

## The Enchanted Night by LEIGH COBBETT Chapter 17

“You have no right to say no. As the daughter of Qin family, you should be thinking about how to serve the family well. This marriage is a step forward for all of us. Whether you want to marry or not is not up to you!”

“Stop being selfish! Marrying into the Tang family is not a sacrifice.”

“You must marry!”

“Cassandra, I’m so sorry. Forgive me, but I have no choice...”

Cassandra shot up from her bed, her body covered in damp sweat. The nightmares had come back – old, painful, memories that held the burn of words. She thought she could feel her mother’s wet tears and hear the haunting voice of her apology echo in the room and reach her. She took deep breaths, trying to steady her breathing. Lying back down on her bed, she wrapped the quilt around her, as if it gathered her own sufferings as well.

Prompted by her earlier remembrances and unable to sleep, she let herself surrender to memories from farther back. Four years ago, it was supposed to be a time of hope. She was a senior high school student who was about to graduate. The future ahead of her was painted in bright warm colors. However, life isn’t always what one likes, is it? That year, the Qin family suffered huge business failures. It was teetering at the edge of closing down when

and a black knee-length sheath skirt, and tied her hair in a high ponytail, which made her look fresh and professional.

Inspecting herself in the mirror, she nodded at her own reflection approvingly and encouragingly. The Tang Group was a real estate

company. Cassandra studied architecture in Rome, and she was especially good at designing. She had even won awards in various international design competitions.

Needless to say, she had received offers from several established companies even before she graduated. However, she rejected them all.

Her position as the wife of Tang family's son left her no choice but to go back to G City, so she could not accept offers from elsewhere. Despite feeling weighed down by this connection, she did not waver. She was going to make something of herself wherever she was.

Besides, taking aside her relationship with the Tang family, the Tang Group was actually a good place for her to start and demonstrate her capabilities. Gathering her courage, Cassandra decided to devote herself into her coming work with hope for a new start.

She was standing in front of the Tang Group' building. Taking a deep breath to cheer herself up, Cassandra walked inside with her shoulders squared and a bright smile on the face.