

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 131

Suppressing oneself for too long would eventually lead to intense outbursts. The one giving was having a good time, whereas the one receiving felt miserable beyond words.

Fu Chengyan coaxed Shi Nuan all night, but Shi Nuan's mumbles melted his heart and he just couldn't let her go. When Shi Nuan was completely out of energy, Fu Chengyan carried her into the bathroom for a soak.

Inside the bathtub, Shi Nuan was so exhausted that she couldn't keep her eyes open. Yet, a pair of warm hands wandered all over her back, as though to reignite a fire. Shi Nuan quickly opened her eyes and grabbed onto those mischievous hands. "No, that's enough."

Fu Chengyan's eyes were full of smiles. Seeing Shi Nuan like this, he couldn't help but pinch her face. "You have too little stamina, May!"

Shi Nuan's eyes widened and Fu Chengyan watched how clueless she looked. The woman stared at Fu Chengyan in disbelief, but the smile in his eyes was so dazzling that it irritated her. She covered his eyes with her hand. "It's not that I have too little stamina. You just have too much."

Shi Nuan blushed. "I... Rongrong said it'd feel good, but it seems like you're the one enjoying it while I just get exhausted."

Hearing that, Fu Chengyan pulled Shi Nuan's hand away from his eyes and asked with a raised brow. "Oh? So you're saying you didn't enjoy it, May?" He stared at Shi Nuan seriously with his two eyes. Feeling rather guilty and embarrassed, Shi Nuan quickly turned away.

With a curl of his lips, Fu Chengyan grabbed Shi Nuan's hand and kissed it. "Lay on your stomach. I'll give you a rub!" Shi Nuan obediently did as told. Her hands held onto the outer edge of the tub and she rested her chin between her arms.

Fu Chengyan's slender fingers wandered across her body and massaged her gently. Shi Nuan couldn't help but sigh and change her position. He used just the right amount of strength. "I want to sleep," she said while opening her eyes slightly.

"Don't sleep in the tub. You'll catch a cold!" Fu Chengyan said gently beside her ear. But Shi Nuan was so tired that she could no longer open her eyes. She quietly fell into a slumber.

Fu Chengyan stopped moving and couldn't help but shake his head in laughter upon seeing how exhausted Shi Nuan looked. His eyes were full of affection for her.

As he carried Shi Nuan, the water on her body instantly soaked his clothes. With eyes full of smiles, the man sat Shi Nuan on the edge of the tub. Shi Nuan opened her eyes slightly, mumbled a few words, then closed her eyes and fell back asleep.

Fu Chengyan took a towel to wipe Shi Nuan's body before lifting her up once again and gently placing her onto the bed.

Shi Nuan rolled around and shifted to her usual sleeping position the moment she reached the bed.

Fu Chengyan smiled as he reached out to caress Shi Nuan's face. His eyes were filled with warmth.

After standing by the bed for a while, Fu Chengyan went to take a shower. He then came out to look at Shi Nuan once more before returning to the study room to finish his work.

Meanwhile, Zhou Zheng was about to fall asleep. But since he still had to report to Fu Chengyan, he could only wait.

He waited for an entire two and a half hours before Fu Chengyan was available again.

Zhou Zheng immediately straightened his back and reported today's affairs to Fu Chengyan. Fu Chengyan always had a lot to do each day. The companies he had to handle were so extensive and abundant that he couldn't take care of everything on his own. But Zhou Zheng was his best assistant.

In fact, Zhou Zheng could be more than an assistant. Fu Chengyan had completely left Xinhuang and House of Chigu under Zhou Zheng's care. The latter could single-handedly manage all the affairs of these two places.

“Speak!”

“Xinhuang is ready to invest in a few movies. Qin Hong has already given me a list, which I will e-mail to you tomorrow morning.” Although Zhou Zheng had the power to fully manage Xinhuang, he would still proactively report any major decisions to Fu Chengyan.

Fu Chengyan stroked his chin. “Movies?” he asked as he tapped on the desk. “When does Shi Wei start filming her series?”

“Sometime in the middle of next month,” Zhou Zheng replied and paused for a moment. “Mr. Fu, Shi Wei is getting married in three days. Have you received the invitation?”

Fu Chengyan curled his lips. The answer was obvious.

How could that sly fox, Fu Yuqing, miss out on such an opportunity? Fu Xicheng marrying Shi Wei was such a big issue that Fu Yuqing surely had his plans.

After all, Fu Chengyan was a big name in Jiang City. When would Fu Yuqing not make use of this, if not now?

“Then are you going, Mr. Fu?” Zhou Zheng figured that Shi Nuan was now married to Fu Chengyan, and Shi Wei was her sister, so Shi Nuan would surely have to go. According to how Shi Wei normally treated Shi Nuan, there was a possibility that Shi Wei would do something to her.

And based on how overprotective Fu Chengyan was, he would surely head over too. However, his relationship with Shi Nuan hadn't been made known. Hence, Zhou Zheng couldn't be sure of Fu Chengyan's decision or make any guesses at all.

Fu Chengyan squinted as he placed a hand below his chin. He looked at Zhou Zheng without a word.

Thinking that he had asked the obvious, Zhou Zheng couldn't sit still at all. “Mr. Fu...”

“How are things going on K Nation's side?” Fu Chengyan suddenly changed the topic, causing Zhou Zheng to freeze for a moment. “There's nothing much going on there, ever since that scheme against madam. What should we do, Mr. Fu?”

“In that case, leave them be for now,” Fu Chengyan said with a wave of his hand. “Do as you see fit regarding the film investments. There's no need to report everything to me. Drop by House of Chigu tomorrow morning and get me a piece of painting!”

“Yes sir!”

Fu Chengyan ended the video call. He tapped on the desk and moved his chair to gaze at the dark sky outside the window. Hearing the sounds of leaves being rustled by the wind, Fu Chengyan's gaze darkened.

The autumn wind was rather feisty and capricious. He got up and stood by the window for a long while before finally closing the curtains and turning to leave for the bedroom.

He had left a dim light on earlier, and upon returning, the woman in bed was sleeping soundly. He walked over and gently tucked himself under the covers.

Shi Nuan could somehow detect his presence. She turned around from the other side and buried herself in the man's arms.

Fu Chengyan smiled faintly and pulled Shi Nuan's slim body into his embrace. Holding onto her gently and caressing her back with his chin rested above her head, he closed his eyes only after Shi Nuan stopped moving.

Shi Nuan felt like she was being embraced by a stove. She slept well all night and awoke the next morning to find Fu Chengyan still sleeping, which was rare. With his eyes closed, he looked different from usual.

He looked the most vulnerable when sleeping peacefully. Even though he appeared good-tempered every time Shi Nuan stood before him, she had also seen the man when he was furious. Fu Chengyan was rather fearsome when he was angry. Shi Nuan might never have seen him in the state spoken of by the outside world, but she knew about it.

But this was Shi Nuan's first time seeing him sleeping so calmly. Smiling, she propped herself up with her elbows and gazed at her husband's innocent-looking face in amusement.

Fu Chengyan was so alert that he opened his eyes after Shi Nuan looked at him for just a short time.

His eyes were filled with coldness the moment he opened them. But they softened once he saw Shi Nuan. Letting out a soft chuckle, his deep voice rang beside her ears. "You're awake?"

Shi Nuan suddenly felt as though she had been caught doing something shameful. She nodded and turned her head away, wanting to get out of bed. But Fu Chengyan reached out to pull Shi Nuan into his arms. "It's still early. Sleep a little longer!"

"It's not early anymore!" Shi Nuan said. "It's already past eight."

"There's no rush!" With Fu Chengyan holding onto her like this, Shi Nuan couldn't move at all. She could only let herself be embraced by that pair of strong arms.

Not saying a word, Shi Nuan stared at Fu Chengyan in a daze but moved deeper into his arms. "Since when did you become this lazy?"

Fu Chengyan smirked. People always said a man looked the sexiest when he had just woken up, and Shi Nuan found this completely true.

Fu Chengyan was a lady killer with that low voice of his!

"It's the weekend, so we can sleep longer. OK?" he said while rubbing his chin against Shi Nuan's face, while at the same time gently caressing her chin. "You slept so late last night. Weren't you complaining about being exhausted?"

Hearing that, Shi Nuan instantly flushed red.

She bit her lip and glared at Fu Chengyan. "Stop talking about that!" Wasn't it all his fault anyway?

She lost count of how many times she had asked him to stop, but he kept indulging himself over and over again, telling her it would be the last time. In the end, those words were nothing but lies. He kept going until she could barely move anymore.

Thinking about this, Shi Nuan reached out to touch her own lower back. It felt extremely sore.

Fu Chengyan couldn't help but laugh, seeing Shi Nuan like this. "What are you thinking about?"

Shi Nuan reached underneath Fu Chengyan's shirt and gave his waist a pinch. "I was just thinking about when I should chase you out to the guest room. You seem to have slept very well there!" Shi Nuan answered while gritting her teeth.

But her face was so gentle that she didn't look fierce at all. In Fu Chengyan's eyes, she only looked more enchanting.

He curled his lips slightly, showing no intention of stopping her pinching. Besides, she was merely throwing a small fuss at him and it didn't hurt one bit.

Shi Nuan felt her own fingers feeling sore after pinching her husband for a while. Yet, Fu Chengyan didn't react at all and she looked slightly frustrated. "Does it not hurt at all?"

Fu Chengyan raised a brow upon seeing Shi Nuan pout. He held onto Shi Nuan's face with his two hands as his gaze deepened. "It hurts, so will you love me, May?"

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Shi Nuan blushed and pushed Fu Chengyan away. "You're crazy!"

With a laugh, Fu Chengyan turned over and pinned Shi Nuan underneath him. With his two arms next to Shi Nuan and a curve of his lips, he wrapped Shi Nuan's fragile body.

Shi Nuan gulped, suddenly feeling a sense of oppression. "It's getting late, Yan. We—"

"It really is. Your body is too weak, May. I think from now on, we should work out together every morning!" Fu Chengyan said while gazing into Shi Nuan's eyes. There was a lot of meaning behind his words.

Shi Nuan's heart skipped a beat. By the time she could react, she was already being swept away by Fu Chengyan's actions.

There was no denying that Fu Chengyan was a pro in this regard. Shi Nuan had just gone through so much last night, but everything he did to tease her would make her lose control of herself.

It was a heavy price to pay for being so brazen. The exercise Fu Chengyan spoke of was merely doing certain things in bed.

After they were done, Fu Chengyan energetically kissed Shi Nuan on the corner of her lips and carried her into the bathroom. Poor Shi Nuan hadn't even recovered from last night, and now her legs had turned jelly-like.

Shi Nuan looked up at Fu Chengyan's profile in anger while laying against his shoulder. She couldn't help but dig her teeth into his flesh.

Fu Chengyan squinted and took a breath. With a hand on her waist, Fu Chengyan was carefully cleaning her body. When she bit his shoulder, his entire body tightened and a flame lit up in his eyes. "Are you trying to stir me up, May?"

Shi Nuan instantly froze and said, "That's enough, Fu Chengyan!"

With a smile in his eyes, Fu Chengyan kissed the corner of Shi Nuan's eye. "Alright, I'm just kidding!" He didn't know whether to feel tickled or angry, seeing Shi Nuan looking frantic like that. "OK, put on your clothes and head down! Don't forget that we have to meet your granddad today!"

"Right! Granddad!" Shi Nuan suddenly remembered and couldn't help but give Fu Chengyan a punch. "It's all your fault! I nearly forgot all about meeting grandpa," she said while biting her lip. "What should I do? I haven't even prepared a gift for him. Today is the day I officially introduce you to him. It'd be too rude to show up empty-handed!"

"Alright, don't panic!" Fu Chengyan said as he grabbed onto Shi Nuan's arm. "Put on your clothes and come downstairs!"

When the two walked downstairs, Zhou Zheng had already been waiting for hours.

Upon receiving orders last night to show up here early the next morning, Zhou Zheng did as he was told. He had given Fu Chengyan a call, only to be told to come inside and wait.

It was a long, miserable wait. Zhou Zheng had been here from 8am until almost noon. He had rushed over to his boss's house before even eating breakfast.

And in the end? The boss walked down while radiating happiness, as though he feared no one would know what he had been up to this morning!

Shi Nuan walked behind slowly, not noticing there was a guest in the living room until she heard Zhou Zheng's voice. "Mr. Zhou? Why are you here?" she asked while in shock.

After looking at Zhou Zheng, she turned back to Fu Chengyan. "Go on. I'll prepare some food in the kitchen!"

Fu Chengyan grabbed Shi Nuan's hand. "Just something simple will do."

Shi Nuan nodded and glanced at Fu Chengyan, indicating him to let go of her hand. But Fu Chengyan didn't seem to notice her hint.

Zhou Zheng quickly turned his head to look elsewhere, thinking, such torture! I haven't even had breakfast, and now they're being all lovey-dovey in front of me. This is terrific. I'll kill him!

Shi Nuan broke free of Fu Chengyan's grasp. "I'll get going!"

Fu Chengyan retracted his gaze and glanced at Zhou Zheng indifferently. "Where's the stuff?"

"Right here!" Zhou Zheng quickly handed a long box over to Fu Chengyan. "Mr. Qin said this is an artwork by Liu Zongyuan. Didn't you say you wanted to give this to the old man?"

Fu Chengyan gave Zhou Zheng a glare, causing the latter to lower his volume. "Mr. Qin had it repaired again, so it's been very well-preserved!"

With a nod, Fu Chengyan took out the painting to have a look before putting it back into the box. "And the rest?"

"The rest are inside your car." Knowing that Fu Chengyan was going to meet Shi Nuan's grandfather, Zhou Zheng began scouring ever since last night, he went to one of the malls under Shengyuan to place the orders and have someone send the items over immediately. He dared not slack off one bit.

Fu Chengyan nodded. "OK. You may leave!"

Zhou Zheng froze for a moment. "Yes sir!"

Fu Chengyan was the only one in the living room when Shi Nuan came out. "Where's Mr. Zhou?" Shi Nuan asked as she looked around.

"He's left!" Fu Chengyan looked up at Shi Nuan while in the midst of reading a financial magazine. "Why? Do you need him for something?"

Shi Nuan shook her head. "I just think it's a bit unfair for him to be working for you even during the weekend! It's time to eat."

Fu Chengyan put down the magazine and got up to walk towards Shi Nuan.

He was dressed in very simple loungewear. He only wore a set of light gray casual clothes, but still looked radiant anyway.

The man always looked calm. He often exuded a very cold and distant vibe while wearing a suit. But in casual clothes, Shi Nuan felt he looked very warm and gentle.

He had such a nice body shape that anything he wore looked out of this world on him.

"Who cares about that? You wouldn't pity him if you knew how much I pay him every month, not to mention the annual bonus he gets," Fu Chengyan said nonchalantly and glanced at the food on the table. "Didn't I say something simple will do?"

"That can't do. It's already noon!" Shi Nuan couldn't help but glare at Fu Chengyan. "It's all your fault!"

Shi Nuan had arranged to meet Shi Yunsheng in the afternoon at Yun Shui Jian.

The venue had been chosen by Fu Chengyan. Yun Shui Jian was an extremely elegant place.

Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan arrived first. Seeing that the woman with Fu Chengyan was the same one as who had come before, the manager naturally took note of her.

Since Fu Chengyan was the one who personally called the place and even requested for it to be closed to the public, the manager had begun preparations immediately.

“This is the pavilion, Mr. Fu. Will it do?”

Fu Chengyan entered while holding Shi Nuan’s hand and nodded after giving the place a glance. “Yup!”

The manager sighed with relief inside. “In that case, I’ll have the staff get things ready.”

Shi Nuan observed the place after the manager left. “This one is slightly different from the one we went to previously!” she said as her eyes lit up.

Fu Chengyan nodded and sat down while still holding Shi Nuan’s hand. Shi Nuan sat next to Fu Chengyan, letting the man hold her hand. He placed it over his knee and squeezed it lightly.

Shi Nuan noticed Fu Chengyan was making a lot of small movements, and especially liked playing with her fingers. Even if Shi Nuan didn’t think there was anything fun about playing with them.

Suddenly, a knock came from outside and the manager pushed the door open. “After you, sir.”

Shi Nuan quickly got up and dragged Fu Chengyan along. “Granddad!” she greeted.

Under the assist of Mr. Yang, Shi Yunsheng walked in while clutching onto a cane. The old man looked up upon hearing Shi Nuan's clear voice. His eyes gleamed as he saw Shi Nuan and he looked towards Fu Chengyan behind her.

"Granddad!" Fu Chengyan said gracefully, accepting Shi Yunsheng's gaze.

Shi Yunsheng narrowed his eyes and nodded. "Hello!"

"Don't just stand there, granddad. Have a seat!" Shi Nuan said while letting go of Fu Chengyan's hand to help the old man sit down. "Granddad, I believe you know who Yan is! He was also there during your birthday celebration and even gave you a jade chessboard. Do you still remember?"

"Hello, granddad," Fu Chengyan said with light nod.

Shi Yunsheng gently patted Shi Nuan with a laugh. "Of course I do. How could I not, you silly girl?" He then turned to look at Fu Chengyan. The old man smiled, but carefully sized Fu Chengyan up with his eyes before nodding in satisfaction. "You little brat, how could you not have told me about your marriage? I—"

"Aren't I telling you about it now?" Shi Nuan held onto Shi Yunsheng's arm affectionately and snuggled up to him. "You were sick the last time, so I didn't want you worrying about me. That's why I didn't tell you about my marriage to Yan. Yan treats me very well, granddad!"

"You have no shame at all, my dear grandchild." Despite saying that, it was clear that Shi Yunsheng adored and pampered Shi Nuan a lot. "Have you told your maternal grandfather about your marriage? He's not as good-tempered as I am. Have you brought Yan to meet him?"

"Yes, we have," Shi Nuan said with a smile. "Grandpa really doesn't have a good temper." She then said beside Shi Yunsheng's ear, "I wasn't the one who told him about it. He had found out from someone else, so he was pretty mad about it. Yan and I spent a lot of time and effort to appease him."

“You little brat!” Shi Yunsheng exclaimed while giving Shi Nuan a light slap on the forehead. “You’re so mischievous. So did you receive your grandpa’s blessing?” The old man was speaking to Shi Nuan, but his eyes were focused on Fu Chengyan.

Fu Chengyan curled his lips. “Thank you for your concern, granddad. We’ve received his blessing, so we’re here for yours today!”

“I’m a very easy-going old man. I’m fine with anything as long as you treat Nuan well!” Shi Yunsheng didn’t have anything to ask for. “But I’m sure you’re aware of Nuan’s situation. To put it frankly, Nuan has gone through a lot since she was a child. She... An old man like me has nothing else to ask for, except for one thing: treat Nuan well. Treat her well for life.”

Fu Chengyan smiled. “Of course. I’ve taken May as my wife, so I’ll naturally take care of her. As for what you’ve mentioned about May’s situation, I don’t think it’s a problem at all. Since she’s married me, I’ll definitely protect her for life!”

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Shi Yunsheng was extremely satisfied with Fu Chengyan. Despite feeling rather hard to accept his granddaughter's hasty marriage, he felt it was the right time for Fu Chengyan to show up.

Shi Nuan was currently in a rather unique circumstance. Shi Yunsheng was always watching over her, but it wasn't enough. If Shi Nuan could find herself a powerful man to remain by herself, then he would be at ease.

Furthermore, it was clear from the small details that Fu Chengyan really treated Shi Nuan well. More importantly, his identity and status was more than enough to be able to protect Shi Nuan.

"I'll speak frankly: that boy, Fu Xicheng..."

"Are you worried I'd be biased because of Fu Xicheng, granddad?" Fu Chengyan asked with a curl of his lips. "I believe you're aware that with the Fu family being so huge, it's not unusual for things to be a tad complicated between relatives!"

A dim light flashed across Shi Yunsheng's eyes as he began to re-evaluate Fu Chengyan. This young man was clearly out of the ordinary. He understood everything Shi Yunsheng was thinking or worrying about. Seeing how well Fu Chengyan took care of everything, Shi Yunsheng didn't have much else to say.

"There's no need for you to worry, granddad. I've said the same to Shi Nuan's maternal grandfather: since I've taken May as my wife, I won't let anything or anyone cause her pain," Fu Chengyan promised.

Shi Yunsheng had never interacted much with Fu Chengyan, but since they were both part of the business circle, it wasn't unusual for him to hear about this young man's feats. At this moment, Shi Yunsheng was extremely impressed by Fu Chengyan. The young man certainly stood out among others of the same generation. But Shi Yunsheng had never expected that this young man would end up with Shi Nuan.

"I have one last question: has Nuan met your family?"

Fu Chengyan raised an eyebrow, thinking that the old man was really asking all the right questions. But just as he was about to answer, Shi Nuan interrupted, "Yan is being considerate towards how I feel, so we're meeting you and grandpa first."

Upon hearing that, Shi Yunsheng froze for a moment and the atmosphere instantly turned cold.

Shi Nuan words weren't too pleasing, at least for now. This was especially when a wise old man like Shi Yunsheng had done everything for Shi Nuan's sake.

Fu Chengyan raised his brows slightly, but quickly regained his usual composure. He reached out to hold Shi Nuan's hand. "May, go outside and see how they're coming along with the food."

It was clear to Shi Nuan that Fu Chengyan wanted her to leave for a moment. She gritted her teeth. Seeing the change in Shi Yunsheng's expression, she knew she had said something wrong. Shi Nuan looked at Shi Yunsheng then turned to Fu Chengyan. "I..."

"Go on! I don't quite understand granddad's taste in food, but you should know since you've been by his side since young, right?"

Shi Nuan nodded. "OK then!" She reluctantly broke free of Fu Chengyan's grasp and looked at the two men before leaving.

Shi Yunsheng's gaze never left the young couple. His eyes twinkled as he watched the two interact. The moment Shi Nuan disappeared, Shi Yunsheng retracted his gaze and looked at Fu Chengyan sternly. "Would you care to explain, Mr. Fu?"

Fu Chengyan smirked inside. This old man says he's easy-going, but he's actually worried about me. Shi Yunsheng was different from Fu Chengyan's teacher, Jiang Shizheng. Jiang Shizheng was the type who would straightforwardly express his discontent. On top of that, he was once Fu Chengyan's teacher, so he understood the young man much more than Shi Yunsheng did.

Shi Yunsheng might not have been against Fu Chengyan being with Shi Nuan, but their marriage was certainly rather impulsive, so Fu Chengyan was wrong in this regard. And now, Shi Yunsheng learned that the two had gotten married before Shi Nuan had even met the man's parents. Moreover, both their parents hadn't met each other.

Shi Yunsheng was a traditional old man, so he was still particular about the rules of etiquette, especially when it came to Shi Nuan.

"You can just call me Yan, granddad," Fu Chengyan said while pouring Shi Yunsheng a cup of tea. He had the air of a young aristocrat, making him rather different from others.

Fu Chengyan didn't rush to explain anything. He calmly poured the tea for Shi Yunsheng before finally saying, "Truthfully, I've known May since long ago. You may not know this, granddad, but her maternal grandpa, Jiang Shizheng, used to be my teacher. I graduated from Jing University and met May when she was young."

Shi Yunsheng froze slightly upon hearing that, but quickly retracted his gaze and studied his cup of tea in detail. "So you're saying that your feelings for May didn't develop within this short time?"

Fu Chengyan's eyes glimmered. "You can say that," he replied. "But May didn't really know me."

Shi Yunsheng nodded, as though he had guessed this. If Shi Nuan knew such a brilliant man like Fu Chengyan, there was no way she would have brushed him aside and fallen for a treacherous scumbag like Fu Xicheng instead.

Shi Yunsheng was rather surprised by Fu Chengyan's honesty.

"There are some things I have to be honest with you about, granddad. I admit that my marriage to May hasn't been too upstanding. But I like her, so I will protect her well. Furthermore, May agreeing to marry me back then was destiny. I'm sure you're aware of what May has been going through these recent times, granddad."

Fu Chengyan was a smart man. He wouldn't reveal all his cards or show all his strengths and weaknesses to someone who wasn't happy with him. But at the same time, he was someone who took delight in winning during risky situations.

He said this much without revealing everything.

Shi Yunsheng was a sensible man. There was no need to go into detail about everything; as long as he understood, it was enough.

Expectedly, Shi Yunsheng's expression darkened slightly. His grip on the cane tightened as well. "I suppose you're aware of the Shi family's affairs."

Fu Chengyan nodded. "May is a kind girl. She probably doesn't care about certain affairs, but since she's part of the Shi family, there are things she can't run away from. I'm guessing you gave those shares to her to protect her, as well as to protect the Shi family's foundation."

Shi Yunsheng instantly looked up and evaluated Fu Chengyan with his sharp eyes. "You're remarkable. Nuan chose the right man!"

“But have you ever considered that some things just aren’t suited for May to handle?” Fu Chengyan asked with a frown.

Shi Yunsheng was stunned for a moment, then he sighed. “I know that. I didn’t want to drag Nuan into this. She was never interested in these Shi family matters. The only thing she cared about was familial love, but this isn’t something you can get just because you want it. I’m old now and don’t have much time left. I begin to wonder what would happen to Nuan if I were to leave? Even if she doesn’t want to accept these, she has to.”

“Some things aren’t suited for her, no matter when.” Fu Chengyan said calmly as he put his teacup down and gazed at Shi Yunsheng with a pair of cold eyes. “So I promise you, granddad: anything that isn’t suited for her, I will handle in her place!” He was never a man who paid only lip service, but if this was someone Shi Nuan cared about, he didn’t mind doing so.

Shi Yunsheng looked at Fu Chengyan in astonishment and immediately understood. “You have a lot of courage, young man. I was initially worried that Nuan would suffer if she were to go against the Shi family, but it looks like my concerns are unnecessary!”

Fu Chengyan curled his lips. “My marriage to May has brought a lot of benefits, although this was never my intentions. As for the Fu family, May can drop by whenever she wants. I’m capable of handling anything you’re worried about, granddad!”

“That’s good to hear!”

The two men chatted away, while Shi Nuan remained outside in a panic. She would peer into the pavilion from time to time, trying to eavesdrop on Fu Chengyan’s and her grandfather’s conversation. With granddad’s personality, wouldn’t he make things difficult for Fu Chengyan?

Seeing how frantic Shi Nuan looked, Mr. Yang couldn’t help but laugh.

Shi Nuan turned to Mr. Yang with a pout. “How could you laugh at me? Aren’t you worried about what granddad is saying to Yan?”

“Are you worried that Master Shi is giving Mr. Fu a hard time, Ms. Nuan?” Mr. Yang couldn’t help but shake his head as he saw Shi Nuan behaving this way. “Don’t worry, Ms. Nuan. Master Shi isn’t that narrow-minded. In fact, I think he’s very satisfied with Mr. Fu.”

“Really?” Shi Nuan’s eyes twinkled and she immediately sought confirmation. “Are you serious? Did granddad ever tell you anything?”

Seeing how eager Shi Nuan looked, Mr. Yang was just about to respond when the door to the pavilion suddenly opened. The tall Fu Chengyan stood by the door with a smile plastered across his face. “If you want to know, why don’t you come in?”

Shi Nuan froze in awkwardness and turned to Fu Chengyan. “Are you done talking to granddad?” she asked as she walked over to hold Fu Chengyan’s hand. “What did granddad say? Did he blame you? It’s all my fault. What I said earlier—”

“You silly girl! What would I blame Yan for? Are you saying I’m that unreasonable?”

Shi Yunsheng also got up, clutched onto his cane and stared at Shi Nuan, pretending to be angry.

Shi Nuan felt awkward once again. She stuck out her tongue in embarrassment while her face turned pink. She carefully gripped Fu Chengyan’s arm and answered as though she had just been caught in a mischievous act, “You’re such a bully, granddad!”

“Hahaha!” Shi Yunsheng couldn’t help but laugh heartily. “Look at your husband—does he look like I just bullied him? Seriously, you silly girl, you’ve just gotten married and you don’t even want to side your own granddad anymore!”

“What are you saying, granddad!?” Shi Nuan couldn’t help but stomp her foot and she met Fu Chengyan’s smiling face the moment she looked up. “What are you smiling about? It’s all your fault!” she said with a pout.

Seeing how Shi Nuan was behaving like a coquettish young girl, Fu Chengyan’s gaze couldn’t help but darken slightly. He placed a hand on Shi Nuan’s back and patted her gently. “You must be hungry now. Let’s eat!”

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Shi Nuan completely didn't expect such a tense situation to turn out this way, nor did she know what Fu Chengyan had said to her granddad that caused the old man to treat him better than he treated Shi Nuan.

The two men talked about business. Shi Nuan didn't understand much about this aspect, so she was rather sidelined. Feeling bored, Shi Nuan lowered her head and focused on eating, while Fu Chengyan would chat with Shi Yunsheng and took care of Shi Nuan at the same time. Whenever Shi Nuan's bowl became empty, Fu Chengyan would get her more food. If she wanted to eat prawns, he would peel the shells for her and not let her lift a finger.

It was impossible to do such things just for the sake for putting on a show. Shi Yunsheng had met many people and he knew this. He knew that Fu Chengyan truly treated Shi Nuan well, and he was relieved.

Shi Nuan was anxious throughout the entire meal. She was so occupied with thinking about what Fu Chengyan had said to her granddad that she ate everything Fu Chengyan gave her. When she finally realized it, she was beyond stuffed.

After the meal, Fu Chengyan was extremely thoughtful about the gifts. As they left Yun Shui Jian, Fu Chengyan instructed Zhou Zheng, who had been waiting all along, to send everything over to the Shi family in a car. Shi Yunsheng wanted to turn down the gifts, but he eventually didn't after some thought.

After seeing Shi Yunsheng off, Shi Nuan turned to Fu Chengyan, unable to hide her curiosity anymore. "What in the world did you say to granddad? Why is he—"

“I told you to leave everything to me!” Fu Chengyan pinched Shi Nuan on the nose. “Meanwhile, why did you say that earlier?” he asked, although without any intention of blaming Shi Nuan. He then held Shi Nuan by the hand. “Shall we take a walk?”

Shi Nuan looked down at her stomach and nodded. “Why did you keep getting food for me? I’m so bloated now,” she couldn’t help but grumble. “If you keep doing this, I’m going to get fat!”

“How could that be?” Fu Chengyan laughed softly and took a look at Shi Nuan before pinching her soft cheeks. “You’re too thin, so it wouldn’t hurt to fatten you up a little. You’d feel nicer to hold too!”

Fu Chengyan’s profound gaze at Shi Nuan made her blush. “You’re crazy!” she exclaimed. “I’m talking about granddad and you’re changing the subject!”

“So you noticed?” Fu Chengyan cast a gentle gaze at Shi Nuan and sighed faintly. He then pulled the woman into his arms and caressed her slightly messy hair. “I told you I’d be careful. As for my conversation with your granddad, that will remain a secret. You should just leave some things to me, OK?”

Being embraced by Fu Chengyan like this made Shi Nuan feel warm all over. “OK. I won’t ask then!” She knew how Fu Chengyan was; if there was something he had to tell her, he would never hide it.

Meanwhile, Mr. Yang drove while glancing at the car following behind. He couldn’t help but sigh emotionally. “Master, it looks like Ms. Nuan has found true love.”

“Yup!” Shi Yunsheng was very happy with Fu Chengyan too. He didn’t care if the man married Shi Nuan in the most dishonorable way; as long as he treated Shi Nuan kindly, that was enough.

“I was initially worried that Shi Wei’s marriage to Fu Xicheng would affect Nuan, but it looks like I was just overthinking. This Fu Chengyan really is a somebody,

and I have no concerns leaving Nuan in his care. Jiang Shizheng and I are both old now anyway, so we won't be able to look after Nuan for long," Shi Yunsheng spoke with a tired frown on his face. "Shi Wei and Fu Xicheng are getting married two days later?"

"Yes, master," Mr. Yang nodded and said rather reluctantly. "Master, do you think... Do you think the young master isn't aware of how much Fu Xicheng and his father, Fu Yuqing, have their eyes on the family's shares? He's even letting Ms. Wei marry Fu Xicheng. I don't know what he's thinking. Fu Xicheng clearly used to be Ms. Nuan's boyfriend, but to think that Ms. Wei could do this to her own little sister, and—"

"Forget it, Yang!" Shi Yunsheng interrupted while shaking his head. "This isn't something you and I can stop anyway. That son of mine—it's not as if you don't know how bitter he's always been towards my adopted son, Shi Yu." The old man looked unusually melancholic at the mention of Shi Yu. "That child... It must have been tough for him."

"Don't say that, master. Master Yu has always been so thoughtful. He left precisely because he didn't want to cause you pain. He'll always remember the kindness you've shown him, so don't worry."

"You're right. It's just that I haven't seen him for quite some years." Shi Yunsheng was old now, but it was still rare for him to look this lonely. Mr. Yang was also an old man who had been by Shi Yunsheng's side for so long that he completely understood how his master felt. "If you miss the young master, you can always ask him to come back!"

"Forget it. Just treating Nuan better already gives them so much to complain about. If Shi Yu were to come back, they'd probably go ballistic!" Shi Yunsheng didn't want Shi Yu to return, but there were some things he couldn't explain with just a few words. "Thankfully, Nuan has found herself a man like Fu Chengyan, so I'm slightly relieved!"

As Mr. Yang arrived the Hanlin villa area and stopped the car, Zhou Zheng also stopped right behind them and quickly got out. “Sir, would you like me to help move these into your place?”

“Yan is so thoughtful,” Shi Yunsheng remarked as he looked at all the gifts from Fu Chengyan. They were all imported and expensive goods. It wasn’t as though Shi Yunsheng had never seen such things, so he wasn’t too surprised. But it was still a thoughtful move by Fu Chengyan. Since these were items given by an in-law after officially meeting for the first time, Shi Yunsheng couldn’t turn them down.

Still, the old man was most satisfied with the painting. It was an excellent choice of a gift. “It’s fine. I’ll have Yang move them in. If the Shi family were to see your face again, it’ll probably cause a storm.” Shi Yunsheng was old, but he still had a sharp mind.

Moreover, Fu Chengyan had made it clear that marrying Shi Nuan meant he would protect her well. But from the way Nuan behaved today, she didn’t seem to want to reveal her marriage publicly yet.

Shi Yunsheng thought about their relationship and understood what was happening.

Weren’t Shi Jingzheng and Jiang Yu now buttering Fu Yuqing up because of his relationship with Fu Chengyan?

Shi Jingzheng and Jiang Yu were such meticulous planners. They knew that if Shi Nuan were to get married to Fu Xicheng, there wouldn’t be much to gain from, which was why Shi Wei was marrying the man instead. But they likely didn’t expect Shi Nuan to get married to Fu Chengyan. If they found out about it, they would surely try their best to go near such a big, fruitful tree like Fu Chengyan.

Zhou Zheng understood what the old man meant, so he nodded. “Then I’m sorry to burden you. Mr. Fu is sincere about the madam—even a subordinate like me can see that. What Mr. Fu means is that there are some things unsuited for the

madam to take care of, so when Mr. Fu is done clearing all the obstacles, you will definitely be invited to celebrate their wedding. You're the madam's closest kin, after all!"

"You sure are a smooth talker, young man." A satisfied Shi Yunsheng gave Mr. Yang a glance, and the latter gave Zhou Zheng a tip, saying, "You must be very busy, Mr. Zhou, leave these gifts to me!"

"You have my gratitude, sir." Zhou Zheng's highly appropriate behavior pleased Shi Yunsheng.

After Zhou Zheng had left, Shi Yunsheng spoke while clutching his cane, "If Jingzheng asks about these things, tell him I was in a good mood and bought them."

"Yes sir!"

Expectedly, as the two old men entered the house, Jiang Yu saw all the things Mr. Yang carried into Shi Yunsheng's room. She quickly knocked on Shi Jingzheng's study room door. "Zheng!"

"What's up?"

Shi Jingzheng put his things down and frowned upon seeing how sneaky Jiang Yu looked. "Why are you acting like this in our own house?"

Jiang Yu snuck a glance at the corridor outside. "Guess what the old man brought back."

"What else could it be? He's old, so he can buy whatever he wants!" Shi Jingzheng said unhappily. "Wei is getting married in two days, but instead of busying yourself with the wedding, why are you constantly watching the old man?"

“What do you mean watching the old man?” Jiang Yu was instantly unsatisfied. “Haven’t you noticed how strangely he’s behaving these days? He keeps going out but we don’t know what he’s up to. He’s retired for so many years, so he shouldn’t be this busy anymore. Besides, those things he just got isn’t any regular stuff—they’re supplements and imported goods!”

Shi Jingzheng froze. “Are you serious?”

“Why wouldn’t I be? He’s getting the housekeeper to move everything into his room,” Jiang Yu said in frustration. “Those things surely aren’t cheap. They must have cost hundreds of thousands. There’s no way the old man would spend like that, no matter how rich he is!”

“You can only talk about this with me. Don’t ever bring it up in front of the old man,” Shi Jingzheng told Jiang Yu with a glare. “You’re getting more and more brazen these days. It’s his business to buy whatever he wants. It’s not like he’s spending a single cent of yours. If he ever hears you, the house is going to be in chaos again.”

“What do you mean, Shi Jingzheng? Are you saying I’m just stirring up trouble? Look at how the old man treats me. I’m your official wife! I legally married into the Shi family, but are you not aware of how he treats me!?” Jiang Yu was livid. “I don’t think he bought those things for himself. They must be for that little brat, Shi Nuan!”

“That’s enough. You’re making even less sense now. If those things were meant for Shi Nuan, he would’ve sent them directly to her place. Why would he let you see them?” Shi Jingzheng said impatiently. “If you have that much free time, why don’t you find out if there’s anything else needed for Wei’s wedding?”

“Don’t bother with these things!” Shi Jingzheng might have said this, but he was also aware of the old man’s recent behavior. “I’ll take a look at dad’s room later!” he said with a somber expression on his face.

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 135

Shi Wei had been busy preparing for the wedding recently. Despite parents from both sides insisting on letting them handle the event, getting married was every girl's dream, and Shi Wei was no exception.

She had been constantly buying things from Liu Minjun, which was an important step to appease the latter. Shi Wei noticed that Fu Xicheng seemed rather distracted recently. She knew he still couldn't get over that wench, Shi Nuan. Even when they were about to get married, Fu Xicheng was still thinking about Shi Nuan.

It wasn't as though Shi Wei didn't know, but she just couldn't accept it. To Shi Wei, spending the rest of her life with Fu Xicheng was certain.

Fu Xicheng's current weaknesses were Fu Yuqing and Liu Minjun. Fu Yuqing was a grown man and there was no need for Shi Wei to try to butter him up. She only needed to look elegant enough for the man to accept her. But Liu Minjun was different. Liu Minjun was a housewife who gave her everything to Fu Xicheng and Fu Yuqing.

Fu Xicheng was Liu Minjun's only son, and it was clear how much she loved him. There was no way Fu Xicheng wouldn't want Shi Wei, so long as Shi Wei could appease Liu Minjun.

So no matter what Liu Minjun was busy with, Shi Wei would always be there with her. Liu Minjun wasn't a cold-hearted woman. Accepting the fact that her son was going to marry Shi Wei and seeing how decent her future daughter-in-law looked, she slowly began to forget about Shi Nuan.

Shi Wei was so busy that she naturally forgot all about Anna. She couldn't care less about whether her friend was dead or alive.

Shi Wei recalled that Su Su went to meet her on the day before the wedding. Su Su mentioned that Anna was now doing fine and was resting at home. Anna seemed to have been traumatized and hadn't left the house for a long time. It was only now that Shi Wei remembered her. "Then... Did Anna tell you anything? Did she blame me?"

Su Su shook her head. "I've been busy too, so I haven't contacted her much. I heard all of this from Li Qiao over some coffee. She asked me why she hadn't seen me with Anna for a while," Su Su said. "Do you think Anna is blaming us for what had happened?"

"Why would she blame you? She'd probably blame me! Did you know she called me up once? But none of us knows who she offended, and there was no way I could help her. Besides, I've been busy preparing for the wedding, so I've neglected her," Shi Wei said, looking frustrated. "I don't even know if she'll come to my wedding tomorrow!"

The woman they were talking about happened to be shopping with her mother. After the incident, Anna was so traumatized that she had lost a lot of weight in just a few days.

Anna didn't want to leave the house with her scars. Despite putting on makeup, they still looked very visible.

On top of that, Anna had always been extremely vain. She had always looked good, so she just couldn't accept having two scars on her face now. Anna also couldn't understand why her father refused to let her fix the scars. She was only allowed to leave the country for surgery after reflecting on her past actions.

"Mom, let's just go home!" Anna had a pair of sunglasses on and looked rather apprehensive. Mrs. An felt sorry too, but there was nothing else she could do.

She took Anna out because she felt she simply couldn't let her daughter remain stuck at home.

"Spend some time shopping with me, dear child! You used to be so busy that you hardly ever kept mommy company," Mrs. An said while patting Anna's hand. But Anna was beyond upset. "But my face!" she exclaimed while looking around.

"You'll always be the prettiest girl to mommy!"

"But..." Anna wanted to say more, but she suddenly saw two familiar silhouettes from nearby.

It didn't take long for her to recognize Shi Wei and Su Su. The two girls chatted and laughed while shopping together. Anna clenched her fists and glared at them with rage. She wanted to walk towards them but Mrs. An held her back. "What are you thinking of doing, Anna? You promised your father and brother that you wouldn't be friends with them anymore!"

"I..." Anna reluctantly walked in the opposite direction while being dragged along by Mrs. An.

Anna was extremely unhappy. The hatred in her heart intensified as she touched her own face and thought about the document An Chenyu had shown her.

She had always considered Shi Wei and Su Su her two best friends, but she didn't think they'd abandon and even use her when she needed them most. Anna remembered her brother saying that if Shi Nuan hadn't been saved and actually died of poisoning back then, Anna would have been labeled a murder.

"Anna? Anna?" Mrs. An began to panic upon seeing how pale Anna's face became. "If you don't want to shop, then mommy will bring you home!"

"Mom, I'm fine!" Anna knew she had made her mother worry, so she quickly put on a smile. "Sorry, I got a bit too worked up. I won't be so stubborn anymore,

don't worry." But just as she spoke, she was startled to see Shi Nuan walking in her direction and her gaze changed promptly.

Shi Nuan didn't expect to run into Anna either. They hadn't met ever since that classmates' gathering, so Shi Nuan was rather shocked.

Anna's face wasn't exactly ruined, but it still looked a bit frightening, especially when a beautiful woman like her had two knife scars on her face.

Anna kept her eyes on Shi Nuan. She wanted to tell Shi Wei and Su Su how disappointed and angry she was towards them. But Anna didn't know what to say to Shi Nuan. Sure, she hated Shi Nuan and wanted to teach her a lesson, but putting Shi Nuan's life in danger was never part of the plan. Hence, seeing Shi Nuan well and alive made Anna feel a little less guilty. But at the same time, Anna was unhappy when she remembered that all the suffering she had gone through was because of Shi Nuan.

Shi Nuan felt uncomfortable being glared at by Anna. She nodded slightly and prepared to leave after walking past Anna. Yet, Anna called out to her. "Shi Nuan."

Shi Nuan froze on the spot, not quite knowing why Anna would stop her. Does she still have something against me?

Shi Nuan stopped and turned to look at Anna. "Can I help you?"

"Do you have time? I need to talk to you."

Shi Nuan was stunned. She didn't expect Anna to say such things. "You want to talk? I don't think there's anything for us to talk about!" she said while eyeing Anna suspiciously.

"Do you not want to know why were you bitten by the poisonous snake? And my face..." Anna mumbled while touching her own face.

Shi Nuan fell silent for a moment. In all honesty, she didn't like associating with people like Anna. Anna was on the same side as Shi Wei, and with all the tricks Shi Wei had pulled, what if Anna did the same?

"I won't take too much of your time!" Anna quickly said. "I want to explain."

"Alright then," Shi Nuan nodded. "But I have other matters to take care of soon, so I don't have much time!" Shi Nuan remembered that she had asked Song Rongrong and Su Yian out, and the two would arrive shortly. "My friends are coming over soon."

"Then we'll find a place to sit down and talk!" Anna said and turned to her Mrs. An. "Mom, I'll be having a chat with Shi Nuan. Why don't you head back first?"

Mrs. An cast Shi Nuan a complicated glance before realizing that this woman in front of her was the one her own son warned not to offend. Shi Nuan didn't seem like a bad person in her eyes, but Mrs. An was still Anna's mother and would always protect her own daughter, so she was worried that Shi Nuan would bully Anna.

"It'll be fine, mom. If you're that worried, you can wait for me in the car. I'll be right there!"

After coaxing Mrs. An, Anna turned to Shi Nuan. "Let's head to that café over there."

"Alright."

Shi Nuan didn't know what Anna wanted to tell her, but she did want to know what had happened that night. Fu Chengyan refused to tell her about the incident, whereas Song Rongrong and Su Yian didn't tell her everything either.

Shi Nuan ordered herself a glass of lime juice. Anna felt rather impatient, seeing how nonchalant Shi Nuan looked. It was as though Shi Nuan barely even

acknowledged Anna's existence. "You know, Shi Nuan, that arrogant, don't-give-a-sh*t attitude of yours really pisses me off!"

"Is that so?" Shi Nuan raised a brow. "You don't like me, no matter what I do." Saying that, Shi Nuan used her straw to stir her drink and paused. "But whether you like or hate me, it doesn't really bother me."

Anna was taken aback. Being reduced to silence by Shi Nuan really made her blood boil.

Then, Shi Nuan sighed. "Didn't you want to talk about what happened that night? I was unconscious at that time, so there's a lot I don't know about." She then looked at Anna's face. "Your face!" she exclaimed.

Anna clenched her fists. "What kind of background do you have?"

Shi Nuan froze, not expecting Anna to ask such a question. She looked at Anna's face again and was instantly reminded of Fu Chengyan. "I have no background," she said while biting her lip. "If that's what you want to ask me, I can only tell you that I don't know."

Anna tightened and loosened her grip. "I don't like you. I really don't like you. But my brother says I have no reason to dislike you, so I thought about it. It's true that I didn't hate you at first, but after I started becoming friends with Shi Wei, you would always pick on her and that pisses me off. There's no point in a person like you looking pretty if you have such a wicked heart. Why would you treat your own sister like this?"

Shi Nuan clearly didn't expect Anna to harbor so much hatred inside, nor did she know whether to laugh or cry at Anna's words. She couldn't decide whether Anna was too kind or just too stupid. Anna actually thought Shi Nuan had a wicked heart and enjoyed bullying Shi Wei!?

"When have you ever seen me pick on Shi Wei?" Shi Nuan couldn't find any sense in what Anna said. "I should tell you that Shi Wei's the one who bullies me."

Besides, aren't you and Su Su the ones who would ridicule me every time we meet? When did I ever pick on her? When did I ever pick on you?"