

## Chapter 63 Favor

“Uncle Han, I’ve literally been through hell through the years that I served in the military, what place in Tong City could possibly make me afraid?”

Han Kun sighed, “Well... actually, Master Zhang, you didn’t have to go there personally, I can have Junran make up to Chu Xiaoxiao in your place.”

“I don’t want to expose my relationship with Junran yet. If Junran suddenly turn around and extend a friendly hand to the Chu’s, anyone with half a brain would begin to suspect that there’s something going on between me and Junran. Just tell me where she lives, Uncle Han, you’re making me curious.”

“Fine, if you insist. Her address is 12th Yulong Bay Minor District.”

“What...!?” It was as though a lightning hit me, “But... this place...”

“Yes. It was the same neighborhood your parents lived. Where you lived. Your aunt is still living in that place.”

Now I finally understood what people mean when they say that when it rains, it pours. There were things in life that you just couldn’t run away from no matter how much you wanted to.

The Yulong Bay Minor District was a rather wealthy neighborhood. When my parents were alive, they saved up and bought a place there, and we’ve lived there since. All our neighbors were either rich businessmen or intellectuals.

But since I turned seven after my parents passed away, I became extremely shut in. I was too afraid to even go outside, so I never knew who were my neighbors. But my aunt on the other hand, over the years she had come to know many powerful figures in Tong City.

Her son, Su Dawei, was a useless trash of the society. He never even went to high school. My aunt pulled her connections and got him accepted into some obscure institute or college, but that had been a few years ago already, so he should probably have graduated by now and doing gods knows what some place.

My old address was the 42th, quite a distance away from Chu Xiaoxiao’s home. There was quite a separation between each individual household in that neighborhood. Judging by the plate number, even if I were to drive, it’d take roughly 10 minutes for me to drive from my address to hers.

I didn’t want to attract too much attention by driving the Porsche. So instead, I went and rented a cheap little BYD.

But unexpectedly, I was stopped and pulled over by the neighborhood guards because of that.

“This is an entry by invitation only area. State your business and with whom you have an appointment for.”

If I said it directly that I was looking for Chu Xiaoxiao, she probably won’t see me anyway. And, I don’t think that Chu Huaaien would let me in either.

“Su Dawei, he lives on the 42th. I’m his friend, called Liu Chen.”

Somewhere in my memories I seemed to remember that he had a friend called that. I didn’t know if they had remained in contact after all these years, but then again I didn’t have any other better ideas either.

The guard called Su Dawei’s phone, but no one answered.

“Look, I’m kind of in a hurry. Can you do me a favor and just let me go on my way?”

“Then... then tell me who else lived in this Su Dawei’s family. And if you really know this Su Dawei, I’ll let you in. I couldn’t just let any random strangers inside the community you know.”

I chuckled, “Mister, how did you even get past your orientation training anyway? All these authorizing and authentications and such, are you really saying that I couldn’t come in here as the owner of the house while my tenants can?”

He eyed me up and down suspiciously and snorted, “Who do you think you are? Before you spout all that nonsense, why don’t you buy yourself a mirror and see if you’re even worth stepping inside this neighborhood.”

I reached into my pocket and threw my identification card into his face, “Why don’t you go and look up the name of the owner of the 42th.”

He picked up my identification and looked at it suspiciously, but seeing my confidence, he finally decided that he couldn’t take the risk.

“I’m warning you right here. If I found out that this was all a sham, I’m going to call the cops on you for trespassing of private properties.”

He took my identification and went back to check it against the neighborhood registries.

Ever since my parents passed away, the legal owner of the house had always been me, though my aunt simply kicked me out and took it for her own since then.

And as expected, as soon as he got to the appropriate page on the registry, sweat formed and fell from his forehead, and he ran back to me with my identification as fast as he could.

“I’m sorry, I’m so sorry. Please forgive me for that minor slip up. Pl...please, go on in and take your time.”

It has been five years since I last saw this place. Finally seeing it again, though I still remember all the places, something about everything just felt different.

This neighborhood was becoming one of the oldest neighborhoods in Tong City, though its house prices never once dropped and it was still one of the richest neighborhoods.

Pulling up in front of Chu Xiaoxiao’s house, I stared at it with gaping jaws. In the beginning, I thought that there must be 30 odd households between the 42th and 12th, but as it turned out, they were right opposite to each other on either sides of the street.

Now I was really praying that my aunt wasn’t home to see me. That crazed woman, who knew what she would be capable of if she actually saw my face...

“Who are you looking for?”

Seeing that I parked my car in front of their house, a maidservant came out to me and asked me with suspicious and critical eyes.

As I hesitated whether or not I should tell her the truth and risk Chu Xiaoxiao refusing to see me, I heard her voice, “Oh, Zhang Chao? Why did you come?”

Chu Xiaoxiao was wearing a short skirt, pale yellow. She was used to staying abroad. Though what she wore covered all the parts that needs to be covered, they still nevertheless showed a lot of skin. Looking at her in her skimpy outfit, I was dazed for a moment before I quickly closed my eyes and gave my head a firm shake.

I cleared my throat, “I came to see how you were doing. Are you alright?”

Though as soon as I saw her, I really didn’t have to ask her that anymore. The scar and bruises on her face hadn’t faded yet. This Chu Huaaien really was quite some character, taking his frustration and failures in his business out on his own daughter at home.

Chu Xiaoxiao told the maidservant to go back inside, and turned back to face me. Though it was obvious that she wasn’t about to let me inside.

“I’m fine, Zhang Chao. Don’t come see me again.”

Then she turned around and began heading back inside.

This startled me. Have I done something or wronged her in any way?

Something about her just doesn’t seem right. I chased after her and stopped her just as she was about to close the door on me. I reached and grabbed her wrist, “Wait, just hold on, what’s going on?”

“Look, Zhang Chao, really, don’t come see me anymore. Lin Fang was a good friend, and you’re a good person. I don’t know what to say, but I don’t want to see either of you ever again.”

“Just what happened?”

Obviously, there was something else in Chu Xiaoxiao’s words, but for some reason, she doesn’t seem willing to say it out loud. Now that was odd, really odd. That wasn’t like her at all.

I said, “Just hear me out first. I came to see you partly because I want to make up to you. You know, from before, how I meddled with your contract with Junran and soured it up? I want to make it up to you by giving you an advertisement company. What do you think?”

I really didn’t know what had happened that made her Chu Xiaoxiao dislike me so much to refuse to even see me. Nevertheless, she went out of her way and helped me, and I must return the favor.

Chu Xiaoxiao was first startled. She stared at me, and then after a short pause, she began to shut the door on me again.

“Just what’s going on here!?” This time, I really couldn’t hold my frustration in anymore, and kicked and jammed my foot between the door and its frame, “I’m not leaving until you tell me about it!”

I must had been too hard with my grip, because Chu Xiaoxiao’s face reddened with pain, or anger. She gritted her teeth, “Don’t ask me. Ask Lin Fang yourself. I can’t say it. I won’t say it. I never want to see her again.”

Lin Fang? What does any of this has to do with Lin Fang?

Chu Xiaoxiao confused me completely. What happened between her and Lin Fang?

“Let go of me first. You’re hurting me.”

The maidservant came back, and pushed at me, “You! You let go of Xiaoxiao now, or I’m calling the police!”

I let go of her hand, “Xiaoxiao, just tell me what happened. Lin Fang said that you hated me for ruining your career, and that you hated me for making you fight with your father, and that’s why you didn’t want to see us again. What does any of this have to do with Lin Fang?”

Chu Xiaoxiao’s eyes widened, “... she said that?”

“Yeah, that’s right. I called you, because I wanted to apologize, but you won’t take my call. I wanted to give you an advertisement company to make it up to you, so... here I am.”

“I don’t hate you, and I’m not mad at you. And it has... nothing to do with Lin Fang. Lin Fang was right, I just didn’t want to see the two of you again. She wouldn’t want to see me either. So just go, I don’t want that company either.”

With that, she slammed the door on me, almost hitting me on the nose. I knocked and slapped at the door and called her name, but she wouldn’t answer. A while later, the door opened again, though this time with the chain on, it was the maidservant telling me to go back.

Just what was going on?

I did feel that Lin Fang wasn’t telling me everything when she spoke to me before, but after hearing what Chu Xiaoxiao said, it was a lot more serious than what Lin Fang told me. But... just which one of them was telling the truth?