

## Lady gu 581

### Chapter 581 Who Is The Real Thief?

Xu Anran was in a daze as she lowered her eyes. If she did not push the blame on Qiao Xi, then she would be the unlucky one. She would implicate the entire Xu family and make her parents sad.

She bit her lip and said aggrievedly, "You only gave me a birthday gift but not Xi Xi. She got jealous of me, so—"

"I gave you a birthday gift?"

Old Madam Yin retorted with eyes filled with mockery, "Are you so sure that the birthday gift is for you?"

Xu Anran widened her eyes.

"When I sent someone over, I said that this set of jewelry is for Eldest Miss Xu!"

Old Madam Yin's voice suddenly became sharp. "Xu Anran, don't you know who the eldest daughter of the Xu family is? Who gave you the confidence to think that you're the eldest daughter of the Xu family?!"

Xu Anran's body trembled!

The entire venue was in an uproar.

What did Old Madam Yin mean? Xu Anran was not the eldest daughter of the Xu family. Could it be Qiao Xi?

Under everyone's puzzled gazes, Old Madam Yin slowly walked in front of Xu Anran and sneered.

"I've lived for so many years. Don't use your little tricks on me. Don't think that I won't do anything to you just because Xia Yunlou and Xu Zhi are protecting you?!"

"Grandma!" Xu Anran shouted in horror, her eyes filled with pleading. Then, she lowered her voice. "Please save me some dignity in front of so many people."

"Dignity? If you really cared about your dignity, you wouldn't have framed Xi Xi. Why didn't you think about whether Xi Xi would still have any dignity left if you managed to successfully frame her for stealing something?!"

Xu Anran said softly, "Grandma, we shouldn't air our dirty laundry in public. It's better not to let outsiders know about this. You can ignore me, but what about the Xu family? What about the Yin family?"

Old Madam Yin never thought that Xu Anran was incompetent just because she was swapped at birth. What she disliked most about Xu Anran was that she pretended to be something she was not even when she knew the truth. In Old Madam Yin's eyes, that was the greatest manifestation of her incompetence.

"Xu Anran, you know very well who the birthday gift is for. Xi Xi won't be jealous of you at all because with your identity, you're not worthy!"

Xu Anran's face was ferocious, and her sharp nails pierced through her palms.

Old Madam Yin stared at Xu Anran with a sharp gaze and said word by word, "I did send someone to deliver this set of jewelry to the Xu family, but I said it was for Xi Xi. You used the jewelry to frame Xi Xi for stealing and even said that she's jealous of you. Xu Anran, why don't you tell me who the real thief is?"

These words were like a thunderclap that exploded in everyone's hearts. At the same time, it completely destroyed Xu Anran's pure and kind image.

Everyone was extremely shocked as they digested Old Madam Yin's words in a daze.

The Yin family was a noble family with a strict upbringing. Moreover, Old Madam Yin had no reason to lie. This set of jewelry was for whoever she said it was for.

On the other hand, Xu Anran was wearing someone else's jewelry to show off. She even used the jewelry to wrongly accuse the owner?

Old Madam Yin sneered. "Xu Anran, you should know that our two families have not been in contact for so many years. I've never given you a birthday gift. The jewelry set I sent over this time is for Xi Xi. You clearly knew that, yet you still took the jewelry for yourself. You didn't tell Xi Xi about this at all.

"If you knew your place, I wouldn't make things difficult for you. However, you're bullying Xi Xi with your fake identity. Although I've been in Shengdu, I know about everything you've done."

Xu Anran's body stiffened as she trembled uncontrollably.

Suddenly, someone asked in confusion, "Old Madam Yin said that this set of jewelry is for Eldest Miss Xu, and she also said that it's for Qiao Xi. Does this mean that Eldest Miss Xu is Qiao Xi? But shouldn't Eldest Miss Xu be Xu Anran?"

"Now that you mention it, I think it's strange as well. Why did the Xu family suddenly adopt a 20-year-old daughter? Logically speaking, even if they wanted to adopt a child, they would've adopted a kid. Qiao Xi already has a family of her own, so why did the Xu family adopt her? Moreover, Old Madam Yin and the two young masters of the Yin family seem to be even closer to Qiao Xi than the legitimate daughter, Xu Anran. Why is that?"

"Could it be that... Qiao Xi is the biological daughter of the Xu couple?"

Hearing the last guess, Xu Anran's face turned pale as if she would faint in the next second.

No! No!

She was the real daughter of the Xu family! Qiao Xi was just an adopted daughter!

Chapter 582 Sister, Welcome Back

Although Old Madam Yin did not explicitly state their identities, it was not difficult to guess. Even if the women present could not guess it, the elders in their families would be able to.

Xu Anran felt her entire body turn cold. She felt everyone's questioning gazes on her and heard their mocking voices. Her body trembled violently before she fainted and fell to the floor.

Old Madam Yin frowned. "Carry her back."

Then, she looked at Qiao Xi affectionately. "Xi Xi, can you come back to the Yin family with me? Have President Gu... come with you!"

Old Madam Yin felt a sense of familiarity when she looked at Qiao Xi, but when she looked at Gu Zheng, she still felt slightly distant. This was because this man was too cold. His entire body emitted a cold aura that made it difficult for others to approach him.

"President Gu, if you have time, why don't you be a guest at the Yin family's residence? I've already asked Xu Zhi and Xia Yunlou to go to the Yin family. I'll get them to apologize to Xi Xi in public."

Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent. "Alright."

He agreed, so Qiao Xi would naturally not refuse.

The Yin family's bodyguards entered and carried Xu Anran into a car. Old Madam Yin and the two young masters sat in one car while Qiao Xi and Gu Zheng sat in the other. This gave the couple some privacy.

"The legendary Old Madam Yin is actually quite kind!" Song Shiyu was sitting in the front passenger seat with a smile.

Gu Zheng's eyes were gentle as he stretched out his hand to touch Qiao Xi's cheek and said softly, "Old Madam Yin isn't close to Xia Yunlou. Don't worry."

Qiao Xi abruptly raised her eyes. "You were the one who contacted the Yin family, right?"

Gu Zheng's gaze was indifferent. "I guess you can say that."

Qiao Xi was puzzled.

"I did inform the Yin family, but they were already planning to come before that. Shen Yu must have told them about you being in Li City.

"Your brother does dote on you a lot. He sent someone to monitor Xu Anran and then passed the news to the Yin family. That's why Old Madam Yin and the two young masters came to Li City so quickly."

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Qiao Xi smiled. Her eldest brother did indeed dote on her very much. Moreover, he was the most composed of her few brothers. He had always been very reliable, both in his words and actions.

After an unknown period of time, the sky turned dark. The car slowly stopped.

The Yin family's residence was like a castle. When the car entered, they realized that there were a few villas, gardens, and various entertainment facilities. It was a hundred times more majestic than the Gu family's old residence.

The butler hurriedly came forward to open the door for Qiao Xi and respectfully invited them into the house. The few young masters of the Yin family also came out to welcome them. "Sister, welcome back."

“I’m Yin Jinglin, your cousin. I’m ranked fifth in the Yin family. You can call me Fifth Brother. There are a total of seven boys in the Yin family. Eldest Brother and Third Brother are biological brothers and direct descendants of the Yin family.

“A few are the grandchildren of your grandmother’s other brothers, but they’re all your brothers too. Although we’re not that close, they’ll still be very good to you.

“The current head of the Yin family is my father, your uncle. The other uncles also have shares. After all, the Yin family doesn’t have many people, so we all get along very well. We weren’t even in Li City at first, but we heard that our younger sister was found. Hence, my brothers and my parents all rushed over from Shengdu.

“Our Yin family has many boys but no girls. There isn’t a single girl in our generation. The elders are all looking forward to having a girl. Our family can laugh a little now, so everyone values you very much.

“Sister, you’ve been suffering outside for so many years. The Yin family doesn’t care what the Xu family thinks of you. We’ll make up for all the pain and grievances you’ve suffered for the past 20 years. We definitely won’t let you be bullied again.

“If the Xu family can’t tolerate you, then you can still hold onto your title as the eldest daughter of the Yin family. In any case, you’re the only eldest daughter in the Yin family. No one will snatch your identity anymore!

Qiao Xi was so touched that she was about to cry.

Although she had only met Fifth Brother for the first time, she could feel his love for her. All her brothers sincerely welcomed her back, unlike the Xu family who had ulterior motives.

Then, Yin Jinglin brought Qiao Xi to the second floor.

“Sister, this is the room we prepared for you. Do you like it? If you don’t, you can change *it.*”

#### Chapter 583 Give Her The Best

She pushed open the door to the room and was greeted with the sight of a spacious balcony. She entered the inner room and saw a luxurious master bedroom. There were also two walk-in closets, a huge bathroom, and a makeup room.

The luxurious bathtub in the shower could even accommodate six to seven people at once, like a small swimming pool.

There was a glass door on the inner side of the master bedroom. When the door was pushed open, it was a large open-air balcony. There were fragrant flowers and plants there, as well as exquisite dining tables and chairs. Whatever facilities one could imagine were here.

“I spent a long time thinking about how to decorate the balcony. There’s still a lot of space on the balcony. You can do whatever you like with it. I also mentioned that girls might like keeping pets. I prepared a pet area for you. If you think it’s not suitable, you can move it somewhere else. Just get the servants to do it.”

Yin Jinglin looked at Qiao Xi nervously. "After all, there are no girls in the house and we don't know what you like. This bedroom was decorated by my mother after she consulted many noble young ladies. After some consideration, I decided to decorate it myself. If you think it's inappropriate, I'll get someone to redo it."

Qiao Xi raised her eyes to look at Gu Zheng. No wonder the usually cold and arrogant President Gu would take the initiative to look for the Yin family. It turned out that he had long known that the Yin family and the Xu family were different. The Yin family was really good to her.

As the biological daughter of the Xu couple, she was arranged to stay in the basement when she returned to the Xu family, but the Yin family could not wait to give her the best. "Sister, it's fine if you don't want to stay here. This room will be left for you. You're welcome to stay here anytime, okay?" Yin Jinglin asked gently. Qiao Xi smiled like a flower. "Thank you, Fifth Brother."

Perhaps he was shocked by Qiao Xi's sudden smile, Yin Jinglin scratched his head in embarrassment. "It's good that you like it. You don't have to thank me. There's no need to thank your family members! It's just a room."

Qiao Xi was slightly at a loss for what to do. After all, it was the first time she was meeting someone from the Yin family, so it was normal for her to feel slightly uncomfortable.

Fortunately, Yin Jinglin was very cheerful and chatted with her. "Sister, you should know that the Yin family is called the 'Yin family of Shengdu', right?"

Qiao Xi nodded. There were probably many people who knew about this.

Yin Jinglin said, "The Yin family is a noble family in Shengdu, but in the beginning, the Yin family's surname was not Yin but Qi. This surname is rare. I heard that the ancestor of the Qi family was saved by a benefactor with the surname Yin. In order to thank him for saving his life, he changed his surname to Yin.

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"Although everyone in the family is surnamed Yin, you still have to know about this matter. You're also a member of the Yin family now, so of course, you have to know."

Qiao Xi nodded obediently, then heard Yin Jinglin say, "Actually, if our surname was Qi, I'd be Qi Five. You're the youngest child in the family, so you'd be Qi Eight. It's quite amusing, hahaha..."

Qiao Xi: "??"

Qi Eight? This nickname sounded horrible!

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When Yin Jinglin went downstairs, Qiao Xi and Gu Zheng stayed upstairs to rest.

Qiao Xi lay on the bed. Yin Jinglin's words 'Qi Eight' kept echoing in her mind. She could not help but laugh.

After a while, there was a commotion downstairs and a woman's scream. "Anran!"

Qiao Xi walked to the window and indeed saw the Xu couple's car. The corners of her mouth could not help but curl up. Xu Zhi and Xia Yunlou came quite quickly!

Two hours ago.

Xu Zhi and Xia Yunlou received a call from Old Madam Yin. She said that Xu Anran was in the Yin family and that if they wanted their daughter, they should immediately come to the Yin family's residence.

The couple hurriedly drove to the Yin family's residence.

The moment the two of them entered, they saw their precious daughter kneeling on the tiles at the door in a thin long dress. Her weak body was swaying slightly, making her look pitiful.

Xia Yunlou's heart ached. She hurriedly went forward to support her and shouted, "Anran!"

She raised her eyes and looked at Old Madam Yin angrily. "Mom! Why are you doing this?! Anran is so obedient and sensible. How could you bear to make her kneel as punishment?!"

Old Madam Yin took a sip of tea unhurriedly and slowly walked to the two of them with the help of the third young master of the Yin family, Yin Jingting. She said slowly, "You're so worried about an adopted daughter?"

Chapter 584 If The Xu Family Doesn't Dote On Their Daughter, The Yin Family Will Dote On Her!

Xia Yunlou cried, "Anran is the daughter I raised since she was young. I treat her as my biological daughter and dote on her! Anran! Anran, are you okay? Mom! What do you want? Look at how pale Anran's face is. You're too heartless..."

"Xu Anran is punished to kneel because she made a mistake. You're all very nervous, huh? When that bastard, Xu Anyi, sent someone to crash into Xi Xi's car, why didn't you all show any concern?"

Bang!

Old Madam Yin slammed her walking cane on the floor with a cold expression. "Xia Yunlou, let me ask you this today. Do you want your biological daughter or this scheming adopted daughter?"

The Xu family's trio's expressions changed drastically.

Xu Anran's weak body instantly softened as she fell into Xia Yunlou's arms and silently cried.

Xia Yunlou frowned. "Mom! What are you doing?! I want both daughters..."

"I didn't say that you're not allowed to have two daughters, but Xi Xi is your biological daughter. You have to treat her well. Even if you dote on Xu Anran, you can just treat both of them equally and I won't say anything. But you actually let Xu Anran bully Xi Xi! You gave my birthday gift that's meant for my biological granddaughter to your adopted daughter. You're really muddle-headed!

"If you don't like Xi Xi, I won't force you. I'll adopt Xi Xi under Yunqiu's name. In the future, she'll be the noble eldest daughter of my Yin family!"

Xia Yunlou suddenly widened her eyes and shouted unwillingly, "No! She's my biological daughter! Why should she be adopted under my sister's name?"

“So, you still know that Xi Xi is your biological daughter?” Madam Yin sneered, her eyes filled with indifference.

“Looks like you know it very well, but you still let your adopted daughter bully your biological daughter. You let your adopted daughter wear the jewelry I gave my biological granddaughter and indulged her when she schemed to frame Xi Xi. She framed Xi Xi for stealing and almost caused Xi Xi’s reputation to be ruined!

“Xia Yunlou, I don’t need your permission to do things. I’m just informing you.”

Old Madam Yin glanced at her coldly and said confidently, “If you don’t dote on your daughter, then our Yin family will! From today onward, this child will be Yunqiu’s daughter. I don’t care who the eldest daughter of the Xu family is, but I can make Xi Xi the only eldest daughter of our Yin family. Your Xu family and the Yin family will have nothing to do with each other anymore!”

Everyone fell silent.

Old Madam Yin’s meaning was very obvious. Xi Xi had nothing to do with the Xu family anymore, and the Yin family would cut ties with the Xu family. Qiao Xi would be considered Xia Yunqiu’s daughter and Old Madam Yin’s only granddaughter.

All these years, the Xu family was able to gain a foothold in Luo City only because of the Xia and Yin families. Now that the Yin family wanted to cut ties, there was only the Xia family left.

Cold sweat broke out on Xu Zhi’s forehead as he said in a trembling voice, “Mom! Don’t be angry. Of course, we treat Xi Xi as our daughter. She’s the eldest daughter of our Xu family! We were already preparing to announce her identity at the birthday banquet!”

“No!” Xia Yunlou shouted agitatedly as she looked at Old Madam Yin pleadingly.

She hugged the weak Xu Anran and shouted, “No! If we announce that Qiao Xi is our biological daughter, what will happen to Anran? She has been by our side for 20 years. If others find out that she’s our adopted daughter, what will they think of her?!”

Old Madam Yin’s eyes darkened.

This heartless Xia Yunlou really doted on Xu Anran.

“Xu Anran, what do you think?”

Old Madam Yin’s sudden question made Xu Anran’s body tremble.

“You knew long ago that you’re not the biological daughter of the Xu family, so what do you choose? Do you want to continue staying in the Xu family or return to your biological parents?”

Xu Anran lowered her head with vicious eyes.

This damned old woman! Why was she forcing her?

“I—”

“Mom! What are you talking about? Anran has been living with us for 20 years. How can she bear to leave us?” Xia Yunlou’s tears fell like rain.

“Why must you force me to give up on my daughter? I can’t bear to part with either one of them. Although Anran and I are not related by blood, she has been by my side for so many years. How can I bear to send her away?”

Chapter 585 What A Good Person

Xia Yunlou continued, “Although the Xu family isn’t a top-notch noble family, it’s definitely not a problem for us to raise two daughters. What’s wrong with letting Xi Xi be the second daughter? How can I not treat my biological daughter well? She used to live in the slums. Now that she’s living in the Xu family’s villa, it’s already a hundred times better for her. Why does she have to chase Anran away the moment she comes back?”

“Moreover, Anran is the leader of the top socialites in Luo City. If others find out that she’s not our biological daughter, where will the Xu family put our dignity? How will Anran raise her head in the future?!”

“Since the children were swapped at birth, why don’t we just let it be? Other than not having the identity as the eldest daughter of the Xu family, Xi Xi will have everything Anran has. I definitely won’t treat her badly. Why must she compete with Anran for an identity? Can’t she be more tolerant?”

“Anran is a top socialite. She plays the zither, chess, knows calligraphy, is cultured, good-mannered, and can dance. How is she lacking?”

“But Xi Xi has lived in the countryside since she was young. She has never attended banquets at all, nor does she know how to pick gowns. She doesn’t even know what those high-end brands are. Having her as the eldest daughter of the Xu family will only embarrass us!”

In front of everyone, Xia Yunlou said everything in her heart.

The entire place was silent.

Old Madam Yin looked at her coldly and applauded amidst the silence.

“How good you are with your words! You’re saying that although Xi Xi is your biological daughter, it’s already her honor to be able to return to the Xu family now. Xu Anran has been living like a princess since she was young, so we can’t let her suffer even a little,

right?”

Old Madam Yin waved her hand. “Jingting, immediately announce that from today onward, the Yin family and the Xu family are no longer in contact. Moreover, Xi Xi is the eldest daughter of the Yin family!”

Xia Yunlou gritted her teeth. Even if one of her daughters were to return to the Yin family, it should be Anran. After all, Anran was the child they watched grow up, while Qiao Xi was just a wild girl.

Old Madam Yin's voice was indifferent. "Xia Yunlou, do you still have a heart? Your biological daughter was swapped with Xu Anran by Xu Anran's mother, causing you to be separated from your biological daughter. The culprit involved is still with the Xu family, and Xu Anran is not affected as well.

"You think that Xi Xi should be grateful that she's able to return to the Xu family. What right do you have to make other requests? Just look at your qualifications as a mother!"

Xia Yunlou shouted unwillingly, "This has nothing to do with Anran!"

"What about her biological mother?"

Old Madam Yin slammed the table heavily, her eyes filled with anger. At this moment, she wished she could rush up to Xia Yunlou and slap her daughter until she could think things through

"Where's the servant who swapped Xi Xi with her daughter? Just because of Xu Anran, not only did you not punish that servant but you even let her live in a villa in Luo City. The servant's biological daughter, Xu Anran, is occupying the identity of the eldest daughter of the Xu family and enjoying everything that originally belonged to Xi Xi. However, she still wants to frame Xi Xi! What kind of logic is this?!"

Xia Yunlou's face turned pale.

Anran did nothing wrong! She was just afraid that Qiao Xi would snatch away her things!

Xu Zhi stood at the side, his heart churning.

At this moment, he couldn't help but be slightly dazed. Even though he despised Xi Xi for growing up in the countryside, she was his biological daughter, after all. It was just that if Xi Xi had been raised by their side since she was young. If Xi Xi had never left their side, perhaps Xi Xi would've become an outstanding socialite who was praised by everyone.

Seeing the look in Xu Zhi's eyes, Xu Anran's heart trembled. With tears in her eyes, she shouted weakly, "Dad..."

As soon as she finished speaking, Old Madam Yin rushed over and slapped Xu Anran hard.

Xia Yunlou shouted, "Anran!"

"Are you feeling heartbroken? Do you know how Xi Xi has been doing all these years? When she was abused by her stepmother in the Qiao family and chased out of the house, why didn't you feel heartbroken? Don't forget that she's your biological daughter!" Old Madam Yin ordered, "Men! Beat her up!"

As soon as she finished speaking, two bodyguards walked over. One of them held Xu Anran's face while the other slapped her hard.

Old Madam Yin said casually, "Does it hurt? Xi Xi endured all of this when she was young, and it was even more painful than this."

Chapter 586 Identity And Shares

Xia Yunlou's tears came streaming down non-stop. "Mom! Hurry up and stop them! Xi Xi is my daughter, but so is Anran. My heart aches for her, but Xi Xi has already gone through the most difficult period and even has the assets left behind by my sister. Why should she... compete with Anran?"

"Xi Xi has suffered outside. I'll treat her well in the future. But don't hit Anran!"

"I know that Xi Xi is my biological daughter and I want to treat her well, but Anran is also my precious daughter. How can I bear to let her suffer? If I treat Xi Xi well, what will Anran do? What did she do wrong to deserve this?"

"Anran isn't related to us by blood. If I don't treat her well, she won't have any status in this family. So, I can only side with her."

Since Xi Xi had suffered for so many years, what was wrong with letting Anran be? Wasn't Xi Xi already used to suffering?

"Alright." Old Madam Yin sneered. "Take your good daughter and get out of my Yin family, then!"

Xu Zhi's expression changed drastically, and he hurriedly rushed to Old Madam Yin. "Mom, Xi Xi is my daughter and the eldest daughter of our Xu family. How can I abandon her? I'll announce her identity at the birthday banquet. I won't let her suffer."

As soon as he finished speaking, Qiao Xi walked over slowly while holding Gu Zheng's arm.

Xu Zhi's mind went blank, and the words of Old Madam Yin echoed in his ears. If they didn't want Xi Xi, then the Yin family would cut off all ties with the Xu family. The Xu family had been relying on the Yin and Xia families all these years. If the Yin family cut off their support, it would be like losing an arm.

He rushed madly to Qiao Xi. "Xi Xi, come home with me, okay?"

Xia Yunlou calmed down. She knew clearly in her heart that if she lost the support of the Yin family, the Xu family would lose a lot and their status would definitely be far inferior to before. Hence, she gritted her teeth and persuaded Qiao Xi as well. "Xi Xi, come home with us. As long as you don't fight with Anran, I'll dote on you."

Gu Zheng nodded slightly at Old Madam Yin as a form of greeting. Then, with a malicious expression, he casually said, "Madam Xu."

The man's voice was calm, but one could feel the faint coldness exuding from him that made one shudder.

Gu Zheng adjusted his gold-framed glasses with his slender fingers. His tightly pursed thin lips curved into a cold smile. "I can let Xi Xi return to the Xu family with you."

The worry in Xia Yunlou's eyes instantly disappeared. A trace of disdain and ridicule appeared. As expected, Qiao Xi was still unable to reject the identity of the Xu family's young miss.

Although Qiao Xi was married to Gu Zheng and had already become the prestigious Mrs. Gu, if she didn't have a wealthy family, how would she be able to stand firm in the Gu family? At least, if she was abandoned by Gu Zheng one day, she could still return to the Xu family to be a wealthy young miss who didn't have to worry about food and clothing.

Gu Zheng swept his cold gaze across the area and clearly saw the ridicule in Xia Yunlou's eyes. He lazily said, "But I have a few requests."

Xu Zhi immediately replied, "President Gu, please speak."

Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent. "Mrs. Gu is your biological daughter. If you want her to return to the Xu family, she must return as the eldest daughter of the Xu family. Otherwise, there's no need to talk about it."

Xia Yunlou was indignant. "No,"

"President Gu, I agree. What other requests do you have?" Xu Zhi interrupted in a panic, then roared at Xia Yunlou, "Stop being silly! If the Yin and Xia families cut ties with us, the Xu family will be finished! The old master will definitely not let you off!"

Gu Zheng said, "The servant who swapped my wife must be dealt with. If the Xu family doesn't want to be the bad guy, then I'm willing to settle it for you."

Xu Anran widened her eyes in horror and shook her head hurriedly.

Xu Zhi had a difficult expression on his face. He knew clearly that if the servant was handed to Gu Zheng, then she would either be sent to prison or be secretly dealt with by Gu Zheng. Either way, the outcome would be painful.

Gu Zheng said slowly, "Thirdly, Xu Anyi is your biological son. I don't care how many shares he has, but Xu Anran is just an adopted daughter. She doesn't deserve 30% of the shares, so the shares under her name must be transferred to my wife."

Boom!!!

Xu Anran and Xia Yunlou looked up in disbelief. Xu Zhi revealed a difficult expression.

Chapter 587 Secret

"An adopted daughter has 30% of the shares, even more than Xu Anyi, but the real daughter doesn't even have any. Do you think that's reasonable?" Gu Zheng asked coldly.

"Mr. Xu, you know very well that the title is just a title. What really shows her status is the shares. If Xi Xi doesn't have any shares, she'll always be suppressed by Xu Anran."

Xu Anran gritted her teeth.

No! The shares were hers!

That b\*tch, Qiao Xi, had been waiting for this all along. It wasn't that she didn't want to return to the Xu family but that she had been coveting her shares and wanted to use this opportunity to snatch them away.

Xia Yunlou thought so too and said anxiously, "President Gu! You're going too far! The shares are Anran's. Why should Xi Xi take them away the minute she comes back? Although Xi Xi is our biological daughter, we can't bully Anran like this! We've already given in and agreed to let Xi Xi be the eldest daughter of the Xu family, but the status of the heir can't be changed. The heir can only be Anran.

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“Xi Xi doesn’t have the ability to manage the company at all. If we give her all the shares, the company will be ruined by her! Instead of fighting with Anran, she should study hard and become more outstanding. She can only blame her bad luck when she was swapped back then. This has nothing to do with Anran!”

Old Madam Yin glared at her.

Gu Zheng’s expression did not change. Instead, he sneered indifferently. “What Madam Xu said makes sense. Although Xi Xi is your biological daughter, the law doesn’t specify that you must leave your shares to your biological child. I’ll naturally not force you.”

Xia Yunlou thought that he had compromised and heaved a sigh of relief.

“If you don’t agree to this request, then there’s nothing to discuss,” Gu Zheng said coldly.

Xu Anran’s scheme, Xu Anyi’s getting his bodyguards to commit murder, Xia Yunlou’s humiliation, and Xu Zhi’s coldness had all hurt his weak little woman. Not to mention 30% of the shares, even if he destroyed the entire Xu family, it would not be able to quell the anger in his heart.

They did not dote on their daughter who had led a wandering life for 20 years. Instead, they let the instigator of the matter stay in the Xu family and treated her well. Instead, they let their biological daughter return to the Xu family only for her to continue suffering. Now, they were not even willing to compensate her with 30% of the shares.

Good! Very good! Then they shouldn’t blame him for being merciless!

Gu Zheng’s gaze was malicious as he said, “Mr. Xu, Madam Xu, I’ve given you a chance, but I didn’t expect that you would still make my wife unhappy because of Xu Anran. As long as Mrs. Gu is unhappy, then I, Gu Zheng, am unhappy as well. From today onward, the Xu family has nothing to do with me!”

The last sentence was filled with anger. It was like a thunderbolt striking everyone’s hearts. It shocked Xu Zhi so much that his whole body trembled.

In the next second, Gu Zheng regained his gentle expression and held Qiao Xi’s hand. “Go upstairs and rest.”

Xu Zhi’s body softened, and he almost fell to the ground. If President Gu attacked the Xu family, then the Xu family would be completely destroyed. He would never allow that to happen.

He was about to plead when

“President Gu! Wait a minute! Do you really want to treat the Xu family like this for Qiao Xi? Although Qiao Xi is already married to you, she’s not suitable for you at all. Only a top socialite like Anran can serve you well. Why can’t you give Anran a chance? You’ll definitely like her!”

“Anran doesn’t care about anything else. As long as she’s with you, she won’t care about the past. But a woman like Qiao Xi definitely won’t be able to tolerate it. President Gu, you’ll definitely regret it in the future!”

Qiao Xi's face sank. What? They wanted to snatch her man?

Gu Zheng's gaze was malicious and insidious. "Madam Xu, you're such a good mother! Are the words 'a woman like Qiao Xi' something that should come out of the mouth of a mother?"

"Although these words are harsh, I'm just telling the truth! President Gu, if Qiao Xi knows about your secret, she definitely won't be able to accept it. But our Anran is gentle and has always loved you deeply. She won't mind your past. Qiao Xi will find out about it sooner or later. When that time comes, she'll definitely have a falling out with you!"

Everyone looked at the screaming Xia Yunlou with disdain.

Gu Zheng's mocking gaze landed on her as the corners of his lips slowly curled up. "I've always been open and honest. Why don't you tell me what my secret is, Madam Xu?"

Chapter 588 Don't Do It

Xia Yunlou looked at Gu Zheng's indifferent expression and sneered. It seemed like President Gu was very confident that no one would know about this secret. Of course, there was another possibility, which was that he didn't care about Qiao Xi at all. Even if Qiao Xi knew, it wouldn't matter to him. Otherwise, how could he be so calm?

No woman would be able to accept this secret, let alone a jealous woman like Qiao Xi. She would definitely be unable to accept this fact.

Xia Yunlou's face was ferocious, but there was a trace of fear in her eyes. "President Gu, you said it yourself. If I say it out loud, don't take your anger out on me!"

She suddenly raised her eyes and looked at Qiao Xi with ridicule. She laughed maniacally and spat out words that shocked everyone.

"Qiao Xi, you must not know that President Gu has an illegitimate child outside!"

Boom!!!

The entire venue was in an uproar.

Everyone looked at her in disbelief, unable to digest this news.

Xia Yunlou laughed out loud. "If you don't want others to know about it, you shouldn't have done it. Don't think that no one will know as long as you hide the child! Xi Xi, you haven't been to Longwan Residential's side courtyard, right? That child is hiding there. Your husband has an illegitimate child. You'd better divorce him quickly. He doesn't really love you!"

"Given your personality, it'll definitely be hard for you to accept that your husband has an illegitimate child. You might as well get a divorce as soon as possible and let Anran marry Gu Zheng in your place."

She then looked at Gu Zheng with a crazy expression. "President Gu, I've already said that Xi Xi isn't suitable for you. If she doesn't say anything, it means that she can't accept your past. But Anran is different. She can accept it because she's magnanimous and tolerant. You should know who is truly suitable for you now!"

The entire place was silent.

Old Madam Yin's eyes were filled with anger as she glared at Gu Zheng.

The Yin family's young master also revealed a difficult expression. If Gu Zheng really had an illegitimate child, then his younger sister would have to become that child's stepmother.

Xia Yunlou looked at the silent crowd and became even more arrogant. "Haha... Only Anran-".

"Madam Xu," Gu Zheng interrupted her.

Everyone's gazes landed on him, only to see the man lifting his eyes lazily. "Is the illegitimate child you're talking about the one who has been staying in the courtyard of Longwan Residential for a year?"

Xia Yunlou replied without hesitation, "It's him!"

"I see..." Gu Zheng smiled meaningfully. Then, he approached Xia Yunlou and said a few words in a voice that only the two of them could hear.

Xia Yunlou's expression changed from arrogance to shock. She shook her head crazily. "Impossible! This is impossible!"

Gu Zheng said mockingly, "The people you sent to investigate are really amateurs. They didn't even investigate the matter properly, yet they reported it to you so casually. No wonder the Xu family is starting to decline."

Gu Zheng turned around and returned to Qiao Xi's side. He held her hand with a gentle expression. "Let's go upstairs."

Xia Yunlou's eyes were empty. She did not expect that the only trump card of hers did not hurt Gu Zheng at all. Instead, it gave her a heavy blow.

Xu Zhi's angry roar was heard along with Xu Anran's crying. Xia Yunlou felt that her mind was a mess. Her vision turned black, and she fell to the ground weakly.

Seeing the Xu family's embarrassing state, Old Madam Yin's face was full of disdain. She waved her hand and signaled the bodyguards to carry them away.

Yin Jinglin frowned and hesitated. "Grandma... President Gu has an illegitimate child? Why didn't we know about it?"

Yin Jingting was more composed, but his expression was gloomy. "If President Gu... really has an illegitimate child, he probably won't let others know about it so easily. Grandma, do you think Aunt Yunlou was telling the truth?"

Old Madam Yin's expression was grave.

She wasn't sure either. Xia Yunlou seemed to be serious, but Gu Zheng didn't seem like someone who would do something like that. "I heard that President Gu has always been a clean man who doesn't get close to women. Before he got married, he didn't have a single woman by his side, nor did he have any scandals. The Gu family isn't as strict as the Yin family, though. It's a little strange. Does he have another woman behind his back?" Yin Jinglin guessed.

Old Madam Yin felt like a fishbone was stuck in her throat.

She had seen too many such things at her age. She had also experienced her husband cheating on her and getting a mistress. Now, she only hoped that Xi Xi would find a man who truly loved her and would no longer have to suffer. She didn't expect Gu Zheng to have an illegitimate child.

Chapter 589 An Idiot At Love

At this moment, Yin Jingting's gaze was gloomy. "If Gu Zheng really has an illegitimate child, we definitely can't let Sister suffer."

Yin Jinglin sighed. "Maybe Madam Xu was lying. I don't think President Gu is that kind of person."

On the other hand, Qiao Xi couldn't help but feel puzzled when she went upstairs.

She had been to the courtyard of Longwan Residential. It didn't look like a place where people lived. If Gu Zheng really had an illegitimate child, would he arrange for him to stay so close to him?

Qiao Xi frowned and couldn't help but ask, "He's... over a year old?"

Gu Zheng's expression was indifferent. "No, it has probably been longer than that since I picked him up. Someone left him at the entrance of Longwan Residential."

At that time, the child was lying on the ground, dying. His small body was covered in dirt. If Gu Zheng didn't take him in, he would've definitely died.

Qiao Xi only felt tears well up in her eyes. Ordinary people wouldn't come to Longwan Residential. Since the child was left at the entrance, then the child was surely related to Gu Zheng. Moreover, Gu Zheng had never been a kind person. Being able to casually take a child in meant that the child was indeed related to him.

Qiao Xi suppressed the sorrow in her heart and said indifferently, "Can he walk now?"

Gu Zheng smiled and nodded. "Of course. He can run!"

Qiao Xi's heart ached even more. It seemed that Gu Zheng really liked this illegitimate child of his, and his face was filled with gentleness at the thought of him.

Immediately after, Gu Zheng spoke again, "Every time I visit him, as long as I call his name, he'll quickly run toward me and be very close to me."

Qiao Xi was extremely jealous and almost couldn't control her sobs, so she didn't speak.

That child was indeed President Gu's son. He was so obedient at such a young age and good at currying favor with Gu Zheng. In a few years, would he be raised in Longwan Residential? What would her status be then?

"You named him?"

Gu Zheng replied, "Yes, his name is Lele-Gu Lele."

Qiao Xi: "... President Gu gave his child such a name. That's too simple! And it doesn't sound like a boy's name!

Gu Zheng continued, "He's always happy and carefree, so I named him Lele."

Qiao Xi frowned. Gu Zheng couldn't possibly have come up with such an ordinary name. Perhaps it was the child's mother who gave him this name. Gu Zheng doted on this child too much and didn't change it.

The more she thought about it, the more bitter she felt. Qiao Xi took a deep breath and asked, "Where's his mother?"

Mom?

Gu Zheng was a little puzzled. How did he know where the mother of the dog was? She might already be dead.

The man thought for a moment before replying, "I don't know where she went either. She left Lele behind."

Qiao Xi: "?!!"

Actually, with Gu Zheng's power, it was very easy for him to look for a woman. However, he said he did not know where that woman had gone. There were only two possibilities. Either he had not searched at all, or he had long forgotten who that woman was.

If it was the first, then he would be too heartless. No matter what, she had given birth to a child for him, yet he treated it as if that woman was already dead and did not care about her at all.

If it was the second possibility, which was that he had completely forgotten who it was, then it meant his previous life was very messy. Otherwise, how could he not even know who the child's mother was?

Qiao Xi only felt a wave of anger surge into her heart. Tears fell from her eyes as she sniffled. She fiercely pushed Gu Zheng away, then slammed the door shut.

Gu Zheng was confused. Why was she so angry?

When they first got married, he was afraid that Qiao Xi didn't like dogs, so he kept Lele in the courtyard. He didn't expect this matter to make her so angry.

Gu Zheng was silent for a long while before gently knocking on Qiao Xi's door.

Not far away, Song Shiyu looked disappointed. "Brother, you said that the president is good at everything, but he doesn't know anything about relationships! No wonder Young Madam misunderstood his ambiguous words!"

Song Shijing said, "Don't talk nonsense about the president!"

"Did I spout nonsense?! He's an idiot at love! Young Madam obviously believes in Xia Yunlou's words and thinks that the president has an illegitimate child. If he doesn't explain it clearly, Young Madam will be so heartbroken! I can't believe a man like him could even find himself a wife!"

Song Shijing shook his head helplessly and dragged Song Shiyu downstairs to avoid disturbing the president and his wife.

Chapter 590 Overwhelmed With Jealousy

Gu Zheng was still standing in front of the door, gently persuading her. "Why don't you come with me to the courtyard? If you really don't like him, I'll send him away."

Inside the room, Qiao Xi was in a fit of anger. When she heard Gu Zheng's words, she was even more furious.

This man was too heartless!

If Gu Zheng had told her the truth before they got married and told her that he had an illegitimate child, Qiao Xi would not have been angry. Instead, she would have felt that this man was a calm person.

But they had already been married for so long. How could Gu Zheng keep it from her for so long? How long did he plan on lying to her?

The more Qiao Xi thought about it, the more sorrowful she felt. She couldn't help but choke up. "You're going to send him away if I don't like him? But he's your son! Even if he leaves, it won't change the blood relationship between the two of you. Do you want outsiders to say that I'm a vicious stepmother?"

Gu Zheng remained silent, his brows tightly furrowed.

... Mrs. Gu must have misunderstood. Lele wasn't an illegitimate child at all. He was just a dog!

Thinking of Xia Yunlou's words, Gu Zheng gritted his teeth. It was all that woman's fault for making Mrs. Gu think too much.

He thought that Qiao Xi had been to the courtyard and knew that there was a dog there, so she wouldn't think too much about

*it.*

After a moment of silence, Gu Zheng couldn't help but laugh. His voice was gentle as he spoke, "I'll bring you to see him, okay?"

Qiao Xi: "..."

'No way! I'm still angry, yet you want me to see your illegitimate child?

'Alright! I'll go take a look, then! I want to confront him face to face and see if that child is as cute as you say he is!' Qiao Xi got into the car angrily while Song Shiyu stepped on the accelerator. They soon arrived at Longwan Residential.

**on**

After entering the villa, the two of them headed straight to the side courtyard.

Although it was also a part of the villa, it was still a distance away. The place wasn't big, but it was clean and exquisite.

There was a housekeeper in the courtyard as well, and she was a kind-looking middle-aged woman. When she saw Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi walking over together, she immediately greeted them respectfully, "President, Young Madam."

Qiao Xi was slightly puzzled. Shouldn't the person responsible for taking care of the illegitimate child be very alarmed to see her, the legitimate wife, here? Wasn't she afraid that this 'vicious' stepmother would do something to that illegitimate child?

Qiao Xi's expression was icy-cold. "Your son... Lele has always stayed here?"

Gu Zheng couldn't help but smile. Qiao Xi saw his gentle expression and felt that he was emitting the aura of a parent. She felt bitter.

She didn't mind Gu Zheng being with another woman before they got married. It wasn't a big deal for them to be in a normal relationship. After all, she was previously in a relationship with Gu Moling. However, he had a child with another woman. That was a different story.

Qiao Xi suppressed the bitterness in her heart and followed Gu Zheng into the courtyard, but she didn't see the child.

At this moment, a young maid walked over and smiled. "President, Young Madam, are you looking for Little Master? He's upstairs."

Ahh! She even called him 'Little Master'!

Gu Zheng came over and held her hand. Qiao Xi shook it off angrily.

The man didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He said helplessly, "He's not my child."

Qiao Xi's eyes were misty with tears. "Gu Zheng, you've learned how to lie. If you told me earlier that you had an illegitimate child, I wouldn't have fussed over it. After all, who doesn't have a past? But you've been hiding it from me. What exactly do you mean by this?!"

Gu Zheng said, "He really has nothing to do with me. I just couldn't bear to—".

"I'm not listening! I'm not listening!"

Qiao Xi broke down and interrupted Gu Zheng's words. If he wasn't his biological child but was still raising him, it was impossible for the child to come from a clean and pure background. It must be that Gu Zheng couldn't forget about the child's mother, so he took the child over to raise him.

She pushed the door open, and there was silence inside.

Qiao Xi took a deep breath and walked in slowly.

If he wasn't Gu Zheng's biological son, then she wouldn't have to be a stepmother. Moreover, Gu Zheng had also said that if she didn't like the child, he could send him away. With Gu Zheng's status, it shouldn't be difficult to find a happy family for that child.

Qiao Xi's gaze swept the surroundings.

Where was he?

There was no one in the room. There was no one on the bed or on the chair. Besides, such a young child would definitely have an adult accompanying him. How could Gu Zheng be at ease leaving him alone?

However, there were many toys and dog food in the room. Not far away, there was an exquisite kennel with a small black dog resting there.