

Chen Yuzhou's face was even more swollen than it was yesterday, patches of purple and black covering his entire face, but they did nothing to lessen the arrogance in his expression.

His eyes locked onto mine, and we went into a staredown. Hearing us, Chu Xiaoxiao and Lin Fang quickly came out of the ward, and stood beside me in silent support.

Chen Yuzhou seemed surprised to see Cu Xiaoxiao here, but he quickly recovered and jeered, "Chu Xiaoxiao, what a pleasant surprise to see you here. Didn't you know that your father was worried sick about you?"

"Get your nose out of my family business, Chen Yuzhou. I admit, before, I was blind. But today, I finally see you for the beast that you are! What are you even doing here? Get lost. None of us wanted to defile our eyes by having to see your disgusting face!"

"Don't be so hasty now, you'll be begging me soon enough. Rejoice! I came to give all of you a chance. If Zhang Chao gets down on his knees and begs me for it right now, I'll go easy on you."

I asked, "Is this why you came today? Just to flaunt that silly face of yours?"

Chen Yuzhou laughed, as if I just told a joke, "Oh, how wrong you are. No. I came today, to show you forgiveness. For old times sake. After all, we all had the fortune to be in the same class once upon a time. I came to give you a way out."

"Oh, thanks then. Much appreciated." I smiled.

Chu Xiaoxiao immediately turned around and shoved at me, with a glare, "Wait, what the hell did you just say!? Chickening out? What's there to be afraid for? There's nothing but a tiny and lousy Chen Yuzhou!"

I replied her in pretend seriousness, "We are all decent human beings, so it's only natural that I thank him for being nice. It goes both ways. In the future, if he gets down to his knees and begs, I'll also forgive him."

Chen Yuzhou pretense of niceness shattered immediately as he burst out in anger, "You presumptuous ingrates! Don't say that I never warned you!" Then he turned around and stormed off.

Chu Xiaoxiao frowned, "Don't you feel that something seemed a bit off? Did he really come all the way out here just to flaunt at us?"

I chuckled, "I don't care if he whether he had came to flaunt or not, but I am."

I called out to him, "Chen Yuzhou!"

The hallway was quiet and empty, so my voice rang down its length loud and clear. Chen Yuzhou stopped and looked back at me. I wrapped an arm around Lin Fang's soft and slender waist, then pulled her into me and gave her a nice big kiss on her cheek.

"Chen Yuzhou, since you went through the trouble of coming all the way out here today, I'll give you a good

news. Lin Fang and I are together now.”

Chu Xiaoxiao’s eyes opened wide as she stared at Lin Fang, with surprise and admiration. Lin Fang blushed furiously, all the way from her face and down to her neck. She looked at me, her eyes lost in a daze of happiness, as her hands clinged onto my shirt tightly. Now I finally knew why Chen Yuzhou liked showing off to everyone else that much. Truly, what they wrote in the stories was really true. A man truly was at his proudest when he showed off the love of his life to his other competitors!

“You...! Zhang Chao, just you wait... just you wait!” Throwing that at us, Chen Yuzhou stormed into the elevator.

After Chen Yuzhou was out of our sight, I quickly let go of Lin Fang’s waist and apologized profusely. Hopefully, she won’t be too mad at me for this.

“I... certainly didn’t expect that, that you can also be quite forceful about things like this at times.” Lin Fang panted and leaned against the side of the wall, and joked playfully.

I quickly shook my head, “No, I... umm, I mean, that was... I only did it to... to make Chen Yuzhou angry.”

“Oh, so what you’re saying is, you didn’t kiss me because you wanted to kiss me? Then I don’t want that kiss anymore. You can have it back.” She pouted angrily at me.

I was literally at a complete loss for words. I had no idea

just what I should do to apologize to her, or how to appease her at all. I never knew how to speak to a girl properly, and even more so when I was faced with the woman I loved, the goddess of my childhood.

Then suddenly, Lin Fang closed in and stood on her tiptoes to raise her lips to my face, and gave me a quick kiss. My heart skipped a beat as my brain imploded and exploded inside my skull.

“There, I just gave it back.” Looking at me, who was still spacing out like an idiot, Lin Fang laughed and asked, “Sweet enough for you?”

Enough! More than enough!

By the time I came back to, Lin Fang already went back inside her father’s ward. I raised my hand to touch the place where her lips had been, stared at it, and then spaced out again. I must have the silliest smile on my face right now, but I still can’t bring myself to believe what just happened.

Chu Xiaoxiao poked her head in to look at my face, and she waved a hand over my eyes, “Uh oh, no good, we have a goner here. Medic!”

“Don’t be silly, come with me for a second.”

Snapping out of it, I caught Chu Xiaoxiao’s hand and pulled her a little distance away from Lin Fang’s father’s ward. Looking around back and forth, I made sure that no one could overhear us, and let go of her hand.

"Are you really sure that you want to do this, no matter how great the cost might be? Are you willing to stand on our side?"

Chu Xiaoxiao massaged her wrist, and looked at me suspiciously, "What are you doing still asking me that? I already said I would and I'm not about to change my mind. Oh, minor correction though, I'm not doing this for you at all. I'm only doing this for Fangfang."

I said, "Same difference. Well, if you want to help us, then promise me one thing."

I motioned her to come closer and lend me her ear. Chu Xiaoxiao didn't hesitate for even a split second and tilted her head towards me. I whispered softly into her ears.

"I would never! No, impossible." Before I even finished what I said, Chu Xiaoxiao's anger already blew up in my face. She rejected my ideas and almost spat.

I grabbed her wrist before she stomped off, "Wait, let me finish!"

"What's there to finish anyway!? I said it already, I will never accept this. You want me to say to the police that I staged all of this with you to frame Chen Yuzhou? You want me to admit to the rumors that I'm nothing but a call girl who'd gladly sell my own body out for money!? I won't accept this, and neither would Fangfang!"

I quickly added, "And there is one more thing I want you to promise me. Don't tell any of this to Lin Fang."

Chu Xiaoxiao looked at me with exasperation behind her eyes, as if she was looking at a madman. I knew that I was asking a lot of her, and I knew that she was perfectly right about what she said, but I must go through with this.

I couldn't convince Chu Xiaoxiao to agree with me at all, but she did promise that she wouldn't tell Lin Fang about it. She asked me where I was going with this, over and over again, but I didn't give her any explanation.

About an hour later, Han Kun called. He said that his contacts at the district attorneys just notified him, that the police are on their way here to arrest me on charges of attempted murder, and asked me whether I want them to act now.

I told him, "Wait a little bit more."

Han Kun said, puzzled, "What are you waiting for? Don't tell me that you really want Chen Yuzhou to throw you into the slammers?"

Though he has doubts regarding my decision, Han Kun did as I requested and told his people to hold. Not too long after I hung up the phone, Chen Yuzhou appeared again, this time with a group of police officers behind him. They came to me, and handcuffed me without a word. Luckily, Lin Fang went with her father for his routine checkups, and Chu Xiaoxiao accompanied her. If she was here to see what they'll do to me, it'd make her worried again.

There were more people at the hospital now. For many

people, it was the first time that they witnessed the police apprehending a criminal. Everyone was curious, and they all took out their phones and took photos. I didn't exactly want all these publicities, but there was little I could do about it.

The commotion even made Zhao Gongming come out of the operation room to see what was going on. He went over to an officer and asked, but before any of the officers answered, Chen Yuzhou cut in between them and spoke over the officers, energetically, "Director Zhao, this is police business. You have no say in this matter. Just the night before, Zhang Chao mortally wounded me with a kick. This is attempted murder."

I said, "Chen Yuzhou, you got so worked up just because I kissed Lin Fang? Did your father know about this, you dragging the police here to arrest me?"

Being poured salt over his wound, Chen Yuzhou immediately burst into anger and cast all pretense away. He motioned the police officers to hold me in place, then ran over to me and kicked me in the stomach, right before public eyes.

The officers held me in place, so I had no choice but to take that kick. Even for a trained soldier, a kick with the entire weight of a fully grown man behind it was nothing to sneer at. My whole body contorted in pain, but the officers grabbed and pulled me back onto my feet again, and Chen Yuzhou gave my stomach another kick. I grunted from the pain.

Chen Yuzhou seemed unfazed even with all the phone

cameras around us, taking photos of the incident. When the officers propped me up again, Chen Yuzhou grabbed my hair and forced me to look up to his face.

"Don't think that I don't know what you're thinking. Angering me, then making me hit you and cause a scene, then have people take photos and spread them all over the internet. That way, you'll have new evidence to work with. Right?"

I laughed through my teeth, "I guess you do have a brain after all."

Chen Yuzhou looked at me, and then spat every word out like venom, "Fool. They may take photos all they want, but in Tong City, who actually have the gall to put any of it on the internet? I swear, if any of this went online, I'll get my people to dig out whoever put this on the internet and make him suffer just like you do. Take him away!"

He was screaming by the end of it. Everyone around heard it loud and clear. This is a warning to them, issued by the Chen's to the entire Tong City, forcing them to turn a blind eye to injustice.

After his scream, no one dared to make a sound, and many of the bystanders hurriedly deleted their photos and videos.