

## Lady gu 41

### Chapter 41: Identity Exposed

Knowing that today was also Gu Zheng's birthday, Qiao Xi's first thought was that it had nothing to do with her. Her second thought was that she should get him a birthday present as well. After all, she still had to rely on Gu Zheng to taste food.

At the thought of this, she took a taxi and went straight to the nearest internet cafe.

At the same time, Gu Zheng was sitting on the sofa in the apartment, looking at the gift Black Tide had given him with a frown.

There was a pair of silver cufflinks and a greeting card.

The card said, "Happy birthday." The signature belonged to Black Tide. The handwriting was bold and unrestrained.

Gu Zheng put the card aside and picked up one side of the cufflinks. The silver cufflink had complicated patterns on it. When looked at carefully, it looked like a coiled five-clawed dragon. The dragon's eyes were embedded with shining obsidians. After looking at it for a long time, the dragon seemed to come alive, making others feel as though they were flying in between clouds.

Gu Zheng massaged the space between his eyebrows.

The cufflinks were nice, but they were too showy. They were more suitable for young people in their 20s.

In the past, Black Tide would always send him an animation of a person waving their lightsticks according to the rhythm of the music. Why was it different this year? Could it be that she felt she had been asking him too many questions recently?

When he thought about this, he could not help but think of Qiao Xi. Black Tide had only asked him a few questions yet she knew how to give him a gift to express her gratitude, but what about Qiao Xi? She clearly still needed him to treat her illness that made whatever she eat bitter, yet she did not even say anything to him. Did she still want him to help treat her? He would let her taste only bitter things for the rest of her life!

Ding!

The notification sound of a new email pulled Gu Zheng out of his negative emotions. He casually clicked on it and saw two words. [Happy birthday!]

Immediately after, there was another line of words. [I wish you happiness every day. I wish you all the best!]

Gu Zheng sneered. He was just about to mock the person who had sent such an old-fashioned and dull blessing when he saw the signature below. "Qiao Xi."

Gu Zheng, "..."

This blessing was actually quite good. It was simple and sincere.

However, Qiao Xi wanted to brush him off with just an email? Was he that easy to fool? Gu Zheng tried his best to ignore the corners of his mouth that were curled up. He continued reading the email and finally found a link at the bottom.

He clicked on it and the familiar birthday song played. In the middle of the screen was a colorful figure waving a light stick along to the rhythm of the music.

Looking at this familiar scene, Gu Zheng was stunned.

This... Did Black Tide not send him this every year? She said that it was exclusively made? Various emotions flashed across Gu Zheng's eyes. He grabbed his car keys and returned to Longwan Residential without hesitation.

Back in Longwan Residential, Gu Zheng went straight to the third floor as soon as he entered. Qiao Xi's tools were still placed in the corner. He looked through them one by one and finally found a stack of designs that had been modified countless times. This design was exactly the same as the cufflinks he received.

"Heh."

Gu Zheng chuckled with an inexplicable meaning.

Black Tide... Qiao Xi... It turned out that Black Tide was Qiao Xi, and Qiao Xi was Black Tide.

Who would have thought that the eldest daughter of the Qiao family, who was tossed to the countryside, would be a hacker? They were clearly two people who should have nothing to do with each other, yet she and he were strangely connected.

However, the smile on Gu Zheng's face soon vanished. He recalled that Qiao Xi had sent him a message earlier asking him what it meant to like someone. How did he answer her then? Did he warn her not to like anyone?!

If he had a device that could allow him to time travel, he would definitely return to that moment and slap himself! What kind of stupid words did he say?!

When he found out that Black Tide was Qiao Xi, Gu Zheng was surprised. However, there was an indescribable and obscure feeling under his surprise.

In Gu Zheng's heart, Qiao Xi was like a floating cloud. He kept having the feeling that she would suddenly float away at any time without leaving a trace. They had nothing to do with each other apart from their marriage certificate.

Now, however, he knew that Qiao Xi was Black Tide—the Black Tide he had known for many years. In Gu Zheng's heart, his relationship with Qiao Xi was like a kite with a string or like a large tree that had taken root—steady and reliable.

...

When Song Shiyu received Gu Zheng's call, he was uneasy. He knew that the things Qiao Xi had requested earlier were not to make Gu Zheng a gift. He kept feeling like there was a knife hanging over his head and it might just drop anytime soon.

Hence, he could not even tell the difference in Gu Zheng's tone and apologized directly. "President, I'm sorry. I misunderstood Young Madam. If you want to hit or scold me, go ahead. As long as you don't deduct my bonus for this year, you can punish me however you like."

Gu Zheng knew that he was apologizing for the birthday gift, but without Song Shiyu, he might not have had the chance to discover Qiao Xi's secret.

"Five minutes. Find Young Madam if you want to make up for your mistakes."

Song Shiyu did not expect the punishment to be so simple. He agreed without hesitation. "Alright, I'll do it right away!"

After the call ended, Song Shiyu finally realized that Gu Zheng's tone was off... He did not sound angry but seemed to be in a good mood. Had he gone mad from anger?

#### **Chapter 42: Help Collect The Bodies**

After sending Gu Zheng his birthday present, Qiao Xi was prepared to leave the internet cafe.

Perhaps it was because she wanted to save time, so Qiao Xi sent the small animation of a figure waving a lightstick that she previously always sent to Mo Yuan. She subconsciously thought that Gu Zheng might like it.

However, after sending it, Gu Zheng did not reply. She was a little uncertain again.

Qiao Xi looked at her phone which was silent with no notifications. What a rude man.

She put her phone in her pocket and walked toward the door of the internet cafe. However, before she could reach, she was stopped by someone. It was a lecherous man with a grin on his face. He had yellow teeth too. "Pretty lady, are you alone? Do you want to have fun? Follow me."

The man moved to touch her face.

Qiao Xi took a step back to avoid the man's large hand. The people around her did not mind the commotion. They just shouted, "Beauty, just agree to Brother Long. He's very powerful in this area, so it's absolutely not a loss for you to follow him."

Hearing the praises from the people around him, Brother Long said proudly, "Did you hear that? Follow me and I'll protect you. Come, let me get closer to you."

Brother Long thought that Qiao Xi would not refuse him anymore, but he did not expect Qiao Xi to take another step back and avoid his hand. Brother Long's face instantly darkened. "Stinking wh\*re, don't be so shameless!"

Qiao Xi touched her trouser pocket. She had left in a rush today and forgot to bring mint candy. Twisting her fingers, she raised her chin and said, "I don't want to fight today. You... get lost."

The surrounding people booed.

"Haha, it's over. This beauty isn't showing Brother Long any respect. Brother Long is going to go mad."

"This is so fun. Not only is this woman good-looking but she's also very fierce!"

“Only such a woman is fun to play with. Brother Long, go get her!”

Qiao Xi’s rejection made Brother Long feel extremely embarrassed. Coupled with the voices of the people around him, he lowered his voice and warned, “Woman, don’t fail to appreciate my kindness. You’re lucky that I’ve taken a liking to you. Don’t be so shameless.”

As he spoke, he forcefully wanted to grab Qiao Xi’s arm.

Bang!

Qiao Xi finally could not take it anymore. With a twist of her wrist, she punched the bridge of Brother Long’s nose.

Two streams of blood trickled down from his nose.

The surroundings fell silent.

Brother Long was infuriated. “B\*tch, how dare you hit me? Do you want to die... Ah!”

Before he could finish speaking, Qiao Xi kicked his stomach. “Hit you? What do you mean hit you?” If he dared to tease her, he had to be prepared to be beaten up!

Qiao Xi did not hold back at all. Brother Long felt as if his internal organs had shifted. It was so painful that his back was bent like a shrimp. When Brother Long’s underlings saw him getting beaten up, they all stood up.

“Hit her! Hit her!” Brother Long held his stomach and ordered sinisterly, “But don’t hit her in the face. Bring her to my place after this. I’m going to play with her till she’s wrecked today!”

Qiao Xi was instantly surrounded by a few people.

She moved her wrists. Today was Gu Zheng and Mo Yuan’s birthday. One should avoid seeing blood on birthdays, but it would be a waste if she did not beat up these fools who came knocking on her door! Anyway, Gu Zheng and Mo Yuan were not here to see it, so she would just beat them up and run. She would pretend that this had never happened!

...

However, Gu Zheng and Song Shiyu immediately saw this scene when they arrived.

Seven to eight men were groaning on the floor. Qiao Xi stood in the middle, asking, “You can’t take it anymore? Such trash!”

They wanted to be hoodlums with such skills? They should go home and continue learning!

Song Shiyu adjusted his glasses that were about to fall to his chin and stuttered as he asked Gu Zheng, “President... President, should we go help Young Madam?”

Gu Zheng asked, “Help with what? Should we help her collect the bodies of the people on the floor?”

Song Shiyu fell silent.

The hooligans surrendered and lay on the floor, pretending to be dead. They did not get up no matter what Qiao Xi said.

Qiao Xi curled her lips in a disinterested manner. She had yet to enjoy herself from fighting these people, yet they already surrendered. She straightened her clothes and left under the gazes that were filled with either admiration or horror.

She had just taken a step when she suddenly met Gu Zheng's teasing gaze.

Qiao Xi: "?!"

Why was he here?!

Seeing that Qiao Xi had noticed him, Gu Zheng casually raised his hand and clapped. "Young Madam Gu, you're quite skilled."

Qiao Xi: "..."

She suddenly understood what it would feel like to have a heart attack.

The awkwardness lasted for only an instant. Qiao Xi quickly composed herself and pointed at the men who were groaning on the floor. "They were after my beauty and conspired against me."

Then, she pointed at Brother Long, who was trying to escape. "This man, especially. He wanted to capture me and fool around with me till I was wrecked."

Qiao Xi's meaning was very obvious. She was not the one who initiated trouble, she was just counterattacking.

Gu Zheng's face instantly darkened. "Deal with them."

Song Shiyu understood what Gu Zheng meant. The man who wanted to taint President Gu's wife would be doomed for the rest of his life.

Qiao Xi did not care about what would happen to these men. When she thought of how Gu Zheng had to help her clean up her mess on his birthday, she felt embarrassed. "I've really troubled you this time."

Gu Zheng looked at her meaningfully. "It's no trouble. It's my duty."

Chapter 43: Strangely Adorable

After dealing with the hoodlums, Song Shiyu saw the two staring at each other at the door. He asked tentatively, "President, where are we going now? Should we find a restaurant to celebrate his birthday?" The second question was for Qiao Xi.

He did not believe that the wife would remain indifferent even after he had reminded her so obviously.

Reality proved that not only was Qiao Xi indifferent, but she also yawned bothering about Gu Zheng. For the sake of rushing to complete Mo Yuan's birthday present, she had not slept the entire night yesterday. Now that she was feeling sleepy, she wished for nothing more than to bury her head in her pillow and sleep.

“I’m not going to eat. You guys go ahead. I have to go back and sleep.”

Qiao Xi yawned as she walked out. When she walked past Gu Zheng, he grabbed her arm. “I’m not eating as well. There’s nothing good to eat. Let’s go home together.”

When he thought of the messy pile of draft papers and all sorts of equipment that she did not have time to pack away, Gu Zheng could guess that Qiao Xi had not slept last night.

He pulled Qiao Xi out without asking any questions, leaving Song Shiyu alone in confusion.

In the car.

Qiao Xi leaned against the back seat and closed her eyes to rest. Gu Zheng was sitting on the other side, looking out of the window. It was unknown what he was thinking, but there was a large distance between the two of them.

Song Shiyu secretly looked at the rearview mirror as he drove. He watched helplessly as Gu Zheng moved closer to Qiao Xi. He only stopped when there was a fist’s distance between them.

Qiao Xi was not deeply asleep. Coupled with the fact that Gu Zheng’s aura was invading her personal space bit by bit, the trace of sleepiness instantly vanished. Rubbing the space between her eyebrows, she turned to look at Gu Zheng and asked, “What’s the matter?”

Gu Zheng tapped open his phone screen. “You made this?”

Qiao Xi nodded. “Yes, I thought it was cute, so I sent it to you. It’s perfect for a birthday gift. You don’t like it?”

Gu Zheng’s index finger, which was resting on his knee, tapped lightly. He did not answer for a long time.

Like? It was not exactly like. He was not a fool. She knew that it was also Mo Yuan’s birthday, and the cufflinks she gave him were personally designed and made by her. Meanwhile, the gift he got from her was an animation of a figure waving a lightstick. One glance and anyone could tell that it was a very perfunctory gift.

However, to say that he did not like it... If it were not for this familiar figure waving a lightstick, he would not have been able to discover Qiao Xi’s true identity—much less know that their shared destiny had started many years ago.

“It’s not too bad.”

In the end, Gu Zheng gave an ambiguous answer.

Qiao Xi nodded and did not ask further.

Song Shiyu muttered in his heart, ‘No wonder the president is in a good mood. He received Young Madam’s birthday gift a long time ago!’

Gu Zheng put away his phone and ignored his restless assistant. His slender body leaned lazily against the back of the seat as he casually chatted with Qiao Xi as though he was bored.

It was only when the car stopped in front of the villa that Qiao Xi heaved a sigh of relief. For some reason, she felt that Gu Zheng was acting strangely today. He spoke more than usual and he was in a better mood than usual too... Could it be that it was because it was his birthday?

Qiao Xi's thoughts ran wild as she changed her shoes. It was only when she returned to the third floor that she suddenly recalled she had forgotten to ask Mo Yuan if he received the gift! When she thought of this, she hurriedly took out her phone to send a message to Mo Yuan.

When Gu Zheng saw the contents of the WeChat message, he chuckled. He looked up at the third floor. This woman had yet to discover his identity. What should he do? He did not want to take the initiative to tell her either.

[I received it. Thank you. I really like the gift.]

When she saw Mo Yuan's reply, she grew relaxed. She casually picked up the cup of water on the coffee table and took a sip. However, she realized that the taste was wrong after taking a sip... This seemed to be wine!

Qiao Xi looked at the cup with a dumbfounded expression. Why was there wine in her room? She did not have the time to think about it before Qiao Xi fell to the floor with a bang. She was unconscious.

Gu Zheng, who was walking toward the study on the second floor, stopped in his tracks. The sound just now seemed to come from the third floor.

"Qiao Xi?"

Gu Zheng knocked on the door but there was no response.

"If you don't say anything, I'm going in."

Gu Zheng pressed his hand down and the door handle turned.

Qiao Xi could vaguely hear Gu Zheng's voice, but she was unable to answer because she had downed the contents of the cup in one go!

Who would have thought that Black Tide, the top hacker in the world, would collapse after a cup of wine?

Her mind became increasingly muddled, and the world was spinning. She could vaguely see Gu Zheng running toward her in a panic. She wanted to comfort him and say that she was fine. She was just drunk, but her mouth seemed to be sealed shut. She could not open it at all, and she could only let Gu Zheng carry her with trembling hands. He was shouting for the housekeeper and doctor.

Gu Zheng could not recall the scene he saw the moment he pushed the door open. Qiao Xi had fainted on the floor, and there was a shattered cup beside her. An unknown liquid had soaked the carpet, leaving a small stain.

His first reaction was that Qiao Xi had been poisoned. At that moment, panic enveloped his heart. He staggered as he picked Qiao Xi up and rushed out the door without even thinking.

The family doctor who was urgently called over did a check-up on Qiao Xi. The moment he received the results, he was a little hesitant... Drunk? Just drunk? Was there nothing wrong with her? He looked at Gu Zheng, then at the report in his hand.. His eyebrows furrowed together.

#### Chapter 44: Can't Avoid Me

Seeing that the doctor was silent for a long time, Gu Zheng suddenly took a step forward. "Say something! Tell me what's wrong with Qiao Xi!"

The family doctor was shocked by him. He handed the diagnosis report to him while trembling. "Y-Young Madam is fine. She's just... drunk. Young Madam can't take alcohol. Even a little alcohol can make her drunk."

Drunk?

Gu Zheng blinked and did not come back to his senses for a long while.

Coincidentally, the results of the test on the unknown liquid were also out. It was indeed alcohol.

Gu Zheng heaved a sigh of relief and started looking for the culprit. "Why was there alcohol in Young Madam's room?"

The servants looked at each other. Finally, a young girl came forward and said weakly, "I'm sorry, Young Master. We made a mistake and brought the alcohol to young madam's room by mistake."

This was a mistake caused by the servants. Gu Zheng massaged his glabella and gestured for the butler to handle it. He then walked to the room on the third floor.

After sending the family doctor away, the butler arranged for the servants to quickly boil some hangover soup.

Although it was a false alarm, this incident allowed the butler to clearly see how important Qiao Xi was in Gu Zheng's heart. When he recalled Gu Zheng's panicked expression when he rushed out with Qiao Xi in his arms, the butler sighed. He had just been promoted. He initially thought that the young master and the young madam were staying in separate rooms because they did not get along, but now it seemed that his young master clearly cared about the young madam very much!

Gu Zheng pulled out a chair and sat down, then carefully observed Qiao Xi. It was very rare to see her so quiet. Her eyebrows also revealed a little gentleness. Perhaps it was because she had drunk some alcohol, but her red lips were sparkling and almost translucent-looking like delicious jelly. It made him want to open his mouths and bite on them.

He used his strong self-control to look away from her lips. He then noticed the bruise on Qiao Xi's forehead. It was not a serious bruise and just a small one. She had probably knocked on the edge of the coffee table when she fell down from being drunk. However, Qiao Xi's skin was too fair, so that small bruise seemed very jarring in contrast.

Gu Zheng frowned as he uncapped the bottle of ointment the doctor had left at the bedside table. He poured out a small amount of the milky white ointment. After rubbing it in his palms, he carefully applied it to her forehead and rubbed it gently. That way, the ointment could be better absorbed.

When he was doing this, Gu Zheng felt that something was off with him. When had he ever done such things? Most importantly, Qiao Xi was currently unconscious. She might forget everything he was doing now the next morning!

What a loss!

When he thought about this, Gu Zheng grunted lightly and tapped Qiao Xi with his finger that was covered in ointment. "Stupid woman, do you know who I am? I'm your husband, your legally married husband. Do you remember?"

Qiao Xi was drunk, not unconscious. The instant the cool ointment touched her forehead, she had already started to come back to her senses. However, the aftereffects of the alcohol were still wreaking havoc in her head, making her eyelids so heavy that she could not open them.

When Gu Zheng spoke, she suddenly struggled to open her eyes and grabbed Gu Zheng's large hand that was tapping her forehead.

Gu Zheng was shocked. "Y-You're awake?"

Qiao Xi stared at him without answering.

Gu Zheng looked away guiltily. The next second, he looked back righteously. "What's wrong? Am I wrong? I'm your legally married husband. You can't avoid me!"

At this moment, Gu Zheng was extremely similar to the cat she raised in the countryside when she was young. It was equally arrogant and awkward.

"Meow."

As the alcohol ate away at her rationality, Qiao Xi instinctively raised her hand to hug Gu Zheng's neck and rubbed her face against his face. Gu Zheng's hair was short and stiff. It was not too pleasant to the touch, but Qiao Xi still enjoyed the feeling of it.

"Meow, meow?"

Gu Zheng gnashed his teeth and pulled Qiao Xi's hand that was caressing his head away. "I treat you as my wife, but you treat me as a cat? Qiao Xi, are you courting death?!"

Qiao Xi grew bold and smacked Gu Zheng's head. "Stupid cat, how can you speak to your owner like this?!"

Gu Zheng: "..."

Damn it, he wanted to kill this woman!

The butler was bringing over the hangover soup when he heard this. Had he overheard something he should not have? Young Master and Young Madam actually liked this sort of game...

“Y-Young Master, the hangover soup...” The butler stood at the door, uncertain if he should enter or not.

Gu Zheng grabbed his hair that had been messed up by Qiao Xi and pretended to casually say to the butler, “Leave it here.”

The butler hurriedly replied, put down the hangover soup, and quickly went out. He even considerately closed the bedroom door.

Gu Zheng used the back of his hand to test the temperature of the hangover soup and said angrily to Qiao Xi, “Drink it.”

“No.”

Qiao Xi pulled a pillow into her embrace and shook her head like a rattle drum. “It’s bitter.”

Gu Zheng wanted to say that it was not bitter and that the servants had added sugar, but he quickly recalled Qiao Xi’s special illness and pursed his thin lips.

#### Chapter 45: The B\*tch Arrives

He stared at Qiao Xi’s red lips for a long time before leaning over slightly. He deliberately lowered his voice with a hint of coaxing. “I can make the soup not bitter. Do you want to test it out?”

Qiao Xi’s brain that was numbed by the alcohol slowly churned. “Are you... saying the truth?”

“Of course, it’s true.” Gu Zheng did not have the slightest intention of deceiving a drunkard. He pointed at his lips and said righteously, “One kiss, and you’ll be able to drink sweet hangover soup.”

Qiao Xi grunted. “Liar.”

After getting drunk, Qiao Xi had lost her sharp edges and become especially cute. Gu Zheng’s Adam’s apple bobbed. He grabbed the hangover soup and gulped it down before pressing his lips against Qiao Xi’s without any warning.

He could taste the lingering alcohol mixed with the sweetness of the hangover soup.

A bowl’s worth of hangover soup was fed to Qiao Xi by Gu Zheng. After he was done, he leaned his forehead against Qiao Xi and asked in a slightly hoarse voice, “Is it bitter?”

Qiao Xi’s eyes were moist, and the corners of her eyes were red. She subconsciously shook her head when she heard Gu Zheng’s words. “It’s not bitter. It’s sweet.” As soon as she finished speaking, the tip of her pink tongue licked the corner of her lips. Gu Zheng’s breathing instantly became heavier.

As if she had sensed danger, Qiao Xi’s hazy eyes gradually became clearer. After Gu Zheng recovered his senses and saw her staring at him with a vigilant expression, he could not help but laugh. “You only know how to be vigilant now? Don’t you think it’s too late for that?”

...

The next day, Qiao Xi abruptly sat up in bed. Did she drink alcohol last night?!

“It’s still early, let’s sleep a little more.”

A hoarse voice came from the side, followed by a muscular arm that reached out from under the covers to hug Qiao Xi’s slender waist. As the world spun, she lay on his hard chest.

Qiao Xi was stunned.

She turned her neck. It was her master bedroom, but why was Gu Zheng here?! Gulping, Qiao Xi touched her body under the blanket and her face turned pale. “Gu Zheng, where are my clothes?!”

“Why would you wear clothes when you’re sleeping?”

Gu Zheng was in a daze as he tried to pull Qiao Xi into his embrace. The next second, Qiao Xi mercilessly pinched his arm.

“... F\*ck!”

Gu Zheng instantly woke up.

He looked at Qiao Xi who was staring fixedly at him, and his handsome face was slightly helpless. “Ungrateful wolf, is this how you repay your benefactor?”

Benefactor?

Qiao Xi was puzzled.

Gu Zheng reminded her. “You drank alcohol yesterday. One glass and you collapsed.” To be exact, she collapsed after a mouthful.

“If I hadn’t realized it in time, you would’ve spent the entire night on the floor. The servants would only realize you were unconscious the next day and you would’ve gotten a fever. You wouldn’t be as energetic and active as you are now.”

Listening to Gu Zheng’s words, Qiao Xi’s memories slowly came back to her. Yesterday when she was in a daze, she did see Gu Zheng dashing toward her with a panicked expression... However, this was not a reason for Gu Zheng to take off her clothes!

She raised her leg and kicked Gu Zheng off the bed.

Gu Zheng was flustered and exasperated. “Qiao Xi!”

Qiao Xi stiffened her neck. “What?”

Gu Zheng had to use all his self-control to suppress his urge to strangle this woman. The servant heard the commotion in the room and knocked on the door. “Young Master, Young Madam, are you awake? Miss Meng is here.”

Miss Meng? Who was she?

Qiao Xi subconsciously looked at Gu Zheng, only to see him get up from the floor with a nasty expression. After glaring at her, he turned around and entered the bathroom.

Three minutes later, Gu Zheng came out of the bathroom in a dignified manner. When he saw Qiao Xi still lying motionless on the bed, the anger that had just subsided welled up in his heart once more. This woman always had the ability to provoke him.

“There’s a guest downstairs. Get changed and come with me to meet her.”

At this moment, Qiao Xi came back to her senses as well. She looked at Gu Zheng and asked, “Her surname is Meng. Could it be that she’s your previous marriage partner who ran away?”

Gu Zheng adjusted his sleeves and replied without even raising his head, “Yes.”

It was strange. She ran away from their marriage back then. Now, she still had the cheek to look for Gu Zheng?

Qiao Xi narrowed her eyes.

...

Qiao Xi and Gu Zheng went downstairs one after another.

“Brother Gu Zheng, why took you so long to come down? And these servants are really too much. All of them stopped me from going up to look for you. How annoying.” Before they arrived downstairs, a delicate female voice sounded. “Where’s Liu Lin? I don’t see her anywhere.”

Hearing Liu Lin’s name, Qiao Xi had to think about it for half a minute before remembering who Liu Lin was. It turned out to be the servant who had provoked her. She was unreasonably possessive and had too many desires. She was fired from the villa not long ago.

She remembered that Liu Lin had always told her that she was not as good as Miss Meng, the rumored eldest daughter of the Meng family who ran away from her marriage to Gu Zheng.

“Qiao Xi didn’t like her, so she was fired.”

Gu Zheng turned around and held Qiao Xi’s hand. They then went downstairs together.

Meng Wan’s eyes flickered. Her innocent and naive face showed surprise and confusion. “Brother Gu Zheng, is this Miss Qiao who married in substitute of me? She’s very good-looking.”

#### **Chapter 46: The B\*tch**

As she spoke, she pretended to unintentionally separate Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi’s interlocked hands and squeezed between the two of them. She looked at Qiao Xi with a naive expression. “Wow, Sister Qiao Xi, how did you do it that there aren’t any pores on your face? Did you put on makeup? Unfortunately, my hands are too clumsy. I can’t even put on makeup properly, so I can only go out without makeup. Sister Qiao Xi, do you have time to teach me how to put on makeup?”

Qiao Xi: “...”

She was a b\*tch, wasn’t she? She seemed to be praising but was secretly mocking Qiao Xi? This was a high-level tactic.

Qiao Xi smiled and was about to speak when Gu Zheng spoke up first, “You’ve put on makeup? Why didn’t I see you putting it on?” From the moment the servant came up to knock on the door till they were done getting ready, less than ten minutes had passed. Could Qiao Xi have the time to put on makeup? Hadn’t she just gone to the bathroom to wash her face before coming out?

Qiao Xi: “...”

Alright, she did not need to say anything else now. Gu Zheng’s words made Meng Wan’s eyes turn red. She took a step back and looked at Gu Zheng in disbelief. “Brother Gu Zheng, y-you’re living with Sister Qiao Xi?”

Gu Zheng looked at her with an odd look. “Is it abnormal for me to be living with her?” Ever since Qiao Xi came, it was his first time staying in the master bedroom on the third floor last night. It was also an accident that he spent the night there. However, there was no need to tell Meng Wan about such a private matter.

Meng Wan’s eyes turned red as large drops of tears fell. “Brother Gu Zheng, do you blame me for not marrying you previously? But I...” She quickly looked at Qiao Xi and said in a depressed tone, “I know that you have a new wife now, so I shouldn’t come and disturb you. But I couldn’t control myself. I thought that even though we couldn’t end up together, we could still be friends.”

Gu Zheng did not speak, nor did Qiao Xi. The scene was slightly awkward.

This was the first time Qiao Xi saw someone other than Qiao Rou show off her acting skills in front of her. If it were not for the fact that the timing was not right, she really wanted to applaud Qiao Rou. Her acting skills, her attitude, and her fake expression could totally compete with Qiao Rou!

Gu Zheng did not have the heart to be gentle with this woman. He called the servant over. “Send the guest out.”

The servant replied, and Meng Wan’s eyes turned even redder. They seemed to be throwing her out. “Brother Gu Zheng, you’re chasing me away? How can you treat me like this? Just because you’ve married her? She’s clearly only my substitute, so what right does she have...”

Qiao Xi did not agree with the word ‘substitute’. She and Gu Zheng were in a transactional marriage.

Just as she was about to retort, suddenly—

“Wan Wan, stop fooling around.”

A noblewoman who had maintained her appearance well and had a gentle expression on her face walked in with a smile. She sighed, and her gaze carried a trace of apology as she looked at Qiao Xi. “Miss Qiao, I’m sorry. Wan Wan was supposed to marry Gu Zheng, but now that things have become like this... Wan Wan can’t help herself from being slightly emotional. Please forgive her, Miss Qiao.”

Qiao Xi raised her brows.

No wonder Meng Wan was so pretentious. She had a mother who was equally pretentious! Did this family not know how to talk nicely? Why did they have to point out that she only got her identity as Mrs. Gu because she was a substitute?

Madam Meng's gaze was gentle. "Gu Zheng, I'm sorry. Old Jian and I wanted to come over ourselves, but Wan Wan insisted on coming when she heard the news..."

Gu Zheng asked casually, "Is that so?"

His tone was clearly very cold, but Madam Meng seemed to not realize it. Perhaps Gu Zheng had always been so arrogant in front of them, so she did not think that there was anything wrong with his tone.

On the other hand, Qiao Xi looked at Gu Zheng in surprise and as if she was very intrigued by him. When Madam Meng saw this, it was inevitable that she felt disdainful. However, the words she said were still warm and soft. "Miss Qiao, you're so beautiful. No wonder you could captivate Gu Zheng. Back then, we were still guessing what kind of woman Gu Zheng would marry in the future. Would she look like Wan Wan?"

"I'm finally meeting you now, but your and Wan Wan's personalities are nothing alike. I guess it's because Gu Zheng got tired of Wan Wan's attitude, that's why he married you, Miss Qiao. However, this is also quite good... It's quite good." Madam Meng pretended to wipe her tears.

Qiao Xi leaned against the railing and watched Madam Meng's performance sluggishly.

After all, the elderly were more experienced. Madam Meng told Qiao Xi a few facts with just a few words.

First of all, she, Qiao Xi, had no abilities and could only seduce people with her looks.

Secondly, Gu Zheng was deeply in love with Meng Wan. Even though the two of them couldn't get married, he found a woman who looked like Meng Wan to express his sentiments.

Thirdly, Gu Zheng did not want to keep missing Meng Wan, so that was why he chose a woman who had a completely different personality from Meng Wan to be his wife.

Qiao Xi supported her chin with one hand and smiled meaningfully.

Gu Zheng's gaze swept past Qiao Xi, and then he said indifferently, "Madam Meng, you're trying to drive a wedge between us in front of me. Do you think I'm deaf?"

Madam Meng and Meng Wan's expressions changed at the same time.

Chapter 47: Swallowing Her Words

Fortunately, Madam Meng reacted quickly and explained with a smile, "No, I just happened to remember you and Meng Wan when you were both younger. I must be getting muddled that I actually said such things in front of Miss Qiao. Miss Qiao, you won't mind, right?"

Qiao Xi said, "What if I say I mind? Can you take those words back?"

Gu Zheng: "... This woman would never allow herself to suffer.

Madam Meng's expression froze for a moment. Perhaps she did not expect Qiao Xi to not take her dignity into consideration at all. Even so, she quickly reacted. "Right, right, right. It's normal that you

would mind this. As your elder, I was insensible. How could I bring up matters of the past to upset you? Let me apologize to you, alright?”

She was lowering her status and mentioning her identity as an elder. If Qiao Xi continued to pester her, then it would seem that she was too unreasonable and unforgiving.

The corners of Qiao Xi’s lips curled up. Being in a high position was indeed different. One could adapt to the circumstances and play the blame game.

When Meng Wan saw her mother lower her head to Qiao Xi, she instantly exploded. “Mom, how can you apologize to Qiao Xi?! What right do you have to apologize to her? She stole my fiancé, so she should apologize to me.” As she spoke, she started crying. “Brother Zheng, how could you marry someone else? It wasn’t my intention to run away from our marriage. I just wanted to test your feelings for me, but you actually got married to someone else...

“Do you know how sad I was? The person you should’ve married is me. If this woman had appeared a little later, I would’ve arrived at the Civil Affairs Bureau. But you married her... You married a woman who’s inferior to me in every way...” Meng Wan cried until she was out of breath.

Gu Zheng’s expression darkened.

Madam Meng sighed and pulled Meng Wan to her side as she said helplessly, “Miss Qiao, I’m very sorry. Wan Wan is simple-minded. She’ll spout nonsense when she’s triggered, but she doesn’t have any bad intentions. She just finds it hard to accept the truth and feels a little aggrieved. I’ll teach her a good lesson when I get back.”

“In the past, Wan Wan has always relied on the fact that Gu Zheng loves her and would throw tantrums without restraint. That’s why on the day of their marriage, she pretended to run away to make Gu Zheng prove that he loved her... I believe that Gu Zheng initially wanted to look for Wan Wan, but he ended up meeting you... There are too many coincidences in this world. Maybe Wan Wan just isn’t fated to be with Gu Zheng, so the two of them ended up missing out on each other.” Madam Meng’s tone was filled with regret.

Qiao Xi secretly shot Gu Zheng a look, signaling him to stay rational. Gu Zheng received Qiao Xi’s signal and barely suppressed his anger. He stood at the side with a dark expression without saying anything.

Qiao Xi curved her lips. “Madam Meng, you mean to say that Gu Zheng has a deep affection for Meng Wan? Even though Miss Meng Wan ran away from their marriage, you thought that he would stand there and patiently wait for her to come back? It’s just that he didn’t expect to meet me on that day, right? Since Gu Zheng decided to marry me instead of waiting for Miss Meng Wan, it goes to show that... I’m really charming.”

Just one meeting could make Gu Zheng abandon his childhood sweetheart.

Madam Meng almost choked. She was clearly mocking Qiao Xi for being shameless and taking advantage of the situation. Why did it sound like she was praising her in Qiao Xi’s ears?!

Qiao Xi subconsciously tapped her fingers on the railing. Be it Madam Meng or Meng Wan, the two of them were just beating about the bush and telling her that Gu Zheng had a special relationship with

them. They were implying that she was just a shameless predator who would be abandoned by Gu Zheng sooner or later.

Meng Wan was still crying sorrowfully at the side. The sound of her sobs was annoying. Qiao Xi wondered if she should beat all these people up. She was tired of watching this performance.

At this moment, a dignified-looking man walked in from outside.

“Why are you crying? You were the one who wanted to run away from the marriage. This is the result of your own actions. Now that you’ve lost Gu Zheng, you can’t blame anyone.”

The housekeeper brought a dignified-looking man in. The man looked at Meng Wan. “Wan Wan, you’re not a child anymore. How can you cry after doing something wrong?”

“Boo-hoo... Dad, I know my mistake. I won’t make a scene anymore. I just want Brother Gu Zheng to come back to me. Brother Gu Zheng never treated me like this in the past but because of this woman...”

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The man was Meng Wan’s father, Meng Xingzhou. He looked to be about 45 years old and had the demeanor of a person in power. He sighed. “Gu Zheng, I know that our Meng family has let you down, but I also hope that you can listen to me.”

Gu Zheng’s patience was wearing thin.

It was early in the morning yet there was already a group of people talking nonsense in front of him. Never mind that Gu Zheng had a bad temper but even if he had a good temper, he would still be worn down by this family of three.

Seeing Gu Zheng’s impatience, Qiao Xi held his hand and stroked it like she was comforting a kitten. Gu Zheng pulled her toward the living room. “Uncle Meng, let’s sit down and talk.”

Meng Xingzhou paused for a few seconds before bringing his wife and daughter to sit on the sofa.. His shrewd and steady eyes swept past Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi’s hands from time to time.

Chapter 48: Divorce

“Gu Zheng, you know the truth. It’s just that Wan Wan is a little stubborn. She didn’t really want to run away from the marriage. Your marriage was initiated by Old Master Gu. It’s really unacceptable for you to cancel the marriage just like that.”

Qiao Xi lazily leaned against the sofa. The Meng family was really interesting.

She and Gu Zheng were already married. Today, Gu Zheng’s ‘ex-fiancee’ appeared at their door with her parents. The daughter said that she, Qiao Xi, was not worthy of Gu Zheng, the mother said that Gu Zheng loved Meng Wan, and the father said that this marriage was set by Old Master Gu. Qiao Xi was very sure that the Meng family was doing this on purpose by saying all this in front of her, Gu Zheng’s newly wedded wife. They did not take her seriously at all.

Gu Zheng took a sip of coffee and said slowly, “Uncle Meng, bigamy is a crime.”

He was already married, so it was not appropriate to mention a second marriage.

“The past is the past. I’m doing very well now. As people, we should only move forward.”

He meant that they had reaped what they sowed. His marriage was set in stone, so they should stop bothering him.

Meng Wan’s tears came streaming down again. “Boo-hoo, I was really wrong, Brother Gu Zheng. I was too willful. I really didn’t expect you to let go of me so easily... Boo-hoo! Brother Gu Zheng, how can you just say that you don’t like me anymore? I’m not as carefree about matters like this as you, Brother Gu Zheng. I still like you very much. I want to marry you, have children with you, and be with you...”

Seeing her daughter cry so miserably, Madam Meng’s eyes turned red as well. “Alright, Wan Wan, stop crying. Gu Zheng will definitely give you an answer. The both of you grew up together, so how could he not understand your character? I know that you love Gu Zheng more than your own life, but Gu Zheng has already married Miss Qiao. Give up.”

Qiao Xi supported her chin with her hand as she looked at the two drama queens from the Meng family. Their words were filled with hidden meanings. She felt that she was about to be influenced by them after just interacting with them for a short while. They spoke in such b\*tchy tones.

Looking at his sobbing wife and daughter, Meng Xingzhou could only say with heartache, “Gu Zheng, I don’t have a choice either. Wan Wan has been crying every day. Old Master Gu adores Wan Wan the most. Will this marriage contract really be ruined just like that? I know that bigamy is against the law, and we have no intention of forcing you to divorce Miss Qiao. It’s just that you and Miss Qiao haven’t told Old Master Gu about your marriage yet, right? Once Old Master Gu finds out that you so willfully and casually married a woman, he’ll definitely be very angry. Gu Zheng, I’m saying this for your own good.”

This time, Qiao Xi had truly witnessed the art of speaking. They said that Meng Wan had been crying at home and her marriage with Gu Zheng was set by Old Master Gu. If Gu Zheng did not marry Meng Wan, Old Master Gu might not agree to any other marriage partners. Although Meng Xingzhou said he was not forcing Gu Zheng to divorce her, in reality, every word he said was to tell Gu Zheng to get a divorce.

Indeed, Meng Xingzhou’s next sentence was, “Gu Zheng, consider it carefully. Marriage is not a joke. Miss Qiao, consider it carefully as well. Are you going to waste your good years on someone who doesn’t love you? If you agree to the divorce, the Meng family will pay for all the compensation after your marriage ends. You won’t suffer.”

The living room fell completely silent.

The butler stood at the side in fear. If nothing had happened last night, he would have thought that Meng Xingzhou and his family made sense. However, after what had happened last night, he felt that Meng Xingzhou and his family might be in for a bad time.

He knew very well how protective Young Master was of Young Madam.

Indeed...

Bang!

Gu Zheng slammed the coffee cup on the table and said slowly, "Uncle Meng." The man's eyes were indifferent, and the expression on his face was nonchalant. "Uncle Meng, have you forgotten who the current head of the Gu family is?"

Did they think that they could suppress him just by mentioning his grandfather? In their dreams!

The butler also stepped forward. He was an old man who had been transferred here from the old residence. He knew some things better than outsiders like Meng Xingzhou. "Mr. Meng, our old master has never set up an engagement for Young Master. Where did you get the idea that Miss Meng Wan is Young Master's fiancée? Back then, it was Miss Meng Wan who wanted to marry Young Master. The old master simply thought that the Meng and Gu families were old friends, and Young Master and Miss Meng Wan had grown up together. Furthermore, Young Master had never had a woman by his side, so he wanted to matchmake them.

"However, on the day of their marriage, Miss Meng Wan abandoned Young Master outside the Civil Affairs Bureau. You put it nicely, saying Miss Meng Wan was stubborn and wanted to test Young Master's feelings for her. However, what you did was humiliate the Gu family and our young master. You humiliated the Gu family like this, but the Gu family hasn't looked for you to settle the score. Despite this, you came to the door saying you've been wronged and spouted nonsense in front of Young Master and Young Madam."

The butler's words were merciless. It was the Meng family's fault. It was fine that they did not apologize, but they even belittled Young Madam in front of Young Master. Did they think the Gu family was easy to bully?

This was the first time Qiao Xi knew that the butler, who was usually low-profile, was actually so eloquent.. She even wanted to clap and cheer for him.

#### Chapter 49: Outsider

At the same time, she looked at the Meng family with a mischievous gaze. She thought that they were talking nonsense because Gu Zheng and Meng Wan really had something going on between them, but from the butler's words, this family was clearly narcissistic! Meng Wan and Gu Zheng were never even a couple, yet they claimed that she was his fiancée. Did they know no shame?

Meng Xingzhou's expression was extremely ugly.

He pulled a long face and acknowledged the butler's words, but he did not say anything. He only said, "Gu Zheng, you're a smart person. It's only right for you and Wan Wan to marry each other, but if you marry Miss Qiao, you'll only face a ton of problems. Wan Wan is a little willful, but you, Gu Zheng, are a man. Men should tolerate women, right? So Gu Zheng, think it through carefully. Do you want the useless Miss Qiao or our Wan Wan?"

Since he had failed to reason with Gu Zheng, he was starting to tempt him.

However, they just needed to praise Meng Wan. Why did they have to step on Qiao Xi?

Qiao Xi smiled.

Did this family not have any self-awareness? With their daughter's character, how blind would Gu Zheng have to be to take a liking to her?

Qiao Xi crossed her legs and smiled at Meng Xingzhou. "Mr. Meng, I have a question that I hope you can answer."

Meng Xingzhou frowned in disgust. In his heart, Qiao Xi had no right to speak to him. However, before he could say anything, Qiao Xi continued, "I really want to know what Gu Zheng means to you, Mr. Meng. According to your words, the dignified Master Gu of Li City has actually turned into a love maniac. You make him out to be a fool who doesn't care about the Gu family's reputation and who would willingly wait for your daughter so he could marry her."

"Your daughter was the one who ran away from the marriage first, yet now you're forcing Gu Zheng to marry her. Do you think Gu Zheng is easy to bully or is there something I don't know about? You keep using Old Master Gu to make things difficult for him, but are you sure even Old Master Gu will accept your daughter...?" Qiao Xi raised her chin in Meng Wan's direction and said in an ambiguous tone, "Will he accept your daughter who's willful, who likes to cause trouble, and who will only bring trouble to Gu Zheng?"

The Gu family did not need a marriage alliance to consolidate their status, and they would not want a young madam who only knew how to create trouble. If one were to marry Gu Zheng, she would not just be marrying him but also the entire Gu family. It was a matter that required the support of the Gu family. It was obvious that based on Meng Wan's performance, she would fail.

After she said this, there was silence.

Qiao Xi was just short of pointing at Meng Wan's nose and saying that she was not qualified to be the young madam of the Gu family, nor was she qualified to enter the Gu family.

What did it mean to stab someone's heart? This was called stabbing someone's heart!

Meng Wan pointed at Qiao Xi and shouted angrily, "Who are you to say that I'm not qualified?! I'm qualified! I'm the most qualified woman in the world!"

Qiao Xi: "..."

'You're stupid. You're the stupidest person in the world.'

1

Meng Xingzhou's face did not look too good either, but he was much more devious than Meng Wan. He controlled his anger and said, "Miss Qiao, this is a matter between the Meng and Gu families. It's not your place as an outsider to say anything."

Meng Xingzhou's words got rid of all courtesy and politeness between them. Seeing that he was no longer pretending, Qiao Xi nodded with satisfaction. He was much more pleasing to the eye this way. A man should be straightforward and not be wishy-washy like a woman.

The two sides had fallen out with each other. The servants lowered their heads and tried their best to avoid getting caught in the crossfires.

Gu Zheng looked up coldly, his peach blossom eyes filled with coldness. "Uncle Meng, Qiao Xi is my lawfully wedded wife. If she has no right to voice out regarding the Gu family's matters, who does? The stupid daughter of yours?"

Meng Xingzhou shuddered.

"Gu Zheng, what do you mean?"

"What do I mean?"

Gu Zheng put down his teacup, and his eyes were sharp like blades. "Don't you understand? I only agreed to marry your daughter because your Meng family was somewhat obedient. However, you really shouldn't have taken advantage of me.

"Running away from our marriage? Meng Wan, you wanted to prove that I love you? Who gave you the courage to do that? We grew up together and are childhood sweethearts? The truth is, you were shameless enough to stick yourself to me like a piece of candy and I couldn't chase you away. You, the Meng family, are in a rush to throw yourself at the Gu family. It's disgusting."

His words completely embarrassed the Meng family.

Meng Wan was unable to accept that Brother Gu Zheng had become like this. She shouted like a madwoman, "No, it's not like that. Brother Gu Zheng, you love me. You love me the most... It's Qiao Xi. It must be Qiao Xi who has bewitched you. I want to kill her. As long as I kill her, Brother Gu Zheng will still be mine. Mine..."

As she spoke, she stretched out her sharp nails and clawed at Qiao Xi's face. She had not liked this woman since she met her. How could she be more beautiful than her? She must have used this foxy face to seduce Brother Gu Zheng.

Unfortunately, her hand had yet to touch Qiao Xi when it was intercepted by Gu Zheng. Gu Zheng grabbed her wrist and said in a gloomy voice, "Servants, chase them out! If the Meng family comes again in the future, beat them up!"

Meng Xingzhou did not expect things to get to this point.. He gritted his teeth and tried to reason with Gu Zheng. "Gu Zheng, don't be rash..."

Chapter 50: Throw Them All Away

Gu Zheng yelled, "Butler! Are you dead? Can't you hear me?!"

The butler quickly came back to his senses and said, "Mr. Meng, Madam Meng, and Miss Meng, please come this way."

The three of them did not move.

The butler's expression did not change as he bent down slightly. "Mr. Meng, you should know our young master's character. If he tells us to lay a finger on someone, we won't dare to disobey. I'm afraid that when the time comes, your reputation will be ruined."

If Meng Xingzhou and the others did not listen, the butler would not mind pulling out a few tricks.

Meng Xingzhou's expression was even uglier now. However, he was too angry and could not back down. Not only had he not achieved his goal with this trip here, but he had also provoked Gu Zheng. He had simply suffered a huge loss!

In the end, he left with Meng Wan and Madam Meng in a sorry state.

From afar, Meng Wan's protesting voice could be heard. "I'm not leaving. Why should I? You clearly said that I could marry Brother Gu Zheng, so why can't I marry him now? Liar, you big liar!"

"Shut up!" Meng Xingzhou was exasperated at his daughter's failure to live up to expectations. "If you hadn't tested Gu Zheng by pretending to run away from the marriage, would Qiao Xi have had the chance to appear in front of him? It's all because you were stupid!"

If Meng Wan had not caused trouble and obediently appeared at the Civil Affairs Bureau on the day of their marriage, things would not have ended up this way. Meng Wan would be Gu Zheng's wife now, the young madam of the Gu family. The status of the Meng family would have risen as a result. However, everything had been ruined by Meng Wan!

Meng Xingzhou said softly in Meng Wan's ear, "The Gu family won't accept Qiao Xi as the young madam of the household. Wan Wan, you still have a chance. As long as Qiao Xi disappears or something happens to her, the position of Mrs. Gu will naturally go to you."

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Meng Wan's sobbing expression froze. She looked at Madam Meng, who nodded at her. "Wan Wan, your father is right. We still have a chance."

Qiao Xi was just a country bumpkin who came from the countryside. It was a little difficult to kill her, but it was easy to destroy her.

Meng Wan's eyes flickered. She lowered her head and said, "Alright, I'll listen to you, Dad."

'Qiao Xi, since you dare to snatch my man, you should be prepared for my revenge!'

...

In the villa.

Gu Zheng waved his hand, and all the servants in the villa started moving. Some opened the windows while others moved the things.

Qiao Xi looked at the sofa that was just used earlier being carried away by the servants with a dumbfounded expression. "What's going on?"

Gu Zheng did not answer and instead hurried up to the third floor.

The butler explained, "Madam, Young Master is a neat freak. The sofa that the Meng family sat on and the cups that they used need to be tossed. Even the entire living room needs to be disinfected."

Qiao Xi: "..."

What a waste!

Although it felt good to chase the family out, the sofa, the cups, and the carpet on the stairs were all exquisite goods. They were all priceless. Now, Qiao Xi was a little regretful to have let the Meng family leave so easily. She had to get back at them the next time she saw them!

After sorting out her mood, Qiao Xi was about to go upstairs to get some sleep when she suddenly received a message from her father, Qiao Zhenguo.

[Black Tide, the transfer of shares is in progress. As there are too many problems involved, it still needs some time to be settled. If you have time, can you help us deal with Qiao Xi's problem first? She's becoming more and more unreasonable now. Rou Rou can't eat or sleep well. My heart aches just looking at her.]

Only then did Qiao Xi remember that she still had a job to attend to.

Qiao Zhenguo had sent this message just in time. She was just feeling bad about letting the sofa and cups go to waste when someone wanted to give her money.

She slightly raised her elegant eyebrows as she replied meaningfully: [That'll depend on your sincerity.]

At the same time, in the Qiao family's home.

The news that Qiao Rou had pretended to be Gu Shan's disciple and was slapped in the face by Gu Shan spread like wildfire. How envious those people were of Qiao Rou in the beginning now looked down on her just as much! Because of this, Qiao Rou had not been to university for a long time. She could not accept the way her classmates looked at her with disdain, much less listen to them praise Qiao Xi for being awesome!

"Zhenguo, what's Qiao Xi trying to do? Why didn't she tell us that she's Gu Shan? Did she deliberately want to make a fool of Rou Rou? Was she waiting for that day? She'll end up making our Rou Rou lose all her dignity!" Xu Mei speculated maliciously.

Gu Moling stood beside Qiao Rou and asked with a frown, "Rou Rou, Qiao Xi never told you about her being Gu Shan before?"

Qiao Rou shook her head with tears in her eyes. "No, Brother Moling. My sister has never told me that she's Gu Shan. In fact... I always thought that my sister didn't know much about fashion design and I wanted to take care of her more in university. But who knew..."

One was gentle and caring, while the other was full of schemes.

After Qiao Rou said that, Gu Moling and Qiao Zhenguo's impression of Qiao Xi grew even worse.