

Chapter 31: Formation of the Farming Space

Xiao Lingyu's injury was not that serious, but Yan Siming insisted on carrying her all the way to the Saint Hospital.

"Young Master Yan, I'm fine. Please put me down!" Xiao Lingyu protested. All the way there, she was seen by so many people. They glanced at her with surprise.

People thought Xiao Lingyu was honored to be carried by the famous Young Master Yan. Their eyes were filled with naked envy and jealousy.

Xiao Lingyu did not think that it was an honor. In fact, she thought Yan Siming was a considerable burden. She wanted to get rid of him as soon as possible. She just wanted to be a common person. She didn't want to get mixed up with a noble young master like Yan Siming.

Yan Siming ignored Xiao Lingyu's protest and carried her directly to the most exclusive ward at Saint Hospital.

Very soon, a large group of doctors and nurses rushed over.

Although they were very curious about the identity of Xiao Lingyu, they still had their professional ethics. They wouldn't ask questions they were not allowed to. Otherwise, Yan Siming could easily end their lives.

After a chief surgeon examined Xiao Lingyu's wound, he told Yan Siming, "Young Master Yan, the young lady's wounds look horrifying, but it's actually just superficial. It doesn't hurt any muscle tissue. After she is given a few stitches and medicine to prevent infection, she will recover quickly. To be honest, the young lady doesn't even need the stitches, but that means that her recovery will be slower."

Yan Siming listened quietly and looked at Xiao Lingyu, who was lying on the hospital bed. He frowned slightly and asked, "Will there be a scar?" It was not suitable for a woman to live with an ugly scar.

The doctor got Yan Siming's meaning. In his mind, he concluded that Yan Siming wouldn't allow a scar to tarnish his woman.

The chief surgeon said in a flattering manner, "Young Master Yan, don't worry. There will definitely be no scar!"

Yan Siming slightly relaxed his brows and said, "Then, prescribe her best medicine and make sure that Miss Xiao recover as soon as possible!"

"Yes, yes, yes!" The chief surgeon nodded continuously and replied in a very fawning manner.

Xiao Lingyu saw how the chief surgeon was acting, and she frowned, but she didn't say anything to Yan Siming. Instead, she told the chief surgeon, "Chief Yuan, just prescribe me some normal medicine. Also, I'm not staying in the hospital. Give me the medicine, and I'll be leaving. Thank you!"

Chief Yuan was confused when he heard that. He turned to Yan Siming and noticed Young Master Yan was frowning. Chief Yuan turned back to the patient and said with a very amiable smile, "Miss Xiao, your wound doesn't look serious, but it is still more than ten centimeters long. If you're not careful, it can get infected. So you should stay in the hospital for observation. When the wound is fully healed, you can be discharged without worry."

Chief Yuan didn't bring up the issue of payment. Naturally, Young Master Yan would pay for everything.

But...

Xiao Lingyu frowned and thought for a moment before saying, "I'm sorry, Chief Yuan, but I can't afford to stay at a high-class ward at Saint Hospital. I hope you'll prescribe me the medicine, and I'll go back home to recuperate."

Chief Yuan was confused. He looked at Xiao Lingyu with a puzzled look and then secretly glanced at Yan Siming. He was both curious and conflicted.

What on Earth was going on?

Chief Yuan assumed the patient was Young Master Yan's woman since he had brought her here, but that didn't seem to be the case. But even so, since Young Master Yan was involved, he would pay the money to treat her, so why would the girl think she needed to fork out the money herself?

But as a doctor and an outsider, Chief Yuan didn't dare to ask these questions.

He sneaked another look at Young Master Yan. Yan Siming's brows were deeply furrowed. He seemed to be annoyed.

Chief Yuan said, "Miss Xiao, you're a patient. You should focus on your convalesce and don't worry about anything else." After all, Young Master Yan would handle the rest.

At that moment, Yan Siming cut in, "Xiao Lingyu, do you think I won't be able to afford your medical fees?"

Xiao Lingyu shook her head and smiled wryly, "Young Master Yan, you misunderstood me. You can afford it, but I can't. We don't really know each other. I have already owed you a favor, and I don't want to owe you money on top of that. Otherwise, I really don't know how to pay you back."

Yan Siming looked irked by the words she said. He smiled darkly. "Xiao Lingyu, if anything, I need to thank you for helping me make a great acquisition. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't have been able to acquire Huiqing Group so easily. You've helped me expand the Yan Group. In comparison, your medical fee is nothing. So let me treat you."

Chief Yuan's eyes widened in shock.

'Huiqing Group has been acquired? When did that happen?'

"Furthermore, if my memory serves me right, you can afford the medical fee yourself." Young Master Yan added, "Didn't you get five million from Zhao Huiqing?"

Xiao Lingyu shook her head. "Speaking of that, I'm afraid I'll have to trouble young master Yan again."

“What is it?”

“I hope to donate this five million to a charity foundation so that they can help poor children.”

Most charity organizations were a front for big businesses to launder money. If Xiao Lingyu were to make the donation herself, she believed her money would be swallowed by some uncouth person. But if it were a direct donation from Young Master Yan, no one would dare to touch it.

Yan Siming was surprised when he heard Xiao Lingyu wanted to donate five million she had just received. He raised his eyebrows and said, “Okay!”

Xiao Lingyu nodded and said, “Thank you, Young Master Yan.”

Then, Xiao Lingyu lowered her head and rummaged through her bag. She took out a pad of cash from her bag and handed it to young master Yan. She said, “Young Master Yan, thank you for helping me take revenge on that couple. This is the two thousand that we agreed on.”

Young Master Yan looked at the cash in Xiao Lingyu’s hand with a hint of anger on his face. He said coldly, “Do I look like I lack two thousand?”

Xiao Lingyu shook her head and said with a smile, “I don’t know, but we have made a deal. If you don’t accept this money, I won’t be able to live with my conscience!”

Young Master Yan pursed his lips tightly. It was hard to tell whether he was happy or unhappy. Eventually, he took the money out of Xiao Lingyu’s hand and said coldly, “Have a good rest!” With that, he left.

Chief Yuan was stunned. After Yan Siming left, he also quickly made his escape.

After everyone left, Xiao Lingyu closed her eyes. Perhaps too many things had happened since her rebirth. She felt so fatigued. She just wanted to take a quick nap, but she fell asleep.

While she was asleep, the blood on the jade pendant slowly disappeared. Then the pendant began to flicker.

A green light flashed out of the pendant.. The green light surrounded Xiao Lingyu like a mist.

Chapter 32: Escape from the Hospital!

Xiao Lingyu looked at the crystal clear pool of spring water in front of her. There were many transparent pebbles at the bottom of the spring.

There was a faint white mist surrounding her. The space looked ethereal.

Xiao Lingyu was stunned. She looked around with a blank expression. She was amazed and shocked.

Near her was a plot of farming land, separated into two sides. Each side was further split into 3×3 squares of equal sizes. One side had dry soil, the other wet.

A clear spring pool sat at the central tip between the two large squares. The pool parted into two flowing streams, circling all 18 square fields.

Each square was about one Mu, so there were eighteen Mu of land in total. Every square was overgrown with weeds, a sign of abandonment.

Xiao Lingyu patted her cheeks. She felt pain. So this was not a dream.

'What is going on? Where am I? Why did I appear here? Wasn't I resting at the hospital? Yes, this has to be a dream!'

Since this was a dream, Xiao Lingyu felt more at ease.

This was March, so the weather should be cloudy, and the air humid and cold. However, wherever Xiao Lingyu was, the weather was very soothing and comfortable. Xiao Lingyu bent down and cupped the spring water, and lifted it to her mouth.

'This spring is sweet!' Xiao Lingyu's eyes lit up. She went for another drink. 'Why am I able to taste the water if this is a dream? This is all too real!' Xiao Lingyu was confused.

Xiao Lingyu drank a few mouthfuls, and she was full, so she stopped.

Moments later, she felt a warmth flowing through her body. Then the wound around her chest itched. She moved to scratch the wound. Then Xiao Lingyu frowned because the wound did not hurt. 'It makes sense though. I'm dreaming, so how can the wound hurt?'

Xiao Lingyu did not take it to heart. But soon, she discovered another problem. On her naked skin, a layer of black substance suddenly appeared.

She touched it with her hand. It was a layer of dirt.

Xiao Lingyu rolled up her sleeves and pants. There was dirt falling out. She took a sniff, and they gave off a strong rotten smell.

Xiao Lingyu turned her head away and covered her nose. She frowned and said, "Why is it so smelly? This is a dream, so why is the smell so intense?"

Xiao Lingyu still didn't notice something was wrong.

She turned to look at the clear pool. After giving it some thought, she walked towards it. "I better wash off this layer of dirt." She removed her clothes and jumped into the pool.

"This feels amazing." Xiao Lingyu said to herself. "The temperature of this pool is just right." Xiao Lingyu thought she was in a dream, so she didn't check her chest injury.

After she had the bath, she put her clothes back on. Her clothes were stained with dirt, so they were smelly and sticky. But she had no other choice. She only had a set of clothes. Was she going to walk around naked?

Even though it was a dream, the dirty clothes didn't feel too good on her.

Xiao Lingyu walked around the two pieces of land. She observed the fields. She noticed that other than the weeds, she couldn't observe any other living things, not even a single bug. That was weird. But since this was a dream, it was acceptable.

Xiao Lingyu found a rock and sat down. She looked up at the sky. It was bright, but there was no sun. 'What is up with this dream? Plus, why haven't I woken up yet? Why is the purpose of this dream?'

She subconsciously touched the bandaged wound on her chest. 'Even this bandage is replicated...'

At that moment, her fingers brushed against the jade pendant around her neck. She lowered her head and sighed. "This jade pendant..."

Before she finished, she was transported to another locale.

It was the high-end ward she was assigned. She was still holding the jade pendant.

Xiao Lingyu's pupils trembled. 'Wait... It was not a dream?' She lowered her head, and she could smell the rot coming from her clothes. It was similar to the smell from the dream. So was that not a dream?

So that itch that came from her chest...

Xiao Lingyu immediately pulled off the bandage. When she saw her smooth and fair skin, her eyes shook. 'Where is the wound?'

It was like she had not been injured. If anything, this part of her skin was fairer and smoother than before.

'Actually, wait...' Xiao Lingyu noticed something else.

She stretched out her white and tender hands and turned them around. It was unbelievable. The skin on the rest of her body had gotten whiter and softer. It was like she had been given a whitening mud bath.

So it was not a dream after all!

Xiao Lingyu widened her eyes in shock.

However, she soon calmed down. After all, she had been reborn, so this was not impossible.

"No, I have to leave this place immediately!" Xiao Lingyu mumbled, "Otherwise, once the doctor returns to examine the wound, he'll notice the problem. He might capture me and slice me up for medical research!" Xiao Lingyu might have seen one too many sci-fi movies.

"I'll leave this place and then figure out what's going on!"

Having made up her mind, Xiao Lingyu immediately picked up her bag and readied to leave.

At this moment, she heard a knock on the door.

She panicked and scurried into the toilet.

She shouted, "Please come in!"

A nurse pushed open the door and came in holding a tray. When the nurse saw the empty bed, she guessed the patient was in the toilet. She asked, "Miss Xiao, Chief Yuan has prescribed some medicines for you. I need to help you apply a drip, and then you'll need to take some pills."

Xiao Lingyu said, "Okay, put them down first. This is not a convenient time for me. Can I trouble you to come back in twenty minutes?"

“Of course!”

After the nurse left, Xiao Lingyu immediately walked out of the bathroom. When she saw the medicine on the bedside table, her eyes narrowed. She grabbed the medicine and held them in her hands. The bag was too small to fit the medicine.

Xiao Lingyu did some quick disguises. As long as she kept her head lowered, no one would recognize her as the woman Young Master Yan carried over. After all, the hospital staff didn't know her.

After the beacon that was Yan Siming left, it was much easier for Xiao Lingyu to sneak out.

However, as Xiao Lingyu reached the door, she thought of something and returned. She counted out two thousand from her bag and placed it on the bedside table. Then, she took out a pen and wrote a note, placing it on the top of the money.

Even though her injury was minor and her stay was short, this was a high-end ward. Furthermore, she had the chief surgeon's consultation, so the fee should be quite high. Xiao Lingyu believed two thousand should be enough to cover everything.

Then, Xiao Lingyu finally escaped.

Chapter 33: Tactic

Twenty minutes later, the nurse returned to the ward. She called out a few times, but she didn't get any reply. She was immediately flustered.

The patient was personally sent over by Young Master Yan. If he knew she had gone missing, he would level the entire hospital.

The nurse looked around the ward and soon discovered the cash and note on the bedside table.

The nurse immediately reported to the head nurse. The head nurse grabbed the money and note to report to the doctor.

When chief surgeon Yuan got the phone call from the head nurse, he was shocked. He was not expecting the woman to grab the medicine and escape from the hospital.

Regardless he had to report this to Young Master Yan. After all, it was Young Master Yan who personally sent the woman there. Even if the woman escaped on her own volition, Young Master Yan had to be notified.

The Director of Saint Hospital reported the matter of Xiao Lingyu's departure to Young Master Yan in fear and trepidation, “Young Master Yan, Miss Xiao left two thousand and a note in the ward. The note explains that the money is to pay for the medical fee. She then left in secret.”

Yan Siming frowned slightly and narrowed his eyes. There was faint anger in his eyes, but he calmed down. He said evenly, “Understood, since she doesn't want to stay, then let her be.”

“Yes!” The director replied respectfully. After hanging up, the head nurse and Chief Surgeon Yuan immediately asked nervously, “Director, how is it? Did Young Master Yan say anything?”

The director shook his head and said, "Young Master Yan told us to leave this issue alone!"

"Phew!" The head nurse and Chief Surgeon Yuan patted their chests. They let out a massive sigh of relief and said with a smile, "That was so scary."

Then, the head nurse said with confusion, "But this is so strange. Why did the woman escape from the hospital? Isn't she Young Master Yan's woman? I heard that there are many women around Young Master Yan fighting for his favor. There were injuries, threats, and even suicides. However, Young Master Yan did not care about them.

"But this time, Young Master Yan sent the girl here for a small injury. Is she Young Master Yan's new favorite? She's afraid that other woman would take her spot when she was hospitalized, so she sneaked away to go back to Young Master Yan?"

The head nurse had a powerful imagination. Despite her advanced age, she still had the habit of reading romance novels.

Chief Surgeon Yuan laughed while shaking his head. "Impossible!" He sounded very sure.

The director and the head nurse turned to him, smelling the gossip. They asked, "Surgeon Yuan, how can you be so sure?"

Surgeon Yuan immediately mimicked zipping his lips. "There's no way I'm telling!" He was not going to talk behind Young Master Yan's back. He still wanted to keep on living in City Z.

"Tsk!" The head nurse rolled her eyes in dissatisfaction.

The hospital staff was very curious about Xiao Lingyu's identity.

When Yan Siming returned to his company, he had a dark expression. He gritted his teeth and said, "Xiao Lingyu, damn you!"

He already promised that he would look after her, but she still escaped from his care. At Saint Hospital, everyone saw him bring her there. However, this woman had left behind some cash and absconded. Xiao Lingyu didn't give him any face at all!

"Damn! Xiao Lingyu, you're good!" Yan Siming growled angrily again.

Secretary Wang, who stood opposite Yan Siming, had his heart tremble. He carefully asked, "Young Master, do you want us to check on Miss Xiao?"

To be honest, when Young Master Yan carried Xiao Lingyu out of Huiqing Group, Secretary Wang was already shocked out of his mind. Young Master Yan had never done something like this before!

From that, Secretary Wang knew that Young Master Yan had a unique relationship with Miss Xiao.

Now that Young Master Yan heard Miss Xiao had secretly escaped from the hospital, he was actually angry! No woman had managed to elicit that emotion from Young Master Yan before!

Young Master Yan glanced at Secretary Wang. His gaze was so sharp that Secretary Wang shivered. Secretary Wang had no idea why his boss was looking at him like that. Did he say something wrong?

Young Master Yan soon returned to his normal state and said coldly, "There's no need!" Even though he was quite interested in Xiao Lingyu, he would not chase after a woman.

Yan Siming tried to use different methods to tempt Xiao Lingyu. Xiao Lingyu rejected him at first before slowly relenting. It was then that Yan Siming started to lose interest. However, he continued to act along to enjoy the show.

Yan Siming's eyes glowed with disdain when Xiao Lingyu asked Zhao Huiqing for five million. Yan Siming assumed Xiao Lingyu was another gold digger. However, when he heard Xiao Lingyu's second condition, which was for Chen Ran and Zhao Wenman to get married, he was shocked.

At the time, Yan Siming captured the anger and hatred in Xiao Lingyu's eyes clearly, so he didn't understand why she was doing so much to help the adulterous couple. Yan Siming believed Xiao Lingyu was up to something, so he continued to cooperate with her.

When the marriage certificates were officiated, Xiao Lingyu wrote secretly in his palm, "Acquire Huiqing."

At that moment, he was even impressed by how ruthless and clever Xiao Lingyu was.

Even if she was a gold digger, at least she was an interesting one. If she wanted money, he would give her money.

However, at the hospital, Xiao Lingyu surprised him again. She wanted him to donate the five million. Only then did Yan Siming understand Xiao Lingyu was honestly just using him.

The fact that Xiao Lingyu had escaped secretly from the hospital proved one thing. She did not want to have anything to do with him anymore.

After reaching this conclusion, a cunning smile appeared on Young Master Yan's lips. He said, "Well done, woman. Your tactic has grabbed my interest."

Young Master Yan thought he could charm any woman, and Xiao Lingyu was no exception.

However, Xiao Lingyu was more shrewd than any woman he had ever met. The tactics that she played didn't turn him off. If anything, it made her even more alluring.

Secretary Wang, who was at the side, felt his heart quiver. He asked carefully again, "Then, Young Master, do you want to check on Miss Xiao?"

Young Master Yan smiled playfully and said, "Just find out where she lives for now. There's no need to investigate anything else."

"Yes!" Secretary Wang replied very respectfully. 'Is Young Master Yan finally in love? Some woman has managed to capture his heart?'

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After Xiao Lingyu left the hospital, she did not dare to delay at all. She immediately got into a taxi and headed to her rental home.

Actually, the company had arranged a dorm for its workers but to have some privacy with Chen Ran, Xiao Lingyu rented this house in the small neighborhood that was relatively far away from the company.

The place was small. It had only one bedroom and one living room. But it had all the necessities. Most of the time, Chen Ran would sleep on the sofa in the living room if he stayed over.

When she reached home, Xiao Lingyu didn't even stop to examine the rental that she had not seen for six years. She leaned on the sofa and carefully pulled back the collar of her shirt. She took a careful look before grabbing a bandage to seal the wound back up.

Xiao Lingyu's face was pale as she muttered, "This is not a dream! But this is impossible!"

Xiao Lingyu still found it unbelievable.

"No, I need to do something to confirm this!" Xiao Lingyu thought, but then she pursed her lips. "But how am I supposed to do that?"

Xiao Lingyu had no idea how she got into and got out of that magical space....

Chapter 34: Go Home and Farm

"Young master, this is where Miss Xiao stays!" Secretary Wang gave the address to Yan Siming. It was not that hard to find someone's address.

Yan Siming accepted the note. His lips curled into a devilish smile, and he ordered, "Go and order 99 roses. Send them over tomorrow!"

Secretary Wang replied respectfully, "Yes, Young Master!"

After Secretary Wang Left, Yan Siming toyed with the note and smiled playfully, "Xiao Lingyu, let's see how long you can hold out."

Yan Siming had confidence in his charm. Putting aside his background, he was good-looking and muscular. He was a walking Adonis.

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Xiao Lingyu sat dazed on the sofa. She kept muttering, "What's going on? Did I imagine everything? If I didn't, how do I get back there? How do I enter the place?"

As Xiao Lingyu muttered to herself, she turned the jade pendant around her neck. As she said the word, 'enter', the world around her shifted.

The spring pond and the farming land reappeared. Xiao Lingyu was stunned. She held the jade pendant and didn't let go.

Xiao Lingyu gasped, "I've returned. So it was not a dream! But what is really going on?" Xiao Lingyu was no closer to an answer.

She looked around before her eyes slowly returned to her hand, which was still holding the jade pendant. She noticed the color of the pendant had changed.

Previously, the jade pendant was dull green in color, but now it was shiny like a crystal. However, what surprised her the most was the thing that was not there. Xiao Lingyu remembered her blood had stuck onto the pendant when she was injured. She had not cleaned the pendant, but the bloodstain on the pendant had miraculously disappeared.

Xiao Lingyu had a flash of inspiration. "Is it all because of this jade pendant?" Then she remembered that she was always holding this pendant in her hand whenever she got transported in and out of this mysterious space.

Xiao Lingyu had a hypothesis, and she wanted to confirm it. She held the pendant in her hand, and she said, "Exit!"

She returned to her room. Xiao Lingyu's eyes lit up, and her face filled with excitement. "My hypothesis is correct!" But she still tried it a few more times.

Xiao Lingyu held onto the jade pendant and chanted, "Enter!"

She teleported away.

"Exit!"

"Enter!"

"Exit!"

"Enter!"

The multiple tests confirmed her hypothesis.

Xiao Lingyu then sat down to study the jade pendant carefully. The jade pendant had a phoenix shape. She picked it up in a small river near the village when she was young.

She came from a poor village. Her parents couldn't afford to buy her any jewelry. All they could afford was a cheap headband. Xiao Lingyu's parents were very kind to her and pampered her a lot. However, that only meant Xiao Lingyu had a few more headbands than the other girls. She soon got bored.

When Xiao Lingyu found the jade pendant in the river, she was captivated by its beauty. She brought it home and had her mother tie it around her neck with a red rope.

That was twenty years ago.

Xiao Lingyu never imagined that the accidental find would bring her such a big surprise.

Then Xiao Lingyu was consumed by fear. If people found out she had such a treasure, they would do anything to steal it from her. She had seen enough wuxia movies to know the plot. She took a sip of the spring water to calm herself down.

'But wait... There is nothing here except this spring and undeveloped farming land. What use is this place other than to farm it?

'Then again, what will really happen if farming is conducted here? Since the space is magical, will the product be magical too?'

Xiao Lingyu scratched her nose, and then she was assaulted by a horrible stench. She wrinkled her nose and looked down. "What's going on? Why do I have so much mud on me? I..." Then something hit Xiao Lingyu. She said in doubt. "Is it because I've drunk from the spring?"

Other than that, she couldn't think of anything else.

"The spring has some kind of rejuvenation and cleansing effect?" Xiao Lingyu remembered such miracles from fantasy dramas. "So drinking or bathing in the spring will help improve one's physique?" Xiao Lingyu wanted to give it another test.

Xiao Lingyu walked to the edge of the spring and took a few careful sips. Then she removed her clothes and jumped into the spring. The temperature was perfect.

After Xiao Lingyu was done washing her body, she realized her skin had become fairer. It was even shining with luster. It was like her skin had been given the Photoshop effect.

Xiao Lingyu was certain that the spring had some kind of beautify and cleansing effect. But she had no clue if that was because she had drunk or bathed in the spring. She had done both, so she might have to do another test... with perhaps another test subject.

With that in mind, Xiao Lingyu had to wonder if she could bring the spring water out of the space with her.

Xiao Lingyu exited the space and put on her pajama in her bedroom. She grabbed an empty bottle in the kitchen. She held the bottle in one hand and the pendant in another. She chanted, "Enter!"

The bottle was still in her hand, so that proved that at least she could bring stuff into the magical space with her. Now the question was, could she bring the stuff from the space out.

After Xiao Lingyu filled the bottle with the spring water, she chanted, "Exit!"

The filled water bottle was still in her hand. The test was positive. Now, the next step was to verify if the water was still magical in the real world. But Xiao Lingyu knew she had to conduct that part of her test in private.

In any case, Xiao Lingyu had another question. Since the spring in the magical space had some magical uses, what about the farming plots? Then again, what could she do with the land? Farm?

Xiao Lingyu's eyes glowed. 'Actually, why not? I should try farming in there and see what will happen!'

But people would question if she suddenly appeared with farming produce in the city. The better idea was for her to return to her hometown before she tried any farming.

At that moment, Xiao Lingyu suddenly felt a strong enthusiasm and anticipation of returning home and starting a farm.

The sudden appearance of this magical space frightened and surprised Xiao Lingyu. But after these initial emotions passed, Xiao Lingyu was itching with eagerness.

Before this, Xiao Lingyu's only reason to stay in City Z was Chen Ran.. Since there was no more reason for her to stay, she might as well go home and farm.

Chapter 35: Human Trafficker

Xiao Lingyu accidentally acquired a magical space, even though so far, the only purpose of the space was farming.

Incidentally, Xiao Lingyu already planned to return to her hometown to rest. She knew she was pregnant, so she wanted to leave the city and prepare herself for Xiao Tong's arrival.

The appearance of the magical space meant that she would return earlier than planned.

Xiao Lingyu picked up a few clean clothes and contacted the landlord. She returned the rental. She left Chen Ran's stuff in the room. She couldn't care less about him.

The man was stabbed by Zhao Wenman, so he would have to stay in the hospital for some time. But who cares?

Xiao Lingyu carried her luggage and departed for the train station. She bought a train ticket for that afternoon.

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Secretary Wang stood in front of Yan Siming with trepidation and said, "Young master, the landlord said that Miss Xiao had moved out of her rental yesterday afternoon. The landlord doesn't know her latest whereabouts."

Secretary Wang really wanted to cry.

Yesterday, Young Master Yan ordered him to reserve 99 roses and send them to Xiao Lingyu's apartment in the Old City District.

But the flower shop's manager just called and said he couldn't reach the recipient. Based on the statement from the landlord, the recipient had already moved out.

Secretary Wang's first reaction was, 'How is this possible? No woman in City Z can reject Young Master Yan's charm.

'Yesterday, Young Master Yan personally sent the woman to Saint Hospital. But moments later, the hospital called to say that the woman had escaped in secret and left behind some cash as medical fees. Medical fees! Does she think Young Master couldn't afford her medical fees? This is a blatant rejection of Young Master!

'And now, Young Master Yan ordered flowers for her. But the woman couldn't be found and had disappeared without a trace.

'I refuse to believe that the woman is not doing this on purpose. This is another plot of hers to play hard to get to hook Young Master in!'

If Xiao Lingyu knew Secretary Wang's thoughts, she would probably roll her eyes.

She really didn't mean to reject Young Master Yan. This was a complete coincidence. Xiao Lingyu had no idea Young Master Yan would send her roses, or else she would have stayed. After all, 99 roses could be sold for quite a sum of money.

Regardless, neither of the men cared about what Xiao Lingyu thought because even Yan Siming thought this was another one of Xiao Lingyu's tactics. So when he heard Secretary Wang's report, he was not angry. He laughed. "My little firecracker is amusing. Does she want to play hide-and-seek with me? Fine, I'll play!"

Young Master Yan still couldn't admit that his charm had failed for the first time in his life.

He ordered, "Secretary Wang, go and find out where Xiao Lingyu is now. Once you find her, report back immediately!"

"Yes!" Secretary Wang replied respectfully.

After walking out of the Chairman's office, Secretary Wang muttered in confusion, "Is it possible that Young Master Yan has really fallen for Xiao Lingyu? Normally, he would have given up by now!"

Young Master Yan was very principled when it came to his relationships. He would never force anyone to be his companion. This was his first time chasing after a woman. This was also the first time a woman had rejected Young Master Yan.

Secretary Wang was curious to meet Miss Xiao in person.

Young Master Yan naturally couldn't tell his subordinate's thoughts. He also didn't notice he seemed to care deeply about Xiao Lingyu.

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Xiao Lingyu calmed down after she boarded the train back to her hometown.

It had been a long time since she had returned to her hometown.

In her past life, Xiao Lingyu had a mental breakdown after she gave birth to Xiao Tong. Whenever she saw the boy, she would be reminded of the man who took advantage of her. So she couldn't face Xiao Tong. It was why she escaped after Xiao Tong was born. She disappeared for five years.

The next time she returned to her hometown was because she received the news of Xiao Tong's death. When she saw the lifeless bundle, her mother's instinct was finally awakened. Xiao Tong was a part of her, so it was like a part of her had died.

At Xiao Tong's burial, Xiao Lingyu cried until she fainted. However, when she woke up, she had been transported to the beginning.

Xiao Lingyu had taken revenge on the adulterous couple. She didn't have any friends or family in City Z, so she could uproot easily.

"Girl, where are you going?" A friendly middle-aged woman asked, breaking Xiao Lingyu out of her reverie.

Xiao Lingyu turned her eyes behind her glasses to the woman.

The middle-aged woman was of average height. She was neither fat nor thin. Her clothes were simple, and she had a smile on her face. She looked very amiable, making people feel good about her.

However, something was not right.

From the corner of her eyes, Xiao Lingyu noticed the man sitting opposite them firing signals at the middle-aged woman. Other than that, there was a sleeping boy about three in the woman's arms.

It had been two hours since they got on the train. The boy was fair and chubby. He looked very cute, but strangely enough, he hadn't even once stirred.

This was a noisy train, and people milled about. No matter how sleepy the boy was, he should wake up once or twice. Children of his age were the liveliest.

Xiao Lingyu pieced the clues together and came to the conclusion that perhaps she was dealing with human traffickers.

They had stolen the child, and now they were targeting her.

Xiao Lingyu said without batting an eyelid, "I'm going home!"

The middle-aged woman continued to ask with a smile, "Are you going home alone? Tell Auntie where you're going. Maybe we're going the same way!" Her tone was friendly.

Xiao Lingyu shook her head and said, "No. I'm on the train with my family."

The woman's pupils darted about, but then she asked casually, "Then why aren't you in the same train carriage as your family?"

Xiao Lingyu said, "We couldn't get the seats." With that, Xiao Lingyu stood up and said, "Sorry, I have to go find my family." She stood up and left.

The woman believed Xiao Lingyu wasn't lying to her, so she immediately lost interest. The woman looked at the sleeping child in her arms and did not say anything else.

After some time, Xiao Lingyu returned.

As she sat down, Xiao Lingyu sighed, "Sigh, that clumsy father of mine actually got off the train one stop ahead of time. He must have mistaken Xinglin Station as Xingyin Station. I can't believe he even forgot about his daughter!"

The woman's eyes lit up when she heard that, and she immediately said, "Miss, so you're returning to Xingyin. What a coincidence! I'm also stopping at Xingyin too. It's the next stop. We should travel together so we can look after each other!"

Xiao Lingyu's eyes flashed, and she nodded in response, "Okay!"

Chapter 36: Taking Down the Gang

Xingyin Public Security Bureau received a report from the train.

Xingyin's youngest bureau chief, Jiang Tao, immediately made arrangements and deployed 30 police officers.

He reminded, "We must make sure the safety of the innocent!"

"Yes, sir!"

The officers changed into casual outfits and departed in cars. Soon they arrived at Xingyin station.

...

The middle-aged woman's eyes lit up when she saw Xiao Lingyu pulling a suitcase on her own. She immediately smiled and said, "Miss, let the uncle pull the suitcase for you."

Then, she pointed at a slightly short and fat middle-aged man and introduced, "He's my husband." As if to dispel Xiao Lingyu's doubts, she immediately added, "Don't worry, we're good people. We won't steal your suitcase!"

With that, she gave the man a look.

The middle-aged man carried a backpack. Without waiting for Xiao Lingyu to say anything, he quickly snatched the luggage from her hands and said kindly, "Miss, I don't have much luggage. Let me carry this for you off the train. There are so many people here. We shan't be late."

Xiao Lingyu smiled and said, "Alright then, thank you, Uncle!"

Then, the three of them got off the train together.

After they left the station, the middle-aged woman said, "Miss, you must be hungry after taking the train all the way. Why don't we eat something before we go our separate ways?"

Then, she looked around cautiously and said with a smile, "Miss, we have a relative who runs a restaurant here. Because his culinary skills are good, his business is really good. Why don't we bring you to have a taste? After you're full, I'll ask my relative to send you back. What do you think?"

When Xiao Lingyu heard this, she acted very embarrassed and said shyly, "Aunty, uncle, how can I infringe on your kindness that much? It's too much trouble."

The woman laughed and said with excitement, "It's no trouble at all!"

As she said this, she kept winking at the man.

The man understood and reached out to stop a taxi.

"Come, miss, let's get in the car!" With that, he pulled Xiao Ling into the taxi.

Xiao Lingyu asked suspiciously, "Auntie, is your relative's restaurant that far that we need to take a taxi? If that's the case, I don't think I should go. I need to be home before dark. My mother will be so worried!"

The woman persuaded, "Oh, it's not far. We just don't want you to carry so many heavy things. Plus, my relative has a car. He'll drive you home after dinner!"

Xiao Lingyu thought for a moment and said, "Alright then."

After they got into the car, the atmosphere was silent and awkward.

Xiao Lingyu looked at the child in the woman's arms and asked, "Auntie, is this your grandson?" Xiao Lingyu reached out to touch the boy's face. The middle-aged woman immediately moved the boy away.

Xiao Lingyu's hand stopped in the air awkwardly. She looked at the woman and asked in puzzlement, "Auntie, what's wrong?"

The woman laughed awkwardly and explained, "Oh, it's just that my grandson is sick. He doesn't like to be touched..."

Xiao Lingyu nodded with understanding. Then she voiced her thoughts, "So that's why. I was wondering why he could sleep for so long. He hasn't even stirred throughout the journey. But Auntie, shouldn't you wake him up to feed him something? He's going to starve otherwise."

The woman replied, "It's okay. He can't eat anything because he's sick. What he needs is sleep. He needs to rest." The woman's heart settled down after Xiao Lingyu nodded.

Xiao Lingyu looked out the window, and she frowned. She asked, "Auntie, we're moving deep into the countryside. Your relative's restaurant is in the countryside?"

The woman smiled and replied, "Yes. Miss, they will be here soon."

Xiao Lingyu nodded without any doubt.

The woman, the man, and the driver shared a look through the rearview mirror. They were grinning. They thought Xiao Lingyu was hard to fool, but she turned out to be a simpleton.

They had a good harvest that day. One big, one small. They could make a lot of money. The small one was fair and cute. He could sell easily for 300,000. The big one should go for around 60,000 RMB.

Soon, instead of a restaurant, the taxi stopped at an abandoned warehouse.

Hearing the taxi, three more men ran out of the warehouse. The tension was high. The woman's husband got down first. Then he grabbed Xiao Lingyu harshly. His attitude changed immediately. "Miss, get down now!"

Xiao Lingyu was stunned, so the middle-aged woman frowned and kicked her. She shouted, "Blockhead, get out of the car!" Their attitude was completely different from before.

Xiao Lingyu was pushed out of the car. Her eyes flashed with fear, and she asked innocently, "Auntie, what is this place? Why aren't we at the restaurant?"

The woman said with a wicked smile, "Miss, we'll bring you there, after we meet up with some friends." The woman pointed at the abandoned warehouse behind her and said with a smile, "There are a few girls around your age inside. You should get to know them first before we leave."

Xiao Lingyu was extremely scared. She asked, "You... What do you mean?"

The middle-aged woman was impatient. She shouted, "Stop wasting our time. Be obedient, and you won't suffer that much. Otherwise, I'll stick my brothers on you." She pointed at the men behind her.

The four brothers immediately bowed and called out respectfully, "Big Sister!"

Xiao Lingyu seemed to realize the truth. She widened her eyes and asked in disbelief, "You... You are human traffickers? You want to kidnap me and sell me?"

The woman sneered, "You only realized that now? You are so stupid!"

Xiao Lingyu asked in a trembling voice, "So... This is your headquarters?"

Xiao Lingyu was honestly quite afraid, but she had to calm down. Who knew what might happen if these people saw through her acting.

The middle-aged woman frowned and told Xiao Lingyu, "You talk too much. Ol' Two, stuff her mouth."

Xiao Lingyu quickly dodged. Then she grabbed the boy from the woman and ran. The human traffickers were surprised by how fast Xiao Lingyu was.

But Xiao Lingyu didn't notice that. There was only one thought in her mind, 'I cannot let them harm the boy. I need to save him!'

The human traffickers chased after Xiao Lingyu.

At this moment, the plainclothes police officers appeared out of nowhere and pulled out their guns. They shouted loudly, "Stop, police!"

The middle-aged woman and the other six women immediately halted. They held their hands in surrender!

Chapter 37: Flaws

"Don't move!" Twenty police officers appeared out of nowhere. They pointed their guns at the traffickers.

The other officers ran into the old warehouse. When the traffickers saw the police, they were stunned. When they came to their senses, they were already pushed to the ground with their hands on the back of their heads.

Then, a handsome man in a police uniform walked out. He exuded a strong aura. He ordered sternly, "Search the area carefully. Don't let any of them get away!"

"Yes!"

The officers obliged.

Jiang Tao's eagle-sharp eyes shot at the middle-aged woman. "Do you have any more accomplices?"

"No, no more!" The woman shook her head. At the same time, she was puzzled. Why was there a police ambush at their headquarters? Then her gaze settled on Xiao Lingyu, who was standing behind an

officer. The woman's eyes burned with anger. She pointed at Xiao Lingyu and interrogated, "It was you, wasn't you? You lured the police here!"

Only then did the woman come to the realization. Earlier, they were mocking the girl in secret. They were surprised by how gullible the girl was. But in reality, they were the gullible ones.

Xiao Lingyu didn't answer. Jiang Tao walked towards her. He wanted to shake her hands, but when he saw the boy in Xiao Lingyu's arms, he only nodded. "Miss Xiao, thank you so much for your support and cooperation. Otherwise, we don't know when we will catch this group of human traffickers! We have been monitoring this criminal organization for almost half a year, but we haven't been able to find their point of contact. Today, we might be able to catch them all in one fell swoop. Miss Xiao, this is all thanks to you!"

The middle-aged woman widened her eyes in disbelief, "So it's really you!" She was too careless. The girl was guarded when she first approached her. But when the girl returned from supposedly losing her father, she became so gullible. The middle-aged woman finally understood. The girl didn't go to find her father. She went to call the police.

The middle-aged woman's group had been targeted by the police for a long time already, but they had been able to avoid law enforcement.

The police must have asked the girl to pretend to be deceived. Then the police had trailed them all the way to their base.

So they were fooled by a seemingly stupid girl!

The middle-aged woman was filled with regret. She initially had the thought to let the girl go, so why did she change her mind in the end? If she hadn't brought along the girl, they wouldn't be caught!

But it was too late for regret. They had been in the human trafficking business for several decades, and the person who took them down was a simple girl.

One of the men demanded, "How did you know? How can you tell?"

They were extremely cautious. They couldn't believe that the girl managed to see through their ploy.

Xiao Lingyu did not approach them. She carried the child and stood outside the crowd as she said in a calm voice, "No grandmother cares so little about her grandson. The boy has been asleep for so long without any food and water. You clearly didn't care about him!"

"So what? Couldn't I be a horrible grandmother?" The woman countered.

"Well, you could. But there's another detail that sold you out." Xiao Lingyu explained, "It's the way you dress."

"The way we dress?" The traffickers were dumbfounded. They clearly didn't imagine that to be the problem.

Xiao Lingyu elaborated, "The boy is well-dressed. He is fair and cute. One look, and you can tell he is from a well-off family. But look at you. You are dressed plainly and haggard-looking. You two are not from the same background. If this boy is really your grandson, would his father allow him to travel with

you? He clearly won't. Furthermore, as you said, you could be a horrible grandmother. But considering how well cared for this boy is, his parents won't leave him with you. So the only conclusion is the boy is not your grandson."

"Even so, that doesn't prove that we're human traffickers." The criminals still couldn't accept the fact that a young girl had thwarted them.

"Well, this is really your fault." Xiao Lingyu said, "You were so kind when you first approached me, asking me about my family and so on. But the moment you heard I travel with my family, your attitude turned cold instantly. How can I not notice that anomaly? I went to call the police out of consideration for safety!"

Since the human traffickers were already on the police's watch list, when Xiao Lingyu called to report on them, they immediately sprung into action. They asked Xiao Lingyu to act as bait, and she agreed. So the rest was for the human traffickers to take the bait, and they did.

The woman normally wouldn't fall for this, but the harvest was too large to skip. They had already kidnapped a boy in the capital. They could sell him at a high price. They would get around 300,000 easily once they captured the girl.

Combine that with the girls and children they already locked up in the warehouse, the total harvest would amount to two million. As the leader, the middle-aged woman would gain 50 percent of the profits.

In other words, she was sitting on one million. That was good to last her for four years. The four years were enough to shake the police trail off. After four years, she would return to the scene. She had been doing this for decades. The plan had worked perfectly... until now.

The woman was too caught up in the imminent windfall that she didn't notice the police ambush. This was her fault.

The woman's eyes glowed viciously, "Bitch, how can you do this to us?"

Xiao Lingyu laughed icily, "What I did is nothing compared to what you've done over the years."

Jiang Tao ordered sternly, "Bring them all away!" His subordinates obliged.

Jiang Tao glanced at the child in Xiao Lingyu's arms and said very sincerely, "Miss, thank you for risking your personal safety to help us. We're very grateful."

Xiao Lingyu glanced at the child in her arms and said very seriously, "The bad people will get their retribution sooner or later. Karma will eventually catch up to them. It's just that this time, it manifested itself through me."

Jiang Tao was startled, then he nodded. "You're right.. Karma is always watching! The bad people will get their retribution sooner or later."

Chapter 38: Going Home

Xingyin Newspaper and the television station reported the story. The human traffickers' gang led by Sister Hong was finally caught.

Eight women and six children were rescued. A dozen families could finally be reunited.

After the criminals were caught, the police tracked down the other victims using the clues provided by the criminals.

...

At Taoyuan Village, a family of old and young sat before a black-and-white television watching the news.

"Based on the statement given by Chief Jiang, the police were able to track down the human trafficker thanks to the courage of a heroine. The girl used herself as bait. She pretended to be lured by Sister Hong, and that was how the police managed to arrive at the criminal's lair. The police set up an ambush and captured all the criminals!"

"Chief Jiang, can we meet this heroine?" The reporter asked curiously.

Jiang Tao shook his head and said thoughtfully, "I'm sorry, at the request of the heroine, she doesn't want to reveal her identity. She is very smart, brave, calm, and composed. Without her aid, we wouldn't have captured this gang so quickly."

The reporter laughed, "Haha. It looks like the heroine has left a deep impression on Chief Jiang. We like to meet her, so this is a pity. On a related note, Chief Jiang, will the government provide this nameless heroine with any reward?"

Chief Jiang smiled. "The government plans to reward this heroine with 50,000."

"Wow, 50,000? That's a lot!" A teen about 10 exclaimed, "If I have that money, I can buy so many books!" As soon as he said that, he was hit in the head.

The teen rubbed his head and mumbled, "Brother Ye, why did you hit me?"

Brother Ye was an eighteen-year-old kid. He wore a white sweater, a black jacket, and a pair of blue jeans.

Xiao Lingye said, "Little Brat, the heroine used her life as bait to lure in the criminals. Do you think life is only worth 50,000? Plus, do you really think she was doing this for money? You should not place so much importance on money. It'll affect your life values."

The boy, called Xiao Xiaohui, asked, "Brother Ye, what are life values?"

Xiao Lingye explained, "It means what you anchor your life with."

Xiao Xiaohui nodded with some understanding, "Brother Ye, I think I get it."

A young woman, Liu Chunhua, stood up to smack Xiaohui on the back of his head. She said with a smile. "What is it that you get? You have much to learn from your Brother Ye. Your Brother Ye scores the first in class every year. You also place the first but from the back!"

“Mom!” Xiao Xiaohui was embarrassed. He rubbed the sore spot on his head. “I understand. I will learn from Brother Ye.” But internally, he muttered. ‘Brother Ye can take all the first places he wants. Studying is too annoying.’

As his mother, Liu Chunhua, knew what was on her son’s mind with a look. She rolled her eyes and hit the boy on the head again. “Don’t think I don’t know what’s going through your mind!”

“Mom, why did you hit me again?”The boy groused.

“You know why.” Liu Chunhua chuckled. “You and your studies are such headaches to me. Look at your Sister Yu. She was admitted to the university and found a job in a big city. She receives a high salary every month, and she has a comfortable life. Unlike us, she doesn’t need to break her back every day, and we don’t even earn as much as she does.”

The boy grumbled, “Mom, I also want to study, but I just can’t do it. What can I do?”

Liu Chunhua, “...” That was a problem. Liu Chunhua glared at him. “You brat, perhaps some spanking can help.” She raised her hand.

Xiao Xiaohui immediately ran towards a middle-aged woman and shouted, “Second Auntie, help! Mommy wants to hit me!” He ran behind Second Auntie.

Xiao Xiaohui’s Second Auntie was Chen Qiuying. She was in her forties and was of medium build. She had a round face and a pair of big eyes that were exactly like Xiao Lingyu’s. She was incredibly beautiful when she was young. Unlike Xiao Lingyu’s eyes which occasionally flashed with temper, Chen Qiuying’s eyes were serene with wisdom accumulated over the years.

“Chunhua, what are you doing?”Chen Qiuying shielded the boy behind her. “You can’t beat a boy just because he doesn’t like to study. Do you think that can fix his problem?”

Liu Chunhua stopped and sighed. “Second Sister, this rascal runs away all day, climbing trees, fishing, and swimming in the river. But the moment I tell him to sit before a book, all his energy fades away. He is real trouble for us.”

Chen Qiuying said, “Chunhua, I know that you’re worried about Xiaohui’s studying. But beating is not going to solve any problem. Perhaps you can help with his homework.”

Liu Chunhua frowned and said with concern, “Second Sister, I also know that. But Ming Yang and I haven’t been to schools ourselves. We can’t help Xiaohui even if we want to. So spanking is our only solution.”

Chen Qiuying frowned at this too. She knew about that, but if she was asked, the real problem was because Xiao Xiaohui was too active, and he didn’t like to sit down and study.

Xiao Lingye smiled and said, “Third aunt, the school is going on holiday. How about I stay to give Xiaohui some tuition?”

Xiao Xiaohui stuck his head out from behind Chen Qiuying and said, “Brother Ye, do you have any idea how much tuition you’ve given me already? I just can’t process the lessons. It’s not going to help me in any way. Just let me be free!”

Liu Chunhua immediately shouted angrily, "You Little Brat, get over here. All you want is to play. This time, I'll break your legs, so you'll have to sit at the table to study!" Liu Chunhua moved towards Xiao Xiaohui.

Xiao Xiaohui immediately ran for his life. Liu Chunhua chased after him and shouted, "Little Brat, why are you running? I'll break your legs when I catch you."

Xiao Xiaohun grinned as he ran. "Haha. But you have to catch me first!"

Bang!

"Xiao Yu!"

Chapter 39: Chen Ran's Parents

Just as Xiao Xiaohui was about to run outside, he bumped into someone. He fell with his butt to the ground.

"Xiao Yu!" Seeing the person he bumped into, Xiao Xiaohui and the others called out in joy.

"Sis!" Xiao Lingye was exceptionally happy when he saw his sister. "Why didn't you inform us you're coming back? We could go fetch you!" The young man snatched the luggage from Xiao Lingyu's hands and carried it into the house. As he carried the luggage, he looked behind Xiao Lingyu and asked with confusion, "Sis, where is Brother Ran? Didn't he come back with you?"

Everyone in the village knew that Chen Ran and Xiao Lingyu were a couple. They were not yet engaged, so Xiao Lingye didn't refer to Chen Ran as his brother-in-law.

Chen Qiuying also looked around and asked in confusion, "That's right, Yu 'Er, didn't Chen Ran come back with you?"

Xiao Lingyu's expression changed with the mention of Chen Ran. She announced calmly, "Mom, I broke up with Chen Ran. Don't mention him in front of me again!"

The others looked at each other and agreed that Xiao Lingyu's sudden return must have something to do with Chen Ran.

Liu Chunhua was very observant. She grabbed Xiao Xiaohui out the door. She turned around and said, "Second Sister, I'm sure you and Ye 'Er have many things to catch up with Yu 'Er. We won't disturb your family reunion."

"Okay, Chunhua. See you later." Chen Qiuying nodded. This was family affairs, so Liu Chunhua excused herself.

After Liu Chunhua and Xiao Xiaohui left, Chen Qiuying's expression immediately changed. She ordered Xiao Lingyu, "Get in, and we'll talk!" Then she turned to Xiao Lingye, "Ye 'Er, go to the fields and get your father!"

"Yes!" Xiao Lingye wouldn't go against the head of the house, his mother.

After he placed Xiao Lingyu's luggage, he raced out. As he passed his sister, he whispered, "Sis, no matter what happens, I'm on your side. I'll go get help for you!"

The help was Father Xiao.

Mother Xiao frowned when she saw the siblings mumble to each other. She coughed and said, "Xiao Lingye, what are you doing? Hurry up to look for your father!"

"Yes!" Xiao Lingye immediately turned around and replied. Then, he quickly ran out.

Once Xiao Lingyu exited, Mother Xiao asked with a serious expression, "Tell me, what happened between you and Chen Ran?"

Mother Xiao knew her daughter well. If there were nothing serious, Xiao Lingyu wouldn't opt for a break-up. After all, Xiao Lingyu and Chen Ran had been in love since junior high. At the time, Mother Xiao was very against this because she worried a relationship would ruin Xiao Lingyu's studies. Mother Xiao beat and scolded Xiao Lingyu, but the girl insisted on being with Chen Ran. Xiao Lingyu promised that her study would not be affected.

In the end, Mother and Father Xiao relented. However, Mother Xiao did warn Xiao Lingyu that they were not allowed to do anything unless they got married. Or else they would disown Xiao Lingyu.

Thankfully, Xiao Lingyu lived up to her words. When she was dating Chen Ran, her results were still top of the class. Chen Ran and Xiao Lingyu were the first and second place scorers, and they entered a famous university with excellent results together.

Chen Ran and Xiao Lingyu's junior high didn't approve of the relationship between students so young. However, since both Chen Ran and Xiao Lingyu did so well in class and exams, the staff chose to close an eye.

Later, this pair of young lovers even made their school proud. They got into a great university together.

Throughout university, Chen Ran and Xiao Lingyu maintained a loving relationship.

So, how did all those years of relationship shatter after two years in the work field?

Xiao Lingyu did not hide anything. She said calmly, "He cheated on me, so we broke up."

Xiao Lingyu didn't go into details because she didn't want her mother to worry. Mother Xiao was about to ask for more when a loud shout from outside startled them.

"Chen Qiuying, get out of here now!"

Mother Xiao frowned. She glanced at Xiao Lingyu and said sternly, "Don't go out yet. I'll go take a look!"

Just moments ago, her daughter told her she had broken up with Chen Ran. And now Chen Ran's parents came to find her. Perhaps they had known about the break-up.

However, these were Chen Ran's parents. They would side with Chen Ran no matter what.

Xiao Lingyu nodded. She entered her room.

Chen Qiuying walked out of the house and saw eight people standing in her courtyard. The two people in the lead were relatively thin and small. They were in their fifties or sixties, but they were dressed in gaudy clothes. They were showing off.

These two were Chen Ran's parents, Chen Dahua and Lan Erying.

When Lan Erying saw Chen Qiuying, she demanded arrogantly, "Chen Qiuying, why are you so slow? Do you know how long we've been waiting for you?"

In Chen Qiuying's eyes, Chen Ran was the best man in the world. Xiao Lingyu must have collected plenty of karma in her previous life to catch the attention of her son.

Chen Ran's parents had stated their demand for an exorbitant amount of dowry. At the very least, Xiao Lingyu's parents had to provide them with a shop and a house in town. They also wanted a car. They didn't ask for the best car, only one around 100,000 RMB. Despite all these, Chen Ran's parents thought they were being kind to Xiao Lingyu's parents.

After all, their son, Chen Ran, was a manager at a large company. He had a high salary. Xiao Lingyu only had to enjoy luxury after she married Chen Ran.

Therefore, ever since Chen Ran and Xiao Lingyu got together, Chen Ran's parents had been going around talking big. They said they would not allow Xiao Lingyu to marry Chen Ran unless the dowry was a shop, a house, and a car.

The Xiao Family was incensed when they heard this.

Thankfully, Xiao Lingyu's parents were reasonable people.

They saw how happy Xiao Lingyu was with Chen Ran. Furthermore, Chen Ran also promised them that he didn't need that much dowry from them. He only needed Xiao Lingyu.

That was why the Xiao Family did not counter anything the Chen Family said.

The Chen Family, though, took this as a sign of surrender. They believed Xiao Lingyu had no one else to marry other than Chen Ran. Therefore, the Chen Family always acted superior before the Xiao Family.

In the past, Chen Qiuying didn't want to argue with these people for the sake of her daughter. But now that her daughter had broken up with Chen Ran, she did not need to be polite with them anymore.

Mother Xiao took in their arrogant appearance and sneered, "Lan Erying, are you the empress? Why should I hurry out to welcome you? Who do you think you are?"

The Chen Family, "...."

Chapter 40: The Chen Family Came to Borrow Money

"Lan Erying, you sure are shameless." Mother Xiao looked at the gathered Chen Family members, and she was not fazed.

When the Chen Family saw how rude Mother Xiao was, they were stunned. Then they were confused. Normally, no matter how rude they were to the Xiao Family, they did not dare say anything back. But today, Chen Qiuying's attitude...

After being ridiculed, Lan Erying was instantly angered, "Chen Qiuying, how dare you speak to me like this? Does your daughter still want to marry my son? Let me tell you if you dare to carry that tone with me again, I... I will forbid my son from marrying your daughter. My son is such an outstanding man. The girls who want to marry him can circle Xing An Town!"

In the past, she always used this to threaten the Xiao Family, and it worked every time!

But this time, Mother Xiao had no reason to be cowed. Since her daughter had already broken up with Chen Ran, why should she continue to tolerate them?

If this continued, people would really think Xiao Lingyu had no one else to marry Chen Ran and that the Xiao Family was easily bullied.

Mother Xiao chuckled sardonically. "Your son can marry whoever he wants. In any case, he is not marrying my daughter. So is there anything else? If not, please leave!"

The Chen Family was stunned by Mother Xiao's directness. Chen Dahua was the first to come back to his senses. It was embarrassing that he was treated like this before his brothers.

His face darkened, and he warned, "Mother Xiao, you've gone too far. Once my Ran 'Er decides he won't marry your daughter, your daughter will be the first to come back to beg us to change Ran 'Er's mind!"

Mother Xiao was done dealing with these arrogant Chen Family people. She repeated coldly, "I'll say it again. If you have nothing else, then leave! I have chores to do!"

Chen Dahua and his wife simply couldn't believe Chen Qiuying.

Lan Erying's voice turned sharp. She said in disbelief, "Chen Qiuying, how dare you? Trust me, after Xiao Lingyu enters the Chen Family, I'll make sure that she suffers!" This was a blatant threat.

Mother Xiao couldn't care less. She retorted, "The Chen Family is too good for us. My Yu 'Er is not good enough for your godlike son. So go and disturb someone else. Stop bothering me."

Chen Dahua and his wife were incensed. They pointed angrily at Mother Xiao. "You..."

At this moment, a man behind Chen Dahua coughed a few times and stood up to say, "Big Brother, we can talk about this in the future. We need to discuss the important matter first."

Chen Dahua finally realized the purpose of their visit after being reminded by Chen Sanhua. They were led so astray by Chen Qiuying that they almost messed up.

Chen Dahua's attitude became better. But by normal standards, he was still bossy towards Chen Qiuying. Chen Dahua said, "In-law, Ran 'Er needs his mother and me to visit him at City Z. Lend us fifty thousand RMB for the travel fee."

The Chen Family, of course, never intended to return the money.

Mother Xiao was so amused by their attitude that she had to laugh. "Fifty thousand?" Mother Xiao repeated with an incredulous expression. She was surprised by how matter-of-fact the Chen Family was.

"Yes, fifty thousand!" Chen Dahua thought Xiao Mother didn't hear him clearly so he repeated.

"No way!" Mother Xiao rejected. Even if Xiao Lingyu hadn't broken up with Chen Ran, she would not borrow them so much money. 'Does the Chen Family think we're the bank? They can withdraw money whenever they want?'

Mother Xiao knew how greedy the Chen Family was. If she borrowed them the money, they would come back to her the second, third, and countless times in the future.

Since their children had broken up, Mother Xiao would not borrow them five cents, not to mention fifty thousand.

"Yes, we will return the money..." Lan Erying was already prepared with her lies, but when she heard Mother Xiao reject her, her eyes were round with disbelief. She said in a sharp tone. "You're not going to help us? Chen Qiuying, how dare you say no to us? It's only fifty thousand, and you can't even lend us that? You don't have any respect for the Chen Family anymore. Fine, I will call now to have Ran 'Er break up with your daughter. Then you'll come begging us for mercy!"

"Lan Erying, Chen Dahua, how shameless can you be? You need money, so I have to lend it to you?" Mother Xiao countered. "Even if we do have the money, we will not lend you one cent. Who do you think you are? So what if you want to go to City Z? What does that have to do with me? To think you dare to say the fifty thousand is for travel free. Do you think we Xiao Family has a money tree growing in our backyard?"

Mother Xiao paused, and her pretty eyes narrowed. She then smiled with glee. She added, "Also, you don't need to call Chen Ran to break up with my Yu 'Er. Because they have already broken up."

"What?" The Chen Family was too shocked by this news. They couldn't believe it. "How is this possible?"

Back then, both the school and the Xiao Family tried so hard to keep Chen Ran and Xiao Lingyu together, so how could they suddenly break up?

"I don't believe you!" Lan Erying said loudly, "How come we don't know anything?" Then she thought of something, and she pointed angrily at Mother Xiao. "Chen Qiuying, if you don't want to lend us the money, just say it. Why do you have to find such an excuse? If Xiao Lingyu finds out, she will be so heartbroken."

"I won't!" At this moment, a voice came from inside the house. Then, Xiao Lingyu walked out. "Because I was the one who told my mother that I have broken up with Chen Ran. Auntie Lan, now do you believe me?"

Initially, Xiao Lingyu did not want to come out. Because she really did not want to see Chen Ran's parents. Furthermore, she was confident that her mother could deal with the Chen Family.

However, the Chen Family was too much. They wanted to go to City Z, but they needed the Xiao Family to sponsor their travel.

From the looks of it, they did not intend to return the money either. Then again, it was unsurprising considering the type of person Chen Ran was. The children were products of their parent's education.

In her past life, she must be blinded to think Chen Ran and his family were good people.

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After Mother Xiao left to deal with the Chen Family, Xiao Lingyu was busy studying the jade pendant.

After she saved the boy from Sister Hong, an officer asked her, "Miss Xiao, are you a martial artist? You're really good with your movements. I saw everything. You avoided all the attacks expertly and even managed to save the child from Sister Hong."

Now that she thought about it, the improvement to her reaction speed was very likely related to this jade pendant.

Xiao Lingyu pondered how to test it out further when the increasingly heated argument drowned out her mind. The Chen Family was becoming more and more outrageous. Xiao Lingyu decided she needed to step out to chase these people away.