

Lady gu 941

Chapter 941: He Has Decided

“My heart also aches for Xi Xi, but she’s really not compatible with Ah Zheng. Moreover, on the account of our past relationship, Ah Zheng and I won’t treat her badly. The rumors online will dissipate soon, so you don’t have to care. Xi Xi and I will still be good friends in the future. Isn’t that good?”

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Xia Mengyan said with a sincere expression, then looked at Qiao Xi and sighed helplessly. “I just asked Ah Zheng. He said that he’ll explain everything clearly. Xi Xi, when Ah Zheng announces the matter later, don’t fool around, alright?”

Qiao Xi stood silently on the spot and could not help but sneer when she heard Xia Mengyan’s words. “Why should I?”

“Ah Zheng has already made up his mind. Even if you...” Xia Mengyan was talking when her eyes suddenly lit up. “You mean you won’t stop him?”

“Of course, I won’t fool around if Gu Zheng wants to make an announcement! I’m not a lunatic.” Qiao Xi smiled meaningfully and didn’t even bother to look at Xia Mengyan. She walked straight to the sofa and sat down.

Seeing that Qiao Xi had agreed so easily, Xia Mengyan was slightly uncertain in her heart. However, Gu Zheng had already agreed to announce the engagement in public. He definitely hated Qiao Xi now. Could it be that there were other changes?

Half an hour ago, Xia Mengyan had gone to see Gu Zheng to express her feelings and explain the benefits of the marriage between the two families. Moreover, the elders of the two families had already agreed to this marriage. As long as he agreed, everyone would be happy.

Xia Mengyan was still slightly worried that Gu Zheng would refuse, but Gu Zheng actually agreed to announce the engagement. She did not expect the matter to be resolved so easily. From the looks of it, Gu Zheng did not like Qiao Xi much. He probably just liked her beauty and found her a little novel. However, in the face of absolute benefits, Qiao Xi was nothing.

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At this moment, Xia Mengyan was still thinking about Gu Zheng’s words. Her expression became even prouder. “Xi Xi, don’t be sad anymore. Ah Zheng will explain everything to you later. Even though the fate between you and him has ended, you’ll find your own happiness in the future.”

Coincidentally, a few socialites around heard Xia Mengyan’s words. Someone asked curiously, “Mengyan, is your engagement with President Gu real?”

Xia Mengyan blushed shyly. “Actually, the two families have already discussed it, but President Gu said that he wants to announce it in public. He’ll also give the Xia family an explanation. No matter what his decision is, I’ll support him.”

In that case, President Gu had already admitted his engagement with Xia Mengyan and decided to get engaged to her. What should Qiao Xi do? No matter what, she was the legitimate Mrs. Gu!

“Now that Xi Xi and Ah Zheng are already married, I don’t want to ruin their marriage. I just want an explanation. As for whether Ah Zheng continues to be with Xi Xi or not, that’s up to him. I can’t interfere, but if he decides to fulfill the engagement, I’m willing to be with him. After all, feelings can’t be forced. Back then, Ah Zheng and Xi Xi got married to fulfill the engagement, not because of feelings.”

When the few socialites heard these words, they looked at Qiao Xi with disdain. “A certain someone stole her cousin’s engagement and successfully rose to power. Now that the matter has been exposed, she’s still unwilling to give up her position. How shameless! In any case, Mengyan is President Gu’s true fiancée!”

“Mengyan, even if you and President Gu are married, you won’t be considered to have ruined someone else’s marriage. After all, this marriage contract was yours from the beginning!”

Xia Mengyan hurriedly stopped them. “Everyone, stop talking. Xi Xi is my cousin, after all. At this point, my heart aches for her too. Now, it all depends on Ah Zheng’s decision.”

...

Half an hour later, the banquet was about to end. Everyone was anxiously waiting for the final outcome. They wanted to know who Gu Zheng would choose in the end. Would he admit that Qiao Xi had snatched Xia Mengyan’s engagement, or would he continue to help her cover it up? Would he divorce her and be with Xia Mengyan, or would the matter just stop there?

Just as everyone was guessing, another piece of news broke out online. The Lu family had already acknowledged the Xia family’s engagement. The Lu family was Miss Lu Qingyun’s family. If they admitted that this engagement belonged to Xia Mengyan, it meant that it was the truth.

“President Gu is here!”

Everyone shouted as Gu Zheng walked over slowly. Behind him were Song Shijing, Song Shiyu, and a group of bodyguards. His powerful aura made everyone shudder.

“So the engagement really belongs to Xia Mengyan!”

Song Shiyu was speechless. The president and Young Madam had known each other for 10 years. The two of them were truly in love, so did they still need a marriage contract? However, he could not say anything because the president had his own plans.

Chapter 942: Announcing The Engagement In Public

Gu Zheng’s expression was indifferent as his gaze landed on the woman in the corner. Under the illumination of the lights, Qiao Xi’s entire body seemed to be emitting light. Her skin was fair, and her soft hair fell on her shoulders like seaweed. His eyes could not help but become gentle.

The socialites gathered together and teased each other. Then, they pulled Xia Mengyan over and asked with a smile, "Mengyan, look, is President Gu here to look for you?"

Gu Zheng had said that he wanted to announce the engagement in public, and now, he was walking toward Xia Mengyan. Everyone in the Xia family was extremely excited. Those who were close to the Xia family also beamed. After all, if the Xia family could get close to Gu Zheng, it meant that they could also reap benefits.

Xia Mengyan's breathing trembled slightly. She smiled shyly and said anxiously, "Ah Zheng..."

As soon as she finished speaking, Gu Zheng directly walked past her and walked in front of Qiao Xi. He held Qiao Xi's hand gently, and his voice was extremely gentle. "Xi Xi, I'm back."

The entire venue was silent as everyone looked at Xia Mengyan in confusion. Didn't President Gu already agree to the marriage? Why did he not give Xia Mengyan a second look at all and directly walk to Qiao Xi's side?

1

Xia Mengyan gasped, and the blood in her body seemed to have frozen. She could even hear the mocking laughter around her. Didn't Ah Zheng say that he wanted to give the Xia family an explanation? Didn't he say that he wanted to announce the engagement in public? But why was he still so cold to her?

Xia Mengyan's eyes turned red as she choked and asked, "Ah Zheng, aren't you going to announce the engagement?"

Xia Yunlou, who was at the side, also berated unhappily, "Qiao Xi! Why are you standing beside President Gu? Hurry up and come over! Mengyan and President Gu are already engaged, yet you're still pestering President Gu. Don't you have any shame?!"

Qiao Xi did not want to pay attention to Xia Yunlou at all, but Gu Zheng's eyes sank. His sharp gaze seemed to pierce through everyone. "I do have something to announce in public."

Hearing this, Xia Yunlou hurriedly went forward to ask for an explanation, but she was stopped by Xia Ji. Xia Ji gestured for Xia Yunlou to calm down and took a few steps forward. He said respectfully, "President Gu, not long after Mengyan was born, Eldest Miss Lu and my sister, Yunqiu, arranged an engagement between you and Mengyan. The Lu family has also confirmed this matter. Mengyan knew that she was engaged since she was young, so she has never been in a relationship. She has been waiting for you. If you don't believe me, you can ask her friends and classmates."

1

This was indeed the truth. Everyone around Xia Mengyan knew that she had a fiance, but they never knew who he was. They only knew that he was powerful.

Gu Zheng lowered his eyes and smiled. "Does that mean that the Xia family has already decided that I'm Miss Xia's fiance? Miss Xia, don't you have anything else to say?"

Everyone was stunned. What did Gu Zheng mean? Could it be that Xia Mengyan was hiding something?

At this moment, Xia Mengyan, whose head was lowered, suddenly sobbed. Tears trickled down her face. She suppressed her tears and said with a trembling voice, "Ah Zheng, actually, I know very well that you like Xi Xi. I don't want to separate the two of you. I just want an explanation.

"This engagement was originally mine. I've dreamed of marrying you since I was young, but I didn't expect Xi Xi to secretly marry you. I also have a trace of resentment in my heart about it, but I've already forgiven Xi Xi. Now, I just want an explanation. I just want an apology. Why can't this small wish of mine be fulfilled?"

Qiao Xi raised her eyebrows. "Miss Xia, your ability to lie through your teeth is really getting better and better!"

The expressions of everyone from the Xia family were extremely unsightly, and Xia Yunlou's face was even gloomier. Qiao Xi, this little b*tch, did not take her warning seriously at all. If she had known earlier, she would've strangled Qiao Xi to death when she was born!

Qiao Xi sensed Xia Yunlou's gaze and narrowed her eyes. She was slightly curious about why Xia Yunlou was so interested in Xia Mengyan.

Xia Mengyan did not expect Qiao Xi to mock her. Her eyes were filled with sorrow. "Xi Xi, I'm telling the truth. You can't malign me just because I'm hurting your interests!"

At this moment, the socialite beside Xia Mengyan stood up and looked at Qiao Xi with disdain. She said indignantly, "You fake, stop spouting nonsense! You must have said something in front of President Gu that made him suspect something."

Xia Mengyan wiped her tears and was heartbroken. "Xi Xi, I admit that I like Ah Zheng, but I've never thought of ruining your marriage. You can't ignore the harm you've caused me just because of my kindness! For 20 years, I've treated him as my fiance, but you married him in my place. Do you know how sad I am because of this?"

Chapter 943: Another Fiance

Seeing Xia Mengyan cry bitterly, everyone pitied her. Qiao Xi was still unwilling to admit it because of her identity as Mrs. Gu. She wanted Miss Xia to swallow her anger.

What right did Qiao Xi have to be so arrogant? She was the one who did something wrong and even used her identity as Mrs. Gu to suppress the victims. She was really immoral and heartless!

"Miss Xia, stop crying. Your makeup is all ruined. You weren't good-looking to begin with, so you're even uglier now."

Qiao Xi's teasing voice sounded. Xia Mengyan hurriedly wiped her tears and picked up the mirror to look at her makeup. She was afraid that Gu Zheng would think that she was in a sorry state. Her eyes were red in the mirror, but her makeup was not messy. Instead, she just looked pitiful. Only then did Xia Mengyan realize that she had been teased.

However, before Xia Mengyan could speak, Qiao Xi said casually, "Miss Xia, you said that you don't want to ruin our marriage, but your Xia family released the news of your engagement to Gu Zheng. Why? Do you still want to be a b*tch?"

Xia Mengyan's face was fierce. The anger in her heart burned fiercely, and she could not help but retort, "Xi Xi, what right do you have to say that about me? I'm the one who's supposed to be engaged to Ah Zheng. I'm the victim! I've never thought of being a mistress!"

The corners of Qiao Xi's mouth curled into a cold smile as she slowly walked in front of her and whispered in her ear, "Xia Mengyan, it's a pity that you're not an actress. I almost believed you."

Xia Mengyan raised her eyes and met Qiao Xi's indifferent eyes. Her heart suddenly skipped a beat. Why was Qiao Xi still so calm at a time like this?

Xia Ji also noticed that something was wrong and wanted to stop Qiao Xi from speaking, but Qiao Xi had already said, "Miss Xia, you say that you don't want to be a mistress, but you're forcing Gu Zheng to be the third party for the sake of achieving your goal. Isn't this too inhumane?! You care about your reputation, but don't you care about Gu Zheng's life or death?"

The entire venue was silent. Everyone widened their eyes and looked at Qiao Xi in disbelief. What exactly did she say? Gu Zheng was a third party?

Someone said angrily, "What nonsense are you talking about?! You did something wrong, yet you're still slandering others! What's the use?!"

The other person was calm. "Stop arguing. Let's hear what President Gu has to say first."

Everyone looked at Gu Zheng and heard him say casually, "I did have a fiancée previously, but I've never said that my fiancée was Miss Xia."

The moment that was said, everyone gasped. He actually did not admit that Xia Mengyan was his fiancée?

Xia Mengyan's face was pale and filled with sorrow. "Ah Zheng, you can't deny our marriage just because you like Xi Xi. Moreover, the Lu family has already admitted it."

"Miss Xia, let me remind you that the Lu family doesn't represent me. Also, don't call me Ah Zheng. I'm not familiar with you. Moreover, you clearly have a fiancée, but you're still shameless enough to want to marry me. Do you actually think you're beautiful enough to be acting like this? Have you ever considered how your fiancée will feel when you do this?"

Boom!!!

Everyone was dumbfounded as if they had been struck by lightning. The atmosphere was silent for a few seconds before the scene exploded.

"Did I hear wrongly? President Gu said that Miss Xia has another fiancée? How is that possible?"

"The Xia and Lu families have already admitted to this marriage. How could they be lying? Even if the Xia family might be lying, the Lu family is the family of President Gu's grandfather. They have no reason to lie!"

“Moreover, this matter has caused an uproar. If Miss Xia really has a fiancée, why hasn’t he appeared?”

Xia Mengyan’s body gradually stiffened. Her lips were pale, and her eyes were filled with horror. She was at a loss. “Ah Zheng... President Gu, what are you talking about? I don’t understand.”

In the past, the Xia family was also worried that this engagement would be found out by others. However, the Xia family was a big family in Luo City, after all. It was not difficult for them to hide this matter. Moreover, it had been many years since then. Who would know that secret?

However, at this moment, Xia Cheng’s body suddenly softened. His body trembled violently, but he still gritted his teeth and retorted, “President Gu, even if you don’t want to admit the engagement, you shouldn’t slander Mengyan’s reputation like this.”

Old Madam Xia looked at the Yin family with deep hatred in her heart. She was now the madam of the Xia family, but Yin Jinglin was still looking at her with a mocking gaze as if she was a mistress.

One day, she would let Mengyan marry Gu Zheng in Qiao Xi’s place and have the Xia family completely suppress the Yin family. Yin Lianxin would never be able to raise her head again.

Chapter 944: Forced To Confess

Old Madam Xia glared fiercely at Qiao Xi. Suddenly, she clutched her chest and shouted, “Ouch! My heart hurts! President Gu, it’s fine if you’re unwilling to admit this marriage, but why are you slandering Mengyan for having another fiancée? Aren’t you forcing Mengyan to her death?”

“Mengyan has always treated you as her fiancée since she was young, but for the sake of protecting Qiao Xi, you actually abandoned a woman who has such deep feelings for you. Can you bear to do this? If you don’t like her, you can just say so. Why do you have to insult her like this?”

“Qiao Xi! You must have made President Gu say that. You stole Mengyan’s engagement and ruined her life. Now, you’re even going to bite back. You’re forcing her to her death. You’re really vicious!”

At this point, Old Madam Xia’s breathing suddenly stopped. Her face turned red as she fell weakly. Fortunately, Xia Cheng and Xia Ji hurriedly supported her.

Xia Ji immediately said nervously, “Mom! Don’t scare me! It’s all my fault for being unfilial. If I hadn’t insisted that Mengyan fulfill the engagement and insisted on seeking justice for my daughter, things wouldn’t have ended up like this. Now that Mengyan’s reputation is ruined and your health has collapsed... President Gu, we don’t want anything anymore. Let’s just forget about it!”

Hearing her father’s words, Xia Mengyan’s tears gushed out, and her eyes were filled with anxiety. “Grandma, I was wrong. I’ve let you down! We’ll go home now. Please be fine!”

Xia Mengyan looked up with tears in her eyes and announced to everyone, “Everyone, President Gu is telling the truth. I do have a fiancée. It’s all my fault for what happened today. I shouldn’t have fought for what doesn’t belong to me.”

As she spoke, she looked at Qiao Xi and choked. "Xi Xi, I know you hate me. If you're dissatisfied, target me. I don't want to make things difficult for my grandmother. She's old and can't take any trouble. Just take it as though I... I'm begging you."

Her voice trembled violently and was filled with sorrow. Tears fell from her cheeks, and her pitiful appearance made one's heart ache.

Finally, someone could not stand it anymore and said indignantly, "Mrs. Gu is clearly using her power to suppress others! Looking at Miss Xia's sad appearance, she's really pitiful!"

"Previously, Mrs. Gu mocked Old Madam Xia for being a mistress, but that was decades ago. It has nothing to do with Miss Xia. Now, she made up the story that Miss Xia already has a fiance. Miss Xia is filial and can't bear to see Old Madam Xia suffer. She can only admit to this. Mrs. Gu, you're too much of a bully."

Xia Mengyan lowered her head and revealed a proud smile, but she still pretended to be heartbroken when she looked up. "President Gu, Xi Xi, I'm sorry. I affected the banquet and your relationship as husband and wife. I admit that I coveted the position of Mrs. Gu and I intended to ruin your marriage. I do have a fiance. This is all my fault. I've let everyone down!"

She lowered her eyes as tears surged out. Her face was filled with grievances and coercion. It looked like Qiao Xi was using her power to force her to confess. As a result, Xia Mengyan could only endure the humiliation and admit it.

Xia Mengyan wiped her tears as a trace of sinisteress flashed past her eyes. She wanted to see how Qiao Xi would retort.

"Miss Xia, it's really been hard on you. You spoke your mind in front of so many people!" Qiao Xi looked at Xia Mengyan with a smile. Her casual tone instantly caused everyone to be infuriated.

Things had already come to this. What right did she have to be so arrogant?

Xia Yunlou instantly cursed. "Qiao Xi! You bastard! How far have you pushed Mengyan? How can you say such things? Do you have a conscience?!"

Yin Lianxin glared at her coldly. Xia Yunlou's heart trembled, but she still forcefully endured the fear in her heart and said, "Qiao Xi has been wandering outside since she was young. She's naughty and mischievous. She's clearly the one who stole Mengyan's engagement and even slandered Mengyan for having a fiance. Now, she's forcing Mengyan to confess to things she didn't do. At this moment, she's still making sarcastic remarks. Am I wrong to say that she has no conscience?"

"Qiao Xi! Apologize to Mengyan immediately! You really haven't changed! You stole someone else's engagement, yet you're still so arrogant. Mengyan's fiance is President Gu. Stop talking nonsense!"

As soon as she finished speaking, Qiao Xi snapped her fingers, and the big screen suddenly flashed. She raised her eyebrows and asked, "Are you sure Xia Mengyan doesn't have another fiance?"

Everyone was stunned for a moment before they abruptly looked up at the big screen. When they saw the contents, their faces suddenly turned pale. Xia Cheng's expression darkened.

Impossible! How could Gu Zheng have found this evidence?

Chapter 945: Stubborn

Xia Ji shuddered and hurriedly rushed over to stop her. "Turn it off!"

"The Xia family has always said that Xia Mengyan's fiancée is Ah Zheng. I'm curious about who's the groom on this marriage contract."

The screen suddenly enlarged, and an old marriage contract appeared in front of everyone. The date was 20 years ago, and the two parties' names were clearly written on the marriage contract.

Xia Cheng's beard trembled slightly. At this moment, he had already lost his mind and rushed to the stage. "Turn it off! This is fake! Qiao Xi! You're framing us!"

No matter what, Xia Cheng had lived for decades and had seen all kinds of things. He had long since stopped showing his emotions on his face. However, at this moment, he was shouting crazily without caring about his image. The more agitated he was, the more curious everyone was about the secret behind this marriage contract.

Old Madam Xia, who had collapsed on the chair, heard Xia Cheng's roar and instantly stood up. At this moment, the Xia family was trying their best to cover the marriage contract, but the big screen was too high. Their efforts were useless. Everyone could still see it clearly.

Xia Cheng's signature was clearly shown on the marriage contract, and on the other side, there was Xiao Lu's signature.

Everyone was confused. Who was this person? Shouldn't the signature for the groom be Miss Lu Qingyun's signature? Previously, the Xia family said that this engagement was arranged by Xia Yunqiu and Lu Qingyun.

This marriage contract was extremely formal and made of gorgeous materials. It was enough to show that the Xia family valued this marriage contract very much. Xia Mengyan was engaged not long after she was born. It seemed that the two families were very close, but...

"Xiao Lu?"

"Have you heard of this name?"

Qiao Xi raised her eyebrows and said, "Does everyone think it's very strange? Ah Zheng's surname is Gu, and his mother's surname is Lu. Why would someone with the surname Xiao appear on the marriage contract?"

Xia Ji's face was livid. He was about to retort when Qiao Xi spoke first, "Mr. Xia, we spent money to hire the hacker named Mo Yuan to investigate this. If you doubt the authenticity of the marriage contract, we can meet in court. At that time, we'll ask Mr. Mo Yuan to testify for us."

Xia Ji was instantly speechless. Who would dare to question the hacker, Mo Yuan?

"The marriage contract was personally signed by you, Mr. Xia Ji. If you're unconvinced, you can look for a professional to check the handwriting. Mr. Xia, do you have any questions?"

Looking at Qiao Xi's smiling appearance, the members of the Xia family were fuming with anger. Xia Mengyan was still immersed in her joy just now. She originally thought that Qiao Xi would not be able to endure the curses of everyone and would have no choice but to give up her position as Mrs. Gu. However, the marriage contract from 20 years ago was actually exposed now.

At this moment, someone suddenly shouted, "Xiao Lu?"

"I remember that there was indeed a Xiao family in Luo City in the past, but they went bankrupt a few years ago. After that, the head of the Xiao family left Luo City with his family. Could it be that the Xiao family in the marriage contract is them?"

"That's indeed possible! This marriage contract was set 20 years ago, so Miss Xia has always said that she has a fiancé. A few years ago, the Xiao family went bankrupt, so the Xia family didn't acknowledge this marriage. However, the two families didn't cancel the marriage contract, so the Xia family just pretended that Xia Mengyan and President Gu were engaged."

Everyone looked at the Xia family with doubt. Their expressions were extremely ugly. Xia Cheng explained helplessly, "No! You've misunderstood. President Gu, this is just an old marriage contract. It might've been forged. Even if you really get someone to appraise it, with your current power and wealth, you can definitely skew things so that the results would work in your favor."

Qiao Xi had a helpless expression. The Xia family was really stubborn. They were actually still quibbling at a time like this. However, the truth was right in front of them, so quibbling was useless.

She snorted. "Old Master Xia, you're really eloquent. You're right. The marriage contract might be fake, but..."

With that, she looked at Xia Mengyan coldly, then at Xia Cheng meaningfully. She snapped her fingers again. The big screen flashed, and a gorgeous living room appeared. A few people were sitting around the table.

Everyone took a closer look. Two of the people on the screen were Xia Cheng and Old Madam Xia.

Qiao Xi lazily leaned against the chair, and her tone suddenly became icy-cold. "You can say that the marriage contract is fake, but the video can't be faked!"

Xia Cheng looked at the scene on the big screen in a daze. He felt as if he had fallen into an ice cave. He suddenly thought of the past that had been sealed for many years. This matter could not be leaked!

Old Madam Xia's face was pale as she shouted in a panic, "Xia Cheng! Quick... Quick, stop them!"

However, Qiao Xi paid no attention to them at all. With a light wave of her hand, many bodyguards rushed over to stop the Xia family.

Chapter 946: 300 Million

"Since you're sure that the marriage contract is fake, why are you so afraid of letting us play the video? How do you know what I'm going to play?"

Qiao Xi curled her lips coldly and ordered, "Song Shijing."

Song Shijing nodded, and the screen moved immediately. In the video, Xia Cheng and his wife said in a panic, "Friend, I'm really in trouble this time. Otherwise, I wouldn't have come to look for you. You have to help me, or the Xia family will go bankrupt!"

Mr. Xiao nodded. "Calm down. We've been friends for so many years. Of course, I'll help you. The Xia family's crisis this time is because the capital chain has been broken. I can lend the Xia family 300 million yuan in assets first. You don't have to rush to return it."

300 million? That was 20 years ago. 300 million was enough to buy a company. It was enough to prove how rich the Xiao family was.

When Xia Cheng heard this, he instantly beamed. "Oh! Thank you, my friend. Other than that, I have something else to discuss with you. Previously, didn't our two families agree on forming a marriage alliance? Now, look..."

Everyone watching the video knew very well that Xia Cheng took the initiative to propose a marriage alliance because he hoped that the Xiao family would be on the same page as them. If the Xia family encountered trouble again, the Xiao family would not be able to refuse to help them.

Xiao Lu hesitated for a moment, but in the end, he nodded. "It's indeed a good thing for our two families to be united through marriage. Which child of mine have you taken a liking to?"

Xia Cheng said, "My granddaughter is already five years old. I heard that your eldest grandson is six years old. The two children are about the same age. Why don't we set a marriage contract for the two of them?"

Xiao Lu chuckled and said, "Of course. Let's set the engagement first and let the two children interact more. If they're in love with each other when they reach adulthood, it'll naturally be a happy ending. If they don't like each other, we don't have to force it. What's your granddaughter's name?"

Xia Cheng said, "My granddaughter is called Xia Mengyan."

As soon as he finished speaking, the video ended. Everyone was shocked. They did not expect Xia Mengyan to really have another fiancé. Moreover, when they were engaged, Mr. Xiao Lu lent the Xia family 300 million yuan. Not only was there a marriage contract as evidence, but there was also a video. The Xia family could not deny it at all.

The color on Xia Mengyan's face gradually disappeared. She closed her eyes and did not dare to look at the scene on the screen. Her heart ached, and she was about to faint. However, she could only grit her teeth and endure it. She resisted losing her composure in front of everyone.

1

Everyone said indignantly, "When the Xia family went bankrupt, only the Xiao family was willing to fork out money. Half of the Xia family's current wealth and power is thanks to the Xiao family. They should be grateful for the rest of their lives. Why is it that now that the Xiao family has gone bankrupt, this marriage doesn't matter anymore?"

“This marriage contract was initiated by Xia Cheng. Back then, when he saw that the Xiao family was rich, he threw himself at them. Now that the Xiao family is bankrupt, he wants to marry his granddaughter to President Gu. He insists that she’s engaged to President Gu. The Xia family is really shameless!”

1

“Back then, Xia Cheng married into the Yin family and relied on the Yin family’s power to strengthen the Xia family. When he became successful, he cheated on Old Madam Xia. None of the people in this family are good. Unfortunately, Mr. Xiao generously helped a group of ingrates. When the Xiao family was in trouble, the Xia family refused to help.”

Xia Mengyan gritted her teeth. She did not expect Qiao Xi to be able to find out what had happened 20 years ago. She was a socialite in Luo City and an internationally renowned perfumer. She was the perfect goddess in everyone’s hearts. If news of this got out, her image would be completely ruined.

No, no!

Xia Cheng’s mind buzzed as everyone cursed and mocked him. The moment he looked up, he saw Yin Lianxin’s disdainful expression again. He clenched his fists tightly and suppressed the anger in his heart. He sighed helplessly. “It’s all my fault!”

Everyone looked at him in confusion, not knowing what other lies he would come up with.

Xia Mengyan seemed to know what her grandfather meant and hurriedly walked to his side. She held his hand, her eyes filled with sorrow. “Grandpa.”

Now that the matter was exposed, he could not deny it. Xia Cheng could only try his best to protect his granddaughter. After all, Mengyan had a lot of influence overseas and had millions of fans. She also had a studio under her name. Her future was limitless.

Xia Mengyan was the hope of the Xia family. As long as he could protect her reputation, the Xia family would still have a chance to make a comeback. He suddenly looked up and took a deep breath. “That’s right. Back then, I did form a marriage contract with the Xiao family, but Mengyan didn’t know about it!”

Chapter 947: No Apology

“Back then, after the two families set the engagement, Mengyan was still too young. I didn’t tell her and only wanted her to interact with Young Master Xiao. However, the two of them weren’t suitable for each other and were always arguing, so I let them be friends. Later on, Mengyan heard from someone that she had a marriage contract, but she never knew who the other party was. She just wanted to be loyal to her fiancé.

“I knew that Yunqiu had made an engagement for her daughter to the Gu family. I was greedy and wanted to marry my granddaughter to President Gu, so I told Mengyan that her fiancé was President Gu. This is all my fault. Mengyan was deceived by me from the beginning!”

Xia Cheng said with a look of sorrow, and the entire venue instantly fell silent. Could it be that this matter really had nothing to do with Xia Mengyan? Back then, when the two families were engaged, Xia

Mengyan was just an ignorant child. She did not know about the engagement, and her grandparents did not tell her. In order to cling to President Gu, it was possible that they deliberately deceived Xia Mengyan.

At this moment, Xia Mengyan lowered her head, her heart filled with resentment. If it were not for Qiao Xi, she would not have been suspected by everyone. Fortunately, her grandfather had stopped everything for her, so she could not help but heave a sigh of relief.

Her eyes were red with shock as she shook her head in disbelief. Her lips were pale and trembling slightly. "Grandpa... This is impossible. Why did you lie to me?!"

Xia Cheng looked regretful. "Mengyan, it's my fault. At that time, your Aunt Yunqiu was close to Eldest Miss Lu. I heard her mention this marriage. Now that President Gu is powerful, you'll definitely have a good life if you marry him. That's why I was muddle-headed and pretended that you were engaged to President Gu."

Xia Mengyan widened her eyes and took a few steps back. She cried in sorrow. "I'm not President Gu's fiancée? I wronged Xi Xi! I was wrong, I was really wrong!"

Her face was filled with tears, and everyone's heart could not help but ache. "Miss Xia, you were also deceived by Old Master Xia. This has nothing to do with you!"

"Old Master Xia is really muddle-headed. In order to curry favor with the rich and powerful, he actually did such a thing. Miss Xia's reputation has been ruined by him!"

Xia Mengyan looked up with a guilty expression, her tears blurring her vision. "Xi Xi, I've let you down. I didn't expect everything to be a scam. I misunderstood you before. Can you forgive me?"

Everyone hurriedly tried to persuade her. "Mrs. Gu, you've indeed been wronged in this matter, but Miss Xia is innocent. Please forgive her!"

Qiao Xi had an indifferent expression as if she did not hear everyone.

The face of the socialite next to Xia Mengyan instantly darkened as she muttered unhappily, "Why is she still pretending?! With President Gu protecting her, she didn't suffer at all. Now that she knows that Miss Xia has been deceived, she's still unwilling to forgive her. How petty!"

As soon as she finished speaking, Yin Jinglin immediately retorted, "If apologizing is useful, why do we still need the police? If I kill someone and apologize, do I not have to go to jail, then? It's Xia Mengyan's business if she's willing to apologize, but it's Xi Xi's right not to forgive her!"

Then, Yin Jinglin's mocking gaze landed on Xia Mengyan again. "You're innocent, huh?! First, you hired a group of fake commenters to spread the news of your engagement with Gu Zheng online. Then, you got your fans to stand up for you and scold Xi Xi. Now that the matter has been exposed, you're washing your hands clean of it and even colluding with your friend to force Xi Xi to forgive you. Your actions have already seriously affected Xi Xi's life. Do you think that by apologizing, you can let the matter rest?"

"Logically speaking, Miss Xia, you're someone who has received higher education. Why are you still so unreasonable? Don't tell me you learned it from your shrewish and vicious grandmother?"

Yin Jinglin's mockery made Xia Mengyan's face turn pale. She glared at Yin Jinglin with resentment but could not do anything to him.

After being mocked, the socialite was instantly infuriated. "Mengyan is innocent! Mrs. Gu didn't lose anything, so why can't she forgive Mengyan?! It's also embarrassing for Mrs. Gu to be so calculative! She needs to be aware of her identity!"

Yin Jinglin sneered. "Identity? Since you know Xi Xi's identity, you should have basic respect for her! Where did you come from? Who are you to teach the daughter of our Yin family a lesson?"

The socialite was so angry that her face turned red. Due to the Yin family's power, she did not dare to say anything and could only suppress her anger.

At this moment, Xia Mengyan hurriedly stood up. "Xi Xi, it's fine if you don't forgive me, but don't make things difficult for my friend. If you're dissatisfied, direct everything to me!"

Chapter 948: Convinced By Her Shameless Spirit

Seeing that Xia Mengyan was so loyal, the socialite was touched. She felt that she had not stood up for Xia Mengyan for nothing.

Yin Jinglin really could not stand Xia Mengyan's pretense. He sneered and said, "Miss Xia, you're so capable! You managed to win people's hearts with just a few words and make them willingly work for you. But if it weren't for you, would she have offended the Yin family?"

The socialite was stunned for a moment as if she had realized something. Xia Mengyan's expression was extremely ugly. "I... I didn't mean that. I just don't want my friend to suffer with me. Xi Xi, you—"

"Miss Xia," Qiao Xi said casually, "You should be clearly aware now that I was the only victim from the beginning until the end. After the Xia family released the news, the internet was filled with curses aimed at me, which caused a serious impact on my life. Hence, only I have the right to criticize you. You have no right to pick on my mistakes."

"Xi Xi, I'm really sorry. I've always treated you as my cousin. I..." Xia Mengyan lowered her eyes and sobbed weakly. Tears fell one by one, splashing onto the floor.

She spoke in tears as if she was the most aggrieved person in the world. She wanted to make it seem that everything she did was because she was deceived. She could not be blamed for this. She was very pitiful, so she was also a victim. If Qiao Xi continued to be unreasonable and make things difficult for her, then Qiao Xi would have no right to be Mrs. Gu.

Qiao Xi smiled meaningfully. "Miss Xia, if you really didn't know, I can naturally forgive you, but you clearly knew about it a long time ago."

Her voice was very calm. "In order to protect his granddaughter, Old Master Xia is willing to take on everything himself. It's really touching."

As soon as these words were spoken, Xia Cheng's expression changed and Xia Mengyan's entire body trembled. When Xia Cheng decided to take all the blame for Xia Mengyan, he felt that even if Qiao Xi

was dissatisfied, she could not do anything to him as she was a junior. However, if Mengyan was implicated, not only would her reputation be ruined, but Qiao Xi would also not let her off.

At this moment, everyone finally realized something. Qiao Xi was also Xia Cheng's granddaughter, but he did not hesitate to ruin his granddaughter's marriage for Xia Mengyan.

The corners of Qiao Xi's mouth curled up slightly. "Miss Xia, I forgot to tell you that I invited you to the banquet today for a reason. After all, you call me 'Cousin'. I still have to save you some dignity. As long as you had admitted your crimes, I wouldn't publicize the evidence I have on hand. However, I don't think you have the slightest intention of repenting. You're still shameless enough to say that you're innocent and even bite me back. I'm really convinced by your shameless spirit!"

The big screen flashed again. Xia Mengyan suddenly looked up, and her body gradually stiffened. The blood in her body seemed to have stopped flowing. A strong sense of fear swept through her entire body. At this moment, all her rationality and disguise disappeared. She shouted at the top of her voice, "No!"

The scene changed. Xiao Lu was seen dragging his tired and old body to the door with Young Master Xiao. The two of them waited quietly at the entrance of the Xia family's house. All these years, because of problems in the Xia family's company, their wealth had been deteriorating year by year. Now that they were on the verge of bankruptcy, their capital chain was broken, just like the Xia family 20 years ago.

Back then, when the Xia family was in danger, Xiao Lu did not hesitate to lend 300 million to the Xia family. At that time, 300 million was a huge sum of money and enough to support the Xia family through the crisis. Now that Xiao Lu had come to visit, he only hoped that the Xia family could lend them 300 million like before as a form of repayment for their kindness back then. Even if 300 million was not enough, he would not ask for a single cent more. It was just that he did not expect Xia Cheng to actually reject them.

Xia Cheng stood at the door and looked at the old Xiao Lu coldly. He waved at the butler impatiently. "Chase them away! Don't let them dirty the Xia family's door!"

Xiao Lu looked up in disbelief. He did not expect Xia Cheng to be so heartless. He said in a trembling voice, "Friend, about the 300 million I borrowed you the last time, can you..."

"What 300 million? Do you have evidence? What can you do even if I lent you 300 million? The Xia family is hopeless! I advise you to leave Luo City quickly and not shamelessly come to the Xia family to ask for money! Otherwise, don't blame me for being nasty!"

Old Madam Xia was not an easy person to deal with either. Her mouth was filled with ridicule and mockery. Xiao Lu lowered his head and clenched his fists. He said unwillingly, "Xia Cheng, when the Xia family was on the verge of bankruptcy, I was the one who lent the Xia family 300 million. All these years, I've never asked for the sum of money back. But now that the Xia family is in trouble, are you going to ignore us?"

Chapter 949: Repaying Kindness With Hatred

Xia Cheng snorted. "That's not borrowing! You're the one who invested 300 million. Moreover, the Xiao family has also taken advantage of the Xia family's power all these years. It's already enough to cover that 300 million. Now, you're here asking me for money? Why should I give it to you? What can your Xiao family do with that money?"

Xiao Lu abruptly looked up at Xia Cheng in disbelief. His fingers trembled violently. "You..."

Young Master Xiao's expression darkened. "Grandpa, forget it. They don't want to help us at all. It's useless no matter how much we beg them. Just treat that 300 million as the money we spent on feeding the dogs! Our two families won't see each other anymore!"

Xia Cheng did not care about Young Master Xiao's mockery at all. "Alright! We'll pretend not to know each other and never contact each other again! Your Xiao family is no longer worthy of our Xia family. Please leave!"

Xiao Lu looked at his grandson beside him and suddenly recalled something. He shouted indignantly, "Xia Cheng, don't forget that our two families are still bound by a marriage contract!"

Actually, Xiao Lu knew that his grandson had always liked Miss Xia. Miss Xia also knew about the engagement between the two families. The two of them had always gotten along very well. Their families had only been waiting to hold a wedding for the two of them when they became adults. However, now that the Xia family and the Xiao family had cut ties, what should they do about the marriage contract?

Unexpectedly, as soon as these words were spoken, Xia Cheng laughed arrogantly. He laughed at Xiao Lu for being too naive. Since the two families had already gotten to this point, how could the engagement still stand?

At this moment, the 18-year-old Xia Mengyan slowly walked out of the villa. She was wearing a long white dress, looking pure, cute, obedient, and gentle. However, her eyes were filled with disgust. She said unhappily, "Young Master Xiao, now that the Xiao family has already gone bankrupt, do you think you're worthy of me? Let's part on good terms. Don't make things too awkward!"

"The engagement was set because of the Xiao family's sponsorship of the Xia family. Now that the Xiao family is no longer of any value to the Xia family, the engagement is naturally canceled. Moreover, the engagement isn't legally binding. If I don't want to marry you, who can force me?"

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As soon as Xia Mengyan finished speaking, the video ended. Everyone looked at Xia Mengyan. With the video as evidence, it was enough to prove that Xia Mengyan had long known about her engagement with Young Master Xiao.

Before everyone could denounce her, the image on the big screen flashed and showed a school. Young Master Xiao was angry and went to the school to argue with Xia Mengyan. At that time, Xia Mengyan was still in high school, but she had many followers. Without her saying anything, many people stood up for her.

"Xia Mengyan, we're engaged! You once said that you would marry me when you grew up. Are you denying it now?"

Xia Mengyan shed tears aggrievedly. “That was a joke when I was young. My elders asked me to say it. I didn’t know what marriage meant at all. After I grew up, I’ve already expressed my feelings to you. Young Master Xiao, why are you forcing me?”

“Nonsense! Your Xia family accepted the Xiao family’s betrothal gifts long ago, which means that you’ve already agreed to this marriage. Moreover, I’ve given you a lot of jewelry and clothes. If you didn’t like me, why did you accept those things?”

Xia Mengyan looked at Young Master Xiao’s agitated appearance and took a step back in horror. Her eyes were filled with innocence. As long as she shed a tear, her followers would rush over crazily and curse at Young Master Xiao. “Why don’t you take a look at yourself in the mirror? Are you worthy of marrying Mengyan? If it weren’t for the fact that your Xiao family is rich, Mengyan wouldn’t even care about you! It’s your honor that Mengyan was willing to accept your gifts!”

“The Xiao family failed to live up to expectations and ended up going bankrupt, but you still have the cheek to look for trouble with Mengyan?”

While everyone was cursing Young Master Xiao, Xia Mengyan hid behind and cried. She pretended to wipe her tears. Her cries angered her followers. They beat Young Master Xiao up fiercely, but Xia Mengyan just watched Young Master Xiao get beaten up silently.

At that time, there were rumors in the school that Young Master Xiao was pestering Xia Mengyan and was beaten up. However, no one knew about the Xiao family’s kindness to the Xia family, nor did anyone know that Xia Cheng was the one who took the initiative to ask for the marriage contract back then. However, the entire Xia family was not grateful to their former benefactor at all. Instead, they repaid kindness with ingratitude, ruining Young Master Xiao’s reputation and making him suffer physical pain.

The banquet hall was silent, and everyone’s eyes were gradually filled with horror. Who would believe that the pure and kind-hearted Xia Mengyan had a demon living in her heart?

Chapter 950: They Were Furious

She was the legendary daughter of the Xia family, a socialite in Luo City, and a perfumer who was praised by everyone. However, it turned out that she was a vicious and scheming woman.

Back then, in order to get rid of her fiancé in the Xiao family, she fabricated a lie and used public opinion to force the Xiao family into leaving their hometown. Her engagement with the Xiao family had not been canceled, but she wanted to seduce President Gu and ruin her cousin’s marriage. The Xia family still had the cheek to say that Xia Mengyan did not know?

After a moment of silence, Qiao Xi slowly said, “Miss Xia, I gave you a chance to admit your mistake, but you didn’t cherish it! I had no choice but to show some evidence to everyone.”

Xia Mengyan’s face was pale, and her body was stiff. Her mind was a mess, and her vision began to blur. Her ears buzzed, and she felt like she was about to die.

Even the Xia family did not know the existence of this video. Where did Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi get these things?

“Xia Cheng... Let’s go! Let’s go!”

Old Madam Xia was flustered, and her eyes were filled with horror. Ever since she got together with Xia Cheng, she had been suppressed by Yin Lianxin. Her family background, ability, and appearance were all inferior to Yin Lianxin’s. Her only hope was to rely on her granddaughter to make a name for herself and surpass the descendants of the Yin family. However, now that her granddaughter’s reputation was ruined, it was impossible for her to make a comeback.

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Xia Cheng was so embarrassed in front of Yin Lianxin that his entire body was trembling. Faced with everyone’s questions and disdain, he had no ability to retort.

Yin Jinglin laughed wantonly. “Oh my! The Xia family doesn’t even blush when they lie! If Mo Yuan hadn’t released the evidence, Xi Xi would’ve suffered!”

“Miss Xia, you said that you’ve never thought of ruining Xi Xi and President Gu’s marriage. Then why did your Xia family do so much behind the scenes? Did you think you could hide your filthy intentions from everyone?”

Xia Mengyan’s heart seemed to be pinched tightly by someone. The sharp pain made her almost faint. With her last bit of rationality, she could only ignore the disdainful gazes around her and the humiliation of the crowd. She gritted her teeth and retorted, “Nonsense! This is all a misunderstanding. I never wanted to ruin their marriage!”

Qiao Xi glanced at her coldly, took a document from Song Shijing’s hand, and threw it in front of Xia Mengyan. “Miss Xia, you don’t have to quibble. This is evidence of the Xia family hiring people to spread rumors online. The money was all transferred from your account, and there’s also a recording. Miss Xia, do you want to hear it?”

“Ah! Take it away! Take it away!”

Hearing Qiao Xi’s words, Xia Mengyan shouted at the top of her voice. She no longer looked pitiful, and her face was filled with malevolence. She suddenly pounced over and tore the documents on the floor into pieces. “These are all fake! I didn’t do it!”

“Since you didn’t do it, why are you in a rush to destroy the evidence, Miss Xia?”

In everyone’s impression, Xia Mengyan had always been gentle and kind. Now, she had suddenly become a scheming b*tch in everyone’s hearts. She deliberately approached Gu Zheng and spread rumors to slander Qiao Xi. Everyone found it really difficult to accept.

Xia Cheng’s heart ached when he saw Xia Mengyan’s terrified and helpless appearance. He roared angrily at Qiao Xi. “Qiao Xi! Have you gone mad?!”

“Who exactly is the crazy one here?” Yin Lianxin’s dignified voice sounded. Her eyes were filled with coldness and disdain. She exuded the aura of a queen, and every word seemed to hit the hearts of the Xia family.

“Your Xia family deceived everyone and slandered Xi Xi. Now, you’re saying that Xi Xi has gone mad? I think you’re seriously ill! Are you angry from embarrassment now that the matter has been exposed?” Yin Lianxin mocked, making Xia Cheng so angry that his face turned red.

Yin Jinglin immediately echoed, “It’s not strange for the Xia family to do such things. Old Madam Xia was a mistress back then. Now, she even taught her granddaughter to be a mistress. Does your family have the genes to be a mistress? Do you think every man out there is a scumbag who will be seduced by a mistress?”

Xia Mengyan’s body went soft as she gritted her teeth. She was not a mistress. She and Gu Zheng were engaged. She was just taking back what belonged to her! How could she be a mistress?

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She was indeed engaged to Young Master Xiao, but it had already been more than 10 years. That piece of trash from the Xiao family was not worthy of her at all. What was wrong with her pursuing a better man?! Why couldn’t Qiao Xi give Gu Zheng to her? Why did she have to embarrass her in front of everyone?