

# Lady Gu Is Too Weak To Fend For Herself

## - Chapter 1271 - 1280

### 1271 Falling From Heaven To The Quagmire

Everyone discussed animatedly. "Yin Lianxin's granddaughter lost to Ai Sumei's granddaughter. If Yin Lianxin finds out, she'll probably be angered to death!"

Sumei smiled proudly. She could finally vent the anger she had been suppressing for many years.

That was right, she was a mistress. She had destroyed someone else's family, but she was the old madam of the Xia family now. She and Xia Cheng were already married, so Xia Ji was no longer an illegitimate child!

Yin Lianxin was a domineering and unfeminine woman. She even let Ah Cheng marry into her family. All those years while under the oppression of the Yin family, Ah Cheng could not raise his head at all. Yin Lianxin could not keep her man because she was useless!

!!

In love, there was no first come, first serve. There was only love or indifference. Hence, Ai Sumei had never thought of herself as a mistress. She thought that she was just brave enough to pursue love. What was wrong with that?

All these years, she had been enduring everyone's mockery and cold eyes. Now, she had finally stood out. Mengyan relied on her own ability to obtain the recognition of the Luo family. From now on, who would dare to laugh at her for being a mistress?

At this moment, Xia Mengyan had already walked in front of the man and said gently, "Hello, Mr. Luo. It's our Xia Corporation's honor that you're here in New City Mall. We're also very grateful to Master Luo and Young Master Luo for thinking highly of the Xia family and giving us such a precious porcelain sculpture."

Mr. Luo glanced imperceptibly at Qiao Xi, who was at the side, then quickly withdrew his gaze and replied indifferently, "It's just a porcelain sculpture. After all, Madam and Madam Xia were good friends."

With that, he looked up and sized up Xia Mengyan. The corners of his mouth curled up slightly. "This is what the family head and young master said..."

Xia Mengyan's eyes were filled with joy. She had never dreamed of getting close to the Luo family. She could already imagine everyone's envious gazes from now on.

Then, Mr. Luo said word by word, "Miss Qiao?"

The moment that was said, it was like a huge rock had exploded beside everyone. Mr. Luo was here to look for Miss Qiao?

Xia Mengyan's face was pale as she stood rooted to the ground in a daze. The way Mr. Luo called her 'Miss Qiao' was like a slap to her face. The feeling of falling from heaven to a quagmire instantly made her almost break down.

No way! Luo Chenjiu had given her the porcelain sculpture, so she was the person in charge...

Xia Mengyan forced herself to calm down and squeezed out a smile. "Mr. Luo, I'm not Miss Qiao. My surname is Xia. You probably remembered wrongly."

"Oh? Surnamed Xia? But Young Master said that the person in charge's surname is Qiao. She's Madam Xia Yunqiu's adopted daughter." Mr. Luo's eyes were filled with confusion.

Xia Mengyan was not nervous and had already thought of an excuse in her mind. She took a deep breath. A moment later, she looked a little guilty and helpless. "Mr. Luo, I'm really sorry. A little incident happened just now. The person in charge was indeed my younger sister, Qiao Xi, but she secretly sold Young Master Luo's porcelain sculpture and brought out a fake, so..."

Mr. Luo frowned. "She actually dares to offend our young master like this!"

Everyone looked at Qiao Xi in succession, and their eyes were filled with disdain. It was this greedy woman who privately sold the porcelain sculpture. Now that the Luo family was here, how would she clean up the mess?

The corners of Xia Mengyan's mouth curled into a cold smile as she said softly, "Mr. Luo, although that porcelain sculpture is gone, the Luo family's head gave me another porcelain sculpture. I brought it over today, so when you asked where it was, I thought you wanted to see me."

"A porcelain sculpture the patriarch made?" Mr. Luo's face was filled with surprise. "The patriarch has been isolated in the mountains for ten years, yet he actually gave a porcelain sculpture to you. In that case, the patriarch values you very much."

At this moment, Xia Cheng's heart was instantly filled with joy. Just now, he was still worried that he would offend the Luo family. Now, Mr. Luo said that the head of the family valued Mengyan. It was a great honor to be valued by the head of the Luo family. The Xia family's future would be limitless.

Xia Mengyan was so excited that her entire body was trembling. “Mr. Luo, why don’t you take a seat first? The ceremony will be over later. If you’re not in a rush to leave, you can stay for dinner.”

Mr. Luo smiled gently. “Alright, I want to see the family head’s porcelain sculpture too. The family head hasn’t produced anything in many years, and I haven’t seen his works in a long time.”

Everyone gasped. Such a precious porcelain sculpture was actually given to Xia Mengyan by the Luo family’s head. In other words, in the eyes of the Luo family’s patriarch, Xia Mengyan’s status was already comparable to Xia Yunqiu’s back then.

Xia Mengyan suppressed her excitement and brought Mr. Luo to the stage. “This is the porcelain sculpture that the Luo family’s head gave me.”

## 1272 Big Brother Is Indeed The Best Actor

“This is the family head’s porcelain sculpture?” Suddenly, Mr. Luo’s tone was sharp. His gentle and elegant face was filled with coldness. He looked at Xia Mengyan coldly and repeated, “Are you sure this is the family head’s porcelain sculpture?”

Xia Mengyan, who had been lowering her head to control her joy, did not notice that something was wrong. Instead, she replied with a smile, “I’m sure. It was given to me by an apprentice of the head of the family.”

As soon as he finished speaking, the air was filled with a trace of coldness. Mr. Luo’s expression was filled with anger. Xia Cheng realized that something was wrong and hurriedly went forward. “Mr. Luo...”

Xia Cheng looked at Mr. Luo’s gloomy expression but did not dare to speak. The surroundings were silent. Everyone held their breaths. No one dared to make a sound, afraid that they would anger this big shot.

!!

Qiao Xi stood in the corner and could not help but chuckle.

Eldest Brother was indeed the Best Actor! He was too immersed in his role!

Under Mr. Luo’s burning gaze, Xia Mengyan felt that she was about to suffocate. She did not know what was wrong. Why was Mr. Luo so angry when he saw the porcelain sculpture? Wasn’t this what Luo Chenjiu had given her? Moreover, when Luo Chenjiu handed the porcelain sculpture to her, there were many members of the Luo family around. They had all seen this scene and confirmed Luo Chenjiu’s identity. Moreover, the Luo family had no reason to frame her!

Xia Mengyan’s mind was filled with doubts. She could not think of a reason.

Immediately after, Mr. Luo suddenly said coldly, "Miss Xia, I'll give you another chance. Where did this porcelain sculpture come from?"

Such a sharp voice made Xia Mengyan come back to her senses. She was so nervous that her teeth were chattering. Under everyone's suspicious gazes, she slowly said, "Mr. Luo, this porcelain sculpture was given to me by an apprentice of the Luo family."

The next second, Mr. Luo's expression suddenly darkened as he berated angrily, "Alright! Does your Xia family even take our Luo family seriously? How dare you pass off a fake as the head of the family's work?!"

The surroundings were deathly silent. Everyone instantly widened their eyes. Xia Mengyan was so scared that her entire body was trembling, and her face was as pale as paper.

Xia Cheng instantly choked and hurriedly gestured for the reporters to stop the live broadcast. However, the reporters suddenly realized that the cameras could not be switched off. The scene just now was also recorded.

"Miss Xia, please give me a reasonable explanation!" Mr. Luo's voice was cold.

Xia Mengyan lowered her head and trembled.

Xia Cheng quickly went forward and said respectfully, "Mr. Luo, this crabapple porcelain sculpture was really sent by the Luo family's head to Mengyan. Mengyan would never lie. She cares so much about the Xia family. How could she watch the Xia family lose our reputation?"

Mr. Luo glanced at Xia Cheng impatiently and sneered. "Chairman Xia, I thought that the Xia family cherished this collaboration very much. Now, it seems that you don't care about this rare opportunity at all."

"Mr. Luo, this is all a misunderstanding. Listen to me..."

Before Xia Cheng could finish, Mr. Luo interrupted sharply, "If you were really keen on this collaboration, you would have done an investigation. You'd then find out that the madam was allergic to crabapple, so you won't be able to find a single crabapple on the entire Xuan Island. It's even more impossible for the head of the family to carve a crabapple. If you've seen Madam Xia's designs, you should know very well that she referenced hundreds of different kinds of flowers for her patterns, but there's no crabapple. Hence, this porcelain sculpture can't have been carved by the head of the family!"

The moment that was said, everyone was stunned, and their ears buzzed.

It was absolutely impossible for the head of the Luo family to carve a crabapple tree. Where did this porcelain sculpture come from?

Mr. Luo looked at Xia Cheng with a sharp gaze. Xia Cheng was so scared that his forehead was covered in a cold sweat. It had to be known that if he offended the Luo family, the Xia family would definitely not have a good ending. Of course, he was afraid.

Even though he was used to facing big conflicts in the past, this was the first time he was discussing a collaboration with such a powerful family. As long as this collaboration succeeded, not only would Xia Corporation be able to escape from their predicament but the Xia family would also become a new noble family in Li City. He had been worried about this collaboration for many days. Unexpectedly, something went wrong at this critical moment.

However, why would Mengyan lie to them? Mengyan was focused on the Xia family. She would never do such a stupid thing!

Xia Cheng was silent for a moment before his emotions finally stabilized. "Mr. Luo, Mengyan did bring this porcelain sculpture back from the Luo family's villa."

Xia Mengyan could not help but nod, feeling a little more confident. That day, it was Luo Chenjiu who called her and asked her to go to the Luo family's villa. Perhaps Mr. Luo remembered wrongly and it wasn't crabapple that the madam of the Luo family was allergic to?

## 1273 Luo Chenjiu Disappeared

Mr. Luo's eyes were filled with mockery. "The Luo family's villa? Chairman Xia, didn't you say that the person in charge is Miss Qiao? Why did Miss Xia go to the Luo family's villa, then?"

Xia Mengyan clenched her fists nervously. Of course, she could not tell the truth. She must not let others know that she wanted to snatch Qiao Xi's position.

"Forget it, I don't want to interfere in the Xia family's domestic matters." Mr. Luo's eyes suddenly turned sharp. "Miss Xia, you insist that this porcelain sculpture was given to you by the head of the family. In that case, tell me who the head of the family sent to give it to you."

Xia Mengyan replied without hesitation, "Luo Chenjiu! His name is Luo Chenjiu! He's the ninth apprentice of the head of the family. He personally gave me the porcelain sculpture."

!!

Everyone sized up Xia Mengyan. She did not look like she was lying. If she wanted to prove whether it was true or not, she could just call Luo Chenjiu over and ask.

Unexpectedly, Mr. Luo snorted. “Luo Chenjiu? The patriarch’s apprentice?”

“Miss Xia, you’ve really impressed me. You’re so self-righteous even when you’re lying. I’m sorry, but our patriarch doesn’t have any apprentices, and there’s no one called Luo Chenjiu from the Luo family!”

The entire venue was in an uproar.

If this porcelain sculpture was a fake, it was possible that Xia Mengyan had been deceived by Luo Chenjiu. However, Mr. Luo had made it very clear that Luo Chenjiu was not from the Luo family and the head of the family did not have any apprentices. Then who was Luo Chenjiu? Did Xia Mengyan make it up?

Qiao Xi stood in the crowd and smirked.

There was indeed no Luo Chenjiu in the Luo family because Luo Chenjiu and Mr. Luo were characters played by her eldest brother!

Who would have thought that Best Actor Shen Yu, who was renowned throughout the country, was putting on an act in front of them with a human skin mask? Moreover, no one noticed any flaws.

Xia Mengyan’s body went soft, and she almost fell. Sweat dripped from her forehead. Her mind was a mess, and Luo Chenjiu’s face appeared in her mind. It gradually became blurry. In the end, she could not even remember that person’s face.

Impossible! This porcelain sculpture was given to her by Luo Chenjiu!

Xia Mengyan took out her phone in a panic. “It’s not like that. That day, Luo Chenjiu called me and asked me to go to the Luo family’s villa to get the porcelain sculpture. At that time, many people in the Luo family saw it. There’s a call record on my phone. I can prove it...”

She suddenly stopped talking.

Xia Cheng said anxiously, “Mengyan, quickly show him the call records!”

Xia Mengyan’s fingers quickly moved across the screen as she stared at the call history.

Why was it gone? Even the message she sent earlier was gone. The person called Luo Chenjiu had completely disappeared without a trace!

This was impossible!

“What’s wrong? Where’s your call history? Now that things have come to this, do you still want to continue lying to me? You used a lame lie to fabricate another lie. You keep

saying that this is the work of our patriarch, but you didn't know that the patriarch doesn't like crabapples. The patriarch and young master both like peach blossoms because Madam liked peach blossoms the most when she was alive. She even planted a ten-mile peach forest on Xuan Island. After Madam died of illness, the patriarch stopped sculpting, and the young master only sculpted peach blossoms.

"Miss Xia, if you want to lie, please go and understand the situation first. Such clumsy methods really make me doubt your IQ!

"Crabapple, ninth apprentice... Your lies come one after another. I really don't know how you came up with them!"

Xia Mengyan's face was pale, and the blood in her body instantly froze.

Peach blossoms?

Everyone also heard Mr. Luo's words—peach blossoms.

The Luo family's patriarch and young master carved peach blossoms because the deceased patriarch's wife liked peach blossoms. The person who took out a peach blossom porcelain sculpture was Miss Qiao, who was mocked!

If the porcelain sculpture Miss Xia brought out was a fake, then was the one Miss Qiao brought out real?

Xia Mengyan broke out in a cold sweat. She was at a loss, and her heart ached. She did not understand why she had lost for no reason.

At this moment, Mr. Luo's cold voice sounded. "I won't bicker with you about the fake for now. Chairman Xia, where's the peach blossom porcelain sculpture that Young Master gave to your Xia Corporation?"

Everyone was instantly stunned and looked at Xia Cheng.

That porcelain sculpture was the real one that Young Master Luo had given them. Unfortunately...

Xia Cheng's entire body trembled, and the veins on his forehead popped out. "That peach blossom porcelain sculpture... is in Qiao Xi's hands. Yes, it's in Qiao Xi's hands..."

"Heh! Director Xia, have you lost your memory?" A cold female voice sounded from not far away. Qiao Xi slowly walked over from the crowd. Her figure was slim, and her eyes were calm and clear with a trace of ridicule.

"I don't have any porcelain sculptures in my hands. Just now, Miss Xia said that my porcelain sculpture was a fake, so you got someone to throw it away!" She raised her eyebrows and pointed at the surging river outside. "It's probably hundreds of miles away by now. Why don't you send someone into the water to fish it out?"

## 1274 Xia Mengyan's Plan Failed

"The porcelain sculpture was really thrown away? Chairman Xia ordered his men to throw away the porcelain sculpture that the Luo family gave him. Is he crazy? It's fine if he doesn't want to collaborate with them, but he even threw away the gift they gave him. Isn't this a slap to the Luo family's face?"

"No wonder Miss Qiao said that she hoped Chairman Xia wouldn't regret it. He threw away the real porcelain sculpture but treated a fake as a treasure. Chairman Xia must be regretting it!"

"Of course, he regrets it! Ignoring how precious the porcelain sculpture is, now that the Xia family has completely angered the Luo family, it definitely won't end well for them."

Hearing everyone's discussion, Xia Cheng's breathing quickened as he stammered, "I... ordered to have it thrown away, but... why didn't you say so earlier? If you had told me that this was the Luo family's porcelain sculpture, I wouldn't have... thrown it away."

"Chairman Xia, you must be old, so you don't have a good memory." The corners of Qiao Xi's mouth curled into a mocking smile as she said slowly, "I told you twice that the porcelain sculpture was given to me by Young Master Luo, but you didn't believe me. I told you not to regret it, but you thought I was threatening you, so you casually threw the Luo family's porcelain sculpture away. Can you blame me for this?"

!!

"I said that it was the real porcelain sculpture, but you heard Xia Mengyan's instigation and concluded that it was a fake. You didn't believe a word I said, but you firmly believed Xia Mengyan's words. Chairman Xia, this is your prejudice. What does it have to do with me?"

Mr. Luo was instantly angry. He looked at Xia Mengyan fiercely. "I understand now. You instigated Chairman Xia to throw away the porcelain sculpture to frame Miss Qiao. Then, you took out a fake to show off. If I hadn't come today, no one would have exposed you. Your Xia family is really bold. You actually don't take our Luo family's gift seriously!"

"In that case, the collaboration between the two families will be canceled. I'll call the young master immediately. Since Xia Corporation isn't sincere, our Luo family won't force it."

Some blood surged out of Xia Cheng's throat.

“Mr. Luo! This is all a misunderstanding. Mengyan wouldn’t have done that. She must have been deceived...”

No one believed such a weak explanation. Before Mr. Luo could speak, the people below the stage could not help but say, “In the end, Xia Cheng is just biased! He didn’t believe anything Miss Qiao said, and Xia Mengyan fooled him with just a few words. It’s all his fault for being muddle-headed!”

“That’s right! Miss Qiao had said many times that it was Young Master Luo’s porcelain sculpture, but Xia Cheng refused to listen and even scolded Miss Qiao. Now that the person who took out a fake and caused Xia Corporation to lose their collaboration is Xia Mengyan, he’s defending her!”

“If Xia Mengyan was deceived so easily, then she’s most likely mentally disabled. With her IQ, she’s not qualified to be the person in charge and heir at all. I think she should get treated as soon as possible!”

“Her lies are so clumsy, so it’s useless even if she seeks treatment. Moreover, IQ is hereditary, right? She’s Ai Sumei’s granddaughter, while Miss Qiao is Yin Lianxin’s granddaughter. Back then, when Yin Lianxin was all-powerful in the business world and in charge of the entire Yin family, Ai Sumei was only thinking about how to become a mistress. The two of them are not on the same level at all, so of course, Miss Qiao’s IQ is higher than Xia Mengyan’s!”

“I finally understand. This is the trap set up by Xia Corporation for Miss Qiao! Old Madam Xia, Xia Ji, and Xia Mengyan are all jealous that Miss Qiao is in charge, so they were thinking of ways to pull her down from her position.”

“First, they insisted that Miss Qiao’s porcelain sculpture was a fake. Then, Miss Xia stepped forward to salvage the situation. Not only did she show off her might, but she also stabilized her position as the person in charge. She also succeeded in making the higher-ups look at her in a different light. That way, she could become the heir!”

Xia Mengyan stood where she was, her body stiff. Those people’s words were like a huge rock blocking her heart.

Mr. Luo sneered. “I’ve really learned something today. In order to let Miss Xia inherit the family business, Chairman Xia actually thought of such a stupid method to frame Miss Qiao. At the same time, he offended our Luo family. Were all of you going to die with Miss Qiao? Isn’t the price too high?”

Her words caused everyone to laugh.

The Xia family’s method was indeed very stupid. Moreover, now that their lie had been exposed and Miss Qiao was not affected at all, they had basically shot themselves in the foot.

At this moment, Xia Cheng finally reacted. This was all Xia Mengyan's plan. She wanted to take this opportunity to frame Qiao Xi, but she did not expect the plan to fail and implicate the Xia family.

Due to Xia Mengyan's plan, not only was the collaboration canceled, but they had also completely offended the Luo family.

## 1275 Is She Really Miss Qiao's Mother?

Xia Cheng roared angrily, "Mengyan!"

Xia Mengyan was so scared that her entire body trembled. Her eyes turned red like a frightened rabbit. Tears trickled down her face as she sobbed softly. "I... I didn't do it. It has nothing to do with me."

At this moment, everyone understood that Xia Mengyan had clearly schemed against Miss Qiao, but they naturally could not interfere in the Xia family's matters. The outcome of this situation would depend on how Miss Qiao wished to deal with it.

However, before Qiao Xi could speak, an angry roar sounded from the side. "Qiao Xi, you clearly knew that the porcelain sculpture that was thrown away earlier was real, so why didn't you stop it? Mengyan is in the wrong, but you have to bear the main responsibility! If you had made yourself clear, we wouldn't have misunderstood you. You can't blame Mengyan alone!"

Everyone looked in the direction of the voice and could not help but widen their eyes. The person who roared was Qiao Xi's biological mother, Xia Yunlou.

!!

Someone said in confusion, "I don't understand. Is Xia Yunlou Miss Qiao's biological mother?! Why is she always helping Miss Xia deal with her daughter?!"

Qiao Xi raised her eyes slightly. "Madam Xia, what makes you think I should take responsibility? I wasn't the one who said that the porcelain sculpture was fake, and I wasn't the one who gave the order to throw it away. Why would I be in the wrong? Could it be that I still have to kneel down and beg you?"

Xia Yunlou was still unconvinced. "You're in the wrong! Back then, you should have given the position of the person in charge to Mengyan. Otherwise, why would she think of ways to snatch this position back? Mengyan is the heir of Xia Corporation, but she had to watch you become the person in charge. She just wanted to snatch back what belonged to her. This is reasonable.

"You stood there and didn't stop the bodyguards at all when they threw away the porcelain sculpture. You just wanted to see the Xia family make a fool of ourselves, right?"

Qiao Xi was angered to the point of laughing. "So Xia Mengyan wanted to take back what was hers. Even if she did something even worse, she wouldn't be in the wrong and it'd still be my fault, huh? I shouldn't have agreed to be the person in charge and stole Xia Mengyan's limelight. If I didn't do that, she wouldn't have schemed against me. Is that what you're saying?"

"It's also because I didn't stop the bodyguards that the porcelain sculpture was thrown away and the Xia family made a fool of themselves?"

Xia Yunlou was just about to nod when she heard Qiao Xi say casually, "Madam Xia, take a closer look. That bodyguard is burly. How can a weak woman like me stop him? Could it be that you want me to jump into the river with that porcelain sculpture?"

"Moreover, I wasn't the one who wanted to snatch the position of the person in charge. Young Master Luo asked me to be the person in charge because he doesn't like Xia Mengyan. You can't blame me for this, right?"

"Madam Xia, in your eyes, whatever I do is wrong. On the contrary, even if Xia Mengyan makes a mistake, she has her reasons. Even if she causes Xia Corporation to lose this collaboration and implicates them, she's not in the wrong, right?"

Qiao Xi laughed loudly, and her eyes were filled with ridicule. "Madam Xia, I'm very curious as well. Are you my mother or not? Why can't I see a trace of love in your eyes?"

As soon as these words were spoken, everyone could not help but start to suspect that Xia Yunlou was indeed too biased. It was clearly Xia Mengyan's fault, but Xia Yunlou just had to blame Qiao Xi. Qiao Xi was the victim!

Young Master Luo wanted Qiao Xi to be the person in charge, but Xia Yunlou felt that Qiao Xi had stolen Xia Mengyan's limelight. She should not forget that if Qiao Xi had not agreed to be the person in charge, Young Master Luo might not have agreed to collaborate with the Xia family at all!

If Xia Mengyan was Xia Yunlou's daughter, everyone could understand her reaction. After all, it was normal for a mother to protect her daughter. In the eyes of all mothers, their children were the most perfect. Hence, she could naturally think that Xia Mengyan was right. However, Xia Mengyan was only her niece, while Qiao Xi was her daughter!

Her biological daughter had been wandering outside for so many years and had just been acknowledged, yet she was unwilling to give her daughter a trace of maternal love. She even thought that everything her daughter did was wrong and wished for nothing more than to make her disappear immediately. Was she really Qiao Xi's mother?

Everyone shook their heads helplessly, their eyes filled with disdain.

Xia Yunlou's body stiffened as she panicked. She did think so, but no matter how muddle-headed she was, she could not say it in public!

"Qiao Xi! You... You're misinterpreting what I mean. I just want you to know your place and not snatch Mengyan's things. You've just returned to the Xia family, yet you've already caused a mess. You..."

Even at this moment, Xia Yunlou was still criticizing Qiao Xi in front of everyone. She did not consider her at all.

"Is this Madam Xia Yunqiu's biological sister?"

Mr. Luo suddenly spoke with a trace of mockery in his eyes. "I heard that Madam Xia Yunqiu was kind, loving, gentle, and generous, but her younger sister doesn't have a trace of her merits!"

## 1276 Smart People Will Choose Old Madam Yin

Qiao Xi's eyes narrowed slightly as the corners of her mouth curled into a cold smile.

'Xia Yunlou, you've been occupying this identity for too long. You've even forgotten who you really are! It's time for you to return it!

Mr. Luo's words stunned everyone present for a moment. Everyone looked at Xia Yunlou again. Earlier, they saw Xia Yunlou trying her best to defend Xia Mengyan and force Qiao Xi to admit her mistake. At this moment, they finally realized that Xia Yunlou was Old Madam Xia's daughter.

Everyone instantly snorted. "Xia Yunlou is actually Xia Yunqiu's biological sister? In other words, she's Yin Lianxin's daughter?"

!!

"I thought she was Ai Sumei's daughter! Otherwise, why would she keep speaking up for the granddaughter of the mistress? Moreover, I never heard that Xia Yunlou was in contact with the Yin family!"

"Back then, when Yin Lianxin and Xia Cheng divorced, the three children were supposed to follow Yin Lianxin back to the Yin family. Unexpectedly, Xia Yunlou suddenly went back on her word the next day and decided to live with Xia Cheng and Ai Sumei.

"Is there a possibility that Xia Yunlou is the daughter of Xia Cheng and Ai Sumei?! Maybe Xia Cheng secretly brought Xia Yunlou home and lied to Yin Lianxin, saying that she was their daughter. After all, Xia Yunlou hasn't been in contact with the Yin family for so many years but lives with Ai Sumei. Maybe she's Xia Cheng's illegitimate daughter."

Xia Yunlou's face suddenly turned pale. Everyone was discussing, and her body trembled uncontrollably.

It was not like that! She was Yin Lianxin's daughter. She was not an illegitimate daughter. She had always been the legitimate daughter of the Xia family.

Mr. Luo raised an eyebrow and asked, "Madam Xia, are you sure you're Madam Xia Yunqiu's biological sister?"

Xia Yunlou abruptly looked up, her eyes filled with panic. Xia Cheng, who was at the side, also widened his eyes. At this moment, he could no longer care about the porcelain sculpture. He hurriedly explained, "Mr. Luo! You can't spout nonsense. Of course, Yunlou is Yunqiu's younger sister. She's my and Lianxin's daughter!"

"Oh? Really?" Mr. Luo looked at Xia Cheng with a faint smile.

Xia Cheng's heart thumped violently. He originally thought that Mr. Luo would not interfere in the Xia family's private matters, but the next second, Mr. Luo asked again, "But Madam Xia, since you're Old Madam Yin's daughter, why haven't you been in contact with her for so many years? Moreover, after Old Madam Yin and Chairman Xia divorced, your brother and sister returned to the Yin family with Old Madam Yin. Why did you choose to stay with the Xia family? Are you unwilling to be a member of the Yin family?"

He suddenly raised his voice in the last sentence, scaring Xia Yunlou so much that her entire body trembled.

Everyone's gaze landed on Xia Yunlou. Be it status or money, the Yin family was a hundred times better than the Xia family. Smart people would choose to live with Old Madam Yin. After all, she was their biological mother. Moreover, Old Madam Yin was the head of the Yin family, so she would not treat them badly. However, Xia Yunlou stayed in the Xia family and lived with the mistress. This was really too strange.

Could it be that she was not Old Madam Yin's real daughter?

Once everyone began to suspect something, a seed would start to germinate in their hearts. No matter how Xia Yunlou explained, she would not be able to easily change their minds.

"That's not true!" Xia Yunlou roared, and her lips trembled slightly. She clenched her fists nervously with a terrifying expression. "I'm Yin Lianxin's daughter! There's a reason why I didn't choose to return to the Yin family with her. Could it be that I'm not her daughter just because I didn't choose to go with her?"

"My parents got divorced, and it was my choice who I wanted to live with! The Yin family's blood flows in my body. How am I not a member of the Yin family?" Xia Yunlou

roared self-righteously, and as soon as she finished speaking, she glared fiercely at Qiao Xi.

Qiao Xi sneered in her heart. Xia Yunlou was a little smarter than before.

Xia Cheng immediately echoed, "Mr. Luo, you've misunderstood. Yunlou chose me because she was afraid that I would be sad. Actually, she also wanted to live with her brother and sister, but she was sensible since she was young and couldn't bear to abandon me, so she chose to live with me. All these years, she has been missing her brother and sister. No matter what, she's Lianxin's biological daughter. Her bloodline can't be changed."

"Chairman Xia, you have a point," Mr. Luo replied casually.

Xia Cheng thought that Mr. Luo must be dissatisfied because of the porcelain sculpture, so he wanted to make things difficult for the Xia family. Mr. Luo was still pressing on just now, so when he suddenly responded in this way, it made Xia Cheng nervous.

As expected, Mr. Luo smiled. "Perhaps I misunderstood. It's just that Madam Xia Yunqiu and our young madam were good friends back then. Back then, when Madam Xia was living on Xuan Island, Xia Yunlou had even gone there, so the head of the family instructed me to give a gift to Madam Xia Yunqiu's younger sister. I was afraid that I would remember wrongly, so I wanted to be sure."

## 1277 The Luo Family's Guest

Hearing Mr. Luo's explanation, Xia Cheng's expression softened a little. Was this really the reason? Mr. Luo was beating about the bush just to prove that Xia Yunlou was Xia Yunqiu's younger sister?

Why did he have a bad feeling?

Before Xia Cheng could figure it out, Mr. Luo ordered his subordinates to bring two red boxes over.

"Chairman Xia, although Miss Xia Mengyan destroyed the porcelain sculpture Young Master gave her for her own selfish reasons and caused the collaboration between the two families to be canceled, Madam Xia Yunqiu is still an honored guest of our Luo family. Back then, Madam Xia Yunlou went to Xuan Island and was considered a guest of the Luo family too, so the head of the family also prepared a big gift for her."

!!

As soon as he finished speaking, Mr. Luo looked at Qiao Xi and said in a gentle tone, "Miss Qiao, the patriarch prepared a gift for Madam Xia Yunqiu, but she's no longer alive. Please accept it on her behalf, Miss Qiao."

One of the boxes was given to Qiao Xi, while the other was placed on the table in front of Xia Yunlou.

Seeing this, Xia Cheng heaved a sigh of relief, but he was still a little uneasy. He knew that Yunqiu was close to the Luo family, which was why the Luo family was discussing a collaboration with the Xia family. However, Mr. Luo had taken such a big detour just to give a gift?

As Yunqiu and the young madam were good friends, Xia Yunlou was also receiving preferential treatment, but...

No!

Xia Cheng's pupils constricted, and his blood froze.

Impossible! Xia Yunlou had never left the Xia family all these years! The Luo family said that Xia Yunlou had gone to Xuan Island 24 years ago, but all these years, Xia Yunlou had always been in the Xia family of Shengdu. Even when she went on a long trip, she would always be with the Xia family. It was impossible for her to have gone to Xuan Island!

Then who was the person who accompanied Xia Yunqiu to Xuan Island back then?

Xia Cheng's body stiffened, and his throat was dry. He could not say a word.

Mr. Luo's gaze landed on Xia Cheng. He smiled and asked, "Chairman Xia, don't you want to know what this gift is?"

Xia Cheng's heart was in his throat. His mind was a mess, and he did not dare to look into Mr. Luo's eyes, afraid that he would see through him.

Xia Yunlou, who was at the side, was also confused. Had she been to Xuan Island 24 years ago? And she was there to look for Xia Yunqiu?

At that time, she had snatched Xia Yunqiu's fiance and married into the Jiang family. She and Xia Yunqiu should have completely fallen out. She cursed Xia Yunqiu to die and not come back to disturb her life. Why would she go to Xuan Island to look for Xia Yunqiu?

Xia Yunlou's heart skipped a beat, and her eyes were filled with horror.

She was sure that she had never been to Xuan Island, but Mr. Luo said that she had. Could it be that the Luo family and Qiao Xi were scheming against her?

On the other hand, Mr. Luo had already instructed his subordinates to open the red box. Inside was a pearl crown and an exquisite token. This was a gift for Xia Yunlou.

“Madam Xia, what do you think? Do you like this gift?” Mr. Luo asked softly.

Xia Yunlou’s heart thumped violently. She did not understand what Mr. Luo wanted to do and felt even more uneasy. She had clearly never been to Xuan Island, but...

She glanced at the gift in the box, and exclamations instantly sounded around her. Everyone hurriedly stood up and craned their necks to look at the gift in the box.

“Wasn’t this pearl crown personally made by the Luo family’s head when he was young? I heard that the pearls on it were carefully selected. Every single one of them is expensive. 20 years ago, the price of this pearl crown had already reached 80 million yuan. It’s even harder to estimate now. They’re giving such a precious thing to Xia Yunlou?”

“I remember that the Luo family’s head said that this pearl crown was specially made for Madam Luo, but Madam Luo thought it was too gorgeous and never wore it. The Luo family’s head said that Madam Luo would get to decide who to give this crown to. Now that it’s being given to Xia Yunlou, it seems that it was Madam Luo’s idea.”

“In that case, when Madam Luo was still alive, she had already prepared a gift for the Xia sisters. It’s only because Xia Yunlou is Xia Yunqiu’s younger sister that she got to receive such a valuable gift. Looks like Madam Luo really treated Xia Yunqiu as her biological sister.”

Everyone sighed and looked at Xia Yunlou with a trace of envy. However, Xia Yunlou was not happy at all. Instead, she became even more flustered.

Why did the Luo family give her such a valuable gift?

“By the way, that token is...”

At this moment, someone else exclaimed, and their voice was trembling slightly. “If I’m not wrong, that’s the token of Xuan Island. It allows one to enter and exit Xuan Island at will. The person who has this token is an honored guest of the Luo family!”

## 1278 She Would Never Make A Comeback

To the Xia family, the pearl crown was already expensive enough. When Xia Cheng saw the token, he felt as if a pie had fallen from the sky. His mind was heavy.

Something was wrong! Why did the Luo family give Xia Yunlou such a valuable gift for no reason?

However, Mr. Luo did not give Xia Yunlou a chance to refuse at all. He smiled and said, “Madam once said that you were Madam Xia Yunqiu’s only sister, so she wouldn’t treat

you badly. Even though Madam Xia Yunqiu has already passed away, you're still an honored guest of the Luo family."

Xia Yunlou's hands trembled. She did not dare to accept that gift. What would happen if she accepted the Luo family's gift in a daze? Was the Luo family's anger something she could withstand?

!!

Xia Cheng also felt that something was wrong, but they had no reason to reject the Luo family. Xia Corporation could not offend the Luo family anymore.

In the eyes of the others, it was the Xia family's honor that the Luo family was willing to give Xia Yunlou a gift. She had also borrowed Xia Yunqiu's limelight. Moreover, this gift was prepared many years ago. The Xia family did not have to bear any burden. If Xia Yunlou did not dare to accept it, it would be even more suspicious.

Xia Cheng suppressed the uneasiness in his heart. This was a big bet. He clenched his fists and looked up at Xia Yunlou.

At this moment, Xia Yunlou's face was pale. Fear spread from the bottom of her heart and gradually spread throughout her body. She comforted herself over and over again, telling herself that she was Xia Yunlou. She had the right to accept these gifts, so why was she still nervous?

Xia Yunlou's heart thumped violently. She inexplicably began to panic. The powerful fear was about to devour her.

"Yunlou." Just as everyone was puzzled, Xia Cheng suddenly said, "Master Luo gave you such a valuable gift. Hurry up and thank Master Luo and Mr. Luo."

Xia Yunlou was in a daze. Her face was pale, and the sweat on her forehead dripped down her face. She did not understand why she was so flustered, but she could not control herself.

"It's good that you like it," Mr. Luo said.

Without being asked for her opinion, she was forced to accept the gift. Mr. Luo waved his hand and instructed, "Send someone to deliver the gifts to Madam Xia's house."

With these two expensive gifts, Xia Yunlou's identity would be different. If nothing unexpected happened, Xia Yunlou would be able to enjoy endless glory as an honored guest of Xuan Island, but...

Xia Cheng's back was already drenched in sweat. His eyes were filled with worry.

"Chairman Xia, I have another request," Mr. Luo suddenly said.

Qiao Xi, who had always been in the corner, lazily opened her eyes as the corners of her mouth curled into a cold smile.

Xia Cheng's heart trembled as Mr. Luo went straight to the point. "The head of the family is very sad to know that Madam Xia Yunqiu has passed away. He lamented that he couldn't see her for the last time. I think the head of the family will be very happy to see Madam Xia Yunqiu's younger sister. Can you meet our head, Madam Xia?"

Mr. Luo's tone was very sincere. No one found it strange and even thought that it was reasonable. After all, the Luo family's head had given Xia Yunlou such a valuable gift. He did not have any other requests and just wanted to meet Xia Yunlou to relieve the sorrow of his good friend's death.

In everyone's opinion, Xia Yunlou would definitely not refuse. Being able to meet the head of the Luo family was something that many people could not ask for. Moreover, Xia Yunlou had accepted his gifts, so she had no reason to refuse this request.

Unexpectedly, the Xia family did not say anything and seemed to be in a difficult position.

Xia Cheng was flustered. No, absolutely not! Although he did not know who had gone to Xuan Island, he was sure that person was not Xia Yunlou. If she went to see the Luo family's head, then...

Xia Yunlou lowered her head and broke out in a cold sweat. She knew that she had fallen into a trap. Moreover, her reputation might be ruined this time and she would never be able to make a comeback.

Suddenly, a bright light flashed through her mind. Xia Yunlou abruptly raised her eyes and looked fiercely at Qiao Xi.

She finally understood. Everything was planned by Qiao Xi. From the moment Mr. Luo appeared, they had lured her into a trap step by step. Qiao Xi wanted to slander her for not being Xia Yunlou and completely destroy her!

Xia Yunlou glared fiercely at Qiao Xi, and her pale lips trembled violently. "Qiao Xi! I'm your biological mother! Why are you doing this to me?"

Qiao Xi blinked innocently and said aggrievedly, "Madam Xia, what are you talking about? What did I do to you? Mr. Luo is still waiting for your reply, but you came over to look for trouble with me. Could it be that you don't want to see the head of the Luo family, so you're deliberately changing the topic?"

## 1279 In Order To Expose Her Identity

Xia Yunlou instantly choked. She subconsciously looked at Mr. Luo and met his smiling eyes.

Mr. Luo was still so gentle and refined. His voice was gentle, but he was like a venomous snake that was flicking out its forked tongue, making one shudder. “Madam Xia, are you going to reject me? What are you afraid of?”

His words were like a sharp knife that stabbed into Xia Yunlou’s heart.

Everyone was also very puzzled. Xia Yunlou had already accepted the gifts. Even if Mr. Luo did not ask, Xia Yunlou should thank the Luo family’s head in person. However, why was she unwilling to see the Luo family’s head?

!!

Since she was afraid, it meant that there was something going on. Otherwise, she had no reason to refuse!

Everyone’s suspicious gazes landed on Xia Yunlou. Xia Yunlou panicked and could not help but look at Xia Cheng. Xia Cheng’s expression was not good either. He could only pretend to be calm and explain with a smile, “Mr. Luo, don’t take offense. Yunlou has been sick recently and isn’t suitable to meet guests. Moreover, Xuan Island is far away. It’s really inconvenient for her to travel all the way there. It’s not that she doesn’t want to see the Luo family’s head.”

Mr. Luo smiled. “Why is it inconvenient? Our Luo family has a private plane. We’ll bring Madam Xia to Xuan Island to see the Luo family’s head. If it’s not convenient for her to stay, she can come back on the same day.”

Xia Cheng instantly choked, and his expression darkened. If Xia Yunlou really went to see the Luo family’s head, then...

Actually, there was no need for him to be afraid. Xia Yunlou’s face was exactly the same as that woman. Even if she really saw the Luo family’s head, she would not be discovered. Moreover, 24 years had passed. It was normal for her appearance and personality to have changed.

Xia Cheng instantly became confident. Just as he was about to speak, Mr. Luo beat him to it. “If Madam Xia is really sick, it’s indeed not suitable for her to travel far.”

He paused for a moment and continued, “It just so happens that the head of the family is free today. If it’s not convenient for you to go to Xuan Island, then you can directly video call the head of the family. Anyway, it’s just a short meeting. It’s the same if you meet through a video call. We’re just letting the head of the family see an old friend.”

Everyone was instantly stunned.

A video call? Why did it sound a little strange?

Mr. Luo said casually, "Considering that Madam Xia is sick and it's not convenient for her to go to Xuan Island, it shouldn't matter if we do it through a call. Coincidentally, the head of the family has just received the news. He also wishes to see his old friend. Madam Xia, you won't refuse, right?"

Mr. Luo took a few steps forward and lowered his voice in front of Xia Yunlou. "Madam Xia, it's a pity that you don't have the chance to refuse. You can't hide your identity anymore."

Xia Yunlou's pupils suddenly constricted. She abruptly looked up. Mr. Luo was still gentle and refined. He looked at her with smiling eyes as if he had never said those words.

Her body trembled uncontrollably as fear swept through her body. She might have had her doubts just now, but now, she was sure that Mr. Luo was here to expose her identity.

Why could she not refuse? If she did not want to see him, who could force her?

"Madam Xia, why aren't you saying anything? Are you going to refuse?" Mr. Luo frowned. "I can understand that it's not convenient for you to go to Xuan Island, but can't you just meet the head of the family through a simple video call?"

Xia Yunlou finally reacted. She did not have the chance to refuse because she had already refused just now. If she could not even satisfy such a simple request, she would completely offend the Luo family and be despised by everyone.

"Sir, we've already contacted the patriarch's assistant." The bodyguard walked forward respectfully with his phone and handed it to Mr. Luo.

The screen was dark, so the face of the patriarch could not be seen by everyone. His assistant's voice came from the other end of the phone. "Sir, the head of the family happens to be free. Shall I pass him the phone now?"

Mr. Luo looked up at Xia Yunlou and replied, "Yes! Madam Xia, come on."

Xia Yunlou's body stiffened, and her expression was strange. Her footsteps were weak and she was very unwilling, but she had no choice but to go forward like a walking corpse.

She wanted to refuse, but she did not dare to speak. She could only slowly move forward.

Xia Cheng gritted his teeth and took the phone.

They were only meeting through a video call. Moreover, the two of them had not seen each other for 24 years. The patriarch of the Luo family would be seeing the same face, so he definitely would not notice that something was wrong.

All these years, the Yin family had always suspected Xia Yunlou's identity, but they were still helpless because they did not have any evidence. Meanwhile, the head of the Luo family had only met Xia Yunlou once. What could he do?

## 1280 You're Not The Real Xia Yunlou

Xia Cheng had to take a gamble this time. He wanted to bet that the head of the Luo family wouldn't be able to tell that there was something wrong. Now, the Xia family was like fish on the chopping board. If they rejected the Luo family, it would be equivalent to completely offending them. Hence, they had to agree to the video call. Otherwise, they would not be able to explain it to the Luo family or the others. After all, as long as they thought about it carefully, they would be able to understand the truth.

Xia Cheng took the phone and heard the patriarch of the Luo family's dignified voice. "Chairman Xia."

Everyone pricked up their ears and discussed softly. "Yes! This is definitely the Luo family's head!"

"That's right. I attended a banquet before, and I heard the head of the Luo family saying something behind a screen door. He sounded exactly the same as this voice!"

!!

Xia Cheng's voice trembled slightly. "M-Master Luo."

With that, Xia Cheng placed the phone in front of Xia Yunlou. He wanted Xia Yunlou to greet the head of the Luo family and quickly end the call.

However, before Xia Yunlou could speak, the dignified voice of the Luo family's patriarch sounded again. "Where's Yunlou?"

Everyone was stunned.

Wasn't Xia Yunlou in front of the phone camera? Since the Luo family's head could see Xia Cheng earlier, he could naturally see Xia Yunlou too! He had clearly seen her, so why was he asking for Xia Yunlou?

Xia Yunlou's face was pale as she gritted her teeth.

The entire venue was silent. Everyone looked at Xia Cheng and Xia Yunlou in surprise.

Xia Cheng's heart felt like it was being weighed on by a huge rock. He could not breathe and said while trembling, "Master Luo, Yunlou is right in front of you."

The head of the Luo family was over 50 years old and could be considered a junior of Xia Cheng. However, Xia Cheng had to be so humble in front of him, lest he incurred the patriarch's wrath.

The smell of blood surged in Xia Cheng's throat, but he still had to remain calm. He forced a smile. "This is my daughter, Xia Yunlou."

No matter what, their faces were exactly the same. After 24 years, no one would be able to tell the slightest difference. Thinking of this, Xia Cheng's heart gradually calmed down.

Just as everyone thought that the head of the Luo family did not get a clear look, an extremely cold voice suddenly came from the phone. "She's Xia Yunlou?"

This voice was filled with coldness and a trace of anger. The innate kingly aura scared Xia Cheng so much that his entire body trembled. He almost fainted.

The Xia family was shocked. Ai Sumei's body was limp as she was supported by Xia Ji. Xia Yunlou was naturally the most afraid. She stood on the spot and trembled.

At this moment, a woman who was exactly the same as her appeared in Xia Yunlou's mind, but she was different. That woman was smiling gently, while she had never smiled like that.

No! Impossible! She was Xia Yunlou, the daughter of the Xia family!

She kept comforting herself to prevent a breakdown, but the patriarch's gloomy voice still sounded again. "Chairman Xia, do you think my memory is bad? Do you think that I won't be able to recognize an old friend after 24 years have passed?"

The voice sounded calm and indifferent, but every word was so cold that Xia Cheng felt his scalp tingle.

The entire venue was silent as everyone held their breaths. At this moment, they were puzzled. What was going on?

After a few seconds of silence, Mr. Luo seemed to have come to a realization. His sharp gaze landed on Xia Yunlou. "You're not the real Xia Yunlou?"

Everyone gasped. What the Luo family's head meant just now was that this woman in front of him was not the Xia Yunlou from 24 years ago. He thought that the Xia family was lying to him.

The head of the Luo family only took a glance and was sure that she was not Xia Yunlou. However, she had always lived with the Xia family. If she was not the real Xia Yunlou, how could the Xia family not have noticed?

Xia Yunlou felt as if she had fallen into an ice cave. Her back was already drenched in a cold sweat. She shouted weakly, "I'm Xia Yunlou! I've always been her!"

The cold voice of the Luo family's head sounded. "Yunlou and Yunqiu took many photos on Xuan Island. They're still hanging in my wife's room. Moreover, many people on Xuan Island remember Xia Yunlou's appearance. Chairman Xia, are you sure you want to continue lying to me?"

As soon as he finished speaking, Mr. Luo explained, "I was still too young 24 years ago, so I've never seen Madam Xia. However, the elders on Xuan Island have all seen her. Our patriarch won't forget his old friend, so it can only mean that the person who went to Xuan Island with Miss Xia Yunqiu back then wasn't the current Xia Yunlou!"

The last sentence was like a huge rock smashing into a calm lake, causing ripples. The venue was silent. Everyone thought that it would just be an ordinary opening ceremony. They did not expect it to involve such a shocking piece of news.