

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 341

“Xufan, how could you say that? I’m your mom!”

“Mom? I’d rather not be born. You’re both disgusting, and I’m disgusting, too.” Li Xufan glowered at Li Min and Li Cenbei maliciously. “You’ve been curious why I’d rather be with that old Lin Yunjia instead of Pei Huan, right? Let me tell you, it’s because I’ve learned it from you. Like father, like son. Pei Huan said I’m disgusting, but you’re far more disgusting than me!”

“Insolent fool!” Li Min raised her hand and gave Li Xufan a tight slap. “What are you talking about? You know nothing!”

“I know nothing?” Li Xufan touched his jaw. His cheek was throbbing painfully from the slap, but his gaze remained frosty. “When I was four, I saw you entering a room with another man who wasn’t my father. That man must’ve been Li Cenbei, my great-uncle!”

Li Min shivered as she staggered back in disbelief. “Xufan, I—”

“I used to wonder why Great-grandpa adored me so much. Then, I realized I was a direct descendant of the Li clan, the son of his favorite son! Ha! How ironic is that. Everyone in the family is filthy and disgusting!”

Li Min gasped upon noticing the disdain in Li Xufan’s eyes. “Xufan, listen to me. It’s not what you think. Cenbei and I aren’t related at all. We love each other deeply!”

She grabbed Li Xufan’s hand and implored, “Xufan, please trust me!”

“Don’t touch me!” Li Xufan flung her hand away. “Do you think Li Cenbei is that kind? You’ve been guarding against your brother because you are afraid he’d take over the Li Group, right? Because you think the Li Group belongs to Li Cenbei! No wonder you told me to go against Li Heng for all these years. It turns out you did everything for his sake. What a pity. You think he’s an angel, but in fact, he’s trying to destroy the Li Group.”

“Stop sprouting nonsense!” Li Min glared at Li Xufan furiously. “Don’t ever say that!”

“Ha! Just you wait and see. You’ll find out who’s the one who really wants to destroy the Li Group.”

Without even sparing Li Cenbei a glance, Li Xufan kicked a chair right beside him and left in a huff.

Li Min wanted to go after her son, but she couldn’t stop herself from turning back to Li Cenbei. “Xufan is still a kid. He’ll soon understand you’re his...”

“I think you’re the clueless one. I’ve told you many times that I don’t even love you.”

“No, I believe you still love me. You dumped me back then because of your identity. Let me tell you, we aren’t related at all because I’m not my father’s biological daughter. They—”

“Li Min, leave now. I don’t want to repeat myself.” Li Cenbei stopped her with a murderous glare.

Trembling in fear, Li Min left reluctantly.

Once she left, Li Cenbei’s fist landed on his desk with a loud thud as his gaze turned ferocious.

Suddenly, his phone on the desk rang. Li Cenbei glanced at the caller ID before answering the call. “Mr. He, we’ve got it. The Prosperous Group is registered under Pei Jingxiu’s name.”

Pei Jingxiu?

Li Cenbei narrowed his eyes. “I got it.”

“Oh, I have something else to inform you.” The person at the other end of the phone chuckled. “Remember the virus from there years ago? I’ve recently come up with a new variant which is far more dangerous.”

“What did you do?” Li Cenbei’s expression fell. “Who did you use it on?”

“Ha! Your enemy is also mine.” The man’s voice was frosty. “On your wife’s son.”

“Hey! He’s just a kid!” Li Cenbei growled. “Why didn’t you tell me before you take action?”

“I’m telling you now. You went back to deal with Li Heng, right? Didn’t you agree when I injected Li Heng’s wife with that virus then?” the man sounded nonchalant. “Besides, if it wasn’t for you, I would’ve injected the virus into the boy a year ago. Anyway, I have to thank you. After a year, the virus is now more potent.”

“Give me the antidote!” Li Cenbei demanded, his veins almost popping out. “I’ll take revenge on Li Heng and the Li clan, but Pei Huan and Bao are innocent.”

“They are innocent? As long as they are related to the Fu clan, they are not innocent.” The man lost his patience. “Don’t worry, the virus is still in its incubation period. They are safe for now. I’m telling you about this because you’ve been slacking off recently. I’ve been waiting for years, so there’s no room for failure. Destroy both the Li and Fu clan right now.”

Li Cenbei gripped his phone angrily. “What a ruthless man. You can even harm your relatives!”

“Likewise.”

The man hung up after saying that, leaving Li Cenbei staring at his phone as a muscle in his jaw twitched.

Pei Huan! Bao!

Li Cenbei hadn't expected to run into Pei Huan and Bao in his life. He had originally planned to stop the revenge, but Li Heng took action. *But both Pei Huan and Bao have been dragged into this!*

Li Cenbei shut his eyes as pain and despair overwhelmed him.

Pei Jingxiu. I never knew he'd be the man behind the Prosperous Group. He's the adopted son of Ning Guofu of the Ning family. Rumor has it that he worked for the Ning family and ran their family business before leaving abruptly a few years ago. Turns out he's back.

Pei Jingxiu is so close to Fu Chengyan and Li Heng. If he's involved, things will get very complicated.

Meanwhile, Shi Nuan went to work early in the morning. As she had been on leave for the past few days, Yuan Jia came to her the minute she arrived. “Shi Nuan, you've been absent for the past few days. Where have you been?”

Yuan Jia studied her and said, “You've gained some weight. Did you go on a vacation with your boyfriend?”

“My boyfriend?” Shi Nuan beamed and waved her hand, showing the ring on her finger. “I'm married!”

“Oh, yes. Your husband?” Yuan Jia recalled Shi Nuan was already married. “It’s all your fault. You don’t look like a married lady! Why do you look so young?”

“You look young too!” Shi Nuan shook her head and brushed a finger over Yuan Jia’s forehead. “Let’s work. By the way, did anything happen when I wasn’t at work?”

“You have no idea. Something major had happened, but not in our company, of course.”

“Oh?” As Yuan Jia seemed eager to share the gossip, Shi Nuan went along with her. “Why do you even bother, then?”

“It’s about the Li Group. Do you know the Managing Director of the Li Group, Li Heng, has been fired? He’s Mr. Fu’s friend. We were going to partner with the Li Group, right? But since their downfall, Shengyuan has decided to call off the collaboration. A few days ago, Li Xufan came a few times to talk to Mr. Fu, but he refused to even see him.”

“Really?” Shi Nuan was surprised. She knew about the Li Group’s predicament, but she didn’t know Li Xufan would come to Shengyuan to talk to Fu Chengyan.

However, Fu Chengyan would certainly refuse to meet him. Li Xufan was ruthless to Pei Huan back then. Because of Li Heng, Fu Chengyan didn’t take revenge on Li Xufan. But he wouldn’t pass up the opportunity that had come knocking at his doorstep.

“What happened next?”

“What else? Anyway, the Li Group is doomed. When Li Heng was the Managing Director, the Li Group was really strong. I don’t know what the Li clan was thinking. Why would they fire Li Heng?”

“Forget it. Those rich people think differently from we commoners. Give me the plan for Western District.”

“Oh, here you go.” Yuan Jia handed the file to Shi Nuan before adding, “I heard Mr. Lin said we’re going to partner with the Prosperous Group instead. Have you ever heard of the Prosperous Group?”

Shi Nuan froze in astonishment. “Prosperous Group?”

“Yes. No one knows its origins. I heard it started out as a small company in Sheen City. In just a few years’ time, it acquired over ten companies. I wonder who is its owner.”

Shi Nuan was staring at the file, but she was wondering silently, *Is there a connection between the Prosperous Group and Prosperous Dynasty? Is the Prosperous Group related to Shengyuan or Li Heng?*

“Shi Nuan. Shi Nuan!” Yuan Jia waved her hand in front of Shi Nuan. “What are you thinking about? I’ve called your names so many times!”

“Oh, it’s nothing. You should go back to work. I’ll read this file and get back to you later.”

“Sure. Take your time!” Yuan Jia felt something was amiss, but she couldn’t pinpoint what it was.

Shi Nuan flipped through the file casually as she thought about what Yuan Jia had just said. Actually, she knew Shengyuan would be finding another partner for the project. Fu Chengyan told her the Li clan had mistreated Pei Huan back then. He didn’t take action because Li Heng was still in the Li Group. After Li Heng left the Li Group and cut off ties with the Li clan, he immediately took action. *But why did he choose to partner with Prosperous Group?* Shi Nuan couldn’t figure this out.

She had never heard of the Prosperous Group, but her instincts told her this company must have something to do with both Li Heng and Fu Chengyan.

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That very night, when Shi Nuan mentioned this to Fu Chengyan, he shot her a smile and squeezed her hand. “You’re that curious about the Prosperous Group?” he commented.

“Not really.” Shi Nuan looked at the kitchen. “Tell me, what happened to Huan and Li Heng?” After that incident, she thought Pei Huan and Li Heng would get back together, but the opposite happened. They hadn’t talked for days.

Fu Chengyan knitted his brows and shook his head. “I don’t know. It’s between them.”

Shi Nuan sighed. “Then what about the report by Dr. Su? Can Huan donate her bone marrow to Aunt Ning?”

“We’re not sure for now. Shaoqing is still discussing with Dr. Paul. I don’t know the specifics.” Both he and Li Heng weren’t experts, so even if they followed Su Shaoqing 24/7, they’d still be clueless.

“What are you talking about?”

Pei Huan was walking out of the kitchen with Bao after helping him wash his hands. “By the way, Chengyan, my body checkup report should be out, right? What did Su Shaoqing say?”

It was over a week, but there was no news from Su Shaoqing. He also didn’t inform her to prepare for the surgery, so Pei Huan knew something was wrong.

“The report is out. Shaoqing said you’re too weak to donate your bone marrow.”

“Then what shall we do?” Pei Huan panicked at his words. “My mom’s condition—”

“Don’t worry. Shaoqing wants you to rest at home for now and recuperate. When you are healthier, you can do a second checkup and donate your bone marrow then.”

“But I can’t wait.” Pei Huan uttered anxiously. “My mom can’t wait that long. I don’t think I’m that unhealthy. Let’s go for another checkup tomorrow and proceed with the surgery.”

“Huan, stop it. This isn’t something to joke with. You and Aunt Ning’s health are at stake!” Fu Chengyan grew stern. “We’ve waited for three years, so Aunt Ning can still wait. It’s getting late so you should go and rest now.”

“But—”

“Go upstairs!”

As Fu Chengyan was upset, Pei Huan dared not say anything. After all, he was her elder brother and the heir of the Fu clan. Therefore, his words carried weight.

Pei Huan scooted upstairs reluctantly. After entering her room, she called Su Shaoqing without hesitation. “Dr. Su, please arrange for another checkup tomorrow.”

“Another checkup?” Su Shaoqing frowned. “Pei Huan, your body can’t keep up with that. You’re...”

“What about me?” A line appeared between Pei Huan’s brows as she suspected Su Shaoqing knew something. “What’s wrong with my body?”

“It’s because you overworked yourself for the past few years. You need to recuperate at home. When you’re fine, I’ll arrange for the surgery.” Su Shaoqing hung up after saying that and promptly called Fu Chengyan and Li Heng. “Pei Huan just called me to ask for another checkup. Has she found out?”

After confirming that she knew nothing, Su Shaoqing heaved a sigh of relief. He glanced at Dr. Paul, who had been up for twenty-four hours, obsessed with analyzing the virus. Pinching his brows, he looked very tired, “Paul, let’s take a break.”

Paul was exhausted, so he nodded. “I’ve never seen such a strange virus.”

“Me, too!” Su Shaoqing thought he was a medical expert, but this virus had rendered him helpless. “I’ll ask someone to give you a ride back. We can continue tomorrow!”

After Paul left, Su Shaoqing massaged his temples and leaned back in his chair, he was completely drained.

He hadn’t gone home or slept properly for days.

What a strange virus!

Pei Huan waited for a few days with no updates. Her instincts told her they seemed to be hiding something from her. She got really suspicious when Ning Xin suddenly had a relapse and fell unconscious.

The doctor said Ning Xin couldn’t hold on much longer unless she received a bone marrow transplant right now. She could live a few years more if that happened. But if Ning Xin didn’t receive a transplant right now, she would die.

That was what Ning Xin’s doctor told Li Heng and Fu Heng when Pei Huan wasn’t at the hospital. Alas, they didn’t know she was right outside the door and overheard their conversation.

She pushed the door open forcefully and glared at Fu Heng and Li Heng in disbelief. “Why won’t you let me donate my bone marrow?” Pei Huan could understand if Li Heng refused to let her take the risk because he loved her. However, Fu Heng was married to Ning Xin. As their daughter, she thought it was her responsibility to donate her bone marrow to her mother.

Pei Huan stared at Fu Heng. “Dad!”

Fu Heng seemed torn. Of course, he hoped Pei Huan could donate her bone marrow to save Ning Xin’s life, but he knew Pei Huan’s health wouldn’t allow her to do so.

He had just found out Pei Huan was infected by a virus. If they insisted on carrying out the transplant, both Ning Xin and Pei Huan would be in danger. As no one knew what the virus was, even if the surgery was a success, Ning Xin might get infected with the virus.

“Dad!” Pei Huan demanded crossly. “Tell me now. Why did you disagree? Do you want to watch Mom suffer?” She pointed at Ning Xin, who was hooked to the oxygen tank. Tears welled up in her eyes as she declared, “I’ll go to Su Shaoqing myself. You can disagree, but I’ll ask him to be my surgeon. I’ll bear the consequences!”

“Huan!” Fu Heng stopped her. “Good girl, listen to me. Your current condition isn’t suitable to do any surgery now. Let’s wait till you get healthier—”

“What do you mean? Dad, both Mom and I can’t wait any longer!” Pei Huan glanced at an unconscious Ning Xin and ran out of the ward.

“Huan!”

“Dad, I’ll go and look for her.”

With that, Li Heng ran out after her. When Pei Huan was about to enter the elevator, he hurried in and grabbed her hand. “Huan, calm down and listen to me.”

“Go away!” Pei Huan flung his hand away and glowered at him icily. “This is our family’s business. It has nothing to do with you.”

“Pei Huan!” Li Heng’s brows snapped together before he took her hand again. “Your business is mine. I know you’re worried about your mom, but you should understand the risk of the surgery. Your current condition doesn’t allow you to undergo the surgery.”

“I don’t understand all that.” Pei Huan roared impatiently. “All I know is that the one lying on the bed, unconscious, is my mom. I’ve only been back for a few days, but she has grown so much older! I didn’t get to spend the first twenty years of my life with them, then I left them three years ago. I don’t want to waste any more time. Do you get it?”

“I get it. I really do!” Li Heng’s gaze darkened at the sight of his beloved woman losing control. His heart ached for her. Pulling her into his arms, he patted her gently. “I know, but Huan, even if you donated your bone marrow to Mom, her body might reject it because of your current condition. I don’t want you to take the risk.”

“You’re just being selfish! You’ve never considered my mom’s condition!” Pei Huan shoved him away. “You’re not me, so you will never understand. We’ve been apart for twenty years. After our reunion, we could’ve stayed together forever, but because of you, I left Jiang City and abandoned them. It was all my fault. I’m not a good daughter.”

“Huan!”

As Li Heng’s hand froze midair, Pei Huan slapped it away. Right then, the elevator doors open, so she scurried out before he could react.

I don't want to leave any regrets. No one can stop me from saving Mom. I will make sure our family stays together again.

Nothing is better than being with my parents.

Pei Huan dashed ahead, while Li Heng stood rooted to the spot. He felt sorry for her, but he couldn't allow her to act recklessly.

At Su Shaoqing's office, Pei Huan pushed the door open and demanded, "Su Shaoqing, arrange for the surgery asap!"

After her announcement, she belatedly realized there were a few people in Su Shaoqing's office. Fu Chengyan, Pei Jingxiu, and a foreigner she didn't recognize were huddled together in the middle of a discussion. They stopped talking and looked at her when she barged in.

Fu Chengyan narrowed his gaze and was about to say something when Li Heng walked in. The latter came over to Pei Huan and took her hand. "Huan, listen to me. We will treat Mom, but now's not the time."

"Not now? Then when?" Pei Huan shoved him away once again. "I don't know why you're so terrified. I am the one donating my bone marrow, not you. I'm not worried at all. Why are you then?"

"I..."

Li Heng took a deep breath and gripped his fists before looking at Fu Chengyan.

Fu Chengyan frowned slightly and met his gaze. He instantly understood what his friend meant. Rising to his feet, he went to Pei Huan. "Huan, listen to Li Heng. Your current condition doesn't allow you to donate your bone marrow to Aunt Ning. Otherwise, you'll both be in danger."

“How dangerous can it be? I’ve been fine for three years. I can’t wait any longer, Chengyan. Do you know how upset I’ve been? I can’t help but blame myself for leaving my parents because of a man. I—”

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“Huan, don’t cry.” Fu Chengyan wrapped his arms around her and patted her softly. When she finally calmed down, he glanced at everyone else before settling on Li Heng. “I think we should let her know now.”

“Huh? You’ve been hiding something from me? Why do you keep delaying the surgery?” Pei Huan was confused. She could understand if only a few of them were against the surgery. But if Fu Chengyan was against the surgery too, then something must be off.

Pei Huan glanced at the men, who seemed grim. Strangely, she had a bad feeling about it. Sure enough, Li Heng’s reply was more a struggle. “Okay!”

Pei Huan couldn’t help but tremble at his answer. She gripped her sleeves nervously and held her breath.

A flash of pain appeared in Li Heng’s eyes upon seeing her reaction. He stepped forward to take Pei Huan’s hand and caressed her affectionately. “I’ll be by your side no matter what happens.”

Feeling uncomfortable, Pei Huan tried to release herself from his grip, but Li Heng refused to let go.

He pulled Pei Huan to the sofa and sat down. “Do you know why we are against the surgery? It’s not that we don’t care about Mom, it’s because you are not 100% healthy. Even if the surgery is a success, both you and Mom might be in danger.”

“What do you mean?” Pei Huan’s brows snapped together. Right then, Su Shaoqing handed her a file and sighed. “Read it.”

Pei Huan was puzzled at Su Shaoqing’s words. She took the file, which was her body checkup report. Everything seemed normal, save for a note that mentioned there was a virus in her body. There was no extra information about that virus.

“What does this mean? I might be weak, but I’m not that frail. What does this virus mean?”

Pei Huan pointed at the file, while Li Heng froze and frowned at what he saw.

Su Shaoqing pursed his lips. “There’s a virus in your body. It has been injected some time ago. We only found out about it during your body checkup.”

Realization dawned upon Pei Huan. She nearly fell down from the chair in dismay. Luckily, Li Heng grabbed her. “Huan!”

Pei Huan flung his hand away. She stared at Li Heng, seemingly out of sorts. Her lips parted, but nothing came out. At the sight of her despair, Li Heng felt his heart ache. “Don’t worry. Shaoqing will deal with this.”

“Deal with this?” Pei Huan shivered slightly. After a moment of silence, she glanced at Fu Chengyan helplessly. When she saw the affirmation in his gaze, she broke down. “When did this happen? What virus is this? How could I have known nothing about it? You must’ve gotten it wrong, right? I feel fine! Totally fine!”

“Pei Huan, there’s an incubation period for this virus before it acts up. That’s why you felt nothing. We dare not carry out the transplant for now because the moment we take out your bone marrow, the virus might attack your body. When Aunt Ning receives your bone marrow, she might be infected, too. That’s why we—”

“Enough!” Pei Huan interrupted Su Shaoqing rudely. “I don’t believe a word you say. I’m not infected with the virus! I’ve been...” Suddenly, she froze as something flashed across her mind swiftly.

She pursed her lips grimly. “Then what virus is this? Can you treat it in time? My mom...” *She can’t wait any longer.*

Li Heng narrowed his gaze at Pei Huan’s reaction, a horrible feeling overwhelming his heart. “Huan, did you think of something?”

“No!” Pei Huan denied vehemently.

The more anxious she was, the more certain Li Heng was that she had just recalled something. But since she refused to say anything, Li Heng had to hold it in.

Pei Huan took a deep breath. “Mr. Su, my mom has always been nice to you. I really need your help. If I can’t donate my bone marrow, can we find another donor?”

“Well,” Su Shaoqing seemed stumped. “Pei Huan, you should know not even direct relatives have matching blood types, let alone matching bone marrow. It’s rare for you to be a match for Aunt Ning. If you’re thinking of finding another donor, it would be harder than finding a needle in a haystack.”

Su Shaoqing had no intention of dealing a blow on her, but he had to explain the truth to her.

Pei Huan was so dumbfounded that she nearly fainted after jumping to her feet.

Li Heng held her quickly. “Huan.”

“Li Heng, you must have another plan, right? Even if it’s a slight possibility, I will try it out. I can’t lose my mom!” *I have a lot to tell her. I don’t want to regret it for the rest of my life!*

“Yes, we will try even when there is the slightest opportunity. You’re not giving up on her, and neither am I.” Li Heng squeezed her hand. “Trust me!”

“I trust you, Li Heng. As long as you can find a suitable bone marrow donor for my mom and save her, I’ll marry you.”

As Pei Huan gripped his hand tightly, Li Heng could feel how lost she was. He nodded, couldn’t bring himself to say no. “Okay, I’ll do my best. I’ll find a suitable donor even if I have to search the entire Jiang City and Z Nation.”

“Thank you, Li Heng!” Pei Huan wrapped her arms around Li Heng tightly like he was her only hope.

Fu Chengyan, Pei Jingxiu, and Su Shaoqing looked at each other before leaving the room with Paul.

After leaving, Fu Chengyan felt heavy-hearted. He held a cigarette in his hand before turning to Pei Jingxiu. “If you get help from the Ning family, perhaps we can find a donor.”

The Ning family!

Su Shaoqing’s eyes lit up. “Yes, how can we forget about the Ning family!” Ning Xin was related to the Nings, so they might find someone whose blood type and bone marrow matched Ning Xin’s!

“Chengyan is right. Jingxiu, I’ll have to ask for your help to visit the Ning family.”

Pei Jingxiu frowned. “Don’t forget that she had fallen out with them because of Uncle Heng.”

He sighed. “I don’t think they will agree easily.”

The Ning family was at odds with the Fu clan. Back then, Ning Xin severed her relationship with the Ning family just to be with Fu Heng. Now, it would be difficult to ask for their help. Besides, Pei Jingxiu knew the Nings well. He was certain those people wouldn't help Ning Xin at all.

He'd rather go to the trouble of finding a donor than ask for the Ning family's help. A stranger might help Ning Xin out of compassion or to receive monetary compensation, but the Nings were neither.

"We have to try even if it sounds impossible!" Fu Chengyan pinched off his cigarette and narrowed his eyes. "I'll think of a way to convince the Nings."

"Can you?" Su Shaoqing voiced his doubts. After all, Fu Chengyan was the head of the Fu clan, who had always been the Ning family's rival. "I have to," Fu Chengyan replied. "Aunt Ning and Huan can't hold out much longer. You and Paul have to work hard on analyzing the virus. I've asked my men to investigate in K Nation, but it's taking a long time."

"Don't worry. I've been working on it for all of you!" Su Shaoqing seemed depressed. "Paul, what do you think?"

"Oh, I think this person could help," Paul suggested suddenly.

"Who is it?" Pei Jingxiu, Fu Chengyan and Su Shaoqing demanded in unison.

After a brief hesitation, Paul revealed. "I think Su knows this person, too. He's the famous Huo Jinnan. But he's a mysterious person, so I don't know where he is now. No one has ever died in his hands, so he might be able to help us."

Huo Jinnan?

Fu Chengyan's brows creased. "What is he like?"

"I've heard of him. He's a medical genius in both Western medicine and TCM. I don't know his origins. Anyway, he had cured every patient who came to him." Su

Shaoqing explained everything he knew about this person before he puckered his brows. “Not only he’s mysterious, but he’s also strange. He only saves those he wants to save. If he refuses to save someone, no matter how much money you offer him, he’ll remain steadfast. Well, he is that kind of a character.”

“Really?” Fu Chengyan’s frown deepened. “As long as there’s a glimmer of hope, we can’t give up. I’ll send someone to find Huo Jinnan, but you need to continue your research.”

“Of course.” Su Shaoqing nodded and turned to Pei Jingxiu. “By the way, where’s your Firecracker? Why isn’t she here with you?” Pausing abruptly, he urged, “Hey, isn’t Firecracker a Ning too? If we can’t convince the other Nings, why don’t we let her try? Perhaps she will be a match.”

“Well,” Pei Jingxiu hesitated. Upon meeting Fu Chengyan’s dark gaze, he nodded. “She’s helping Liang Lin in Sheen City. I’ll ask her to come asap. But don’t have high expectations for her. I don’t even know if she’s a Ning. Even if she is, she might not be a match.”

Fu Chengyan squinted as a smirk played on his lips. “Isn’t this an excellent opportunity to find out if she is one of them?”

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Pei Huan calmed down after being consoled by Li Heng. The latter brought her to Ning Xin's ward. When she saw how Fu Heng remained by Ning Xin's side quietly, tears filled her eyes.

Fu Heng spun around and saw how upset she was. He released Ning Xin's hand and went outside the ward. Patting Pei Huan's shoulder affectionately, he said, "Huan, I know you're upset, but your mom will be distressed when she sees you in this state."

"Dad!" Pei Huan ran into Fu Heng's arms and sobbed. "I'm not crying. Don't worry, Li Heng has promised me he'll find another donor. Mom will get better soon!"

"Good girl." Fu Heng patted her head and turned to Li Heng. "Li Heng, please end her back. Also, take good care of Bao."

"Okay, I'll take good care of them. Don't worry!"

Fu Heng nodded his head. He didn't really like Li Heng, but it was obvious Li Heng adored Pei Huan. If Pei Huan and Li Heng got back together, Ning Xin would be happy for them.

"Just go back!"

After sending Li Heng and Pei Huan off, Fu Heng stood outside for a while before heading in with a smile. He took Ning Xin's hand again and said, "Ning, do you know Huan and Li Heng are back together again? Your wish has come true. Even if you can't make it, I'll be by your side."

Ning Xin's finger twitched slightly like she had heard his words, but she didn't open her eyes.

On the way back to Wutong Residence, Pei Huan said nothing. Li Heng knew she was in a foul mood, so he stayed with her after she went upstairs. He only stood up to leave after she fell asleep quietly. The moment he stepped out, Pei Huan's eyes opened. She stared at the ceiling for a long time before getting up.

As Aunt Zhang missed Bao dearly, Li Heng had brought him to Wuyun Residence yesterday. Pei Huan objected to this at first. But she knew Aunt Zhang loved Bao, and she was busy with Ning Xin's surgery. Hence, she agreed because she didn't want to trouble Shi Nuan anymore.

After she changed her clothes, Pei Huan whipped out her phone and made a call. "Where are you? Yes, I need to talk to you. Let's meet up."

She hung up and took a deep breath. Facing her reflection in the mirror, she gave herself a tight slap. "Pei Huan, calm down."

After glancing at the address she received via a text message, she headed downstairs.

Pei Huan left in Fu Chengyan's car. As she had been busy recently, Fu Chengyan told her to choose a car from his garage and gave her the key.

She got into the car and confirmed the address before heading to the destination.

When Pei Huan arrived, Li Cenbei was already waiting for her. He was in his office when she called him. At the cafe, he couldn't help but wonder why she asked to meet him.

After their unpleasant meeting at the Li Residence, he had never seen Pei Huan being this arrogant and aggressive. The Pei Huan he knew was a gentle person but she showed her true colors when Li Heng stood in front of her to protect her.

Li Cenbei clenched his coffee mug. When he looked up and saw the woman appearing at the entrance, something malicious flashed across his gaze.

Pei Huan had spotted Li Cenbei too. Her gaze narrowed icily. This was the second time they met after she found out he was Li Cenbei. Back then, she and “He Beiting” steered clear of intimacy, but she felt they were a family. Right now, she couldn’t stop herself from brimming with hate the moment she saw him.

Clenching her fists, she strode over. “Mr. Li, sorry to keep you waiting.”

Li Cenbei froze and offered her an awkward smile. “Huan, you don’t have to be so polite. It doesn’t matter who I am because we’re still married.”

Pei Huan’s lips thinned. “Married? Mr. Li, what a joke.” She glowered at him. “Actually, I’m a fool. You look just like Li Heng. Why didn’t I see that then?”

“Huan, I—”

“No wonder no one said anything when you claimed to be Bao’s father. As Bao looks like Li Heng, he looks like you naturally.”

Li Cenbei parted his lips. “Huan, I know you are upset about this. But I didn’t know you were Heng’s ex-wife. If I knew—”

“If you knew, then what? You wouldn’t marry me? You wouldn’t inject the virus into me?”

Li Cenbei’s eyes widened upon hearing her mention “virus.” His hand which was holding the coffee mug trembled slightly and he looked shocked. However, his emotions disappeared almost instantly. “Huan, what are you talking about? Why is there a virus in your body? Is that a misunderstanding? Did Heng...”

“That’s enough, Li Cenbei!” Pei Huan cut him off. “I can’t believe you can act this well. I’ve been taken for a ride for the past three years. I should’ve known it wasn’t a coincidence when you saved me three years ago. We kept bumping into

each other after that and even met in C Country. Turns out it was all your plan, right? You injected the virus into me so you can use me to threaten Li Heng one day, right?”

Li Cenbei’s heart clenched as anguish flitted across his gaze at Pei Huan’s demand. He gripped his fists and explained, “Huan, you’ve gotten it wrong. I don’t know about the virus. If I wanted to hurt you, I would’ve done it back then, right?”

“Who knows? You might have an ulterior motive. Li Cenbei, give me the antidote!”

Li Cenbei furrowed his brows. “Pei Huan, believe it or not, I don’t know about the virus!”

Pei Huan rose to her feet and looked down at Li Cenbei. “Then there’s nothing else to discuss. I just want to get the antidote from you today and make sure you were the one behind this.”

Pei Huan seemed pained. “You gave yourself away. Li Cenbei, I’ve known you for over three years, so I know you well. You were the one who injected the virus into me. You must’ve thought you could use me to threaten Li Heng, right? Well, your wish is coming true. I told Li Heng I’ll get back together with him.”

“Pei Huan!” Li Cenbei stood up and hissed. “You’re getting back together with Li Heng? What about me? I’m your husband!”

“Husband? Your name, He Beiting, is fake. Our marriage is fake, too.” She glowered at him icily. “Besides, I hadn’t divorced Li Heng back then. There’s no way we’re legally married. Ciao!”

Pei Huan spun around and left without looking back. Li Cenbei was left alone, rooted to the spot. He crushed the coffee mug in his hand to pieces.

Clap! Clap! Clap! Someone was clapping. Frowning, Li Cenbei turned in the direction of the voice and saw Li Xufan, who had a mocking smile on his face. “What are you doing here?” Li Cenbei demanded.

“To drink coffee, of course. Oh, I enjoyed the free show earlier.” Li Xufan smirked, his gaze flashing with disdain. “I can’t believe someone just dumped you, Great-uncle. You used to be the one doing the dumping, right?”

“That’s none of your business.”

“Well, that’s true. I don’t want anything to do with you.” Li Xufan shot him a disgusted look. “But, Great-uncle, despite your old age, you deserve no respect. Do you know Pei Huan was my ex-girlfriend? She married my uncle later on and then ended up with you. Wow, it must be a recessive gene in the Li clan, huh? All the Lis—Great-grandpa, you, Uncle and me—have excellent genes!”

“B*stard, is that what your mother taught you?” Li Cenbei glowered at him viciously. “How ill-mannered of you to say that!”

“Manners? Great-uncle, you’re talking about something which the Li clan lacks!” Li Xufan snorted and rested one arm on the chair casually. “You’re indeed Great-grandpa’s son. Just like you, he likes to seize everything he likes disregarding the person’s feelings and status. I remember your mother—”

“Shut up!” Li Cenbei roared. “If you’re that ill-mannered, I can discipline you on behalf of your mother!”

“Pfft!” Li Xufan sneered. “Discipline me on behalf of my mother? Who are you to my mother? What right do you have to discipline me?”

“You!”

The corner of Li Xufan’s mouth quirked up. “I just realized that you had fallen for Pei Huan?” He smiled at Li Cenbei, but the smile never reached his eyes. “Wow!

What will my mom do when she finds out that you fell for Pei Huan? She doesn't really—”

“Li Xufan, how dare you!”

“Why wouldn't I dare?” Li Xufan scoffed. “If you're that capable, you would've defeated my uncle. Let me tell you. I found out the Li Group is in debt because my uncle had set up a trap for you. Do you think you're that great? I believe my uncle is the one behind the Prosperous Group. And here you are trying to snatch his woman from him. Can you even do that?”

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 345

“Mr. Li, Ms. Li went elsewhere today once you left. She met with your third uncle, Li Cenbei.” Li Heng’s men reported.

Li Heng’s men, who followed Pei Huan, handed him a recording and said, “This is a recording of their conversation. Unfortunately, we couldn’t secure a clearer recording because we were too far away.”

Li Heng squinted his eyes as he took the recording from his subordinates and listened to it carefully. His gaze soon turned sharp. “Where did Pei Huan go after that?”

“She went straight back to Wutong Residence, but she didn’t seem to be in a good mood.”

Li Heng waved his hands. “Send two other men to follow Li Cenbei. Let’s see what other tricks he has up his sleeves!”

Once everyone had left, Li Heng stood by the window sill and looked out into the dark sky. He stretched out his hands and clenched his fists tightly as his eyes burned a terrifying gaze.

I did not plan to push things. However, they’ve left me with no choice.

Li Heng composed himself and called Fu Chengyan, “I’ve figured it out. It was Li Cenbei who injected the virus into Pei Huan. It seems that I’m next on his list. As for Bao...” Li Heng paused. “I plan to place Bao in your care for now!”

“Alright!” Fu Chengyan’s gaze hardened as he asked, “Do you need my help?”

“Everything’s still in the stage of deployment, but you should increase the manpower at K Nation. I’ve sent out some men in search of the ghost doctor, and I’m hoping to receive good news soon.”

“Got it!” Fu Chengyan nodded. After he hung up, he turned and saw Pei Huan standing behind him. He squinted his eyes and asked, “Why aren’t you asleep?”

“Chengyan, I need to talk to you.”

“Is it about Bao or Li Heng?” Fu Chengyan asked. Pei Huan was slightly surprised, smiling bitterly. “Both!”

Fu Chengyan nodded. “Is Bao with Nuan right now?”

“Yup!” Pei Huan nodded. “Thank you, Chengyan!”

“Let’s talk in the study.”

Once they were both in the study, Fu Chengyan gestured Pei Huan to sit down. “What is it? I’ll do my best to help you within my abilities.”

Pei Huan paused before saying, “It’s about my mother’s illness. Is it possible for you to find a suitable bone marrow match for my mother? If we can’t, what happens then?” Pei Huan glanced at Fu Chengyan with a solemn look.

Fu Chengyan pondered slightly and sighed. “Huan, I know how tough this is on you. I also grew up under Aunt Ning’s care, and she treated me like family. In fact, I – more than anyone else – hope that Aunt Ning’s illness can be cured as soon as possible. However, you should know that the chances of finding the right bone marrow match are extremely low. Your husband’s condition doesn’t cut it. Therefore, I had to look for someone else. I might find it soon enough though...”

“You may never find it too, right? Or even if you found a match, my mom would already have passed?” Pei Huan’s voice trembled as she swallowed nervously. Her face went pale, “This is all my fault. My mother wouldn’t have become like this if I hadn’t abandoned my parents to run away from the sad memories.”

“Huan, this isn’t your fault. No one expected this to happen!” Fu Chengyan patted Pei Huan in comfort. “You should think on the brighter side. Who knows, we might be in luck and find a match instantly?”

“How is that possible... My mom, she...”

“Huan, as long as there’s a glimmer of hope, don’t give up.” Fu Chengyan stood up and looked at Pei Huan condescendingly. “You’re a fighter, and fighters don’t give up so easily. Besides, even if you and everyone else fails... I believe that the Ning family will pull through this!”

“Ning family?” *Of course, my mother is from the Ning family.*

A wave of realization then hit Pei Huan. “I can go to the Ning family and ask them for help!”

Pei Huan got up and was ready to leave, but Fu Chengyan halted her. “Huan, don’t worry. I have already sent Pei Jingxiu to take care of this matter.”

“Pei Jingxiu?” *Oh, right. Jingxiu is Mr. Li’s adopted son from the Ning family. He was also raised by Ning Xin for a short while. He must have been here when Ning Xin fell ill.*

“So you’ve already prepared ahead for this?”

Fu Chengyan nodded. “I believe you know Ning Xi, don’t you? She’s the daughter of the Ning family who wandered alone and away from the Ning family. She’s now amid a medical examination in Jiang City. The report will be out in a couple of days!”

Pei Huan let out a sigh of relief upon hearing those words.

Fu Chengyan motioned her to sit down. "Alright, we're done talking about Aunt Ning's matter. What else did you want to talk to me about?"

Pei Huan nodded. "I met Li Heng's uncle today, Li Cenbei!"

Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows, yet he was not the slightest surprised when he heard this. Instead, Pei Huan was dumbfounded. "Aren't you curious about what I talked to him about?"

Fu Chengyan's mouth twisted into a scowl. "You both have a long history of three years. Therefore, I wouldn't be surprised if you'd meet him."

"Then, aren't you curious why I decided to meet him?" Pei Huan asked. Before Fu Chengyan could answer, she continued, "I confronted him because I wanted to know if he was the culprit who injected the virus into me."

"And?" Fu Chengyan glanced at Pei Huan. "What'd he say?"

"Of course he denied it. What else could he say? Nonetheless, I can't guarantee that I understand him inside out, but I did spend three months with him. Hence, I can confirm certain things." Pei Huan pursed her lips. "I was wondering if Li Cenbei was involved in the things that happened between Li Heng and I? Why does Li Heng always disappear whenever I'm in trouble?"

Pei Huan forced a smile and continued, "Although I do hate Li Heng, I'm not stupid. I had it all figured out ever since I got back. For example, why's Li Cenbei always the first to appear whenever I'm in trouble? Why would he always rescue me in time? Consequently, the misunderstanding between us would intensify. If he claimed that he isn't Li Cenbei, I wouldn't doubt it. But the fact is that he is indeed Li Cenbei, and his relationship with Li Heng and the Li clan is on thin ice."

"I'm glad you've figured it all out, but why are you telling me all this today? What do you want me to do?"

“Chengyan, could you think of a way to help me with the virus? I have no idea what it is. However, if Li Cenbei is indeed the culprit who injected the virus into me, he must be using me as a way to leverage against Li Heng!”

“You don’t want to be Li Cenbei’s pawn against Li Heng?” Fu Chengyan nodded knowingly. “Are you trying to break off your relationship with Li Heng?”

Pei Huan hesitated before nodding gravely. “I don’t know when the virus will hit me, nor do I know when I will die. It is the only way to keep Li Heng away from trouble. He has been held back by the Li clan most of his life, and I know how much Li Heng desires a whole family.”

“You don’t resent him anymore?”

Pei Huan’s lips twitched before she replied, “Chengyan, I plan to leave once my mother’s surgery is done. As for Bao... He is Li Heng’s son. I know he’ll take good care of Bao even if I’m not in the picture.

“Huan...”

“Chengyan, listen to me. I don’t want to regret this!” Pei Huan sighed as she rose from the sofa. “So, please don’t tell Li Heng about this.”

Fu Chengyan squinted as he watched Pei Huan leave. He then pursed his lips, picked up his phone, and began scrolling through his call log. “This is all I can do for you. You’re on your own now!”

Deafening silence was heard on the other end of the phone. Li Heng took in a deep breath before he thanked Fu Chengyan and hung up on the call.

Ning Xi immediately rushed to Sheen City when she received Pei Jingxiu’s call and went directly to the hospital for a blood test. According to Su Shaoqing, it usually took at least a week to get the report – the shortest time would also take up to three to four days. Yet, Li Heng was running out of time. Eventually, the

report took two days to come out despite the hospital working overnight to produce the results.

The miraculous thing was that Ning Xi's blood type had matched exactly with Ning Xin's. In other words, she was no doubt a member of the Ning family. It was great news to both Li Heng and Pei Huan. The bone marrow report was the last thing to verify. If the bone marrow pairing were a match, Ning Xin would be sent for operation immediately. However, it was not good news to Pei Jingxiu.

Pei Jingxiu stared at the report with a solemn look on his face.

Ning Xi stood beside him as she watched Pei Jingxiu's slender fingers crush the report. "Aren't you happy?"

Pei Jingxiu glanced upwards and stared at Ning Xi intricately.

Ning Xi could feel her heartbeat speed up; it was pounding in a way she was not familiar with. She blamed it on Pei Jingxiu's cold gaze. His intense stare had caused Ning Xin to feel uncomfortable, "What's wrong with you?"

Pei Jingxiu shifted his gaze and handed Ning Xi the report. "Congratulations, you're now the Young Madam of the Ning family!"

Ning Xi frowned at Pei Jingxiu's words. "I..." She didn't expect this because when she had met Pei Jingxiu, she was merely a crook in Jiang City. She was a crook that desperately wanted to survive. She didn't want to starve or go cold while living in the street. Therefore, a group of kids and she committed various crimes in the streets and alleys of Jiang City to survive.

She had been arrested and locked in juvenile prison in the past. Yet, it never stopped her from returning to her old ways. It was the only way she could survive.

Things changed when she met Pei Jingxiu. To Ning Xi, he was both an angel and a devil.

The man took her out of hell and placed her into another purgatory.

Ning Xi pressed her lips together. *I never imagined myself to be a Young Madam of a wealthy family.* Even when Pei Jingxiu found her, provided her with necessities, and equipped her with knowledge and values to become a good person, she still felt like a lowly criminal deep down.

Pei Jingxiu had assured her that no matter what she had done in the past, neither good nor bad, Buddha will forgive her as long as she was focused on doing good. However, she had never believed his words. She only worked hard because she desired a better life for herself.

But she now belonged to the upper-class, and she did not need to work for anything she desired.

Ning Xi pursed her lips. She tried to force a smile, but she could not bring herself to do so. "Maybe there's been a mistake made?"