

Lady gu 531

Chapter 531 Beautiful, Long Legs

The atmosphere instantly became awkward. The corners of Xia Yunlou's and Xu Anran's mouths twitched.

Xia Yunlou forcefully endured the anger in her heart and gritted her teeth, saying, "Qiao Xi, if you don't get a divorce now, you'll regret it sooner or later!"

Xu Anran also tried to persuade her. "Sister, I'm just afraid that you'll get hurt in the future. How can you refuse? You and President Gu are really not compatible. You should let a more outstanding woman marry him." Qiao Xi was angered to the point of laughing. She raised her eyebrows and said, "The 'more outstanding woman' you're referring to can't possibly be you, right? Do you want to marry Gu Zheng? Is that why Madam Xu publicly announced that you like Gu Zheng?"

Xia Yunlou said self-righteously, "Anran is a daughter of a noble family. You grew up in the countryside and are extremely vulgar. President Gu still has some feelings for you now because you're good-looking. In a few years, he'll be completely sick of you. President Gu won't even look at you then, but Anran is different. She has knowledge and means. She can make President Gu completely fall for her."

Pfft!

Song Shiyu could not help but choke.

Qiao Xi looked at Xia Yunlou with an icy cold gaze. "You're really confident!"

Xia Yunlou knew that Qiao Xi was mocking her, and her face turned livid.

Xu Anran was silent for a moment before saying gently, "Sister, I've actually liked President Gu for a long time. After Mom found out, she couldn't bear to see me not being able to be with him, so she's advising you to get a divorce.

"Moreover, you're not compatible with President Gu. Instead of getting hurt by him in the future, why don't you get a divorce as soon as possible to prevent anything bad from happening? Moreover, you have another marriage agreement to fulfill. Since you're not suitable to be Mrs. Gu, just let me have President Gu, alright?"

Qiao Xi widened her eyes. She was shocked by the shamelessness of this mother and daughter pair.

Qiao Xi was not the only one who was angry. When Song Shiyu heard Xu Anran asking Qiao Xi to let her have the president, Song Shiyu wished he could rush in and beat her up.

Qiao Xi sneered. "Madam Xu, it's not that I don't want to, but President Gu likes beautiful women with fair skin and long legs like me. However, my sister's appearance is a little inferior to mine. Gu Zheng probably won't be willing to settle for less. Even if I divorce him, Anran won't get a chance!"

Upon hearing this, Xu Anran's heart trembled as her face turned pale.

Xia Yunlou was angered to the point of gnashing his teeth. She raised the teacup Qiao Xi had just used and slammed it on the floor with a mad roar.

“Shut up! How is your sister inferior to you?! Not only is your sister beautiful, but she’s also a top socialite. She’s countless times better than you! You’re the ugly one!”

Qiao Xi’s expression turned cold.

What a good mother! For the sake of an adopted daughter, she was actually forcing her biological daughter to divorce her husband. She even said that Xu Anran was so much better than her.

Qiao Xi’s eyes looked indifferent as she said slowly, “That’s true. I’m your daughter, after all. I’m ugly because your genes are too inferior!”

“You!” Xia Yunlou was unable to retort, and she was angered to the point her face flushed red. She picked up the teacup on the table and threw it at Qiao Xi. “You little b*tch! You still dare to scold me? Hurry up and apologize to Anran and me! How is Anran not as good-looking as you? Look at your shameless appearance. You can’t even compare to a strand of Anran’s hair. You came out from a slum... Ah!”

Suddenly, a stone flew in from outside the door and hit Xia Yunlou’s wrist.

Gu Zheng slowly entered with a cold gaze. His voice was calm but carried a faint chill. “Madam Xu, since you’ve insulted my wife to this extent, there’s no need for us to continue talking. Xi Xi, let’s go.”

When Xu Zhi heard this, he hurriedly rushed over. “Xia Yunlou! You’re being silly!”

Xia Yunlou panicked and could not help but look at Gu Zheng. She felt that his gaze was like a sharp sword, scaring her until she trembled.

Gu Zheng’s expression was calm, but his deep eyes were suffocating her.

Xia Yunlou pretended to be strong and calm. “I... I was just joking with Xi Xi. President Gu, don’t misunderstand. Xi Xi is a little naughty. As her mother, it’s fine for me to reprimand her, right? This is for her own good.” Xu Zhi quickly roared, “I told you to shut up! Did you hear me?!”

Chapter 532 Xu Anran Is Despised

Xia Yunlou was so scared that she did not dare to say anything else. Then, Xu Zhi looked at Gu Zheng obsequiously. “President Gu, take a seat. Don’t just stand there!”

Xu Anran had a shy expression. She was sure that Gu Zheng was the most perfect man she had ever seen. If she could marry him, she was willing to pay any price.

Gu Zheng ignored everyone and held Qiao Xi’s hand as they sat on the main seats. He asked casually, “I’m very curious why Madam Xu reprimanded my wife. What did she do wrong?” Xu Zhi was shocked.

However, Xia Yunlou felt that she finally had a chance. She quickly explained, “President Gu, of course, I reprimanded her for a reason. Xi Xi is not worthy of you. It’s really unfair to you to have her as your wife.”

The entire venue was silent.

After a few seconds of silence, Gu Zheng smirked. “So?”

Xia Yunlou thought that Gu Zheng had confirmed her words, so she continued, “Xi Xi grew up in the countryside. She doesn’t have the aura of a socialite at all. She doesn’t know etiquette and isn’t cultured. It’s really inappropriate for her to be your wife.

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“After thinking about it, I think Anran is more suitable for you. Old Xu and I had high expectations of her since she was young. We raised her to become a top socialite. She graduated from a famous university and is proficient in all kinds of musical instruments, calligraphy, painting, and dancing. Although she’s not our biological daughter, Old Xu and I have always treated her as our biological daughter. I think only Anran is worthy of such an outstanding and successful man like you.”

As soon as she finished speaking, the air was silent. One could only hear Song Shiyu gritting his teeth.

Xia Yunlou did not think that there was anything wrong with what she said. She pushed Xu Anran forward like a matchmaker. “Anran, quickly go over and greet President Gu.”

Xu Anran blushed. “President Gu.”

She was gentle, shy, and charming. Her eyes were filled with affection, but she was also reserved.

However, Gu Zheng did not respond. The atmosphere was extremely awkward.

The shyness on Xu Anran’s face gradually turned into embarrassment. “President Gu, I _ II

“Madam Xu.” Gu Zheng’s eyes darkened, his expression indifferent.

“What kind of person do you think I am? Why do you think any Tom, Dick, or Harry can be shoved to my side? My taste isn’t that bad. I don’t like just anyone.”

There was silence-dead silence.

The expressions on Xia Yunlou’s and Xu Anran’s faces gradually stiffened. They turned as pale as paper. Any Tom, Dick, or Harry? He actually described her that way? She... She was the eldest daughter of the Xu family, a top socialite in high society. “Madam Xu, your biological daughter has already married our president, yet you’re still so anxious to give your adopted daughter to the president. Aren’t you deliberately trying to ruin our president’s reputation by acting like this? In today’s society, we practice monogamy. Don’t you know that?”

Song Shiyu sneered. “Our president has married Young Madam, yet the Xu family wishes to deliver your adopted daughter to him. Is that appropriate? The Xu family is also a noble family. Don’t tell me you indulge in such bad practices!”

Xia Yunlou’s breathing quickened.

Even if President Gu and his assistant, Song Shiyu, did not like Anran, they should not belittle her so much. What did they mean by their words? The Xu family wanted Anran to be Mrs. Gu because Qiao Xi was not worthy of this identity.

“Mr. Xu, our president isn’t here to listen to your excuses. Since you don’t like Young Madam, the president will bring her back to

rest.”

Song Shiyu snorted. “It’s already so late, but Young Madam was still called out by her biological mother and forced to divorce our president. If news of this gets out, will the Xu family still be so arrogant?”

Gu Zheng was about to leave when Xu Zhi hurriedly went up to him. “President Gu, my wife and daughter were just anxious. Please don’t take it to heart. I just want to talk to Xi Xi about her brother. Anyi is Xi Xi’s brother, after all. So...

“It was Anyi’s fault for what happened before, but... we’re family, after all. President Gu, you’re magnanimous, so let’s not kick up a fuss. Why don’t we talk in the study?”

Gu Zheng nodded calmly.

Song Shiyu followed the two upstairs. At this moment, only the mother and daughters were left downstairs.

Qiao Xi did not even look at the two of them as she stood up and walked out.

“Wait!”

Chapter 533 If You Want To Be Beaten, I’ll Help You

Xu Anran hurriedly chased after her with tears in her eyes. “Sister, I know you hate me and think that I stole your identity, but I’m innocent. Mom is also in a difficult position. On one hand, it’s her biological daughter, and on the other, it’s her adopted daughter who has accompanied her for 20 years. Why can’t we get along well? Sister, let’s go out and talk, alright?”

Xu Anran looked sad, but a sinister smile flashed across her eyes.

Qiao Xi knew that she had ill intentions, but she was just curious about what Xu Anran wanted to do. Hence, she nodded. “Alright.”

The Shen family’s courtyard was very big. Xu Anran walked around and brought her to a remote corner.

Xu Anran was scheming in her heart with every step she took. Now that everyone knew that she had arranged a room in the basement for Qiao Xi and she wanted to kill Qiao Xi, she had to clear her name. The best way was to push all the blame on Qiao Xi.

Before leaving, Xu Anran had already found out that the Shen family’s courtyard was full of surveillance cameras, but there was no audio function. As long as she deliberately angered Qiao Xi and made her unable to restrain her anger, then all the guests in the Shen family would see Qiao Xi’s ugly face.

The eldest daughter of the Xu family could only be her! The title of Mrs. Gu could only belong to her!

Hence, Xu Anran tried her best to persuade her. “Sister, do you know why President Gu married a country bumpkin like you? He probably just thinks that you don’t know anything. A few years later, he’ll kick you away. If you don’t get a divorce now, you’ll regret it in the future. I’m your sister, so why would I lie to you?

“Mom asked me to marry President Gu not because she’s biased toward me, but because she thinks that I can hold on to President Gu more and bring more benefits to the Xu family. But you... If you don’t have the ability, then don’t occupy the position of Mrs. Gu.

“Moreover, Dad and Mom said that the eldest daughter of the Xu family can only be me. You’re just a country bumpkin. You’re not worthy to be the daughter of the Xu family at all. They brought you back just to—”.

Qiao Xi interrupted her. “Xu Anran, you called me out alone just to infuriate me, right? You want me to attack you, so you’re saying these words to trigger me. You’ll then claim that I beat you up, that I’m irritable and easily angered. Meanwhile, you’ll make yourself seem innocent to completely destroy my reputation. Is that it?”

Xu Anran’s eyes darkened as she pretended to be aggrieved. “Sister, that’s not what I meant. I’m telling the truth. Do you think you’re worthy of being the eldest daughter of the Xu family? Dad and Mom didn’t want to look for you before because—”

Smack!

Before she could finish, a slap landed on Xu Anran’s face.

The corners of Qiao Xi’s mouth curled up. “Since you want to be beaten so badly, then I’ll fulfill your wish!”

This slap made Xu Anran’s face burn, but her face seemed fine.

Xu Anran wanted to anger Qiao Xi, but she did not expect Qiao Xi to be so arrogant and slap her. She gritted her teeth and forcefully endured her anger. Now that Qiao Xi had fallen into her trap, it could be said that she had gotten what she wanted. Hence, tears immediately welled up in her eyes. “Sister, why did you hit me? I know you hate me for taking your position, but someone swapped us back then. At that time, I was only an infant. How can you blame me for this?”

“Although you and President Gu are married, I know that you’re not happy. You just refuse to tell the family about the issues you’re facing, so Mom wants me to be Mrs. Gu in your place. It’s also considered “

Smack!

Qiao Xi raised her hand and slapped her again.

Xu Anran had a surprised expression. In just a short while, she was actually slapped twice by Qiao Xi.

“You actually... Just you wait!”

Qiao Xi stroked her hair. “Do you know how noisy you are?!”

“Although I’m an adopted daughter, I’ve been by Dad and Mom’s side for 20 years. Dad and Mom treat me as their own. What right do you have to hit me? I can’t let you bully me like this!”

“Bully? Do you think I’m bullying you?” Qiao Xi crossed her arms and smiled coldly.

Xu Anran felt a chill run down her spine. She suppressed her anger and was about to cry.

“Are you going to cry, throw a tantrum, and make everyone see the palm print on your face? Will you accuse me of hitting you for no reason? Will you say that I was so jealous that I wanted to chase an adopted daughter like you out of the house? Will you say that I’m targeting you?” Qiao Xi asked.

Chapter 534 Regretting Provoking Qiao Xi

The corners of Xu Anran’s mouth twitched.

“Since that’s your plan, won’t I ruin it if I don’t hit you?” Qiao Xi sneered as she clenched her fists and gradually approached her. “Those two slaps just now can’t be considered bullying just yet.”

Xu Anran took a few steps back in horror. If this was not considered bullying, then what was...

Smack! Smack!

Two consecutive slaps landed heavily on Xu Anran’s face. Qiao Xi snorted coldly. “Xu Anran, I’ve wanted to hit you for a long time. You’ve been targeting me since the first time we met. You also scattered flammable powder on the floor of the room you arranged for me. Did you want to burn me to death?”

Xu Anran gritted her teeth in pain. She was still getting slapped. Qiao Xi was not giving her a chance to resist at all.

Qiao Xi looked at her with a smile. “How could that piece of trash, Xu Anyi, dare get his people to kill me? It was probably your idea, right? If Xu Anyi had succeeded, he would’ve gotten rid of your biggest problem. If he failed, it wouldn’t have anything to do with you. In any case, he’d be the one in jail, while you’d still be the pure and innocent eldest daughter of the Xu family.”

“Sister, I... I didn’t. You wronged me...”

Smack!

“Why are you pretending in front of me?! Just because you like Gu Zheng, you expect me to divorce him and give up my position to you. Why are you so shameless? Even the earth can’t handle you anymore!”

Xu Anran held her burning cheeks and looked at Qiao Xi with horror.

At this moment, she actually regretted provoking this demon!

Qiao Xi slowly raised her hand and placed it on Xu Anran’s slapped neck, then she curled her lips into a cold smile. “Miss Xu, you should be glad that I’m feeling much better after just slapping you a few times. Otherwise...”

Hearing Qiao Xi’s words, Xu Anran’s breathing paused. She felt the blood in her entire body freeze as she broke out in a cold sweat from fear.

It was obvious from Qiao Xi’s eyes that she was not joking. She really wanted to kill her. “Ah! Let go of me! You devil! Ah!” Xu Anran suddenly felt a pain in her chest. Then, the pain spread throughout her

body. It was as if she was being pricked by needles. It was so painful that her entire body spasmed. Her expression was ferocious as she could not help but roar.

Her body trembled violently. She did not believe that Qiao Xi would really dare to kill her. She was the eldest daughter of the Xu family and the beloved daughter of her parents. How would Qiao Xi dare?!

Xu Anran's chest was so painful that she broke out in a cold sweat. She wished she could faint, but at this moment, she heard footsteps. It seemed like someone was coming.

She quickly pinched her arm to come back to her senses. She forced herself to stay conscious. Then, her eyes were filled with tears as she said in pain, "Sister! It hurts! I'm your sister. Why are you doing this to me?!"

"Sister, please let me off! I was wrong. I shouldn't have fought with you. I'll leave the Xu family now. I don't want anything anymore. Please spare my life! Don't kill me..."

The footsteps gradually approached. Someone asked, "Do you hear cries for help?"

"I do. It seems to be the eldest daughter of the Xu family."

Xia Yunlou suddenly rushed over and roared, "Qiao Xi, what are you doing?! You're trying to kill your sister! Anran, Anran!"

Xu Anran's face was covered in tears as she said weakly, "Mom, I'm fine. Don't blame my sister. She misunderstood me, so she slapped me a few times. It's just that my chest hurts now..."

Xia Yunlou was furious and charged aggressively at Qiao Xi. "You unfilial daughter! You dare hit your sister? Are you even human? Quickly apologize to your sister!"

Xu Anran sobbed. "Mom, don't... force Sister. She said that I'm your adopted daughter and I'm not worthy to compete with her. Actually... she's right. I'm not related to you by blood. She's your biological daughter. I'll leave now!"

"My precious Anran, stop crying. I won't let you leave. You'll always be my daughter!"

Xia Yunlou's eyes were filled with heartache, then she pointed at Qiao Xi and roared furiously, "Qiao Xi! You're fooling around again. You actually hit your sister this time. Quickly kneel down and admit your mistake!" Xu Anran curled up in Xia Yunlou's embrace with a sinister smile. She wanted Qiao Xi to pay a painful price for these few slaps.

Now, everyone had seen Qiao Xi hit her and her forgiving Qiao Xi. Everyone would know that Qiao Xi was vicious, while she was the magnanimous Eldest Miss Xu.

Chapter 535 Crying Children Are Given Candy

Xu Anran was weak, and she shed tears aggrievedly. "I'm fine... Sister doesn't have to apologize. She only slapped me a few times. It's okay."

When Xia Yunlou saw her daughter's aggrieved appearance, the anger in her heart burned even more. "Qiao Xi! You're too heartless. This is your sister, yet you still dared to do such a thing. You actually

learned such vicious methods when you were wandering outside! Get out of the Xu family right now. Our Xu family doesn't want a vicious daughter like you!"

Everyone looked at Qiao Xi with puzzled expressions.

Qiao Xi stood there silently for a short while before sighing helplessly.

"Sigh! Miss Xu, don't malign me. You were the one who suddenly fell to the floor. Why did you say that I hit you? Don't tell me you're dizzy from the pain!"

Qiao Xi said casually, "You said that I slapped you a few times and want me to apologize to you, but... Everyone, look at her face. Does it look like she has been slapped?"

Everyone took a closer look and saw that Xu Anran's face was indeed extremely smooth. There were no traces of her ever being slapped. However, her tears were streaming down her face, making her look like she was in pain.

Qiao Xi sneered. "Just because Miss Xu is crying, Madam Xu is forcing me to kneel and apologize to Miss Xu. If I really return to the Xu family, I don't know how much more I'll have to suffer. Since that's the case, it's fine if I don't return home."

Everyone instantly understood. Madam Shen frowned and snorted. "It seems that Miss Xu is just pretending!"

Xu Anran's face was pale.

She was really not pretending this time. Qiao Xi had clearly slapped her a few times just now. For some reason, her chest was hurting too. Why did everyone not believe her?

Xu Anran fell to the floor aggrievedly, and her eyes trickled down. She looked so pitiful that it made one's heart ache.

She said softly, "Xi Xi, you did slap me a few times just now. Now, you're saying that I wronged you. You... How can you do this to me?!"

Her eyes were filled with sorrow as she sobbed weakly. "President Gu, you saw it too. Xi Xi hit me. Are you going to protect her?"

Xu Zhi and Gu Zheng walked over together. They looked at Xu Anran, who was lying on the floor, then at the crowd. They immediately frowned.

When Xia Yunlou saw Gu Zheng coming over, she immediately pretended to be sad. "Xi Xi, you've been wandering outside for so many years. My heart ached for you, but I didn't expect you to have learned so many bad things during your time outside the family. It's fine if you bully Anran at home, but even when you're in the Shen family's residence, you still dare to beat up your sister. You're really lawless!"

Xu Anran's eyes were filled with tears. "Madam Shen, it's my fault. Even though my sister hit me, I shouldn't have made things worse. I'm sorry... I've let everyone down."

Xia Yunlou's heart ached when she saw her compromise. She berated, "Qiao Xi, hurry up and apologize!"

Everyone did not dare to make a sound, but Madam Shen's expression turned cold. She was about to speak when Qiao Xi spoke first. "Madam Xu, you said that I hit Xu Anran. Did you see it with your own eyes? They say that crying children are given candy, and I guess it's true. As long as Xu Anran cries, will Madam Xu believe her no matter what she says?"

She did hit Xu Anran this time, but even if she did not, Madam Xu would still reprimand her in public all the same as long as Xu Anran cried.

Instead of being wronged, Qiao Xi might as well teach Xu Anran a lesson to vent her anger. Xia Yunlou glared fiercely at Qiao Xi. "What else could it be? Anran is so obedient. Could it be that she'd lie? You're just jealous of Anran, so you brought her to a remote place to hit her. But you're still unwilling to admit it!"

Qiao Xi said slowly, "Miss Xu, do you know who called me out?"

Xia Yunlou immediately choked.

Qiao Xi grunted coldly. "I was sleeping in my room when Madam Xu woke me up and called me over in the middle of the night.

"After that, when I was about to leave, it was Miss Xu who asked me out for a chat. I didn't expect to be brought here either. Then, Madam Xu rushed over to accuse me. Coincidentally, so many people came over soon after."

Everyone's eyes landed on Xia Yunlou. She hurriedly explained, "Anran was just looking for you to have a chat with you. You're sisters

"Chatting in the middle of the night? Madam Xu, you really know how to find excuses." Qiao Xi sneered.

Chapter 536 This Place Is Remote And Has No Surveillance Cameras

The entire venue was silent. Xu Anran gritted her teeth in hatred. This little b*tch actually dared to deny it?

Xu Anran had indeed deliberately lured Qiao Xi here with the intention of seizing the opportunity to wrong her. Now that her objective had been achieved, why should she waste her breath on Qiao Xi?

Xu Anran endured the pain in her cheeks and chest. Her voice trembled slightly as she said, "Madam Shen, if you don't believe me, we can check the surveillance footage."

For the sake of wronging Qiao Xi, she proposed to check the surveillance footage. Even though this place was remote, there were still surveillance cameras here that would have captured everything. Now that everyone was watching, as long as they checked the surveillance footage, the crime of Qiao Xi beating up her sister would be confirmed.

Unexpectedly, Madam Shen smiled sarcastically.

"Miss Xu, this place is remote and there are no surveillance cameras."

Xu Anran widened her eyes. How could there be no surveillance cameras?

She had clearly been to the surveillance room before. There were surveillance cameras here, so why did Madam Shen say that there were no surveillance cameras here? Was she protecting Qiao Xi?

Xu Anran's heart could not help but tremble. She suddenly realized that Madam Shen had been speaking up for Qiao Xi since the banquet began. Now, she said that there was no surveillance camera here.

She said aggrievedly, "Madam Shen, how could there be no surveillance cameras in the Shen family's courtyard? As long as we check the surveillance footage, we'll be able to see my sister hitting me. Are there really no surveillance cameras, or are you just unwilling to check the footage?"

"Madam Shen, I'm innocent! I beg you to show everyone the surveillance footage!"

Everyone's eyes were filled with confusion. Although the Xu family's attitude was not good and Xu Anran, their adopted daughter, was also vicious and merciless, she had a sincere expression at this moment. She did not seem to be lying. Could it be that Qiao Xi really hit someone?

Xu Anran looked at everyone's uncertain gazes and curled her lips.

She knew that someone would definitely stand on her side. She was already crying so sadly, so how could they not believe her?

Even though she had received a few tight slaps from Qiao Xi, it was worth it to take this opportunity to ruin Qiao Xi's reputation.

Xu Anran's eyes were filled with tears. She was very confident. "Madam Shen, show everyone the surveillance footage! You'll know the truth once you see it. My sister really hit me. I'm not lying!"

Hearing her sincere complaint, everyone echoed, "Yes, Madam Shen. Now that the two of them are saying the different things, it's better to check the surveillance footage. We'll know who's telling the truth then."

Xia Yunlou glared fiercely. "Qiao Xi, why aren't you saying anything? Are you feeling guilty?"

Everyone's gazes landed on Qiao Xi. They saw her slowly raise her eyes and chuckle.

"Didn't Madam Shen just say that there are no surveillance cameras here?"

Xia Yunlou was angry and blurted out, "Madam Shen is protecting you! Qiao Xi, it's fine that you beat up my sister, but you're also unwilling to admit it. Seriously..."

"Me?" Madam Shen asked coldly.

"Miss Xu, you said that Xi Xi hit you and are asking for the surveillance footage. But I already said that there are no surveillance cameras here. You said that I'm protecting Xi Xi, but I remember that it's your first time coming to my residence. Why are you so sure that there are surveillance cameras here?"

Xu Anran immediately choked and panicked.

Madam Shen's face was filled with mockery. "Miss Xu, you're really scheming! You secretly went to the surveillance room, and after confirming that there are no surveillance cameras here, you invited Xi Xi here in the middle of the night. You're now accusing Xi Xi of beating you up.

"You're sure that there are no surveillance cameras here, so no one will know whether Xi Xi hit you or not. In any case, as long as you fall to the floor and cry, someone will definitely believe you. You clearly know that there are no surveillance cameras here, but you still want to check the surveillance footage. You just want to accuse me of protecting Qiao Xi!"

Xu Anran's body went weak as her face turned pale.

This was impossible!

She had clearly gone to the surveillance room and saw that there were surveillance cameras here, so she came up with this plan. She wanted Qiao Xi to attack her and have the scene be captured by the surveillance cameras so that Qiao Xi would not be able to explain herself.

However, the surveillance cameras were gone now, and Madam Shen's words had pushed the blame to her.

Xia Yunlou defended her daughter agitatedly, "Madam Shen! You... You're protecting Qiao Xi! What did she say to you?! Anran... How could Anran be lying? Even if she went to the surveillance room, she might not have seen the screens."

Chapter 537 The Shen Family Can't Tolerate The Scheming Adopted Daughter

"Anran was beaten up by Qiao Xi. Qiao Xi must know that there are no surveillance cameras here and that's why she's so arrogant. We can't let her off!"

As soon as Xia Yunlou finished speaking, Madam Shen sneered. "Madam Xu, you're really strange. You always protect your adopted daughter but never listen to your biological daughter's explanation. Since you don't believe me, it's easy to settle this. Butler Liu!"

Butler Liu immediately walked forward.

Madam Shen instructed, "Go! Get the doctor to examine Miss Xu!"

Xia Yunlou's gaze froze. Before she could say anything, she heard Madam Shen say sarcastically, "Right, you must find a respectable doctor to prevent Madam Xu from saying that I'm protecting Xi Xi!"

Everyone looked at Xia Yunlou and her daughter in disdain.

Putting aside whether Xu Anran was beaten up or not, she must have ulterior motives for secretly going to the surveillance room. She must have something up her sleeve.

No matter whether Qiao Xi had hit someone or not, it was all Xu Anran's fault. Otherwise, why would she be beaten up after asking Qiao Xi out in the middle of the night and setting all this up?

However, Madam Xu was really infuriating. She was biased toward her adopted daughter. If it were not for Madam Shen speaking up, Qiao Xi would probably have a bad reputation after being misunderstood for having beaten her sister.

“What’s there to check?! There are only a few tears on Miss Xu’s face. There are no red marks at all. She doesn’t look like she was beaten up at all!”

“That’s right! Madam Xu, your adopted daughter is really... scheming! She secretly went to the surveillance room just to set up this show, right?” “Mr. Xu, your Xu family is also considered a noble family. I didn’t expect your family to be so unethical. You actually let your wife and adopted daughter fool around in the Shen family’s residence! Later, the doctor will come to check on Miss Xu. If she doesn’t have any injuries, I’ll see how you’ll explain it then!”

Xu Zhi’s face was ashen.

He sized up Xu Anran. The sides of her cheeks were still smooth with no red marks on them. There were no injuries on her body either, but she fell to the floor and looked to be in pain. It was really hard to believe.

Xu Zhi frowned. “Xu Anran, what are you doing? Hurry up and go back!”

Xu Anran widened her eyes in disbelief. “Dad, you have to believe me. My sister really hit me. For some reason, my chest hurts too!”

“There were surveillance cameras here, but... But for some reason, they’re gone now. You have to believe me! I’m telling the truth!”

At this moment, a madam stood up, and her eyes were filled with anger. “It’s really annoying! Madam Shen, I don’t understand why you invited such people to the Shen family’s banquet. Now that Miss Xu has admitted that she went to the surveillance room, it’s obvious that Miss Xu set up a trap to wrong Qiao Xi!”

Butler Liu explained, “Madam invited the Xu family because she thought that the Xu and Xia families were both wealthy and noble families. She didn’t expect them to be so unscrupulous.” Madam Shen instructed coldly, “Butler Liu, since everyone thinks so, then send them out. Our Shen family holds banquets for entertainment. We can’t tolerate such a scheming adopted daughter who causes trouble. Moreover, I invited the Xu family. An adopted daughter can’t be considered a member of the Xu family.”

Xu Anran was about to faint.

She did not expect Madam Shen to say these words in public. She did not show her any respect at all.

Even now, she still could not understand why Madam Shen would be so biased toward Qiao Xi. There were clearly surveillance cameras. As long as they checked the surveillance footage, they would be able to confirm that Qiao Xi had hit her. However, Madam Shen did not admit that there were surveillance cameras here.

Wait!

Xu Anran’s eyes suddenly widened as if she had realized something. No wonder Qiao Xi was so decisive and fearless when she hit her. It turned out that she had known all along...

This b*tch had already guessed her plan and joined forces with Madam Shen to put on an act. However, she still fell into this trap.

She was forcefully slapped a few times, yet everyone suspected her instead! Qiao Xi had really played a good move!

Qiao Xi's gaze was indifferent as she silently looked at Xu Anran.

Did she think she was going too far? She was just giving her a taste of her own medicine.

If she did not have a backer and was just an ordinary country girl, how could she face Xu Anran's repeated attacks after being found by the Xu family?

Chapter 538 Had To Endure It

If this was not the Shen family but the Xu family, Xu Anran's plan would have succeeded. Then, Qiao Xi would be the one despised by everyone. Xu Anran could firmly sit on the seat of the eldest daughter of the Xu family and forever suppress her.

Everyone would say that the true daughter of the Xu family was scheming and vicious. She was not worthy to be the eldest daughter of the Xu family. Only the pure and kind Xu Anran was worthy of being the eldest daughter of the Xu family.

Now that Xu Anran's plan had failed, she gritted her teeth in hatred.

Madam Shen did not even bother to look at Xu Anran. She turned around and left. "Butler Liu, I'll leave this to you. Mr. Xu, if you want to leave with Miss Xu, our Shen family won't say anything about it."

Seeing that the matter was settled, everyone left with Madam Shen.

Gu Zheng said casually, "Mr. Xu, since you can't even handle your own family's matters, let's talk about Young Master Xu in the future! Xi Xi, let's go."

Qiao Xi gently held Gu Zheng's arm and said delicately, "Fortunately, Madam Shen stepped in. Otherwise, I would've been wronged! I was really scared! Sob sob sob..."

Gu Zheng curled his lips slightly. He really liked this side of Mrs. Gu. She was very cute.

After everyone left, only the Xu family was left.

Xu Anran was still sitting on the floor with tears streaming down her face. She really did not understand how Qiao Xi had guessed her plan and even managed to slander her.

She looked at the angry Xu Zhi and had a bad feeling. She explained while trembling, "Dad, I'm really not lying. Do you believe—".

Smack!

Xu Zhi raised his hand and slapped Xu Anran hard. A clear palm print appeared on her smooth and fair cheek.

This was the first time Xu Zhi slapped Xu Anran. This slap was also full of strength. Xu Anran immediately vomited blood.

"Xu Zhi! Are you crazy?!" Xia Yunlou screamed in shock.

Xu Zhi roared, "I'm crazy? I think this unfilial daughter is crazy! Anyi is still locked up in the police station, but she just had to find trouble with Qiao Xi! Is she crazy? How can our Xu family have such a stupid daughter?"

"You keep saying that she hit you, but there's no mark on your face at all. Couldn't you have thought things through a little before deciding to lie? She didn't hit you at all, yet you insisted on saying that she hit you in front of everyone. Isn't that equivalent to shooting yourself in the foot? You're really as stupid as a pig! Get lost right now!"

Xu Anran sobbed. "Dad, Sister..."

"Anran, stop talking." Xia Yunlou's eyes were filled with warning. Then, she comforted her softly.

"It's your fault this time. I know you hate Xi Xi, but you can't be so anxious. This is the Shen family's residence. So many eyes are on you, yet you still wanted to provoke her. I don't even know what to say to you now."

Xia Yunlou looked at her red cheek and her heart ached. "Don't mess around like this in the future."

Xu Anran was so angry that she bit the corner of her mouth until blood flowed out. She was wronged yet she had to endure it. No one believed that Qiao Xi had really hit her.

Xu Anran was about to explain when a servant walked over and said softly, "Miss Xu, Madam has instructed you to leave as soon as possible. If you're done packing, come out with me!"

Xu Anran almost gasped.

The news that she was chased out of the Shen family's banquet tomorrow would probably spread throughout high society. How was she going to survive in the socialite circle, then?!

Xu Anran's eyes were filled with viciousness.

'Qiao Xi! Just you wait!'

The next day.

After the banquet, Qiao Xi watched Xu Zhi and Xia Yunlou get into a car. Xia Yunlou even glared at her after getting in.

"The guests from the Shen family all know what happened last night. The Xu family will definitely hate you. They clearly know that Xu Anran framed you, but they'll still blame you."

Gu Zheng opened the car door.

Qiao Xi was not surprised in the slightest. It was no secret that the Xu couple was biased toward Xu Anran. However, Xu Anran would probably stop making a move on her for a while.

After the two of them returned to Longwan Residential, Qiao Xi noticed that Gu Zheng's expression was slightly gloomy.

Chapter 539 President Gu Is Suddenly Crazy

“Follow me,” the man said indifferently. His voice was low and filled with dominance. The entire villa seemed to be filled with a chill.

Qiao Xi was puzzled and frowned slightly.

What was going on? He was fine when he got into the car just now. Why was he suddenly unhappy?

After entering the bedroom, Gu Zheng tossed his jacket aside and sat on the sofa. He loosened his tie, revealing his well-defined collarbone. His expression was cold and serious.

“When I asked you how you planned to deal with the Xu family, you said that you’re weak and timid, so you won’t bicker with the Xu family at all.”

The corners of Qiao Xi’s mouth twitched slightly. Gu Zheng had asked her the question last night when the two of them were lying on the bed. At that time, in order to maintain her weak image, she spouted a few nonsensical words. However, she beat Xu Anran up the next day.

Qiao Xi was slightly guilty. “That was what I said at that time, but Xu Anran insisted on provoking me, so I punished her a little so that she wouldn’t provoke me anymore. How can you blame me for this? I’ve always been weak and timid. If Xu Anran hadn’t set me up, why would I hit her?”

Gu Zheng sneered and said word by word, “Weak? Timid? You can even bring yourself to say those words, huh?”

Qiao Xi did not expect that he would mock her. She instantly glared at him. “You’re mocking me? Do you feel sorry for Xu Anran?”

Gu Zheng’s expression was indifferent. “Mrs. Gu, is your head just there for decoration? Don’t make me think that I married a fool.”

Qiao Xi: “...”

What was wrong with this bastard?!

Qiao Xi’s heart ached. She had only slapped Xu Anran a few times. Moreover, it was Xu Anran who provoked her first. She had also said that she could handle these matters herself, but Gu Zheng insisted on following her.

After seeing her hit Xu Anran, this bastard was unhappy.

The anger and grievance in her heart instantly surged. Tears welled up in Qiao Xi’s eyes.

She did not care that the Xu family favored Xu Anran, but she would not allow Gu Zheng to side with Xu Anran. Gu Zheng was her senior and they had known each other for ten years.

Gu Zheng took a deep breath. “In order not to let Xu Anran wrongly accuse you, you got Madam Shen to remove all the surveillance cameras, so no matter what you did, no one would know. However, didn’t you ever think that since Xu Anran dared to go to such a remote place with you alone, she must have a trump card?”

“You were so bold and thought that Xu Anran couldn’t beat you, but were you so sure that she wouldn’t have helpers?”

Qiao Xi abruptly raised her eyes.

“Xu Anran is stupid, so you managed to turn the tables around. However, you knew that she hated you and invited you to the courtyard with ill intentions. Yet you actually dared to go out alone with her and even walked to a remote corner where there were no surveillance cameras. Mrs. Gu, you’re too gutsy!”

Qiao Xi originally wanted to retort, but when she heard the latter part of Gu Zheng’s words, she realized that Gu Zheng was just afraid that she would be in danger. The anger in her heart instantly vanished. “I’m very familiar with the Shen family’s courtyard. Even if Xu Anran had helpers, I wouldn’t be afraid. I could just run away. They wouldn’t be able to catch up to me. Moreover,”

Before she could finish, warm lips attacked her and stopped her from defending herself.

Gu Zheng lowered his eyes. “Xi Xi, stop fooling around. You’re not allowed to go out alone with such a person anymore. What should I do if something were to happen to you? Let Song Shiyu follow you secretly in the future. At least let him protect you.”

A wave of warmth surged in Qiao Xi’s heart. This man was quiet the entire night because he was worried about her.

Qiao Xi wrapped her arms around his strong waist and said sweetly, “Ah Zheng, I love you so much!”

The man’s body trembled slightly. His hot palm landed on her back and slowly roamed across her body.

Qiao Xi hugged the man’s waist before letting her hands wander. When she touched his tight abs, some lingering scenes instantly appeared in her mind.

Back in Maple Garden, she had touched Gu Zheng’s waist as well. Then, this man tormented her like crazy for the entire night. However, she recovered her taste buds the next day. Now that a few days had passed, her ability to taste had disappeared again. Should she...

Now was the time to be touched. Why were her thoughts a mess? She was actually thinking about such things. She was really too unrestrained.

However, this man’s body was so tempting. She could not control the thoughts in her mind, and her eyes gradually became confused.

Chapter 540 A Man’s Strength

Gu Zheng glanced at her red cheeks and dazed eyes. He instantly understood.

The man smirked. “Mrs. Gu.”

“Huh?”

“Don’t think I don’t know what you’re thinking. You’re drooling.”

Qiao Xi subconsciously touched the corners of her mouth and noticed that she had been deceived by Gu Zheng, so she pouted. “Ah Zheng, you lied to me. How annoying!”

The man pulled her into his arms and pressed his body tightly against hers. He stared at her fair neck and collarbone with burning eyes. “You want it?”

Damn! He was too straightforward! She was still a baby!

Qiao Xi's face turned red. Although it was not appropriate to say all this at this moment, Gu Zheng still brought her to the bedroom. The atmosphere could not help but make one imagine.

The scene from that day suddenly appeared in her mind. Gu Zheng was lying on top of her, panting slightly. The strands of hair on his forehead were swaying.

The more Qiao Xi thought about it, the shyer she felt. The blush on her face even spread to the back of her ears. "Ah Zheng, um,"

"Okay, stop thinking about it," the man interrupted coldly. "As your punishment for making me worry, put away your thoughts and come downstairs for dinner with me immediately!"

As soon as he finished speaking, he walked out of the bedroom first, leaving Qiao Xi standing in the same spot in a daze.

Qiao Xi had an embarrassed expression on her face while the corners of her mouth twitched slightly. Then, she muttered unhappily at his back.

Unexpectedly, Gu Zheng suddenly turned around and happened to see Qiao Xi's angry expression. He sneered. "Mrs. Gu, you seem to be very dissatisfied with me?"

Qiao Xi smiled awkwardly with her hands supporting her chin.

"I... How could I be dissatisfied?! I like you so much! Hahaha..."

Gu Zheng smiled meaningfully. Unfortunately, he could not hear Qiao Xi's thoughts now. They would certainly be very interesting.

In the dining room.

Song Shijing and the butler had already prepared the food. They were waiting for the president and Young Madam to come down and eat.

However, after a long time, the two of them did not come downstairs. Song Shijing could not help but find it strange. In the past, when the president lived alone, he would usually get the kitchen to prepare the food only after he was done with work. However, after he married Young Madam, the time was fixed. Why were they still not here yet?

After a while, Song Shiyu rushed downstairs.

Song Shiyu smiled ambiguously. "Haha, Brother, don't wait anymore. When I was going upstairs, I heard something in the bedroom... Hehe, just leave them be for now."

Song Shijing was stunned for a few seconds before he realized what was going on.

Song Shiyu said excitedly, "Do you know what Young Madam and the president are doing? Brother, you know how capable the president is. It'll probably take a long time, so..."

Before he could finish, footsteps came from upstairs.

Gu Zheng stood at the stairs and stared at Song Shiyu with a faint smile.

Song Shiyu: "...” Although the president seemed to be smiling, why did he find it so scary? He choked on his saliva and coughed violently.

“President... Ahem... President, so soon? Um... Let’s eat, hehe.”

He thought that the president would take at least two hours. He did not expect him to come out in just a few minutes. He was too weak. Was there something wrong with the president?!

Fortunately, he did not say what was on his mind just now. Otherwise, the president would definitely not let him off easily. If he openly talked about him being incapable, he probably would not just have his salary deducted but also risk losing his life!

Gu Zheng’s eyes narrowed slightly as he looked coldly at Qiao Xi, who was behind him. Qiao Xi was terrified to the point her entire body trembled.

‘I’m innocent! Song Shiyu is thinking too much. It’s not my fault!’

Gu Zheng gave a small smile and held Qiao Xi’s hand as they sat down. The man thoughtfully picked up some food for her and took the opportunity to whisper into her ear, “I’ll let you off this time, but I won’t let you off next time.”

Qiao Xi’s entire body trembled while her face flushed red.

Xu family.

Xu Anran was suddenly sent back to the Xu family in the middle of the night. The person who sent her said that she was scheming and did not want to see her at high society banquets in the future.

Although the Xu family’s servants did not know what was going on, they could roughly guess what was going on. They were all mocking her in their hearts. Since she was an adopted daughter, she should know her place. However, she just had to compete with the real daughter of the Xu family. What was even more infuriating was that the Xu couple were also muddle-headed and actually allowed their adopted daughter to bully their biological daughter.