

## Lady Gu 1241

### Chapter 1241 Is The Luo Family Really That Scary?

The assistant looked at the butler beside him. The butler gave him a look, then the assistant slowly said, "Chairman Xia, since our young master is coming here for that designer, can we meet the person in question first?"

Xia Cheng had always wanted to introduce Xia Ji to the Luo family. Now that the assistant from the Luo family had spoken first, Xia Cheng was naturally excited.

He quickly turned around and said in a kind voice, "Xia Ji, come here. The butler and assistant from the Luo family want to see you."

When Xia Ji heard his father's voice, he straightened his clothes and walked out with his head held high. From today onward, he would be an honored guest of the Luo family. No one would mock his identity as an illegitimate child anymore.

All these years, he had been questioned countless times. Even a portion of the higher-ups of Xia Corporation did not agree to let him be the heir and did not allow him to be the next head of the family. It was all because of his identity as an illegitimate child that he could never compare to Yin Yunyi or Xia Yunqiu. They all claimed that he was not qualified to sit in that position.

However, now that the Luo family had personally come to collaborate with him, he had become a supreme designer. In the future, he would lead the Xia family to become the overlord of Li City and become an existence that everyone looked up to. At that time, no one would despise his identity and think that he was not worthy to be the head of the family.

Xia Ji's face was filled with a proud smile. He walked to Xia Cheng's side. The father and son were full of smiles. Xia Cheng hurriedly introduced, "Assistant, this is the designer, Xia Ji. He's also my son."

Xia Ji smiled and nodded, not noticing their expressions at all. "Hello, I'm the designer, Xia Ji."

He took a few steps closer and wanted to shake the butler's hand. He was the heir of the Xia family and a designer of porcelain sculptures. Even though the butler of the Luo family had a lot of power, he was still just a butler. It was only right for the two of them to shake hands. Xia Ji thought that the butler would not refuse.

However, his hand remained in midair. After a few seconds, the butler did not respond.

Xia Ji's heart skipped a beat, and his expression was extremely ugly. The air around him seemed to have frozen. Everyone present held their breaths and watched this awkward scene.

A moment later, Xia Cheng smiled in embarrassment. "Butler, please don't take offense. Xia Ji doesn't know the rules."

Xia Ji retracted his hand awkwardly, and the smile on his face instantly vanished. The butler, who was at the side, narrowed his eyes. His cold gaze landed on Xia Ji, then he glanced coldly at Xia Cheng.

At that moment, Xia Cheng felt as if a thousand-kilogram rock was pressing down on his spine, making him unable to straighten his back. He had the urge to grovel in front of the butler.

Was the Luo family really that scary? Xia Cheng heard that apart from normal business dealings, Xuan Island had also established an assassin organization. Now, the coldness exuding from the butler's body seemed to be tainted by the smell of blood. It could not help but make Xia Cheng tremble in fear.

However, he did not understand why the butler was looking at him like this. Did he say something wrong?

Just as Xia Cheng was feeling puzzled, the butler suddenly sneered and said, "Chairman Xia, is this the porcelain designer you were talking about?"

The moment he spoke, the surroundings instantly fell silent. His entire body exuded a powerful aura, making everyone present unable to breathe smoothly. He was just a butler, yet he had such a sharp aura. How terrifying was the Luo family?!

Xia Cheng nodded in fear. "Yes, Butler. This is the designer of the porcelain sculptures..."

"Nonsense! The designer is clearly a woman. How could it be him? How dare you deceive our Luo family?! Do you think we're fools?"

The butler's voice was suddenly sharp. His berating voice reached everyone's ears, scaring them.

The entire venue was silent. Even the sound of breathing had stopped. Xia Mengyan's heart was beating violently, and her lips were pale as they trembled.

Xia Ji was so scared that his face turned pale. The veins on his forehead were throbbing uneasily.

No one dared to say anything. The reporters also looked at each other. The Luo family said that the real designer was a woman, so Xia Ji was not the real designer. In other words, the Xia family was lying?

After the butler's reminder, everyone could not help but think of Miss Qiao's words. Her mother, Xia Yunqiu, passed away many years ago. Could it be that she was the designer mentioned by the Luo family?

Everyone was just guessing, but once they started to suspect something, they disliked Xia Ji even more.

Chapter 1242 Young Master Luo Appears!

The butler sneered. "Business depends on integrity. Since the Xia family hasn't shown their due integrity, let's not talk about the collaboration anymore. I'll tell Young Master now that he doesn't have to come!"

With that, the butler turned around and left. The assistant hurriedly followed.

This turn of events made Xia Cheng's expression change drastically, and his eyes were about to pop out. Xia Corporation was in a difficult situation now, and their competitors were eyeing them covetously. They would trip the Xia family up from time to time. During this period of time, the family had spread the news of the collaboration with the Luo family, which made their competitors finally stop scheming against them. A few of them even came to apologize. If they canceled the collaboration with the Luo family now, the Xia family would become a thorn in those competitors' side again.

Moreover, he had invited so many reporters and business giants to watch the collaboration take place because he wanted to spread this news to the entire Li City. If this collaboration was canceled and Xia Ji was accused of plagiarizing someone else's work, how would Xia Corporation survive in Li City in the future?

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Why did the Luo family think that the designer was a woman? Could it be that they had seen Xia Yunqiu before? Even if they had, how could they be sure that Xia Yunqiu had drawn so many designs? After all, even the Yin family did not know that Xia Yunqiu's designs were in their hands. How did the Luo family know?

Could it be... Qiao Xi?!

Yes! She must have leaked the news!

Xia Cheng suddenly reacted. After Qiao Xi left, she must have told the butler of the Luo family about this and exaggerated their mistakes in front of the butler. That was why the butler was so cold to them.

"Excuse me!" At this moment, Xia Cheng couldn't care less about his image and chased after him crazily. "Don't leave yet! This must be a misunderstanding. The designer is Xia Ji. Where did you hear that the designer is a woman? Is it from that woman surnamed Qiao? You can't believe her words!

"She just came to Xia Corporation to cause trouble today. She has always thought that these designs were created by her mother, but it was actually my son who drew them. Her mother snatched them away. After she found out about this, she left dejectedly. As she was unhappy about it, she must have said something in front of you."

When the butler heard his words, he stopped in his tracks, and his eyes were filled with disdain.

"Butler, I know that there were rumors previously that the designer was a woman, but it's a long story. Actually, it was my daughter, Xia Yunqiu, who stole my son, Xia Ji's, designs 24 years ago. She even kept them as her own. That's why many people think that the designs were hers, but Xia Ji is actually the real designer!

"I didn't want to say anything about this at first, but after all, Yunqiu was in the wrong. I didn't want Xia Ji to suffer, so I made this secret public today. This is just a misunderstanding. Butler, our Xia family has no intention of lying to you."

The disdain in Butler Luo's eyes grew stronger and stronger. He asked meaningfully, "Chairman Xia, do you want to know where I heard that the designer is Miss Xia Yunqiu?"

His words meant that the designer he was looking for was Xia Yunqiu. Xia Cheng was uneasy, but he knew very well that at this moment, he could only insist that the real designer was Xia Ji to salvage this collaboration. Otherwise, the Xia family would fall into a predicament again.

"Qiao Xi said it, right? Butler, you—"

"It wasn't her, it was me." A cold male voice came from outside the door. This man exuded the aura of a king. He was like a noble lion, making others not dare to approach him.

Xia Cheng knew that this man's identity must be extraordinary, so even though he was a little angry at being interrupted, he still asked gently, "Who are you?"

As Xia Cheng spoke, he looked up at the man in front of him. The man's eyes were extremely cold, clear, and translucent. They were suffused with a faint blue color. One look at them made one feel as if one were in the deep sea and one's body was surrounded by cold seawater. The fear of drowning would appear in one's heart.

Could this person be Young Master Luo?

However, this man was too young and did not have any bodyguards by his side. Other than the aura he exuded and his blue eyes, Xia Cheng was really unable to confirm that this person was Young Master Luo.

Xia Cheng said nervously, "Sir, Butler, I'm very sure that the designer is Xia Ji and not Xia Yunqiu. Xi Xi refused to believe that her mother stole someone else's designs, so she spouted nonsense in front of you. Don't believe her!"

Chapter 1243 Drew The Designs On Xuan Island

The butler looked at Xia Cheng in front of him and said in a cold tone, "Chairman Xia, you still dare to deceive me even now? Everyone in our Luo family knows that the designer is Madam Xia Yunqiu. Now, you still dare to say that it's Xia Ji?"

Xia Mengyan's face was pale. She mustered her courage and walked forward. She said while trembling, "Mister, you've misunderstood. The designer has always been my father, but his designs were snatched away by Aunt Yunqiu. Qiao Xi is Aunt Yunqiu's adopted daughter. She has always thought that Aunt Yunqiu is the real designer, so..."

"Miss Xia, I don't think I was talking to you, right? Moreover, what does this have to do with Miss Qiao?" The butler glanced at her sharply. Xia Mengyan was so scared that she lowered her head and did not dare to speak.

"Chairman Xia, our Luo family never believes in others when discussing business. We only believe in ourselves. Before we collaborate, we naturally have to understand our business partners. Miss Qiao didn't tell us the identity of the designer. It was said by the young master and the family head. Are you still going to question our family head and young master?"

Xia Cheng's eyes were filled with surprise, and he was so scared that his face turned pale. The head and young master of the Luo family both knew that Xia Yunqiu was the designer? Where did they hear that?

After the butler finished speaking and before Xia Cheng could react, he bent slightly toward the young man at the side. "Young Master, you're here."

Everyone widened their eyes. This was the young master of the Luo family, Luo Qing?

Xia Cheng suddenly looked up. Coincidentally, Luo Qing was also sizing him up. Their gazes met, and in an instant, Xia Cheng felt as if he had been electrocuted. Half of his body was numb, and sweat trickled down his forehead. His lips trembled. "Y-Young Master Luo?"

“Chairman Xia, I won’t beat about the bush with you.” Luo Qing’s voice was cold. “24 years ago, when Madam Xia Yunqiu was recuperating on Xuan Island, she drew a total of 64 designs. She gave a total of 21 designs to my Luo family. She took the rest of the designs with her, but now, 18 designs have been claimed by Xia Ji as his own.”

Luo Qing slowly looked up, his blue eyes filled with coldness. His voice carried a trace of killing intent. “Chairman Xia, can you explain why?”

The entire venue instantly fell silent. Luo Qing’s voice still echoed in everyone’s minds.

24 years ago, Madam Xia Yunqiu had drawn a total of 64 designs on Xuan Island. She had 43 in her hands, but 18 of them had become Xia Ji’s?

Xia Cheng’s pupils suddenly constricted, and his vision turned blurry. The corners of his mouth twitched slightly.

The uneasiness in Xia Mengyan’s heart instantly turned into fear that invaded her heart. Her body could not help but tremble.

Luo Qing’s words stunned everyone present. Their burning gazes landed on Xia Ji and Xia Cheng. No one said anything, but their gazes were enough to explain everything.

Xia Ji was shocked and afraid. He lowered his head and did not dare to look into Luo Qing’s eyes. At this moment, he had nothing to say.

A few rich daughters stood beside Xia Mengyan. They were all the only daughters of their families. They came to the collaboration ceremony this time to build a good relationship with the Xia family so that they could inherit their family business in the future. Now that the truth was exposed, one of the daughters looked at Xia Mengyan in shock.

“Mengyan! Are the designs your father’s work? Young Master Luo says that they’re your aunt’s design. He can’t be lying, right?! So what Miss Qiao said just now is the truth?”

Everyone looked at Xia Mengyan. She bit her lip and did not say anything.

The young miss wanted to ask another question, but she was stopped by her father. Actually, anyone with discerning eyes knew the current situation. The Xia family did not retort, which meant that they were already guilty. They thought that since Xia Yunqiu was dead, no one would stand up to question them, so they claimed her work as theirs and even accused her of snatching Xia Ji’s design.

Xia Cheng, who had always been calm, could not remain calm anymore. However, he had been in charge of the Xia family for so many years. He was used to seeing the world. He forced himself to calm down and squeezed out a smile. He said respectfully, “Young Master Luo, I think there must be a misunderstanding. Everyone knows that Yunqiu grew up in Shengdu. Why would she go to Xuan Island?”

Luo Qing asked indifferently, “Chairman Xia, are you sure that these designs belong to Xia Ji?”

At this point, Xia Cheng naturally could not deny it. He could only brace himself and answer, “Y-Yes, it’s Xia Ji...”

Before he could finish, a higher-up of Xia Corporation rushed in in a panic and shouted, "Director Xia! There's bad news!"

Chapter 1244 Do You Want To Be An Enemy Or A Friend?

Xia Cheng glared at that person unhappily, but the higher-up did not realize it and said loudly in front of everyone, "Chairman Xia, the designs left behind by Miss Yunqiu have all been circulated. Moreover, the Luo family and the Shen family in the capital are testifying for Miss Yunqiu. Now that public opinion is everywhere online, the company's shares have plummeted. You have to quickly solve this matter, or the company will be doomed!"

The moment that was said, Xia Cheng's head buzzed. His vision darkened, and he almost fainted. He forced himself to calm down and widened his eyes at Luo Qing.

The butler of the Luo family, who was at the side, said with a smile, "I'm sorry, Chairman Xia. Since you refuse to admit it, we can only resort to this. The person we wish to collaborate with is the real designer, not an impostor. If we get the name wrong, how can we face Madam Xia Yunqiu's soul in heaven?"

At this moment, Xia Cheng's phone vibrated crazily. He took out his phone and looked at it. His face was as pale as paper.

So this was the Luo family's power? To them, dealing with the Xia family was as easy as crushing an ant. Just this small lesson caused the entire Xia family to be in turmoil.

Luo Qing's tone was firm as he made his final decision. "Uncle Zheng."

Luo Zheng, the butler, took two steps forward and said with a trace of disdain, "Director Xia, this collaboration won't be canceled, but we won't be working with Mr. Xia Ji. We'll work with Miss Xia Yunqiu.

"It can be said that Miss Xia Yunqiu's designs are perfect. Our patriarch likes them very much. What happened just now was just a small lesson. I hope you can understand our Luo family's intentions. If you're willing to return the designs to Miss Xia Yunqiu, this collaboration will go very smoothly. Our Luo family will also take responsibility for causing a series of losses to the Xia family."

Luo Zheng paused, and his eyes suddenly turned sharp. "But if you're unwilling..."

Of course, Xia Cheng did not want to agree. Xia Ji was his favorite son. He had nurtured him carefully for so many years so that he would be able to successfully become the head of the family in the future. Moreover, Xia Ji's daughter, Xia Mengyan, was also very capable. The father and daughter would definitely bring the Xia family to greater heights.

However, now that something had happened and Xia Ji had been scolded like this, how was he going to be the heir of the Xia family in the future? How could the higher-ups of Xia Corporation agree?

However, if he did not agree...

"Chairman Xia, haven't you thought it through? If the collaboration is canceled, not only will you suffer a huge loss, but the Xia family will also be the Luo family's enemy from now on. Are you sure you want to be enemies with the Luo family?"

Luo Zheng's tone was calm. "If you agree to collaborate, the Xia family and our Luo family will be friends. Whether you want to be enemies or friends, it all depends on your choice."

The higher-ups of Xia Corporation all looked at Xia Cheng and said anxiously, "Chairman Xia, please agree! The company's shares have been plummeting, and the internet is filled with curses. If we become enemies with the Luo family, the Xia family will be completely doomed!"

"Director Xia! They're clearly Miss Yunqiu's designs, so they should have her name on them. She's also your daughter! You can't destroy the entire Xia family for Xia Ji!"

"That's right! Xia Ji is just an illegitimate child, while Miss Yunqiu is the daughter of your first wife. Moreover, Miss Yunqiu and the Luo family are old acquaintances. It's only right to collaborate with the Luo family in her name!"

Xia Cheng originally wanted to use this collaboration to make a name for Xia Ji. After collaborating with the Luo family in his name, the higher-ups of Xia Corporation would definitely agree to let him inherit the company. However, not only did Xia Ji not get the chance to collaborate with the Luo family, but he also offended the Luo family of Xuan Island. It was even harder for him to be the heir.

At this moment, many of the higher-ups' eyes were filled with anxiety. They knew that if the Luo family wanted to destroy Xia Corporation, they just had to move their fingers. Once Xia Corporation fell, the shares in their hands would be worthless. Who would be responsible for their losses? Hence, they all advised Xia Cheng to agree.

Xia Cheng looked at the dozens of calls on his phone and listened to the higher-ups' persuasion. He could only grit his teeth and say word by word, "The real designer... is Yunqiu, not... Xia Ji. He was just muddle-headed. He'll apologize to everyone later."

Xia Ji's vision darkened, and his breathing almost stopped. His heart ached. He was clearly in heaven a moment ago and was flattered by everyone, but all his glory had vanished at this moment. He had fallen into a quagmire and was hated and mocked by everyone. He had once again become an illegitimate child who was despised by everyone. He was even more detestable than before.

#### Chapter 1245 The Imposter's Daughter

Xia Ji's face was pale and so were his lips. He staggered forward. "Dad..."

"No! No, I don't accept it!" Old Madam Xia finally reacted and shouted crazily. The proud expression on her face instantly turned to shock and anger. She roared in the lobby without caring about her image.

Her expression was vicious, making her old face even more terrifying. She opened her mouth and shouted, "No! These designs belong to Xia Ji. That b\*tch is already dead, so why bother putting her name there? This honor belongs to Xia Ji. If the name on those designs is changed to Xia Yunqiu's name, what will Xia Ji do? How will he raise his head in the future? Xia Cheng! Are you going to watch us die?"

Luo Qing's gaze landed on her as he sneered. His sneer was not loud, but it scared everyone.

Ai Sumei did not think too much about it. She only knew that if they changed the name on the designs to Xia Yunqiu's name, Xia Ji would be infamous. She would also lose her reputation. Most importantly, it would be difficult for Xia Ji to sit in the position of the head of the family.

She did not care about what would happen to Xia Corporation. She only cared about her son. She wanted her son to become the head of the Xia family. When the old master died, the Xia family would belong to the mother and son. However, now that the name on those designs would be changed to Xia Yunqiu, all the glory would belong to Xia Yunqiu. No one would take her son seriously!

That b\*tch was already dead. What right did she have to snatch this away from her son?

Xia Cheng glared angrily. This idiot actually dared to spout nonsense in front of Young Master Luo!

Before he could speak, Luo Zheng said casually, "Young Master, this is Chairman Xia's current wife. I heard in the past that she doesn't like the children of the first wife. Even though Miss Xia has passed away, Old Madam Xia's hatred hasn't subsided. She curses at the deceased and even wants to snatch Miss Xia's belongings. It's really an eye-opener for us.

"In my opinion, some people are innately useless. I advise you not to hand the family business to such people, Chairman Xia, lest you lose the family business you worked so hard to build. It'll be too late to regret then."

When Xia Ji heard this, his expression was extremely ugly.

Xia Cheng naturally understood what Luo Zheng meant. The Luo family wanted him to give up on Xia Ji and choose a new heir. He looked at Xia Ji meaningfully and sighed helplessly. "I agree to write Yunqiu's name on the designs and announce to the public that Xia Ji is an impostor. He stole Yunqiu's designs back then, which caused a series of misunderstandings. It's his fault. I'll make him apologize in front of everyone!"

"Dad!"

"Ah Cheng!"

Their roars sounded at the same time. Xia Cheng's breathing trembled, and the smell of blood filled his throat. "Young Master Luo, what do you think?"

The higher-ups of Xia Corporation rushed forward and pulled Xia Ji and Old Madam Xia back. Everyone subdued them and covered their mouths, afraid that they would spout nonsense in front of the Luo family.

Everyone looked up at Luo Qing. Now that Xia Cheng had already agreed and announced that he would change the name on the designs to Xia Yunqiu, Luo Qing should be satisfied, right?

However, under everyone's expectant gazes, Luo Qing said casually, "There's nothing much to say."

Luo Qing's eyes were filled with disdain as he smiled coldly. "Director Xia, you seem to feel very aggrieved? But I'm not satisfied."

Not satisfied? What else did he want?

Xia Cheng's heart ached violently, and he almost stopped breathing.

Luo Zheng said indifferently, "Chairman Xia, it has been proven that the designs are all Madam Xia Yunqiu's work. In that case, the person in charge of this collaboration should be Madam Xia's daughter."



"We've already decided on Mengyan..."

Luo Zheng interrupted without hesitation, "So what? Our young master won't want to work with the daughter of an impostor, so our young master has chosen a more suitable person to be in charge. If you insist on Miss Xia Mengyan being in charge, then there's no need to continue discussing this collaboration."

The daughter of an impostor?

Xia Mengyan was so angry that her face turned red. Why did they call her that? In the past, everyone said that she was the daughter of an illegitimate child. She had worked hard for so many years to get rid of the label, but now, she was being scolded again.

Xia Cheng could no longer care about Xia Mengyan's feelings. He asked tentatively, "In that case, who did Young Master Luo choose?"

A trace of gentleness appeared in Luo Qing's eyes again as he said the name.

At this moment, in the cafe beside Xia Corporation.

Qiao Xi lay on a bed. The beautician was applying cream to her face and saying with a smile, "Miss Qiao, your skin is really good. It's as smooth as a baby's."

Qiao Xi grunted in enjoyment. "I was born beautiful!"

Chapter 1246 Kneel And Apologize

At this moment, Qiao Xi's phone rang. The corners of her mouth curled into a smile when she heard the voice on the phone.

Xia Cheng's extremely kind voice came from the phone. "Xi Xi..."

He was naturally calling to beg Qiao Xi to return to the Xia Corporation because the person in charge, Luo Qing, had chosen Qiao Xi to collaborate with. At that time, when he said this name, everyone was dumbfounded.

Previously, they mocked Qiao Xi for being chased away by the Xia family and not being liked by the Xia family. Now, they could not help but feel ashamed. Miss Qiao was someone Young Master Luo had acknowledged.

Xia Cheng's expression was ugly, and the corners of his mouth twitched. "But Xi Xi..."

"Mr. Xia, our young master's words are very clear. He only wants Miss Qiao to be in charge. If you're unwilling to let Miss Qiao come back and insist on watching Xia Corporation be destroyed, we have nothing to say."

Luo Zheng said, "We don't care if Miss Qiao is Miss Xia's biological daughter or adopted daughter. In short, we've already decided on Miss Qiao. If you don't agree, then I might think that you're disregarding the company's safety for the sake of your illegitimate child."

"Director Xia! You have to take the overall situation into consideration!"

"Quickly invite Miss Qiao back! She's also from the Xia family!"

Hearing everyone's shouts, Xia Cheng's throat was dry. How could he beg Qiao Xi? However, when he saw the Luo family's determined appearance, he knew that if he did not lower his head, Xia Corporation would face a devastating blow.

He could only brace himself and call Qiao Xi. "Xi Xi, you'll be in charge of the collaboration! Are you coming over now? I'll send a car to pick you up. Can you come over now?"

"What collaboration?" Qiao Xi lazily lay on the bed and replied with an indifferent expression, "What does the Xia family's matter have to do with me?"

Xia Cheng suppressed his anger and said patiently, "Xi Xi, I know that the designs belong to your mother. I didn't investigate it clearly before. Now that the Xia family wants to collaborate with the Luo family, as Yunqiu's daughter, you should be in charge of the collaboration this time..."

"Why should I be the person in charge? Shouldn't we let Xia Mengyan do it?" Qiao Xi said slowly.

Xia Cheng was speechless, and the flames of rage in his heart surged. Qiao Xi was only a junior, yet she was actually putting on airs in front of him. Did she really think of herself as someone important?

However, in front of Young Master Luo and the many higher-ups, he did not dare reprimand Qiao Xi. He could only try his best to suppress his anger and say gently, "Xi Xi, it's my fault for what happened before. I misunderstood you. I apologize..."

"That's not necessary. I don't need your apology." Qiao Xi's attitude was still casual. "If you want me to go back and be in charge of the collaboration, that's fine, but..."

Everyone in the lobby became nervous. What request did she have?

"But I have a request." Qiao Xi said with a smile, "When I left Xia Corporation today, I said that even if you begged me, I wouldn't go back. But I can give you a chance now. I just want to know why Xia Ji's name is written on my mother's designs. Did Xia Ji lie to everyone, or did someone plan this with him?"

Qiao Xi's voice was very soft, but every word she said was forcing the Xia family to admit the truth. She continued, "If you're willing to make the mastermind kneel and apologize to me, I can be the person in charge of the collaboration."

Get the mastermind to kneel and apologize to her? But who was the mastermind? Was it Xia Ji who claimed Xia Yunqiu's works as his, or was it Xia Cheng who was hiding the truth for Xia Ji?

The lobby was silent. Qiao Xi's words were truly unacceptable to Xia Cheng. Why did he have to kneel and apologize to her? No matter if it was him or Xia Ji, it was absolutely impossible for them to kneel to her!

Qiao Xi waited for a moment, but there was still no sound on the other end of the phone. She had already lost her patience. "Then forget it..."

"Grandpa, I'll apologize!"

At this moment, Xia Mengyan's eyes turned red as she said pitifully, "Since someone has to take responsibility, I'm willing to go. You and my father are both elders. How can you kneel down to Xi Xi? This will also affect Xi Xi's reputation. Xi Xi and I are sisters. It's most suitable for me to kneel and apologize to her."

When everyone heard Xia Mengyan's words, a trace of admiration appeared in their eyes. They had to admit that Miss Xia was quite responsible and knew how to take the overall situation into consideration. She indeed had the demeanor of a daughter of a rich family.

Moreover, everyone knew very well that Xia Ji was the one who snatched Xia Yunqiu's designs 24 years ago. At that time, Xia Mengyan was just born and did not know anything at all. However, she actually took the initiative to take responsibility and kneel down to apologize to Miss Qiao.

#### Chapter 1247 Xia Yunqiu's Relationship With The Luo Family

In everyone's opinion, although Miss Xia was the daughter of an illegitimate child, her character and knowledge were very outstanding. To be able to sacrifice herself for the sake of the overall situation and kneel down to apologize for her father meant that she was very filial.

Qiao Xi sneered when she heard the praise coming from the other end of the phone. It would be best if Xia Mengyan knelt down and admitted her mistake. It was truly a delight to be able to watch Xia Mengyan grovel and admit her mistake.

10 minutes later, Qiao Xi returned to the lobby. Xia Mengyan went forward nervously. "Xi Xi..."

"Miss Qiao." Luo Zheng went forward to greet her with a smile. "Previously, your mother, Madam Xia Yunqiu, even wrote a letter to the head of our family. She said that if she had the chance, she would bring you to Xuan Island.

"After that, when our madam died of an illness, she kept thinking about Madam Xia. Our Luo family searched for her for a long time but couldn't find her. Madam said that she wouldn't have the chance to meet her anymore and could only instruct me to give these gifts to her. She died with regret.

"Now that Madam Xia Yunqiu has passed away, as her daughter, the things our madam left behind should be handed to you. I hope you won't refuse."

After Luo Zheng finished speaking, the assistant took out a sandalwood box. There was a jade bracelet inside. It was obvious that it was expensive.

"This was Madam's favorite piece of jewelry. She had always wanted to give this bracelet to Madam Xia, but unfortunately, she didn't have the chance. There are many other gifts like this. I'll get someone to deliver them to your house soon," Luo Zheng said.

Qiao Xi raised her eyes to glance at Luo Qing before reaching out to take the bracelet.

Butler Luo, who was arrogant and cold in front of Xia Cheng, was extremely respectful in front of Qiao Xi.

Everyone listened for a long time before understanding that Luo Zheng was respectful to Qiao Xi because of Xia Yunqiu. The wife of the head of Xuan Island seemed to have a good relationship with Xia

Yunqiu. Even though Xia Yunqiu left Xuan Island 24 years ago, the wife of the head still remembered her and prepared gifts for her every year.

They did not expect Xia Cheng to give birth to such a powerful daughter. Although Xia Yunqiu passed away for so many years, the Luo family still had deep feelings for her. With this relationship, the Luo family would definitely treat the Xia family well.

Young Master Luo had taught the Xia family a lesson just now, but that was the punishment for offending Madam Xia Yunqiu. As long as they did not make similar mistakes in the future, the Xia family's status would definitely rise.

Butler Luo was so respectful to Qiao Xi, which meant that Xia Yunqiu's status on Xuan Island was equivalent to that of the owner. It was just that Xia Ji was unlucky. He could have stolen anyone else's things, but he just had to steal Xia Yunqiu's. However, judging from the Luo family's attitude, they would not take their anger out on Xia Cheng. They would definitely be a little more respectful to Xia Yunqiu's father.

Everyone looked at Xia Cheng with envy.

The corners of Qiao Xi's mouth curled up as she glanced meaningfully at Xia Cheng. His entire body was stiff, and his teeth were chattering. He knew very well in his heart that there was no father-daughter relationship between him and Xia Yunqiu. A few years ago, Xia Yunqiu moved to the Yin family with Yin Lianxin.

At this moment, Luo Qing said, "Since you're here, Miss Qiao, we can hold the collaboration ceremony."

Xia Corporation had long been prepared and was just waiting for the Luo family to nod in agreement. Now that Young Master Luo had spoken, they could not wait to complete the ceremony immediately to prevent him from going back on his word.

Xia Cheng had thousands of thoughts in his heart. In any case, outsiders did not know that his relationship with Xia Yunqiu was not good. Since Xia Yunqiu's surname was Xia, she was from the Xia family. She should bring benefits and honor to the Xia family. Now that Xia Ji's reputation had already been ruined, he could no longer care about him. The most important thing now was to protect Xia Corporation.

Luo Qing handed the contract to Qiao Xi. Under the burning gazes of everyone, Qiao Xi picked up the pen.

The reporters hurriedly went forward and took a few suitable photos. The atmosphere in the lobby returned to normal, but the next second...

Luo Zheng suddenly turned around and said, "Miss Xia, now that Miss Qiao has agreed to collaborate, it's time for you to kneel and admit your mistake."

Xia Mengyan's body trembled as she bit her lip. She knew very well that even if she was unwilling, the higher-ups of Xia Corporation would still force her to kneel. After all, no one wanted to see Xia Corporation destroyed.

She raised her eyes to look at Qiao Xi who was standing in the crowd. She was the center of attention when signing the contract, yet she now had to kneel in front of Qiao Xi and admit her mistake. They were both daughters of the Xia family. What right did one have to be high and mighty while the other had to kneel in front of everyone and be mocked?

Qiao Xi did not even bother to look at her as if it was only right for her to kneel. To Qiao Xi, it did not matter who knelt here. Xia Mengyan was just a dispensable existence.

#### Chapter 1248 Alligator Tears

Qiao Xi was arrogant, while she had to be humble. The two of them were clearly the same age, yet they had different fates.

Xia Mengyan's sharp nails dug into her palms. She bit her lip and slowly knelt in front of Qiao Xi. She was wearing a knee-length dress. When she knelt, her knees came into contact with the floor, causing waves of dull pain.

'Qiao Xi! Qiao Xi! I won't let you off!'

Why did the Luo family stand up for Qiao Xi? Why did Qiao Xi have so many backers? Why could she, Xia Mengyan, only rely on the Xia family? Why was she inferior since she was born? She was clearly not inferior to Qiao Xi!

!!

Xia Mengyan would not forget today's humiliation. She would definitely take revenge on Qiao Xi!

On the other hand, Qiao Xi had already signed the contract and handed it to Luo Qing. Then, she glanced indifferently at Xia Mengyan.

Qiao Xi was very clearly aware that Xia Mengyan had taken the initiative to kneel and admit her mistake because she was betting that Qiao Xi only said those words in a moment of anger and would not really make her kneel in front of everyone. After all, kneeling to someone was an extremely great humiliation, and it was not good for her reputation.

However, she did not care about the opinions of outsiders. Since Xia Mengyan had agreed to kneel and admit her mistake, she had to do it. Moreover, the person who asked Xia Mengyan to kneel just now was not her but Butler Luo.

Xia Mengyan should be thinking of crying a few tears of grievance. Would she and Luo Qing be soft-hearted then? However, Qiao Xi would never pity the enemy, nor would she believe Xia Mengyan's pretense.

Now that Xia Mengyan was kneeling here, she should be very humiliated, right? There was still anger in her eyes, but what right did she have to be angry? It was clearly the Xia family's fault, yet she still had the cheek to feel angry.

Qiao Xi glanced at her and said casually, "Young Master Luo, there are too many people here. Let's go to the meeting room to talk."

Luo Qing left with Qiao Xi. When the reporters saw that they could not take any photos, they left one after another. In an instant, only the Xia family was left in the lobby.

Old Madam Xia hurriedly pulled Xia Mengyan up and complained, “Ah Cheng, how could you make Mengyan kneel?! She was mocked in front of so many people!”

Xia Cheng had a helpless expression. “What else could I do? The Luo family has already decided on Qiao Xi. If Qiao Xi didn’t come back, the collaboration would be canceled. At that time, it’s very likely that Xia Corporation will go bankrupt. Everything we have now will be gone!”

Xia Mengyan shed tears aggrievedly and sobbed softly. “Grandpa, Grandma, I’m fine. It doesn’t matter if I suffer a little. As long as I can protect Grandpa and Father’s reputation, I’ll do anything!”

Xia Cheng nodded, and his eyes were filled with determination. “Mengyan, it’s been hard on you this time, but you have to remember that even if Xi Xi is the person in charge of the collaboration, the glory and benefits will still belong to the Xia family. Although Qiao Xi is in charge, we’re the final winners. You have to take the overall situation into consideration and stop fooling around! Do you understand?”

Xia Mengyan hurriedly nodded. “I’ll remember, Grandpa. It’s just that I’m afraid that Xi Xi still has some resentment in her heart and might not be able to successfully complete the collaboration. Moreover, most of Aunt Yunqiu’s designs were destroyed. They need to be restored. I’ve learned porcelain design, so I can help restore them.”

“That’s right! Mengyan has studied recovery technology at university. Moreover, it’s just a few designs. Mengyan will definitely be able to help. Why don’t we let Mengyan help Qiao Xi?!” Old Madam Xia said excitedly.

Xia Cheng was a little hesitant, but Xia Mengyan’s eyes lit up. If she could help, the final credit would definitely belong to her. If she restored the designs, so she would definitely make the Luo family look at her in a different light. At that time, the Luo family would also know who the truly outstanding daughter of the Xia family was.

...

At this moment, in the cafe beside Xia Corporation.

Gu Zheng was sitting on the sofa with his eyes closed. The door of the private room was pushed in, and a group of people walked in.

He Tingchen walked in front of Gu Zheng and smiled. “Ah Zheng, long time no see.”

Gu Zheng opened his eyes and glanced at the group of people coldly. A mocking smile appeared on his face.

He Wenxian sat opposite Gu Zheng and smiled gently. “President Gu, it’s been so many years since we last met. My brother has been thinking about you. We just returned to the country and he was already clamoring to see you. He felt embarrassed to come alone, so he got me to accompany him.”

This explanation was very clear. It was not He Wenxian who wanted to come but He Tingchen who pulled her here. She was different from other women. She did not want to seduce Gu Zheng and just

treated him as a friend. The two of them would not meet in private, which was why the three siblings came over.

He Tingchen talked about many things that had happened all these years. Suddenly, he realized that a group of men in black had appeared in the building opposite. He was a little surprised. "The Luo family?"

Chapter 1249 Everything She Does Is Right

"Young Master He, you know the Luo family?" Gu Zheng asked.

He Tingchen waved his hand. "Of course not, but I know that they established an assassin organization and have many skilled assassins under them. Ah Zheng, they're not simple!"

"Oh?" Gu Zheng raised an eyebrow.

He Tingchen was about to speak when there was a commotion outside the door. He went out to ask a few questions. When he returned to the private room, he asked in surprise, "Ah Zheng, do you know that your wife is actually forcing a young lady to kneel?"

"So what?" Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent.

He Tingchen was even more shocked. "She's your wife. Her words and actions represent you. Today, she forced someone to kneel. Her doing this will affect you..."

"What do you want me to do?" Gu Zheng interrupted casually. "Young Master He, you don't seem to agree with Mrs. Gu's actions?"

He Tingchen hesitated for a moment. Sensing that Gu Zheng was a little unhappy, he deliberated for a moment. "Ah Zheng, that's not what I meant. It's just that your wife's actions..."

"She's right no matter what she does." Gu Zheng's tone was cold. "Moreover, outsiders don't have the right to judge what she wants to do."

"Brother!" Seeing that the situation was not good, He Wenxian hurriedly pulled He Tingchen over, then smiled in embarrassment. "I'm sorry, President Gu. My brother is a straightforward person. It's not that he thinks that Mrs. Gu is in the wrong, but he's just worried about you. I also looked for a friend of mine who's a reporter to ask about what happened today. I know that Chairman Xia's illegitimate child did something wrong first. Mrs. Gu can't be blamed. She did that for her adoptive mother."

A trace of impatience appeared in Gu Zheng's eyes. Song Shijing understood instantly and said respectfully, "Young Master He, Miss He, I'm sorry. Our president has something important to attend to. Please leave first."

He Tingchen still wanted to say something, but he was stopped by He Wenxian. She smiled in embarrassment, and her every move was very appropriate. "President Gu, since you still have something to do, we'll leave first."

He Tingchen was pulled away by He Wenxian with a face full of question marks. He Wenyin looked at Gu Zheng with a subtle gaze. The moment she stood up and left, she placed a note at the bottom of the cup.

After the three of them left, Song Shijing took out the note from the bottom of the glass. He opened it and gasped.

[I was wrong earlier. Their target isn't you but your wife. Tell her to be careful. They'll do anything!]

"President!" Song Shijing tensed up.

Gu Zheng's face was still calm, but his eyes were already filled with killing intent. "What do you think of those two from the He family?"

Song Shijing thought for a moment and said, "Young Master He is still the same. He's pure, kind, and a little stupid. He can't stand others being wronged and easily used."

"Eldest Miss He looks gentle and kind, but she's just pretending. She's very similar to He Weinian."

"Yes." Gu Zheng nodded. "The people in the He family are like He Weinian. They like to pretend to be kind. They want everyone to think that they're kind, honest, and gentle."

He Weinian wanted to use all the beautiful words in the world to describe himself. He pretended not to reveal anything, but the more perfect a person was, the more fake they looked.

Gu Zheng took out a lighter and burned the note to ashes. Then, he said coldly, "I don't care if the He family wants to pretend to be kind, but if they want to attack Xi Xi, how can I ignore them?"

"President, what are you going to do?" Song Shijing's heart trembled. He knew that Young Madam was the president's life. If anyone wanted to touch Young Madam, the president would not show any mercy.

What was the He family's motive for suddenly returning to Li City and creating a kind image for themselves?

Song Shijing suddenly remembered the note He Wenyin had left behind. Could it be that the He family had done so much so that they would not be suspected when they made a move in the future?

After all, who would believe that a family filled with kindness and conscience would kill someone?

Gu Zheng narrowed his eyes. Why would they target Xi Xi? What exactly did they want?

Song Shijing suddenly said, "President, Young Madam is done. Do you want her to come here?"

Gu Zheng nodded. Song Shijing was about to go out to pick Qiao Xi up when Gu Zheng stood up. "I'll go."

At this moment, He Tingchen was sitting by the window on the first floor of the cafe. He looked unhappy. "Wenxian, I wasn't done just now. Why were you in such a rush to pull me out?"

He Wenxian chuckled. "Brother, Gu Zheng dotes on Mrs. Gu very much. If you say bad things about Mrs. Gu in front of Gu Zheng, won't you be slapping Gu Zheng's face?"

Chapter 1250 Miss He Is Understanding

He Tingchen's gaze suddenly looked out of the window. It was raining outside. Gu Zheng, such a proud person, was actually holding an umbrella and waiting for Qiao Xi at the entrance of Xia Corporation's building.



After Qiao Xi walked out, the two of them held the umbrella and entered the cafe. From the beginning until the end, the man tilted the umbrella toward Qiao Xi, afraid that she would get drenched in the rain.

He Tingchen looked at the two of them and could not help but sigh. "Ah Zheng really dotes on Mrs. Gu. I was originally worried that he would be lonely, but it seems that I was thinking too much. He's doing very well now."

The viciousness in He Wenxian's eyes vanished in an instant, and a gentle smile appeared on her face. "That's right. So if you had said that his wife wasn't good in front of Gu Zheng, of course, he would've gotten angry. Even if it was Mrs. Gu's fault today, Gu Zheng wouldn't want to hear anyone say that she isn't good. That's his family matter, after all. We shouldn't interfere too much."

He Tingchen's eyes were filled with gratification when he heard his sister's words. "Wenxian, I remember you once said that if Yin Yin doesn't want to marry Ah Zheng, you'd marry him. I thought you liked Ah Zheng a lot, but I didn't expect you to not be sad at all when you heard that Ah Zheng was married!"

At this moment, a noblewoman happened to enter and heard He Wenxian's words. "Brother, although Gu Zheng and I are childhood sweethearts, he's married now, so we're just friends. I have to keep a distance from him, lest Mrs. Gu misunderstands and causes him trouble.

"Moreover, I only treat Gu Zheng as my brother. I never liked him to begin with. If we have to meet in the future, I'll call you and Yin Yin over. We can't meet alone. Otherwise, Mrs. Gu will definitely be unhappy if she finds out."

When the few of them heard He Wenxian's words, they could not help but discuss in low voices. "Miss He is really understanding! When she found out that President Gu was already married, she stopped meeting him in private. The daughter of the He family is indeed extraordinary!"

"Miss He is good, but Mrs. Gu is too much. She gets unhappy even when President Gu is just hanging out with his friends. Speaking of which, Miss He and President Gu are childhood sweethearts. They've known each other since they were young. Now, for Mrs. Gu's sake, their relationship is estranged."

Although their voices were not loud, He Wenxian still caught the main point of their words and smiled proudly.

"Brother, it's getting late. Let's go home," He Wenxian said.

He Tingchen stood up, his eyes filled with affection. "My sister is really understanding, gentle, and beautiful. I've never seen a socialite more outstanding than you! If only Yin Yin could be as steady and sensible as you. In my opinion, Mrs. Gu can't compare to you!"

He Wenxian smiled shyly and pulled him away.

On the other hand, Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi entered the cafe. A table full of dishes was already prepared in the private room. Qiao Xi widened her eyes in surprise. "Isn't this a cafe? We can get a meal like this here?"

Gu Zheng smiled. "Of course. Not only can we feast here, but didn't you also receive beauty treatment here, Mrs. Gu?"

"You even know about this? Sure enough, money can make the world go round," Qiao Xi said as she picked up a piece of meat and tasted it.

"Has everything been settled?" Gu Zheng asked.

Qiao Xi nodded. "It's about time. Moreover, the Xia family probably doesn't know that I'm here for Xia Yunlou. Why were you here today? Just to see the He family?"

Gu Zheng said meaningfully, "Yes, I met them to understand the situation."

"What's going on?" Qiao Xi looked at him curiously. "Have you discovered the He family's secret?"

Gu Zheng suddenly recalled the note He Wenyin left behind. He raised his eyes to look at Qiao Xi, then quickly looked away. "Not for the time being, but I don't think their goal is money and power."

Qiao Xi was puzzled. "Then what could it be? If it's not for money and power, what else could it be? If that isn't the He family's goal, why did they come all the way back to Li City?"

"Although there's very little news of the He family overseas, everyone around them says that they're famous for being kind people. Even though they've returned to Li City, they're still very popular. Everyone has a high evaluation of the He family. They're gentle, kind, and polite. It seems that the He family has put a lot of effort into this."

To do something to the extreme, one had to invest several times more energy than others. The He family had spent so much effort to be known for being kind. It was impossible for them to do it just for reputation's sake.

However, Qiao Xi really did not know what they were up to.