mu Zhi sighed helplessly, "Never mind, if you insist to stand by the door, then make it quick in case you catch a cold."

"You don't need to show concern for me! Stop pretending to be a kind person after seizing Lu Jinye from me! That's disgusting!"

Xiao Qingqing bellowed maliciously.

Mu Zhi stared at Xiao Qingqing while biting her lower lip. She could understand the hatred coming from Xiao Qingqing. After all, members of the media crowded her wedding day and she was a public figure.

Even these were not the case; any woman would be upset when their groom fled from their wedding.

Thus, Mu Zhi did not retaliate against Xiao Qingqing.

However, seeing as Mu Zhi kept mum, Xiao Qingqing became increasingly enraged, "Miss Mu, how do you manage to enchant Jinye? Is it with your skills in bed? I can't think of any other reason. How do you compare to the years of relationship Jinye and I have been in? Besides, your life choices are rather intriguing."

"Seeing that you're willing to set aside Lu Junnian, who is madly in love with you, and insist on seizing someone who belongs to others!"

Her jeering pushed Mu Zhi over her limits.

She clenched her fists uncontrollably, then drew a deep breath before glaring at Xiao Qingqing. “Miss Xiao, I understand that you’re filled with hatred. Things are not as simple as you think they are. Also, I hope you could watch your words.”

“Haha!” Xiao Qingqing responded with a fit of menacing laugh.

“What did I say to offend you? About your life choices? Your skills in bed? I think these are nothing but the truth, it fits right in with you!”

Mu Zhi frowned slightly. She could not be bothered to waste another second on Xiao Qingqing. She glanced at the darkness behind Xiao Qingqing and snapped, “Miss Xiao, it’s late. I suppose you came for Lu Jinye, but he’s not around. Feel free to give him a call. If there’s nothing else you need, I shall leave you here.”

Mu Zhi had a hand on the door and she was just about to shut it.

However, Xiao Qingqing suddenly leaped forward and jammed her fingers in between the door gap. “Miss Mu, don’t be too anxious to close the door. Don’t you think that it makes you look guilty?”

Mu Zhi could feel steam shooting out of her ears.

She was out of rational words!

She was even wondering to herself what was the right expression to wear!

But all of a sudden, Xiao Qingqing scrunched her forehead like she was in excruciating pain. She muttered, “Ahh, it hurts, Dr. Mu, why does my belly hurt so bad?”

Mu Zhi was not a gynecologist, but she was certain that sudden sharp pain was bad news for Xiao Qingqing.

Mu Zhi did not have the heart to ignore Xiao Qingqing, despite how unlikeable she was.

She reached out to support Xiao Qingqing before she fell, then said, “Hurry up and come in, let me take a look at you. Which part of your belly is hurting?”

However, the instance Mu Zhi came in contact with Xiao Qingqing, Xiao Qingqing viciously tried to shake her off.

She took two flurried steps backwards, staggered for balance, and stumbled to the ground.

Mu Zhi was perturbed at the sight.

While Xiao Qingqing screamed, "Call the ambulance, quick, I beg you, Dr. Mu, please call the ambulance at once!"

Mu Zhi hastily called the ambulance and within moments, the ambulance arrived at the scene. Mu Zhi followed the paramedics into the ambulance to ensure Xiao Qingqing was fine.

But Xiao Qingqing burst into tears, crying, "Mu Zhi, please, don't come along!"

Mu Zhi could only oblige.

She was certain that there was no blood coming from Xiao Qingqing when she was brought into the ambulance on a stretcher. Thus, it was unlikely that she would suffer from a miscarriage.

At that thought, Mu Zhi was slightly more relieved.

However, little did she expect that after Xiao Qingqing was sent away in the ambulance, she would open her browser to learn that she was the top search on the browser!

Moreover, all of the captions related to her were bewildering!

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Chapter 188 Mu Zhi, You're Gross!

The headlines were along the lines of –

'You won't believe that SHE was the reason Lu Jinye was absent during his wedding!'

'The most despicable mistress you will ever see!'

'Not only did she steal Xiao Qingqing's man, but she also shoved Qingqing to the ground, leading to miscarriage!'

'Mu Zhi, the malicious woman!'

'Mu Zhi, you're gross!'

Out of the top twenty searches on the browser, Mu Zhi made the top five!

More From The Web

Mu Zhi opened the first link on the list. The article accused Mu Zhi as the culprit for Lu Jinye's absence to his wedding. There were even photos of Lu Jinye having fun at

Disneyland with Mu Zhi and Mu Xiaomu! Moreover, Mu Xiaomu's face was not censored out.

Further down the post was a photo of Mu Zhi without any makeup on. She was malevolently compared to Xiao Qingqing and it was concluded that she had gone through contemptible means to win over Lu Jinye's heart!

Mu Zhi was enraged. She tapped on the second link furiously – 'The most despicable mistress you will ever see!'

It started as a detailed recollection of the beginning of Xiao Qingqing and Lu Jinye's relationships in the earlier years. Everything Lu Jinye did for Xiao Qingqing made their story look like a perfect fairy tale but it ended in melancholy due to the interference of Mu Zhi, the mistress!

The post was flooded with numerous explicit attacks directed at Mu Zhi!

Reading through the comments, she was even starting to be convinced that she was the real paramour here, stopping Lu Jinye from chasing his true love!

Mu Zhi was restless. Oblivious of her feelings, she tapped the third link open, with mentions of Xiao Qingqing's miscarriage.

In this post, Mu Zhi was depicted as a flirtatious woman who seduced Lu Jinye with a series of pictures in a collage that conveniently supported their narratives! The most jaw-dropping aspect of this post was that the photos were taken recently!

The poster went through great lengths to divide the photos into several chapters. The first chapter portrayed Xiao Qingqing confronting Mu Zhi, and that was followed by a seemingly annoyed Mu Zhi after hearing at Xiao Qingqing's jeering earlier. Combined together, the pictures suggested that Xiao Qingqing came to Mu Zhi in good-will but the bitch, Mu Zhi gave Xiao Qingqing the attitude in return.

Then, Xiao Qingqing looked troubled after an exchange of words!

In the end, Mu Zhi 'shoved' Xiao Qingqing 'violently'!

With seemingly solid photo evidence, the audacity of Mu Zhi would get under any reader's skin!

Mu Zhi became increasingly infuriated.

She could no longer coerce herself to read the following contents. Placing her iPad on the table, she was preparing to wash up before going to bed, to get away from the vexatious accusations.

After washing her face, Mu Zhi felt a little hungry, perhaps from the sheer amount of walking she did earlier in the day paired with the unusually early dinner that evening. Thus, she cooked a bowl of ramen for herself.

She had just put down the piping hot bowl on the dining table when Lu Jinye entered the house. His face was cold as ice. Glaring at Mu Zhi, he questioned, "How do you still have the appetite for food?"

"I'm hungry."

Mu Zhi did not turn her face to Lu Jinye in the beginning. Thus, she did not catch a glimpse of his grim expression.

However, Lu Jinye's voice astonished her. She promptly raised her head.

Lu Jinye was already before her eyes. He said, "Do you know about Xiao Qingqing's admittance to the hospital? Why would you do that?"

He had expressed his choice for her and Mu Xiaomu. Why would Mu Zhi attack Xiao Qingqing, leading to her miscarriage?

"Xiao Qingqing has miscarried?"

Mu Zhi frowned. To her knowledge, it was unlikely of Xiao Qingqing to have injured the baby in the womb from her fall. But by the looks of Lu Jinye's anxious reaction, the situation appeared to be more serious than she thought.

Lu Jinye jeered spitefully, "Isn't that what you wished for?"

His words killed what appetite Mu Zhi had in the first place.

She left the ramen on the table, stood to her feet, and stared at Lu Jinye unwaveringly, "Is that what you think of me? This is a misunderstanding. She was only gone for a few minutes before I became a hot search!"

Mu Zhi was trying to knock some sense into Lu Jinye.

"So, you're saying that Xiao Qingqing had arranged for someone to snap photos of you? Are you accusing her of fake falling to make the headlines?"

Lu Jinye scowled.

Xiao Qingqing might be mischievous at times, but in Lu Jinye's eyes, she would never hold malicious intentions.

She was frank and sometimes a little self-centered. But the combination of her frankness and self-centeredness made him hard to believe that she would bother scheming against another person.

For instance what happened years ago when Lu Jinye broke up with Xiao Qingqing.

Lu Jinye gave up the entire family business just so he could date Xiao Qingqing. He joined her in her venture overseas as a blessing to further her career in the States.

However, the ordinary love they had ultimately crumbled in the face of reality.

Xiao Qingqing did not separate with Lu Jinye due to the interference of a paramour like the melodramas would depict, nor was there a flaw to their relationship

It was in the middle of the night, years ago, when Xiao Qingqing left the movie theater with a heavy and elegant makeup like a superstar. She asked Lu Jinye, "Am I pretty?"

"Yeah," Lu Jinye uttered.

Xiao Qingqing continued, "Then, what do you think of my acting skills?"

Lu Jinye acknowledged in a similar note.

Xiao Qingqing pressed on, "Do you think that I will be a superstar one day? To be the most famous actress in the world."

Lu Jinye nodded.

But in response, Xiao Qingqing said with mixed feelings, "Let's break up." Because Lu Jinye was not able to help her achieve her dreams. She thought that she would climb higher and faster alone.

Lu Jinye gazed at her. He did not say a word to persuade her to stay.

He respected her decision.

Lu Jinye had never been one to plead with someone else to change their minds dramatically. Regardless of how much he loved Xiao Qingqing, he ended up burying himself in despair as he left, adamant to hide his feelings from the people around him.

At the end of the day, Lu Jinye and Xiao Qingqing were not meant to be.

Xiao Qingqing's frankness had nonetheless been branded to his mind.

Even though she had returned in the present to salvage their broken relationship, he was certain that Xiao Qingqing had not changed.

Someone who was adamant to be the top of the world would never resort to despicable tricks.

Thus, Lu Jinye did not believe Mu Zhi's surmise.

However, he did not pursue further. All he did was glance at Mu Zhi, rubbed his temples, and said, "I have work to do, let me think about it."

Sure, whatever suits you. Mu Zhi thought to herself.

Mu Zhi grabbed her bowl of soggy ramen and dunked them in the bin before heading into the bedroom to sleep.

After all, she had been through several backlashes from the internet community earlier. She figured that the rumors would eventually die off anyway.

The following day, Lu Jinye had already left for work by the time Mu Zhi was awake.

She checked the date and realized that it was time to respond to the job offers from the previous interviews.

Mu Zhi decided to reach out to the companies.

But when she called the first company, the representative did not listen to a word she said after she introduced herself. "Apologies, Miss Mu Zhi, after careful consideration, we think that you might not be suitable to work with the company. Best wishes to you!"

It was the first time she was rejected in that fashion.

Mu Zhi followed up closely with the second call...

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Chapter 189 I Don't Like Taking Gifts From Another Man

Mu Zhi was clutching her phone before it was answered in a few seconds. The company representative had a relatively zealous attitude during her interview just a few days prior.

However, when the same person learned that the caller was Mu Zhi, he said, "Miss Mu, apologies, the company is no longer hiring at this point. I'm afraid that we have to retract your offer letter."

Yet another one who went back on their offer.

Listening to the dull beeping tone after she was hung up on, Mu Zhi could not believe her ears.

She was calling the two companies to reject them in the first place. Nonetheless, it did not feel good to be rejected before she could say anything!

Curiosity started itching her.

She made a few more calls afterward but was rejected similarly!

More From The Web

After reaching out to all the companies she applied to, Mu Zhi was certain that there was no hope of getting a job.

She left her phone on the side, lamenting her misfortunate life.

Upon pondering for a moment, she decided to reward herself with some delicious food.

Mu Zhi dressed up and made herself presentable, adding some liveliness to her looks before bursting out the door.

However, when she arrived at the supermarket, a woman suddenly dashed up to her from afar. She came to a halt before Mu Zhi's feet, threw a nasty look at her before splashing a cup of coffee on her body.

Mu Zhi instantly trembled as the iced cubes and coffee spread across the floor.

She hurriedly patted her shirt, then stared at the woman in astonishment.

She felt a tinge of gladness... Glad that the liquid was not sulfuric acid.

At the time, apart from a bottle of water, there was nothing else in Mu Zhi's hands that she could retaliate with.

She twisted the bottle cap open and showered the woman with the water.

While maintaining a nonchalant front.

"What nerves you have, bitch!"

The woman started bellowing in response to Mu Zhi's fighting back, "You idiot!"

Mu Zhi eyed at the woman, "Bitch, how smart could you be for doing what you did?"

It was perhaps the first time Mu Zhi cursed at someone publicly. However, she too was shocked by how spontaneous the words left her lips.

The woman glared at Mu Zhi furiously, "You disgusting woman!"

By this time, Mu Zhi had already brushed past her. The woman flinched at Mu Zhi's unfaltering attitude and stood still, watching her as she left.

For some reason, despite being covered in coffee stain, Mu Zhi insisted on slowly heading to the supermarket.

Even she was confused with her actions at this point.

Not long after, another figure suddenly towered over Mu Zhi, saying, "There's a spa over there, let me bring you there for a shower and change your clothes. Let's go buy some new clothes first."

The man was Xie Xiu.

Mu Zhi raised her head to look up at him in surprise, "What are you doing here?"

She then hurriedly accepted the tissue he offered her and started wiping off the coffee stain.

Xie Xiu burst into a fit of laughter. He looked at Mu Zhi gently, "It's the first time I see someone fighting coffee with water, and instead of returning home to get changed, the victim stubbornly headed into the supermarket. Is there anything you must buy now?"

Upon getting pointed out by Xie Xiu, it dawned on Mu Zhi how foolish she must have looked.

"I don't know what I was thinking just now, don't worry about it, Mr. Xie, I'll go home to get changed now." Said Mu Zhi in embarrassment.

Mu Zhi wheeled around to leave.

However, the woman who viciously attacked Mu Zhi with coffee had not left. Seeing that Mu Zhi was being hit on by another man, the woman charged at her furiously.

She spoke to Xie Xiu like a virtuous lady, "Sir, you must have been unaware of how fake and disgusting this woman is! Don't be fooled by her gullible looks!"

Xie Xiu scowled at the woman, staring down at her.

His eyes were overwhelmed with murderous intents.

However, the woman appeared to have not realized it. "She's a home-wrecker," the woman pressed on relentlessly, "she targets wealthy men specifically."

"Enough is enough!"

Mu Zhi could no longer take it. She understood that the backlashes had stemmed from the scandalous news of her portrayal in Xiao Qingqing's miscarriage. There might be social justice warriors who felt the need to stand up for Xiao Qingqing.

She could sympathize with their stance and hoped to be patient toward them.

However, she had been pushed to her limits!

"Apologies, Mr. Xie, I need to go, in case I brought you troubles."

Finishing what she had to say, Mu Zhi intended to leave but Xie Xiu stretched an arm to stop her.

His expression was cold as he gazed at the woman calmly, "I'm not sure what the laws in this country do to people who openly defame and assault others. But ma'am, I will talk to my attorney, if you don't get out of my sight in three seconds, I will have my bodyguards escort you to the police station and allow my attorney to deal with you."

The woman did not see these words coming at all. She gaped at Xie Xiu in disbelief.

Mu Zhi too did not expect it and gawked at Xie Xiu.

However, there was not a tinge of expression on Xie Xiu's face apart from the smirk as he continued to stare at the woman.

The woman shuddered fearfully.

Xie Xiu was a fine-looking man. But his stare would send shivers down one's spine.

It was obvious that she had been intimidated by Xie Xiu's remark. She glanced at Mu Zhi before storming away.

Mu Zhi stood rooted to the ground. After a long moment, she thanked Xie Xiu shyly, "Thank you, Mr. Xie."

Xie Xiu waggled his hand with a shoulder-shrug, "It's nothing. If you want to express your gratitude, we could get a coffee together."

"Umm, looking at myself..."

Mu Zhi looked at her flustered appearance, gesturing that it might not be a suitable time for coffee.

“Then, take my suggestion. Buy a set of new clothes and take a shower before going for coffee.”

Mu Zhi could feel the uncomfortable sticky sensation on the surface of her skin. She despised that feeling.

Thus, she could only let Xie Xiu wait while she went to buy herself a new outfit. After the purchase, she headed to the nearest hotel for a shower. She came before Xie Xiu when she was done, feeling like a new person.

Xie Xiu smirked at her, “Why won’t you let me buy you new clothes and insist on buying them yourself?”

At this moment, Mu Zhi rocked a simple, casual outfit.

Her freshly blown-dry hair was draped over either side of her shoulder, dancing elegantly in the air, giving her a captivating appearance.

Mu Zhi looked at Xie Xiu and responded, “I don’t like taking gifts from men.”

Unless the gift came from Lu Jinye.

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Chapter 190 Throwing Away a Million to Make a Woman Smile

At her statement, Xie Xiu smiled but did not reply. Instead, he said, “Come this way, let’s have a cup of coffee.”

Mu Zhi followed Xie Xiu into a café without a word.

However, she did not foresee that right after she was seated, a woman across the café raised her phone and took a photo of her and Xie Xiu.

Mu Zhi noticed it because the woman did not bother to hide.

Xie Xiu took a glance at Mu Zhi and knew that she was unhappy. He got up and dashed to the woman with an outstretched hand. “Hand it over!”

He commanded authoritatively.

The woman held the phone to herself and attempted to hide it. She glanced at the man seated opposite her.

The man stood up and shouted at Xie Xiu, "Mind your own business! This has nothing to do with you. What's wrong with taking a picture of that wench?"

Xie Xiu looked to the bodyguards waiting outside.

The bodyguards rushed in immediately. Before anyone could react, one of them snatched the woman's phone and threw it away forcefully.

In an instant, the phone was smashed to pieces.

"You!"

The woman was petrified but the man still stood arrogantly. He pointed to Xie Xiu and shouted, "Give back the phone now!"

Xie Xiu sneered and turned to his bodyguards. He took out a card and gave it to them. "Withdraw ten thousand and change them into coins. Then give them to these two!"

Normally, Mu Zhi disliked such displays of power, but as she heard Xie Xiu's instructions to his bodyguards, she suddenly had the urge to laugh.

Xie Xiu wanted to take out ten thousand and change them into coins before giving them to this couple. Was he planning to crush them to death?

At the same time, she was definitely not the right person to stand up and stop Xie Xiu.

The couple was firmly prejudiced against her while Xie Xiu had stood up for her. If she were to persuade Xie Xiu to let them go, the couple would still think that she is deceitful.

So she thought she might as well do nothing and let them think whatever they want.

When the couple heard that Xie Xiu wanted to pay them with coins, their expression soured even more.

However, they were too scared of the bodyguards behind Xie Xiu to do anything.

They were obviously unhappy yet neither of them dared to say a word.

The bodyguards left and came back after a while with two full bags of coins.

The coins clinked noisily when the bags were plopped on the floor.

"These are the compensations for your phone."

The smashed phone did not even seem to be worth a thousand, but Xie Xiu gave them ten thousand. Both the man and woman were suddenly gleeful!

However, as the bags were handed to them, the bodyguards loosened their grip and let the bags drop to the floor.

The initially quiet café was suddenly filled with loud clanging of the scattered coins.

The couple stood still. They couldn't decide whether to pick up the coins or not.

If they picked the coins up, they would be without dignity like dogs.

But if they didn't, it would be such a waste.

Xie Xiu proceeded to the front of the café and said to the owner, "You can now ask these two customers to leave. I will give you one million if you will agree to never accept them as customers again."

The couple was so furious that their faces were red.

"Pfft, rich people and their filthy money."

A bystander said angrily but he did not dare to be loud.

Nevertheless, Xie Xiu heard him. He turned at him and said, "If you have even more money, you can offer them to kick me out."

At this point, he had decided that he wouldn't remain at the cafe. He went to Mu Zhi. His face gentle and kind as he spoke to her, "This is not a good place for us to chat. Let me take you somewhere else."

Mu Zhi glanced at her surroundings. The incident had made their situation awkward. It was no longer possible to remain in the café.

So she took her purse and left with Xie Xiu.

But Mu Zhi no longer had the strength to deal with another similar incident, so she said, "I am sorry Mr. Xie Xiu, let's have coffee another time. I have recently been involved in some incidents so tabloids tend to follow me everywhere. I am afraid that a similar incident will happen even if we go to another place."

"That's alright, I will get someone to send you home," he said with an understanding smile.

"There is no need. I live nearby."

Xie Xiu did not insist and got into his car.

After waving goodbye, Mu Zhi walked slowly back to her residential complex.

On the other hand, after getting into the car, Xie Xiu did not immediately instruct the driver to drive away. Instead, he waited to see which direction Mu Zhi had gone and instructed his driver, "Drive slowly and maintain some distance with the woman at the front. Do not be discovered and don't follow too closely."

The driver smiled. He understood Xie Xiu's intention. Xie Xiu obviously wanted to make sure that the woman got home safely.

The driver had worked for Xie Xiu for many years, so he knew that when Xie Xiu was with her, he seemed different from when he was with any other woman. But the driver still took a risk and asked, "Is she your new girlfriend?"

"No," Xie Xiu smiled.

"Then..."

"Why are you so concerned about her?"

Mu Zhi's home was near. Within the span of their conversation, Mu Zhi had reached her residential complex and had entered. Seeing that she had entered, Xie Xiu stopped following her.

However, Xie Xiu did not answer the driver's question. Instead, he said, "Let's return to the company."

The driver peeped at Xie Xiu from the rear mirror. He saw that Xie Xiu's gaze was sharp and his posture domineering.

He was still the same fearless and powerful man who would not let any women into his heart.

However... He kept feeling that this woman was not like any other woman to Mr. Xie Xiu.

When the car reached the junction, Xie Xiu suddenly changed his mind. His tone was indifferent as he instructed, "Turn around and send me to the hospital. I want to meet Xiao Qingqing."

The driver was surprised for a moment, but he turned the car around without question.

Meanwhile, Xiao Qingqing was lying down in the hospital while swiping the news on her phone.

Recently, she had paid reporters to dig up extensively on Mu Zhi from every angle. If there was anything newsworthy, they were to hype it up.

At the moment, the internet was trending with news of a mysterious rich man who had chased people out of a restaurant for Mu Zhi. He had even spent a million for that purpose.

He threw away a million just to make a woman smile.

Xiao Qingqing opened the news but frowned upon seeing a figure in the photograph.

Why was Xie Xiu helping Mu Zhi?

As she pondered, Xie Xiu gradually walked into the room.

Xiao Qingqing noticed him and quickly set her phone aside. She lifted her face and smiled, "Mr. Xie Xiu, it is an honor to have you coming to see me."