

# I Want a Lifetime with You

## Chapter 256

Song Jingyu's men kept following Shi Nuan, but discovered nothing suspicious about her whereabouts. Every day, she'd either go back home after work or go to dinner and shop with her colleague before going home. The woman didn't even contact Fu Chengyan.

Those men were assigned to Song Jingyu by the Song family, so she knew how capable they were and never questioned their findings. After some time, Song Jingyu finally relaxed her guard on Shi Nuan, but she was still annoyed whenever Shi Nuan's face popped up in her mind.

She was constantly looking for a chance to kick Shi Nuan out of Shengyuan, but it wasn't the right timing yet. Now, Fu Chengyan had a poor impression of her. If she continued targeting Shi Nuan just because she looked like Shen Qianan, Fu Chengyan might rebel. The more she wanted him to stay away from Shi Nuan, the more he would go to her.

Song Jingyu decided not to touch Shi Nuan for now, but she wasn't letting Shi Wei off lightly. Recently, there was a tremendous uproar on the Internet. The keyboard warriors she hired were great at hyping things up.

Shi Wei was terribly criticized online, especially after her photos were posted. She remained at home and dared not go out.

Because she didn't talk to Fu Xicheng prior to leaving Sheen City, her husband never came looking for her after he had returned to Jiang City. Shi Wei was drowning in distraught and anxiety. Fu Xicheng was not the only one to ignore her; Fu Yuqing and Liu Minjun never called to console her or ask if the scandal was true.

Shi Wei remained in the Shi residence for about half a month. She was haggard and pale by the end of it.

Because Shi Wei dared not go out, she didn't receive any job offers and could only rot at home. Jiang Yu's heart ached whenever she saw her daughter in this state. Every night, she had trouble falling asleep as her mind was constantly racing through the possible solutions.

Shi Jingzheng couldn't help but frown when he saw his wife pacing around the bedroom. He put down the newspapers and asked impatiently, "Why are you pacing around? You are making me dizzy."

"'Why'? What else can it be?" Jiang Yu flew into a rage since Shi Jingzheng wasn't concerned at all. "Don't you care about Wei? Don't you know... Wei is being criticized badly online? She's too traumatized to even go out of the house. My daughter has never suffered this much!"

"What can I do? Huancheng has no connections in the entertainment industry. Plus, her scandals have affected Huancheng greatly as well. I've been working my butt off to salvage the situation every day. What else can I do?" Shi Jingzheng replied exasperatedly. "We don't know who's behind this. Isn't Wei under Xinhua? Isn't her company going to interfere? Don't forget Fu Chengyan – I thought he was nice to us back then?"

Shi Jingzheng's words reminded Jiang Yu of that incident. Back then, Fu Chengyan had attended Shi Wei's wedding, but that wasn't because of Fu Yuqing. Jiang Yu could still remember how grim Fu Yuqing and Liu Minjun looked that day.

Fu Chengyan's surname was Fu, but he wasn't related to Fu Yuqing at all. Jiang Yu only got to know this fact later on. Fu Yuqing played them all by letting them think he was part of Jiang City's Fu clan, but that wasn't the case.

Fu Chengyan's reaction that day was clear enough. He told them he came because of Shi Yunsheng. Shi Yunsheng had retired for years, and Jiang Yu

hardly paid attention to him. However, she never expected the old man would know someone influential like Fu Chengyan.

Jiang Yu felt frustrated whenever she thought of this. That meant Fu Yuqing's Fucheng was no help to them. Instead, Fu Yuqing had managed to secure the help of the Shi family.

If nothing else, the Shi family was once influential. Although Shi Jingzheng wasn't as capable as Shi Yunsheng was back then, the Shi family had always been wealthy. They weren't part of the nouveau riche.

When Jiang Yu recalled Shi Wei and Fu Chengyan's scandal, a thought suddenly occurred to her. Still reeling back from the shock, she didn't realize that Shi Jingzheng had already stood up and was glancing at her suspiciously. "What are you thinking about?"

Jiang Yu was taken aback, and she shrugged in response to his question. "I-I was thinking about how great it would be if Shi Wei had married Fu Chengyan in the first place. Fu Xicheng is nothing compared to Fu Chengyan. No, he is definitely worse. Fu Chengyan is the owner of Shengyuan Group. Besides Shengyuan, he may very well end up being the leader of the great Fu clan."

Jiang Yu's head was swam the moment she started fantasizing. Why is Wei still hung up on that Fu Xicheng who's merely a manager? Fu Xicheng would never get full control of Fucheng. But Fu Chengyan's different. He's the CEO of Shengyuan.

"Shut up!" Shi Jingzheng glared at Jiang Yu. "How dare you say that out loud? Does Wei have anything to do with Fu Chengyan as the rumors speculated?"

"I..."

"Do you know that Wei will be in deep trouble if it turns out to be true? Do you think it is easy being Mrs. Fu? The Fu clan has high requirements – Fu

Chengyan can't just marry anyone he likes. Wei is married and is working in the entertainment industry. Do you think the Fu clan will allow her to join them?"

Shi Jingzheng's mind was clear. "Don't mention this ever again."

"Have you never thought about it?" Jiang Yu was unwilling to admit defeat, but when she saw Shi Jingzheng glowering at her, she shut up and dared not go on.

Shi Jingzheng rarely reprimanded her this sternly, so Jiang Yu knew he was being serious.

After hearing what Jiang Yu had to say, Shi Jingzheng admitted that thought once crossed his mind. But that was merely a thought, and he never wanted it to happen for real.

If Shi Wei didn't marry Fu Xicheng back then, their fantasy might come true. Right now, that wouldn't happen in reality. "Rather than wasting time on worthless fantasies, why don't you think of a way to help Wei out of this mess? I think there's more to it," Shi Jingzheng had been thinking about this for a couple of days. "Who is Fu Chengyan?"

"What do you mean?" Jiang Yu was surprised. "Fu Chengyan is influential in Jiang City. The person behind this dared to offend him publicly, so it must be his enemy. Otherwise, this person might want something from him or his family."

Jiang Yu belatedly realized what her husband meant. "I got it. That day, I overheard Wei and Su Su's conversation. I heard Fu Chengyan's cousin isn't related to him by blood. She is his uncle, Song Huaiyan's adopted daughter. I think she is the daughter of his uncle's first love. The girl's name is Song Jingyu, and she looks exactly like Song Huaiyan's first love. They separated and married other people, but Song Huaiyan couldn't forget his first love, so he took her daughter in after she passed away. As a result, the daughter is now part of the Song family. This is Song Jingyu's story."

“Seriously?” Shi Jingzheng knew nothing about this, hence he was astounded upon hearing this. “How did you know?”

“Well, it’s because of what happened recently,” Jiang Yu sighed. After overhearing Shi Wei and Su Su’s conversation, Jiang Yu hired someone to investigate Song Jingyu. The findings of the investigation shocked her to her core. “Song Jingyu had been harboring feelings for Fu Chengyan since young, but Fu Chengyan doesn’t like her at all.”

“Mm, go on.” Shi Jingzheng’s interest was piqued. “Let me find out if it’s related.”

“Okay, I’ll go on then.” Jiang Yu told Shi Jingzheng everything she knew. “Song Zhenyan is a strange woman, too. It’s understandable if her brother adores Song Jingyu, because she’s his first love’s daughter. But strangely, Song Zhenyan adores Song Jingyu, too. She even helped Song Jingyu to scheme against her son. I heard that a few years ago when Fu Chengyan was in the capital, his mother even drugged him and sent Song Jingyu to his bed. Guess what happened after that?”

“What?” Shi Jingzheng arched his brows. “Did she succeed?”

“Of course not,” Jiang Yu scoffed. “Fu Chengyan chased Song Jingyu out at once. Then, he left. But after that, the Song family pinned this on him. They insisted he raped Song Jingyu that day and demanded an explanation from him. Song Zhenyan backed up Song Jingyu, too. Fu Chengyan announced he would never marry Song Jingyu and also banned Song Zhenyan from returning to Jiang City.”

“Oh?” Shi Jingzheng found the story interesting. He did not know about this. If that had really happened, news would get out for sure. However, since that happened in the capital, and Jiang City was the Fu clan’s territory, they wouldn’t allow anyone to leak the news out. “Then?”

“The Song family arranged an engagement party which Fu Chengyan didn’t attend. From then onwards, Song Jingyu refers to herself as Fu Chengyan’s fiancée.”

After the lengthy explanation, Jiang Yu came to a conclusion. “So Song Jingyu must be the person behind this.”

“We can’t be sure of that,” Shi Jingzheng shook his head. “Song Jingyu isn’t that capable.”

“So?” Jiang Yu was confused. If it wasn’t Song Jingyu, who else could it be?

“Did you forget Song Jingyu’s father, Song Huaiyan?” Shi Jingzheng’s mind was still sharp. “This culprit leaked the news to defame Wei, but Fu Chengyan did nothing to stop him. Besides the Song family, who else would dare to do so?”

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“That’s too much. This is about the Song family and the Fu clan. What does it have to do with Wei?” After sorting everything out, Jiang Yu’s anger flared up. The Song family is too despicable.

Even if Song Jingyu isn’t related to them by blood, she’s still Song Huaiyan’s adopted daughter and Fu Chengyan’s cousin by name. She fell in love with her cousin and forced her cousin to marry her? Isn’t she afraid that others would ridicule her? They even implicated my innocent Wei.

“No, I won’t let them off easily as long as this matter isn’t resolved. So what if they are from the capital? I won’t let the people who hurt Wei get away scot-free.”

“Don’t act impulsively. We shouldn’t offend the Song family unless it’s absolutely necessary. Fu Chengyan didn’t even take action, so that means he doesn’t want to burn bridges. You will be going against the Song family if you take action now.”

“What should we do? Let the cyberbullies continue to bully Wei? Those netizens spare no effort in criticizing her. Besides, can you guarantee that Song Jingyu won’t target our Wei anymore?”

Jiang Yu couldn’t just stand and watch Shi Wei get bullied. The Shi family might pale in comparison to the Song family and the Fu clan, but they were still part of the upper-class society. Her daughter was also married. How would she face her in-laws?

“You are right. But for the sake of Wei’s future, we can’t act recklessly. Did you forget that father has connections with Fu Chengyan?” After a brief

consideration, Shi Jingzheng decided they couldn't go against the Song family for now. Everything was purely their speculation.

"Yes, you're right. Let's go talk to father and find out what Fu Chengyan's plans are. He might help Wei out of respect for father!" Jiang Yu nodded. "If nothing works, I'll have to turn to my last resort."

"What last resort?"

"Leak Song Jingyu's familial history of mental illness," Jiang Yu sneered. "I believe you know nothing about this. Back then, Song Huaiyan and his first love were about to get married, but the day he brought her back home, she suddenly had an attack. The woman bit Song Huaiyan's parents and even assaulted Song Huaiyan's grandmother. She was out of control," Jiang Yu scoffed. "I spent a lot of money to discover that."

"I heard the woman left a terrible impression on the Song family. She did well after that, but they wouldn't take the risk of letting her marry their son. Think about it. Her mental illness ran in the family. Hence, her offspring might inherit it too." Jiang Yu retrieved an envelope from her drawer and handed it to Shi Jingzheng.

Shi Jingzheng took it hesitatingly and frowned. "You mean Song Jingyu inherited the mental illness from her mother?"

Jiang Yu nodded. "I am sure she did. Her obsession for Fu Chengyan is too much!" She recalled how Song Jingyu acted crazily at the annual dinner.

"Keep this. If all else, leak it."

Shi Jingzheng paused before continuing. "I'll go talk to father."

"Sounds great!" Even though Shi Yunsheng said nothing, Jiang Yu knew Shi Yunsheng hated her regardless of the fact that she had married into the Shi family a long time ago.



Jiang Yu tried her best to earn his approval, but his attitude remained neutral at best. When she was young, she tried all means to please Shi Yunsheng, but now, she couldn't be bothered anymore.

After their discussion, Shi Jingzheng went to his father's room at once. Shi Yunsheng was reading when his son came in. Putting down his book, he asked, "Why are you here?"

"Father, I'm here to talk about Wei."

"Wei?" Shi Yunsheng nodded. "I've heard about what happened to her. I am old, not blind. She—"

"Father, Wei might be arrogant, but she's a good girl. She's already married to Xicheng. There's nothing between her and Fu Chengyan!" Shi Jingzheng hurriedly explained.

Shi Yunsheng shook his head upon seeing Shi Jingzheng's anxious reaction. "I haven't finished talking yet, but you're already defending her. Zheng, have you ever wondered why I am partial to Nuan instead of Wei when they are both my granddaughters?"

"Well..."

"I believe you know the reason well, so I won't say much. Whether or not it was Wei's fault doesn't concern me. Since you're here, tell me – what do you want me to do?"

Shi Yunsheng's straightforwardness made Shi Jingzheng feel guilty. "Father, you know why I adore Wei instead of Nuan—"

"But since you chose Nuan back then, you should already be prepared. Why did you bring her back if you can't fulfill your roles well?" Shi Yunsheng shook his head in disappointment. "She knows nothing, so there's no need to make things difficult for her. Forget it. Tell me why you are here."

“I came today to ask for your help. You are close to Fu Chengyan, right? Can you ask Fu Chengyan to clarify this situation? This has been troubling Wei, but the man can resolve it with just an explanation. Wei is still in the entertainment field and it’s a complicated industry. She’s being defamed now, so it’ll affect her career. Besides, Huancheng is badly affected, too. Father—”

“Enough,” Shi Yunsheng raised his hand to stop Shi Jingzheng. “I know why you are here today. Indeed, I am close to Fu Chengyan, but I don’t know if our relationship can help you.”

“As long as you’re willing to try,” Shi Jingzheng pressed on. “If it doesn’t work, I’ll come up with another solution.”

After Shi Yunsheng sent Shi Jingzheng on his way, he called Fu Chengyan.

Fu Chengyan was watching TV with Shi Nuan in the living room when he received Shi Yunsheng’s call. A glint flashed across his eyes. Shi Nuan spotted the caller ID too. She asked in surprise, “Granddad is calling you?”

Fu Chengyan nodded. He took the remote control and lowered the volume before answering the call. “Granddad? It’s late. Why are you calling me?”

“Yan, are you and Nuan asleep?”

“No, I am watching TV with May,” Fu Chengyan paused, “Is it anything urgent?”

“No, it isn’t,” Shi Yunsheng sighed, “It’s about Shi Wei. Her father just came to me. During the wedding, they saw us together, so he wanted me to help her out. Yan, be honest with me.”

“No,” Fu Chengyan answered. “You want to ask if I have anything to do with Shi Wei, right? My answer is ‘no’. You should know that well. My wife is Shi Nuan.”

“Sigh, I must be too worried. I don’t mean anything else, but the scandal caused a huge uproar. Wei isn’t the only one affected. You—”

“Granddad, I get what you mean.” Fu Chengyan glanced at Shi Nuan, who nodded before requesting, “Let me talk to him.”

Shi Nuan took the phone. “Granddad, it’s me!”

“Nuan, how are you?” Shi Yunsheng knew the matter hadn’t affected Shi Nuan because she seemed calm.

He knew it wasn’t true as he trusted Fu Chengyan and his granddaughter, Shi Nuan.

“I’m fine, Granddad. Don’t interfere in this matter, I’ll tell Yan to take care of it. He has nothing to do with Shi Wei. Someone had deliberately released the news. It’s complicated, and I can’t really explain it in a few words. Anyway, I won’t suffer any losses.”

“Okay, I am relieved to hear that. I’m more than happy to wash my hands of your business. It’s just that your father came to me today, and you are both my granddaughters. No matter how badly your sister might behave at times, I think she’s innocent in this matter.”

“Yes, I know.” Shi Nuan hung up and sighed, looking up at Fu Chengyan. “You can handle this accordingly.”

“Okay,” Fu Chengyan pocketed his phone and pulled Shi Nuan into his arms. “I’ll take care of this, but you’ll have to endure it for the time being.”

“It’s fine.” Shi Nuan grinned and pushed Fu Chengyan away. She glanced around the living room, which seemed small compared to Wutong Residence.

Although she was indeed upset to move back at first, every night Fu Chengyan would show up on time. She did not know how he did that, but Song Jingyu’s men never noticed his arrival.

Since they spent every night together, it was no different from before. However, Fu Chengyan had to drive back to Wutong Residence after work and come to her place later. It must be tiring for him.

“Since Father went to Granddad for help, that means they are out of ideas. Do you think they know the Song family and Song Jingyu are behind this?”

“Yes.”

“Why are you so certain?” Shi Nuan gazed at Fu Chengyan in surprise. After all, not everyone could put two and two together.

From what Shi Nuan knew about Shi Wei and Jiang Yu, they would immediately assume that Shi Nuan had orchestrated everything. But it had been some time since the incident occurred, and Shi Nuan had not been harassed by Jiang Yu and Shi Wei. It was obvious that they were not targeting her.

Fu Chengyan chuckled and brushed his finger across Shi Nuan’s nose affectionately. “Jiang Yu hired a private investigator to look into Song Jingyu. That was why she has no time for you.”

“My mother?” Shi Nuan was startled. “But she doesn’t even know who Song Jingyu is. Why would she do so suddenly?”

Little did she know, Jiang Yu had not only investigated Song Jingyu, but she also did a background check on the entire Song family. As for why the private investigator was so capable, that was beyond Jiang Yu’s control.

Shi Nuan’s brows knitted together when she saw how confident Fu Chengyan was. A glimmer of realization suddenly dawned on her. “Is everything within your plan? But how did you know my mother would investigate Song Jingyu?”

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Fu Chengyan smiled and pulled Shi Nuan into his embrace. "I have a plan up my sleeve."

Shi Nuan raised her eyebrow. "You're killing me with the suspense!" However, she chose to not push any further.

Shi Nuan knew that Fu Chengyan had considered things from all aspects and everything that was happening was within his predictions.

"You'll have to compromise and stay here for a while."

"I understand." Shi Nuan turned around and wrapped her arms around Fu Chengyan's waist. "You've said that eight hundred times now. I'm tired of hearing it even if you're not tired of saying it!" Shi Nuan nuzzled her head against Fu Chengyan's chest and closed her eyes slightly. Fu Chengyan reached out to prop up her head and adjusted her such that she would be in a more comfortable position. "Tired? Do you want to go to bed?"

Shi Nuan shook her head. "Let's watch TV. This episode is about to end."

Fu Chengyan was little speechless but he could only follow Shi Nuan's wishes. Yet, the lady who had claimed she wanted to finish the episode soon fell asleep.

Fu Chengyan gazed at the tilted head and again felt speechless, but he still carried her gently back into the bedroom.

He quickly removed Shi Nuan's clothes and placed her under the covers, then climbed in and held her until he felt the covers warm up. Then he got back out of bed.

Zhou Zheng had been waiting for Fu Chengyan for some time. Seeing Fu Chengyan's phone call, he quickly shook himself awake. "Mr. Fu!"

"How did it go?"

"As you had expected, Sir. Jiang Yu has dug up almost everything about the Song family. Other than the skeletons in the closet, Jiang Yu has basically grasped all that she needs to get a hold on." Zhou Zheng couldn't help but admire Fu Chengyan for coming up with such a plan.

Otherwise relying on Jiang Yu's ability alone, there was no way she could find such a renowned investigator or learn about this many of the Song family's secrets. These were all but under Fu Chengyan's control.

"What's our next step, Mr. Fu?"

"Have Shi Wei go to the company tomorrow. We should start shooting the advertisements for St. Dee. And give her the second female lead role for the movie 'Beneath the Sky.'" Fu Chengyan's long fingers tapped the window frame and he looked out at the car parked downstairs, a glint flashing across his eyes.

Zhou Zheng understood right away. "I'll inform Guan Jing tomorrow. But it seems like it'll be a waste to give Shi Wei the role in 'Beneath the Sky.'" "

Zhou Zheng had personally sought out well-known scriptwriters and film directors to produce 'Beneath the Sky' and it took them a couple of years before they were happy with the final product. Zhou Zheng had a feeling that 'Beneath the Sky' would be a huge box office hit should it screen in the cinemas.

But Zhou Zheng also knew that once Fu Chengyan made up his mind, there was no changing it, so he didn't say anything further.

“You need to sacrifice something to win something. The more I put Shi Wei on a pedestal, the more they’re going to go at each other. And it’ll be even better if both the Song and the Shi family all get roped in. Then that would be one great show to watch.” Fu Chengyan grinned. “Alright, go take care of it tomorrow. When will the press conference for ‘Beneath the Sky’ be held?”

“Next month.” Zhou Zheng did some quick math. “It’ll be the new year in a month or so. We plan to do it before then. As for shooting, there’s still quite a bit of preparation to be done so that’ll be after the new year. Mr. Fu, is this arrangement satisfactory to you?”

“That’s fine as it is. I’ll attend the press conference.”

“Yes, sir. I’ll take care of it.” After Zhou Zheng hung up the call, he made another to Guan Jing right away.

Guan Jing wasn’t as busy recently due to all of Shi Wei’s issues. She was in a deep sleep when the phone suddenly rang and woke her. Guan Jing answered the phone dazed. “Hello?”

“It’s me!”

When Guan Jing heard who was on the other line, she quickly climbed out of bed and was immediately wide awake. “Mr. Zhou? It’s late. Is something wrong?”

“Bring Shi Wei over to Xinhua tomorrow,” said Zhou Zheng. “Make sure you do so!”

“Shi Wei? But Shi Wei... Shi Wei has been embroiled in scandals lately with Mr. Fu...” Guan Jing paused. “Mr. Zhou, is Mr. Fu willing to speak up?”

“Have you forgotten that Shi Wei has an endorsement deal with St. Dee? It’s been delayed for too long. St. Dee’s products will be unveiled early next year. If we don’t shoot the advertisements now, the company will lose a lot of money. Is that what you want?”

“St. Dee?” Guan Jing was in shock. “But I thought...” Guan Jing was sure that after the events of late, Shi Wei would’ve lost that endorsement deal. She never would’ve expected Zhou Zheng to personally give her a call and tell her that the deal was still Shi Wei’s. Guan Jing couldn’t quite grasp what was going on.

The company was already being very gracious by not taking any measures against Shi Wei. Under normal circumstances, allowing her to continue with the endorsement deal was just out of the question.

“What? Which part of Mr. Fu’s decision do you not understand?”

“No, no, no. Absolutely none. I’ll bring Shi Wei over tomorrow.” Guan Jing breathed a sigh of relief. “Is there anything else I can do for you?”

“Mr. Fu has decided to give Shi Wei the role of the second female lead in ‘Beneath the Sky.’ The one of the assassin.”

“Really?”

The news had come completely out of left field. Guan Jing was experiencing a night filled with plenty of excitement. By the time Guan Jing regained her composure, she realized she was already placing a call to Shi Wei.

Shi Wei was very annoyed when she saw Guan Jing’s phone call. “It’s so late. You know my temper very well, so this better be something important.”

“Of course I have great news. And it’s more than one piece of good news too!” Guan Jing was so excited her voice had gone up a few pitches. Shi Wei could feel the shrill from the other side of the phone.

She held the phone a little further away. “What good news?” She had been terribly unlucky as of late. What good news could there possibly be?

Guan Jing knew Shi Wei would find it hard to believe her. “There’s two good news and I just found out too. First, the St. Dee endorsement deal is still yours.



They want you in tomorrow for some shoots. As for the second... I think you won't be able to sleep once you hear it."

"Really?" Shi Wei was already overjoyed just from the first piece of news.

Heaven knew she had been hibernating in her house everyday, not daring to venture out. She'd been waiting day after day for Xinhuang to release a statement and yet they were completely silent. Shi Wei was as antsy as if she were walking on hot coals.

She originally wanted to find Fu Xicheng and have him come up with a solution. She had made several calls to him, but Fu Xicheng just kept ignoring her. Shi Wei had her pride. Since Fu Xicheng wasn't going to give her the time of day and even dared to be angry with her, then Shi Wei was going to ignore him for a period of time too.

Shi Wei believed that when this blew over, Fu Xicheng would finally realize that she was the victim and would no longer hold a grudge.

However, she had been waiting for so long and Xinhuang remained quiet. This both hurt and disappointed Shi Wei.

"St. Dee's endorsement deal is still mine? Really?"

"Why would I lie to you? Mr. Zhou called just now and asked for you to go to the office tomorrow. These issues of yours have affected your work quite negatively. I knew Xinhuang wouldn't just keep mum on this incident. After all, they were the ones who lured you to them with a lucrative contract."

Shi Wei's expression darkened but she kept her mouth shut. "And what's the second piece of news?"

"The second... I'm sure you've heard of the movie 'Beneath the Sky'?"

“Beneath the Sky’? The one written by Wang Shenglan, and with Xinhuang as the main investor? Isn’t Li Huai the director as well? The roles haven’t been cast, right? I heard that there’ll be a nationwide audition.”

“That’s true, but when Mr. Zhou called just now, he said the role of the second female lead, Phoenix, is yours!”

“Really?” Shi Wei’s eyes shone brightly. She was now truly and completely awake. She threw off the covers and hurried out of bed, before sitting in front of the vanity mirror and staring at herself. “Guan Jing, are you lying to me?”

“Why would I lie to you? What good would that do? Even though it’s just the second female lead, you need to know that this movie is a big-scale production. As long as you’re in the movie, and once the movie airs, all these scandals will not mean a thing. You need to get yourself together and show all those haters how wrong they are.”

“Yes! Okay! This is great! Guan Jing, thank you!”

“C’mon, there’s no need to thank me. You should get a good rest now and wake up early tomorrow morning to make yourself look nice and presentable. I’ll get a car and pick you up from your house tomorrow, then we’ll head to Xinhuang for the advertisement shooting. As for the movie, I’ll go and check things through with Mr. Zhou tomorrow as well.”

‘Okay!’

With such amazing news, Shi Wei immediately forgot about all the stress her scandals had brought about. She paced around the room a few times out of sheer adrenaline and only fell asleep late into the night.

And because of her great mood, Shi Wei woke up very early the next morning and started getting ready.

Jiang Yu too woke up early because she was worried about Shi Wei. And yet when she went downstairs, she saw Shi Wei standing there all prepared — dressed and dolled up. Jiang Yu couldn't help but was shocked at the energetic-looking Shi Wei. "Wei, are you going out? You..."

"Yes, mom! I'm going out in a bit." Shi Wei had a big grin on her face. She saw Jiang Yu looking at her worriedly so she ran over and held her arm. "Mom, don't worry. I'm fine. Guess what? I'm going to shoot an advertisement later. It's the one I told you about before, St. Dee!"

"St. Dee? The brand under Shengyuan? Didn't you say you were going to lose that deal?" Jiang Yu was shocked but a bigger part of her was overjoyed. "Really? If it's true then that's great!"

"And that's not all, mom. I'm going to be the second female lead in the movie 'Beneath the Sky'!"

"That's amazing! Mom has always believed that Wei is the best!" Jiang Yu was so excited she hugged Shi Wei tightly. "About all those rumors and all the people sabotaging you, they'll get what's coming to them." Jiang Yu suddenly thought of something. "Hold on, who's giving you all these great resources at this particular time? Who's behind these decisions?"

"I'm guessing it's Fu Chengyan. My manager told me that Fu Chengyan's assistant called her late last night, telling her that they wanted me." Shi Wei smiled shyly. "Mom, aren't you glad?"

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By the time Shi Wei arrived at the company, Zhou Zheng had already arrived. Because Shi Wei was worried of the paparazzi, she didn't take Guan Jing's car. Instead she had someone else pretend to be her and get into the car, then had the car drive around Jiang City. By the time the paparazzi realized the person in the car wasn't Shi Wei, she had already arrived at Xinhuang.

Shi Wei followed Guan Jing into Xinhuang's conference room. Zhou Zheng was already waiting inside.

Shi Wei immediately rushed to greet Zhou Zheng. "Good morning, Mr. Zhou!"

Zhou Zheng nodded and indicated for Shi Wei to take a seat. "Ms. Shi, it's been a while. Have a look at this." Zhou Zheng passed a document to Shi Wei.

Shi Wei reached out for it in curiosity. She opened it to see that it was the contract for the St. Dee endorsement deal. "Mr. Zhou, I'm surprised you already have this prepared." Shi Wei honestly thought she was dreaming. After all, her scandals were really big deals and yet, not only did Xinhuang have their PR team take care of it, but also kept their distance from her. Shi Wei had been feeling hurt and disappointed all this while.

Zhou Zheng looked at Shi Wei and sniggered coldly to himself, but he still maintained a warm smile on his face. "Mr. Fu had me prepare this contract right round the time of the annual meeting. But Mr. Fu was quite angered by the recent issues so he held on to it temporarily."

Zhou Zheng noticed Shi Wei's face turn pale while he was speaking. "Mr. Zhou, you have to believe me. I'm not the one behind the incident. I'm already married.

There's no reason at all for me to do such a thing!" So it's true. They've been keeping their distance from me because of what happened.

Now, since Zhou Zheng has brought the contract and has also promised me the role in the movie, does that mean I'm in Fu Chengyan's good books again?

She then heard Zhou Zheng say, "I believe you, if not I wouldn't be here today. Have a look through the contract, Ms. Shi. If everything's good, then you can sign right away. As for the advertisement shootings, we'll need to get it done these two days. It looks to me like Ms. Shi isn't in her best state today."

Zhou Zheng tapped the table and spoke sternly. "St. Dee is a high-end brand and Mr. Fu values it greatly. And it's not just Mr. Fu, but the Europe side too. Even though Ms. Shi is only the model for the China region, it is still a very great opportunity for you."

Zhou Zheng was very frank in his words. Shi Wei wasn't too happy about it, but she had to admit what he said was right. She barely had any endorsement deals on hand and St. Dee would be one of her biggest.

"Mr. Zhou is right." Shi Wei looked through the contract. "I don't have any problems with the contract. As for the shooting, I'll make sure I quickly adjust myself and won't let you or Mr. Fu down."

"Good." Zhou Zheng pointed to the contract. "If there's no other questions then go ahead and sign here. Even though you're signed with Xinhuang and everyone is technically managed by Shengyuan, we still need to follow the rules and procedures."

"Of course." Shi Wei took a pen from Guan Jing and quickly signed her name before handing it to Zhou Zheng. He then signed his own name and stamped it with the company stamp. "Alright. This is done. Now let's talk about the second matter."

Zhou Zheng made a quick phone call and a few people entered right away. Shi Wei looked up and saw that among them were producer Qin Hong and scriptwriter Wang Shenglan. “Mr. Zhou.”

Qin Hong and Wang Shenglan walked in and took their seats. Shi Wei herself quickly shot up. “Ms. Qin, Ms. Wang! Good morning!”

Qin Hong raised an eyebrow and looked at Shi Wei in surprise. She hadn’t expected Shi Wei to be so formal. She looked over at Wang Shenglan, who merely nodded. “Good morning.”

“Alright, now that everyone’s here, let’s discuss ‘Beneath the Sky’.” Zhou Zheng was undoubtedly the leader here. He initiated the topic then handed the reins over to Qin Hong and Wang Shenglan.

By the time Shi Wei left the conference room, she was absolutely beaming. Guan Jing too was just as excited as her. “Shi Wei, I think things are only going to get better for you from now on. These issues might actually be a blessing in disguise!”

Shi Wei gave Guan Jing the side eye and Guan Jing realized that it was too late to take back what she had said. “Hehe, I was just spouting nonsense. What are you planning to do now?”

“I’m going to go home. I’m going to make sure I look my best before we start with the advertisement shootings.” Since she was getting such a great chance, she was naturally going to make the most out of it.

“Okay. But we’ll need to make an appointment with your nutritionist. And look at your skin. You haven’t been taking good care of it, have you?”

Guan Jing looked at Shi Wei’s face. “I don’t want to nag, but the face is the most important to a woman. And even more so to a female celebrity.”

“Is it really that bad?” Shi Wei touched her face. “Well, I really haven’t been taking care of it much lately. I just haven’t been in the mood to do so.”

“Well you’re in a good mood now. Let’s go.”

Two days later, Shi Wei went to shoot the advertisements for St. Dee. No one knew who leaked the news, but by the time Shi Wei reached the shooting site, there were media and fans gathered at the place.

Shi Wei was blocked outside and couldn’t get in. It took a security team to get the situation under control and allowed Shi Wei to make it through.

St. Dee was a very well-known brand not just in Jiang City but throughout the China region. And this was the first time St. Dee had worked with an endorsement model. Rumors were circling that the competition for the deal had been very intense but in the end, it went to Shi Wei. This, combined with her earlier scandals, made people gossip even more about Fu Chengyan and Shi Wei’s relationship.

Shi Wei didn’t care about the scandals any more. Since Fu Chengyan himself wasn’t bothered by them, then why was she? She might as well use this opportunity to make herself a household name and to raise her visibility and popularity.

The person in charge of the shoot was a famous photographer from France named Peter. He was very professional, so being able to work with him was an amazing opportunity for Shi Wei. She was really looking forward to it.

“Hello Mr. Peter, I’m Shi Wei.” Shi Wei had finished her hair and makeup when she walked out and saw Peter standing in the corridor fiddling with his cameras.

Peter looked up and gave Shi Wei a respectful nod but didn’t say anything else.

“Wei, come in.” Su Su noticed Shi Wei standing around awkwardly so she dragged her back into the room. “Peter doesn’t like to be bothered while he’s

working. Him nodding to you was already him being nice, so you shouldn't think too much about it. Drink some water and replenish your strength. The shoot might be quite tiring later."

Su Su handed a water bottle to Shi Wei when Peter walked in right then, followed by his interpreter. "We're starting the shoot. Everyone in their places."

Shi Wei immediately handed the bottle back to Su Su. "I'll be right there."

Peter was someone who had high expectations. The whole shoot lasted from morning to late afternoon and Shi Wei was completely exhausted. But at least it wrapped successfully.

Shi Wei was dead beat, but she maintained her professionalism throughout and in this sense, Shi Wei did well.

It wasn't until she got in her car did she completely allow herself to relax. "I'm exhausted! I never knew Peter had such a temper!" Shi Wei drank some water while looking at Su Su. "What are you looking at?"

"Nothing. Wei, did you notice that all the negative news about you on social media are all gone? It's only the positive ones now."

"What?" Shi Wei couldn't help but feel shocked. "Let me have a look!"

Shi Wei used Su Su's phone to have a quick browse of the news and realized that indeed all the unfavorable news were gone. And only the most recent ones were left on the popular forums and social media.

There were only the likes of 'Shi Wei cast in the second female role of 'Beneath the Sky' and 'St. Dee's endorsement model Shi Wei shines bright' etc. Shi Wei was so emotional she very nearly started crying. "How?"

"I'm guessing the management has made a move," answered Su Su. "Looks like your problems have blown over."



“I knew it! These ridiculous rumors would one day blow over. Su Su, thank you for being with me.” Shi Wei grasped Su Su’s hand. “You were the one who stood by me during this difficult time.”

“What are you thanking me for? We’re best friends. Alright, since it’s all over, we should think about you moving out of the Shi house. Otherwise the media would have a field day again.”

Su Su was right and the thought had occurred to Shi Wei too. “You’re right. Since I’m married now, it would be unreasonable if I keep living at my parents’ house. Everything’s finally looking good again, so we can’t let the reporters get their hands on any ammunition again or they’ll never let me live. I’ll move back today,” said Shi Wei, but in truth she was a feeling a little upset.

She could only think about Fu Xicheng, who had not believed her during the most difficult times for her. And it was the same with his parents who didn’t trust her at all.

The image of Fu Chengyan suddenly popped into Shi Wei’s mind. She had a pit in her stomach just thinking about how close she was to getting buried by Fu Chengyan. But then she remembered how Fu Chengyan helped in her in the end.

“Wei, what are you think of?” Su Su’s hand waved in front of Shi Wei’s face.

“Fu Chengyan!”

“What?” gasped a surprised Su Su. “What about Mr. Fu?”

Shi Wei came back to her senses, blinked a few times, then turned to look at Su Su in a confused manner. “Huh?”

“I’ve been trying to get your attention. Why aren’t you answering me?” Su Su took a good look at Shi Wei. “You’re looking a little off. Why did you suddenly say Mr. Fu’s name? What about him?”

“N-nothing!” Shi Wei shook her head but her face blushed slightly. “I was just thinking about this thing about Mr. Fu and I, and just who the culprit behind it is.”

Despite saying so, Shi Wei’s heart was beating very fast. She couldn’t believe she was having these feelings towards Fu Chengyan.

# I Want a Lifetime with You

## Chapter 260

The shooting for the advertisements for St. Dee progressed quickly. Shi Wei finished all her parts in a few days. As for 'Beneath the Sky,' everything had been finalized. In fact, the first cast member to be officially announced was none other than Shi Wei.

Even though the news regarding Fu Chengyan and Shi Wei had been removed from all sites, it couldn't stop people from continuing to gossip about whether Fu Chengyan and Shi Wei really had a thing.

Having the same thoughts were Fu Xicheng, and Mr. and Mrs. Fu Yuqing. They weren't completely aware of everything being said on the internet, but because one of the subjects of the gossip was their wife and daughter-in-law, all of it naturally weighed heavily on them.

And even though Shi Wei had moved back and had explained everything, it was still a thorn on their side. However, Fu Yuqing chose to remain silent on the matter. He thought about the Shi family's stocks in Shi Wei's hands, and made it clear to Fu Xicheng to endure it – no matter what happened, he shouldn't quarrel with Shi Wei.

But that wasn't how Fu Xicheng saw things. He was suddenly really remorseful that he had ditched Shi Nuan for Shi Wei and all the alleged money and power. And now Shi Wei was embroiled in rumors of infidelity. Fu Xicheng was any ordinary man, and hearing that his wife had a scandalous affair with someone else made him feel humiliated. This was compounded by the fact that the other party was Fu Chengyan, someone who was better in both power and social standing.

“I’m back!”

Shi Wei pushed the door open but saw that there was no one there to welcome her other than a blast of cold air.

Shi Wei frowned, but the family cook came out right then. “Madam, you’re home?” The family cook was surprised to see her, but when she saw Shi Wei’s expression, she quickly ducked her head. “Madam, Mr. Fu is still out. I’m about to prepare some food. What would you like to eat?”

Shi Wei’s expression cleared up slightly. “Anything will do.” Shi Wei headed up the stairs but suddenly stopped as if she remembered something. “Cook whatever Mr. Fu likes to eat. Let me know when he’s home.”

“Yes, madam!”

Shi Wei headed straight up the stairs and quickly tidied up the room, changed a new set of sheets and covers, then took a good long bath. When she came out, she saw Fu Xicheng taking off his coat.

It was clear that Fu Xicheng hadn’t expected Shi Wei to be home so early. But upon seeing her, all he did was just give her a quick look before walking away. Shi Wei’s anger rose when she saw how Fu Xicheng was acting. She barely suppressed her anger and asked, “Xicheng, you’re back?”

Shi Wei walked over and took Fu Xicheng’s coat from him. “The cook said she’s cooking some of your favorite dishes. I’m sure you’re tired after a long day of work. I’m not working for the next few days so I can have meals with you every day!”

Fu Xicheng nodded and grunted but didn’t give any other response.

“Xicheng!” Shi Wei saw how icy Fu Xicheng was to her and couldn’t hold it in any longer. “I’ve already explained everything to you and you’ve understood it. Why are you still so cold towards me? I really don’t have anything to do with Fu

Chengyan. You know the person I love is you; otherwise I wouldn't have done everything I could to be with you in the beginning! I mean, I even hurt Nuan in the process!"

Shi Wei's face turned pale and she bit her lips, looking innocent and pitiful.

No one could deny that Shi Wei was a natural actor. What she was doing was clearly working on Fu Xicheng.

The moment he saw her demeanor, his heart softened.

Shi Wei saw Fu Xicheng's expression relax a little so she quickly walked over to tug at his arm, like a little child trying to win favors. "Xicheng, do you still not know how I feel about you?"

"That's enough. I'm not really mad at you, but you need to be more careful in the future," Fu Xicheng sighed. The bottom line was he and Shi Wei were married, so no matter how upset he was with her, they couldn't possibly a divorce right after getting married.

"You know how my relationship with Fu Chengyan is. If rumors about the two of you spread again, it'll be very difficult for me and will affect my standing in the family."

"I understand. To be honest, Xicheng, I think the reason Fu Chengyan is being so nice to be and providing me with all these resources is because of you. Think about it, I'd never even met him until I met you. Why would he help me? You were the one who helped get into Xinhuang too. Xicheng, things between me and Fu Chengyan really aren't like what the rumors are saying."

Shi Wei quickly gave Fu Xicheng a kiss on his cheek, then she whispered in his ear. "Do you know Song Jingyu, Fu Chengyan's cousin? I think she's the one behind all this. It's like she has it in for me. Actually, I think she has it in for any woman who gets close to Fu Chengyan, regardless of whatever relationship they have with him."

Fu Xicheng narrowed his eyes as if he suddenly remembered something. “Song Jingyu?” Fu Xicheng racked his brain and finally recalled who Song Jingyu was. “Are you telling me that Song Jingyu likes Fu Chengyan?”

Shi Wei nodded. “This is all true. Fu Chengyan made the announcement of me getting the endorsement deal during the annual meeting. And someone took a photo of me with Fu Chengyan and purposely exaggerated it. Xicheng, I’m sure there’s more to this than meets the eye.”

“If there really is a conspiracy, then you should stay far away from all this. Since things have more or less settled down, why don’t you take the chance and just leave the entertainment industry?”

“What?”

Shi Wei’s face darkened at his words. “Xicheng, it’s my dream to be an actor. Plus, this incident has already been resolved. Why are you being like this?”

“Being like what?” Fu Xicheng’s expression darkened too. “The entertainment industry is complicated and murky. Look at all the things you’ve had to go through since you entered the industry. The Shi family doesn’t need the money, you don’t need the money, and I certainly don’t need the money to take care of you.” After all that had happened — and regardless of whether the rumors about Shi Wei were true or not — Fu Xicheng had lost all good will towards the entertainment industry.

“It’s not about whether you can take care of me or even about the money.” Shi Wei looked at Fu Xicheng in frustration. “It’s my dream! I’ll listen to anything you say, but this is the one thing I’m going to stand my ground on.”

“You...”

Quite a few times, their conversations would end on such unhappy notes. Fu Xicheng had his reasons while Shi Wei had hers. Even though the two lived under the same roof, for the following month, they barely spoke to each other.

Half a month quickly passed by. Thanks to the effect of the St. Dee endorsement deal, Shi Wei received quite a few casting calls for her to consider. But it was an awkward period of time for Shi Wei, plus she was managed by Xinhuang. There was a clause in her contract that stated that for the next three years, all acting roles were to be decided by the company. Shi Wei would have no say.

But Guan Jing had had a look through the scripts and found that they weren't that interesting, so it didn't matter either way. The more important thing was the upcoming press conference for 'Beneath the Sky.' Rumors had it that Fu Chengyan would attend as an investor and that was a big draw for the media.

Even though Fu Chengyan was the CEO of Shengyuan Group and the head of both St. Dee and Xinhuang, he rarely appeared at these press conferences. With the rumors of his appearance this time, the media, the entertainment industry, and even the financial world were in shock. No one knew why he wanted to attend the press conference, so everyone was again dipping into the rumors of Fu Chengyan and Shi Wei.

But right then, the male party in all those rumors was in a small apartment cooking soup for his little lady. And the little lady in question was sitting in the living room watching television, sneaking peeks into the kitchen every now and then. "Yan, are you sure you don't need my help?"

Shi Nuan flipped through a few channels but couldn't find anything that interested her. She put down the remote control out of boredom and walked to the kitchen.

The apartment wasn't that big. Compared to Wutong Residence, it was practically dainty. But even though it was small, it still had everything they needed. The only problem was it was a tight squeeze for both of them to be in the kitchen at the same time.

Shi Nuan stood by the doorway and giggled at the man busily cooking inside.

Fu Chengyan was cleaning a fish when he heard Shi Nuan's offer. He looked up at her, "Bored?"

Shi Nuan nodded. "It's late. I told you we should've just made something simple. Why are you insisting on making such complicated dishes? And so many of them too? That's one, two, three... four! Four dishes. How're we supposed to finish all that?"

Shi Nuan was perplexed. "Are you really that hungry?"

The corners of Fu Chengyan's mouth twitched upwards. "We'll finish them. Be good. Go wait in the living room, it's too oily in here."

"Okay," answered Shi Nuan. She saw that the kitchen was really too small for both of them to cook at the same time, so she gave up the idea of wanting to help. "How about I just keep you company for a while?"

"Are you sure you want to keep me company or do you just want me to entertain you?" Fu Chengyan placed the knife down helplessly, wiped his hands, and waved Shi Nuan over. "Come here!"

Shi Nuan quickly rushed over. "Hehe, what does his majesty need? Please let this unworthy one know!"

Fu Chengyan gazed at Shi Nuan from the side. "What are you trying to do?" He reached out to pat Shi Nuan's head but remembered his hands were oily so he stopped himself. "You, stop being silly. If you're really bored, you can help me wash the vegetables!" Fu Chengyan handed a basket and some vegetables to Shi Nuan. "Go prepare them outside."

"Okay!" Shi Nuan nodded. She headed out but turned around and looked at Fu Chengyan once every few steps, making his heart all tingly. "Alright, if you keep looking at me, we're never going to eat dinner tonight."