

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 346

Pei Jingxiu gazed at her for a second before tugging her chin up towards him. He narrowed his eyes and asked a little mockingly, "Are you scared?"

Ning Xi slapped his arm and turned away so that she wouldn't have to look Pei Jingxiu in the eye.

Pei Jingxiu's long, slender fingers moved away from her face, but his lips curled into a smile as he said breezily, "Perhaps this solution might be the start of something new, don't you think?"

"It's out! The report's out!"

Su Shaoqing dashed through the door with the latest lab report in his hand. The moment he entered the room, he saw Pei Jingxiu and Ning Xi sitting side by side. There was an awkward tension between them that even he could sense.

Su Shaoqing raised an eyebrow. Mistakenly thinking that Ning Xi was too nervous to speak, he burst into laughter. "Hey, firecracker, are you worried about the compatibility of your bone marrow? Well, I'll be damned. In most cases, the possibility of a non-biological daughter being an eligible bone marrow donor for their adoptive mothers is very slim. However, to everyone's surprise, your bone marrow is highly compatible with Aunt Ning's! Although the compatibility is a little lower than Huan's, the numbers are very reassuring. It's more than 50%."

Hearing this, Ning Xi was overjoyed. After all, it was one life she would be able to save. She was especially desperate now that she knew the relationship between Ning Xin and herself. "Do you mean I'm eligible to be a bone marrow donor for Aunt Ning? That's wonderful! When will the surgery be conducted?"

“Don’t get ahead of yourself. We have to consult the doctors and arrange a time for the surgery first. You’ll need to rest up during the next few days. Don’t forget that your own health is very important too, especially if you are to be a bone marrow donor.” Su Shaoqing was secretly very pleased as well. They had labored in vain to find a suitable bone marrow donor until Ning Xi miraculously showed up. It was an extremely pleasant turn of events. “I’ll inform Li Heng and Fu Chengyan immediately.”

When they found out about the news, Li Heng and Fu Chengyan rushed over immediately. Pei Huan had been at the hospital the whole time—when news reached him, he went down to Su Shaoqing’s office immediately. Looking gratefully at Ning Xi, she said, “Sorry for all the trouble, Ning Xi.”

“It was no trouble at all. She’s my aunt too!” Ning Xi replied, smiling. Seeing the tired look on Pei Huan’s face, she asked worriedly, “Hey, do you want to take a break? You probably haven’t slept very well these past few days.”

“Here, have a seat!” Pei Jingxiu noted the greying tint of Pei Huan’s face and pulled over a chair, gesturing for her to sit down.

They were right—Pei Huan was indeed very tired. After realizing that she had caught the virus, the woman had spent one sleepless night after another. If she hadn’t been so worried about Ning Xin’s illness, she would have given up and died a long time ago.

Fu Chengyan and Li Heng soon reached the office. They discussed the time Ning Xin should undergo the operation and managed to agree on a time and date. At long last, the dark cloud of worry that had been hanging over all of them finally disappeared.

Li Heng took one look at the exhausted expression on Pei Huan’s face and immediately asked everyone to excuse them. Taking Pei Huan by the hand, he left the room immediately.

As she was dragged down the corridor by Li Heng, she panicked at the thought of what he might do to her. “Li Heng, what do you think you’re doing? Let go of me right now!”

“Shh, don’t fuss.” As they reached the car park, Li Heng stretched out a hand and caressed her hair softly. He stuffed Pei Huan into the car and shut the door. “I’m bringing you somewhere.”

“Where?” Pei Huan shot him a suspicious look.

Li Heng laughed lightly. “Don’t worry; I won’t be selling you off to a pimp.”

Pei Huan pursed her lips. She was too tired to argue with Li Heng like she usually did. She could only let him be.

Li Heng turned on some music as Pei Huan leaned back in her seat and closed her eyes—almost immediately, she fell asleep.

Li Heng glanced at her, a look of heartache flashing across his face. Touching her face softly, he whispered, “Wait for me. After I resolve everything, I’ll make sure to cure you and Bao of the virus”

After a long and uneventful drive, the car arrived at Wuyun Residence. Carefully, Li Heng scooped Pei Huan up in his arms and carried her out of the vehicle.

Aunt Zhang saw their car pull into the driveway and came running out immediately. “Mr. Li, what’s the matter with Mrs. Li?”

“Shh.” Li Heng warned Aunt Zhang to speak softly to avoid waking Pei Huan up. “Because of Mum’s illness, Huan hasn’t been able to get much sleep lately. It’s high time we let her get some rest.”

Aunt Zhang nodded. As she looked at Pei Huan, she tutted anxiously and murmured, “Poor child!”

Li Heng carried Pei Huan upstairs to their bedroom and lay her down gently on the bed. After he took off his clothes, he jumped into bed as well, hugging Pei Huan tightly to his chest.

When Pei Huan finally woke up, the first thing she thought was that she hadn't slept so soundly in a long time. As she opened her eyes, she realized how light her body felt. However, when her gaze fell on the man next to her, Pei Huan froze. Gazing at Li Heng's chiseled features, Pei Huan's finger hovered over his face, trembling, as she debated whether or not to touch it.

As she continued to gaze at him, she smiled and let out a soft sigh.

Li Heng's eyes flew open suddenly. He reached and grabbed Pei Huan's hands, startling her. Feeling a little awkward, Pei Huan stammered, "Are—are you awake?"

Li Heng nodded. "Did you sleep well?"

Pei Huan realized with a start that she had fallen asleep so easily. *Could it be because I've been so tired lately?*

She nodded. "Yes. Thanks for all your help."

Li Heng's lips curved into a smile. "No problem. Since you're awake, let's get out of bed."

Pei Huan followed him as he stumbled out of bed. "Um, well..."

Li Heng took fresh clothes out of the wardrobe and handed them to her. "Aunt Zhang is downstairs right now. She should have already finished making breakfast for us by this time."

Pei Huan looked down at the clothes, looking a little dazed. "These are..."

“These are yours,” Li Heng stated simply.

“Wait... Li Heng!” Pei Huan exclaimed as he was about to turn and leave.
“There’s something I need to tell you. Bao... Bao is your son!”

Li Heng paused for a moment before a smile spread over his face. “Yes, I know that!” The kid looked so much like him that it was practically impossible for anyone else but him to be the father.

A huge load was lifted off of Pei Huan’s shoulders when she finally told Li Heng the truth. “I’m sorry for all the trouble I’ve caused you these past few days. Ning Xi’s bone marrow is compatible with my mother’s, so we’ll be able to proceed with the surgery very soon.”

“That’s great! You don’t have to worry about it anymore.” Li Heng walked over to her and caressed her face gently. “I’ve tasked a few of my colleagues to investigate the virus in your body, so don’t worry about it anymore. Trust me, okay?”

“I...” Pei Huan opened her mouth to protest before closing it again and nodding numbly. “Alright!”

“Let’s go downstairs and have some breakfast!”

Ning Xin’s surgery was scheduled to be conducted a week later. During the week before her surgery, everyone got extremely busy.

Prosperous Group had been recently selling off its shares, so it was no surprise that the Li Group’s stock price had taken a harrowing plunge. Before this, there had already been rumors floating around that the Li Group’s business empire was close to collapsing. However, the Li Group had been around for a long time – there was always a chance for them to rebound. Most people believed that the Li Group would rise again after some time had passed.

However, the company's stock price continued to fall after the initial moment of panic. Those who had scorned the idea of the Li Group's collapse now hurried to sell their shares, plunging the company into utter chaos. The Li Group's new president finally realized the severity of the situation—there was nothing Li Xufan or even Li Cenbei could do to help.

Li Xinzhi had no choice but to settle the problem by himself. However, the Li Group was in for even worse problems over the next few weeks. Their goods got held up at the shipping customs, and the overseas department got thrown into a panic. Li Xinzhi felt rather helpless in the middle of it all.

Nonetheless, some of the stakeholders chose to stick it out. They started to demand Li Heng's return. "Why don't we ask Li Heng to come back and lead the company? He was the one who got us out of the mess seven years ago when the Li Group encountered some financial difficulties. Back then, he was only in his twenties, but he had more gumption in him than almost everyone else."

"Yes! Let's ask him to return." Li Xufan realized that only his uncle would be able to save the Li Group from its imminent collapse.

However, Li Xinzhi looked rather reluctant. "Hmm... Bei, what do you think?"

Li Cenbei had been very distracted lately. As soon as he heard Li Xinzhi's question, he smiled and said blandly, "Haven't you already made up your mind about that, Father? I believe the person you originally wanted to leave your position to was Li Heng."

"Bei, how— How could you say something like that?"

Li Cenbei merely smiled. "Everyone, please take a look at this!" He took out a stack of documents and started passing them around the room. Gazing icily at Li Xinzhi, he said coldly, "Father, some of the information stated here might sound a little familiar to you."

“What? This is impossible... Impossible!” Li Xinzhi’s eyes widened in horror as he looked down at the document in his hand.

Seeing the look of shock on Li Xinzhi’s face, the other stakeholders quickly scanned through the documents in their hands. Their faces grew grim with disbelief as they read. “What? Prosperous Group belongs to Li Heng? How is that possible? He has been working at Li Group all this time... How could he have the time to manage Prosperous Group as well? Besides, why would he see the need to destroy Li Group?”

Li Cenbei’s face clouded over. In a booming voice, he said, “Is everyone accusing me of forging these documents, then?”

For once, Li Xinzhi was at a loss for words. A long while later, he finally put the documents aside. “Bei, what should we do now? We can’t let him destroy Li Group like this. I know he hates me for sending him away all those years ago, but I didn’t have a choice! The fortune-teller...”

Li Xinzhi paused for a while before he continued. “Oh, forget it. We shouldn’t be talking about these things at the company. Bei, let me know if you have any solutions to this issue. After all, you’re the managing director of the Li Group now.”

Something sinister flashed in Li Cenbei’s eyes. “There is a way out of this, of course. The most important thing we need to do right now is to find a company that’s still willing to invest in the Li Group. I’ll find a way to settle things in the overseas department. Even if Li Heng has three heads, which I highly doubt he does, he can’t take down a large corporation like us overnight. Whoever manages to wait this out longer than the other wins.”

“Invest? But who would want to invest in our company now?” It wasn’t as though Li Xinzhi hadn’t thought of such an idea before.

However, considering the present circumstances of Li Group, the only solution now was to let Li Heng return and reassure the stakeholders of the company’s

future. Other than that, Li Xinzhi had no idea how to restore the company to its former glory.

“Father, you don’t need to worry about that. I’ve contacted L Company in C Country, and they’ve agreed to work with us.”

“L Company? Do you have connections to the people there?”

“I worked at L Company a long time ago, and I’m still in contact with some of my colleagues there. They’re willing to help Li Group, but on one condition—they want to control the majority of the shares. That’s what I’m here to discuss with everyone today.” Li Cenbei passed around the agreement contract he had drawn up with L Company. “Please have a look at this.”

Li Xinzhi looked a little hesitant. After glancing through the documents, a look of doubt crept over his face. “Bei, you do know that the Li Group is the result of decades of my hard work, right? What if L Company takes the opportunity to take us down...”

“Father, don’t worry. If I have the ability to talk them into investing in us, I’ll be able to talk them out of anything!”

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“Mr. Li, Li Cenbei has asked L Company from C Country to invest in the Li Group. Take a look at this.”

“Just as I’d expected!” Li Heng glanced at Zhou Zheng and asked, “What does Fu Chengyan think?”

“Mr. Fu wants me to stick with you for the time being.”

Li Heng smiled darkly. “You don’t have to do that; I barely have anything for you to as it is!” Waving his hand dismissively, he handed the documents to Zhou Zheng and told him to pass them to Fu Chengyan. “Liang Lin is at Sheen City right now. If you have the time, drop by and help him.”

“What about the Li Group?”

“In less than a week, I guarantee you that Li Group will experience a reform like never before. I’ll handle it!”

“I’ll take my leave then, Mr. Li.”

Zhou Zheng had visited Li Heng on his master’s orders. Since Li Heng didn’t require his help, Zhou Zheng had no choice but to return to Fu Chengyan. When he heard what Li Heng had said, Fu Chengyan’s eyes narrowed in displeasure. “Did he really say that?”

“Yes, those were Mr. Li’s words exactly. He said that Li Group will experience a reform like never before in less than a week. Is he planning to abandon the Li family once and for all?”

After all, Li Heng belonged to the Li clan. Zhou Zheng thought that Li Heng would show some sympathy towards his blood relatives despite the family’s internal conflict. To his surprise, however, Li Heng had shown no remorse about destroying the Li Group.

On the other hand, Fu Chengyan broke into a slight smile.

“Alright, understood. You may leave now.”

After Zhou Zheng left, Fu Chengyan sat in his office for a long while, thinking in silence. Immediately, he gave his contact in C Country a call. After confirming that L Company had indeed decided to invest in the Li Group, he broke into a relieved smile.

He had underestimated Li Heng’s abilities—that rascal had a backup plan! They had cast the net, and now all they could do was wait for the fishes to swim into the trap. Fu Chengyan got up and walked out of the study room. At that moment, Shi Nuan came out of Pei Huan’s room. He waved her over. “Come here!”

Shi Nuan walked over to him immediately. “What’s up?”

“Is Bao asleep?”

Shi Nuan nodded. “I just managed to get him to sleep. Huan is staying at the hospital tonight, and she won’t be back until tomorrow. I think I’ll keep Bao company in his room tonight.”

Fu Chengyan’s eyes narrowed dangerously as a look of displeasure flashed across his face. Hastily, Shi Nuan tried to reassure him. “I’m just worried about Bao! He’s infected with the virus, but unlike Huan, he’s still a child. If anything happens to him at night, at least I’ll be able to attend to him immediately.”

Regardless of her explanation, Fu Chengyan continued to frown. “Maybe I should give Li Heng a call and have him take the boy away!”

Shi Nuan felt a little exasperated. “You’re being so unreasonable! Why would you get jealous of a kid? Besides, Bao is your nephew!”

“I don’t care that he’s my nephew! As long as it’s a male, I won’t allow you to sleep next to them!” As he spoke, Fu Chengyan enveloped her in an embrace. “You’re mine.”

“Behave yourself!” Shi Nuan’s face turned red with embarrassment. Patting Fu Chengyan lightly, she said, “Alright, Aunt Ning will be undergoing her surgery very soon. After the surgery, Bao will return to live at the Fu family home for a while. Aunt Ning and Uncle Heng adore him to death.”

Fu Chengyan sighed wistfully. “When can we have a child of our own?”

Shi Nuan looked up at him. Meeting Fu Chengyan’s gaze, she smiled mischievously and said, “Do you like children?”

Fu Chengyan leaned down and planted a kiss on her lips. “Of course! As long as you’re the one who gives birth to it.”

“Really?” Shi Nuan’s lips curved into a smile. “Well, as far as kids are concerned, we have to let nature take its own course. However...” Shi Nuan leaned against Fu Chengyan and tiptoed to pressed a kiss to his chin. “We’ll have to put in some effort ourselves too.”

Fu Chengyan grinned at her joyfully. Sweeping her up into his arms, he exclaimed, “Come on! Time for us to put in some effort.”

...

Over the next few days, the Li Group underwent a rollercoaster-like series of events. There was much speculation, but nobody knew for sure what was going

on in the secretive depths of its meeting rooms. The next thing everyone knew, Li Heng had made so many changes to the company that it was barely recognizable as the Li Group.

On the other hand, something had gone wrong with Li Cenbei's plan—Li Company suddenly went back on their agreement and canceled their investment plans for the Li Group. Immediately after that, they agreed to channel their funds into Li Heng's company instead. Li Cenbei wasn't the only one who was caught unaware by this unexpected turn of events—his father hadn't seen it coming either.

Following that, the Li Group was quickly acquired by Li Heng's company. No one knew how the man had managed to do it.

Li Cenbei vanished that day, throwing the entire Li clan into chaos. The next morning, Li Xinzhi received a manila envelope that contained an important secret of the Li family. Upon opening the envelope, he found a piece of paper documenting events that had happened thirty years ago—namely the truth behind his eldest son, Li Cendong's mysterious death.

After he read the document, Li Xinzhi came down with pneumonia and had to be hospitalized. It seemed to be the end of the Li clan.

Li Xufan promptly came across the document that Li Xinzhi had left lying on the floor of his study room. As the former read through it, he felt as though he had been struck by lightning.

“Li Xufan? What are you doing in here?” Jiang Xinyuan appeared in the doorway, holding her child. Glancing rapidly between Li Xufan's furious expression and the piece of paper in his hands, she stuttered, “You...”

“Get out of my way!” Li Xufan pushed her aside and dashed out of the Li Residence. He headed straight to the hospital and barged into Li Xinzhi's hospital room.

“Great-grandpa? Wait, no. I should be calling you Grandpa instead, right?” Li Xufan balled his hands into fists as he gazed bitterly at the shivering old man, who was lying on the bed. Li Xinzhi was basically a walking corpse now. His eyes were already cloudy; it was an omen of his impending death.

Li Xufan shook the document in his hand at Li Xinzhi. Li Xinzhi’s eyes widened as he tried to sit up and snatch the piece of paper away from Li Xufan. However, the old man was so frail that he couldn’t move at all, much less open his mouth to speak.

Li Xufan’s eyes were bloodshot. Shaking uncontrollably, he said, “You treated my mother and I so well because you felt guilty, didn’t you? You must have known that your youngest son caused the fatal accident that killed my maternal grandparents. By tampering with the car, he also caused my mother to be widowed at such a young age. That car was supposed to be driving you that day, but my grandparents got into the car instead because they were heading to the airport. Is that true?”

Li Xinzhi grunted as though he wanted to speak, but his words were completely unintelligible. “You knew perfectly well that Li Cenbei caused the deaths of my grandparents, but you pretended that you didn’t know! You caused my mother to become an orphan and sent her off to live with Li Cennan. My mother always thought that my grandparents’ deaths had something to do with Li Cennan because you made him the majority shareholder immediately after the accident!”

Li Xufan continued, “You knew about Li Cenbei’s grudge against the Li family, so you must’ve known that he would never have the family’s best interests at heart. Even so, you let him get close to my mother—how cruel can you get? He broke my mother’s heart and left her pregnant with me.” Li Xufan flung the piece of paper at Li Xinzhi. “You’ve always been so biased towards Li Cenbei. Isn’t it because of that dead mother of his, He Xinyuan?”

Li Xinzhi’s eyes widened in horror. “You... You...”

“How did I find out about this when the document mentioned nothing about He Xinyuan?” Li Xufan laughed humorlessly. “The person I’ve hated for so many

years didn't turn out to be an enemy after all. My dear Grandpa, you weren't just cruel to us—you nearly ruined my uncle's life as well!"

"I..."

"As for how I found out about this," Li Xufan continued, "That's because I received a document in a manila folder, just like you did. If my mother found out that the man she has loved for so many years is her biological uncle, don't you think she might die from the shock? From the moment you decided to protect Li Cenbei all those years ago, everything started going wrong. It was only a matter of time before Li Group collapsed into itself. Between Li Cenbei and Li Heng, I'd much rather see the company destroyed by Li Heng!"

"You... You worked with Li Heng?" Li Xinzhi managed to sputter out a complete sentence after much difficulty. "You..."

"Yep. You know what they say—he who understands the times emerges victorious. Li Cenbei might be very capable, but he's nothing compared to someone like Li Heng. Li Cenbei waited for so many days to take his revenge, but his plans were completely foiled the moment Li Heng put his own into action."

"But there's something else you want to know, don't you? You probably want to know where Li Cenbei is now." Li Xufan approached the bed slowly. "Don't worry. He won't leave Jiang City before you die. He'll appear very soon. Just wait a little while more!"

Li Xufan then turned and left the room. There was only Li Xinzhi in the room now. The older man wanted to get up and chase after Li Xufan, but try as he might, he was unable to move an inch.

The room soon fell silent. Li Xinzhi removed his oxygen mask and tried to get up, but he soon fell painfully back onto the bed.

A long, slender pair of arms appeared before his eyes. The person picked up the oxygen mask and swept a disdainful look across Li Xinzhi's face. "Long time no see, Father!"

Li Cenbei's lips curled into a smile. Gazing at the receding figure of Li Xufan as he disappeared down the corridor, he dragged a chair over and sat down by Li Xinzhi's bed. His dark eyes took in the pitiful figure of Li Xinzhi, but there was no hint of emotion in them.

"Are you curious about why I came back after leaving so suddenly?" Li Cenbei took a fruit knife and started peeling an apple carefully. "My mother told me that I mustn't go easy on anyone who has wronged her!" Here, he looked pointedly at Li Xinzhi. "What do you think about that?"

"Ahh—" Li Xinzhi croaked, trying desperately to say something. However, he couldn't seem to say anything at all.

Li Cenbei smiled again. "Is there something you want to say?"

"Ahh—"

"Don't worry; I'll wait!" Li Cenbei smiled at the older man as he continued peeling the apple. "Li Xufan said so many things to you just now, but there's something I need to correct. The first person I'm going to kill isn't you. It'll be Li Cendong."

"You..."

Li Cenbei's lips curled into a smile. "Aren't you to blame for all of it? My mother and Li Cendong were deeply in love back then, but you had to get in between and mess everything up. Li Cendong wound up marrying Li Min's mother instead, and you took the opportunity to lock my mother up while her family's fortunes declined."

Li Xinzhi's eyes widened in shock. "Don't you want to know how I found out about it all?" Li Cenbei handed the perfectly peeled apple to him and gazed coldly at

the older man. "You locked my mother up in that dark, windowless room while Li Cendong was on honeymoon with his wife. Meanwhile, you..."

Li Xinzhi's lips moved wordlessly as he tried in vain to speak.

"Li Xufan told me that you helped cover up the truth behind my car accident because you adored me. He was wrong! You only did so because you felt guilty." Li Cenbei grinned manically. "You already knew very early on that I wanted to get my revenge on you. Wasn't that why you refused to get in the car that day?"

"You..."

"Actually, I never wanted to take your life that day. I wanted you to live and see the Li family's collapse for yourself." Li Cenbei's cold, soulless eyes bore into Li Xinzhi's terrified ones. "It's just too bad that I underestimated that rascal, Li Heng."

"You..."

"Back then, you did your very best to send him away, but he returned anyway. Did you think that I... Who's that?" Li Cenbei suddenly swung around and looked at the doorway.

Li Min pushed the door open and stepped into the room, trembling. Her eyes were swimming with tears. "Cenbei, you were making that up, right? You aren't biologically related to me, you had no part to play in my parents' deaths, and you never used me to hurt Li Heng, right?"

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Chapter 348

As Li Cenbei looked at Li Min, there was no hint of affection in his expression. “What do you think?”

Li Min stumbled backward and looked at him with disbelief. “Have you been lying to me all these years? You did all of those things—just for revenge? To get revenge on the Li clan?” Li Min refused to believe what he was telling her. “But why would you do that? You’re a member of the Li clan, too. Why would you do that?”

“A member of the Li clan? Haha! I’ve spent my entire life hating everyone with Li blood running through their veins.” Li Cenbei’s eyes grew rather cold. “Min, you’re over forty years old. How could you still be as naïve as the day you were born? Did you really think I loved you?”

“I...”

“Because the blood of the Li clan flows through your veins, and because you’re contaminated with the blood of Li Cennan, there’s no way I could ever fall in love with you!”

“No... I’m not a blood relative of the Li clan! I’m not! Li Cenbei, we’re not biologically related. Ask Grandpa...Grandpa...” Here, Li Min paused for a while, shaking. She balled her hands into fists and said, “Li Cenbei.”

“Li Min, getting close to you was the first step in my plan to get revenge on the Li clan.” Li Cenbei caressed Li Min’s face gently. “Do you know how much my mother hates this face of yours? You say you aren’t Li Cennan’s daughter, but

your face looks similar to that of Li Cennan's wife. It nearly drove my mother insane."

Li Min fell onto the floor and brought her hand to her face. With shaking fingers, she said despairingly, "So you've never loved me at all! You hated me all this while because of my face..."

"Oh, be thankful that you only resemble your mother a little instead of looking exactly like her." Li Cenbei gazed down at her coolly before sweeping his gaze across Li Xinzhi's face. "There's something else you should know. Do you remember when Pei Huan got kidnapped after her divorce with Li Heng? I was behind that too." He looked at Li Min, who had collapsed on the floor. "She played a part in all it!"

"No, no... That's impossible." Li Min shook her head as though she had lost her mind.

Li Cenbei walked up to Li Xinzhi and clapped the oxygen mask back onto his face. "Pei Huan and Bao have already been infected with the virus. If Li Heng finds out, I wonder how he'll react!"

Li Xinzhi's eyes widened again as he started gasping for air. He grabbed Li Cenbei's trouser leg, but Li Cenbei shook his arm off in disgust. "Stay alive!" he ordered. "You must live to hear the good news from me."

"You..." *Come back!*

Li Xinzhi couldn't speak – he could only watch helplessly and scream silently after Li Cenbei as the man left the room.

When Li Cenbei exited the hospital, he felt a little morose. He looked up at the blue expanse of the sky and thought deeply. After a while, he took out his phone and gave Pei Huan a call. "You want the antidote, don't you? Come and look for me. I can give it to you."

At that moment, Pei Huan was waiting anxiously outside the operating theater. Fu Chengyan, Shi Nuan, and Fu Heng were seated next to her. Li Heng had been a little busy these past few weeks, so he hadn't been able to come.

When she received Li Cenbei's call, Pei Huan's eyes widened immediately. "You..." Just as she was about to reply, she saw Fu Chengyan turn around to look curiously at her. Pei Huan stood up and went to speak in another corner. "You have the antidote? Are you trying to fool me?"

"You don't believe me, do you?" Li Cenbei laughed. "Of course you don't. After all, I lied to you for over three years. But, Huan, there's one thing I was truthful about till the very end."

Against her better judgment, Pei Huan asked, "What is it? What do you have to tell me?"

"Our marriage still hasn't been dissolved, so you'll definitely come and look for me." Li Cenbei seemed certain of it. "Pei Huan, I've never thought of harming you."

"But you already have. How can I make sure you aren't tricking me this time?" Pei Huan pursed her lips. She wasn't going to believe him so easily again.

"Bao... Bao has been infected with the same virus as you," Li Cenbei said. Upon hearing that, Pei Huan hissed, "Li Cenbei, you crazy jackass! What the hell is wrong with you? Bao is just a child!"

"But he's Li Heng's son, too." Li Cenbei's grip around the phone tightened. Drawing a deep breath, he said, "I'll be waiting for you at the place where we first met. I'll wait until you show up. I believe you know that the virus is hibernating deep inside your bodies, waiting to act up any moment. You might not care to live, but what about Bao?"

Pei Huan took a deep breath. As her eyes darted furiously about, she gripped her phone tightly and said through gritted teeth, "Wait for me. I'll come over immediately after my mother's operation ends."

Li Cenbei narrowed his eyes. "Pei Huan, I can't wait that long. I'll give you exactly one hour from now. If you don't get here in one hour, I'll leave..."

Immediately, Pei Huan replied, "Li Cenbei... Wait for me! I'll come to you now!" She was awfully afraid that Li Cenbei would leave before she arrived, but she was even more terrified by the idea that he was speaking the truth.

If he's right... If Bao had really been infected with the virus... Pei Huan's face turned white as a sheet. Without stopping to think, she quickly tried to appease Li Cenbei. "I'm coming over right now. Don't you dare leave!"

"Alright, I'll be waiting!" Li Cenbei replied coolly, smiling. "Don't tell anyone, by the way, or I'll leave immediately."

"Okay!" Pei Huan hung up on his, her fingers still trembling a little. Forcing herself to remain calm, she kept her phone away and walked over to Fu Chengyan.

"Chengyan, I have something on, so I'll have to leave now. Please watch over my mother for me." As she spoke, she glanced at Fu Heng and said, "I'm sorry, Dad."

"This child!" Fu Heng sighed. He was going to chastise her further, but Pei Huan had already taken off running towards the hospital's exit.

"Yan, what's going on with Huan?" Shi Nuan couldn't help but notice that there was something rather strange about Pei Huan's behavior. "Aunt Ning is still in the surgery room. What's so important that she has to run off and attend to it now?"

Fu Heng looked rather worried too. "Yan..."

"Uncle Heng, don't worry!" Fu Chengyan patted Shi Nuan's hand to tell her that everything was alright. He turned to Fu Heng and continued, "Nothing will happen to Huan."

Fu Chengyan stood up and went into a quiet corner to make a phone call. “Li Heng, is anyone following Huan?”

“Alright, I got it. You should be careful, too!” Fu Chengyan hung up after. Still feeling a little anxious, he gave Zhou Zheng a call too. “Tell Jiang Hu and the rest to head over. Remember not to let Huan know that you’re following her.”

Pei Huan was very distracted the whole way there. Furtively, she turned to glance behind her. Noting with relief that there were no cars following her, she took out her phone and gave Li Cenbei a call. “I’m out of the hospital. I’ll be there in around thirty minutes. Wait for me there!” Pei Huan deliberated with herself before giving calling Wuyun Residence. “Aunt Zhang? Is Bao with you?”

“Of course he is! Huan, don’t worry. I’ll take good care of Bao for you. Stay at the hospital and take care of your mother!” At that moment, Pei Huan heard Bao giggling happily on the other end of the phone and let out a sigh of relief. However, her heart still broke a little when she thought of how young Bao was.

If Li Cenbei was telling the truth, Bao might actually die. But... Bao was just a kid!

Pei Huan couldn’t understand how Li Cenbei could be so cruel. Instead of going up against Li Heng or the rest of the Li family, the man had decided to make an enemy of Bao. Besides, he played the role of Bao’s father for three years—how was it possible that he didn’t feel a shred of affection for the boy?

Pei Huan shut her eyes. Taking a deep breath, she stepped on the accelerator and sped towards the meeting location.

Half an hour later, she arrived. Years ago, she had found herself in a spot of trouble here when Li Cenbei showed up in her life for the first time. He had been a very kind person back then and had even saved her. Pei Huan had been very grateful to him. Although Li Cenbei hadn’t been a familiar figure in her life by any means, he had been a source of much comfort and companionship to her when they were both living overseas.

Pei Huan got out of the car and dialed Li Cenbei's number again. "I'm here. Where are you?"

"Pei Huan, did you bring someone with you?"

"What, no? I came alone," Pei Huan retorted. Trying to calm herself down, she continued, "I didn't tell anyone. Come out right now and give me the antidote."

"Do you take me for a fool?" Li Cenbei thundered. "Leave your car and walk across the road. There's a blue car parked along the sidewalk. Open the door and get into it."

"Li Cenbei, what the hell are you trying to do?"

"You might not have brought anyone with you, but I know how Li Heng and Fu Chengyan are like. They would have definitely sent someone to follow you. Huan... I'm not an idiot!"

Pei Huan took a deep breath. "Alright. I'll do that."

She took out a silk ribbon from her purse and flung it onto the floor surreptitiously. Following Li Cenbei's instructions, she crossed the road and got into the car. "Okay, I'm here. What should I..." Before she could finish speaking, she felt a sharp pain in her neck, and the world soon turned black. Try as she might, Pei Huan was unable to open her eyes.

When Pei Huan finally woke up, her head was spinning. She was tied up in the boot of the car, and she felt so dizzy that she wanted to throw up.

In the darkness, she felt a little suffocated. Someone had placed a piece of cloth in her mouth, so she couldn't make a sound even if she tried. Her limbs had been tied up as well, so she couldn't stretch them out.

Pei Huan felt very despondent all of a sudden. She was certain that she was going to die—this feeling was even stronger now than it had been three years ago.

Three years ago, she had been desperate to survive, but now... Pei Huan's eyes darkened. She had been infected with the virus, and she didn't know when it would act up. Pei Huan didn't care if she died, but her son... Her eyes widened, and she gritted her teeth. Raising her leg, she kicked the boot repeatedly in an attempt to alert the people outside. However, the car was still in motion, so nobody heard her.

“Where is she?” Seeing the silk ribbon in Jiang Hu's hand, Li Heng narrowed his eyes. He looked up and asked again, “Where is she?”

“Mr. Li, she was already gone by the time we got there. But...” Jiang Hu handed the silk ribbon to him, “There's an earring wrapped inside this. What's the meaning of that?”

Li Heng felt rather stunned. He gave the silk ribbon a little shake, and an earring fell into his hand. Something flashed in his eyes. Immediately, he took out his phone and activated the GPS function.

Pei Huan still carries this earring around with her?

Back then, he had given this pair of earrings to her as their anniversary present. It also doubled as a tracking device. Li Heng was very cautious because Pei Huan had already been kidnapped once.

When he first gave the earrings to her, Pei Huan had been completely in the dark about their special function. When she eventually found out about it, Pei Huan stopped wearing them. She claimed that it felt as though she was being surveilled by someone.

Li Heng finally found her location via his phone's GPS. Narrowing his eyes, he said, “Head to the North District!”

Following the GPS instructions, Li Heng and his subordinates made their way to the North District of the city.

The Great Tomb Mountain, despite its name, was located on a hill in the North District. Like its name suggested, the Great Tomb Mountain was a graveyard. However, it wasn't a normal graveyard—it was a graveyard where the rich buried their relatives.

Li Cenbei pulled up at the entrance of the graveyard. When he opened the boot of the car, he saw Pei Huan staring at him with hatred in her eyes. He smiled. "Why are you looking at me like that?"

Pei Huan didn't say anything. Li Cenbei set her down on the ground and untied the ropes that bound her limbs together. Removing the gag from her mouth, he laughed lightly and said, "Don't worry, I won't let you die. There's somewhere I want to bring you."

Pei Huan frowned. "Li Cenbei, what are you trying to do?"

Li Cenbei's eyes flashed. He reached out to touch Pei Huan's face, but she moved immediately. With a look of disgust on her face, she snapped, "Don't touch me!"

Li Cenbei's eyes glittered with fury, but he smiled menacingly and said, "Don't you know where we are?"

Pei Huan froze in shock. "A graveyard? Why the hell did you bring me here?" Pei Huan turned to run, but Li Cenbei grabbed hold of her immediately. "I've brought you here to meet my mother—your mother-in-law. We've been married for three years, but you haven't have a chance to meet her yet. She's a beautiful and kind woman, and she'll like you very much. I'm sure of it."

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 349

Like me? Pei Huan wondered if Li Cenbei had gone crazy.

Pei Huan pursed her lips and struggled to get away from the man. However, Li Cenbei's grip on her was simply too tight – she couldn't free herself no matter how hard she tried.

Li Cenbei brought Pei Huan up the hill and stopped when he reached a gravestone. Grabbing hold of her elbows, he said, "Huan, this is my mother's grave. Shouldn't you greet her?"

Pei Huan grimaced as Li Cenbei forced her to kneel next to him. When she saw the face of the young woman on the gravestone and compared it to Li Cenbei's, she realized that Li Cenbei truly looked a lot like He Xinyuan. He was her son, after all. It was well within reason for them to resemble each other.

The picture had probably been taken when He Xinyuan was very young. She still had a bit of baby fat on her face, which gave her a look of unparalleled innocence.

Pei Huan gazed at the photograph and pursed her lips. "Li Cenbei, what is this all about?"

Li Cenbei's eyes narrowed. He knelt next to Pei Huan and said, "I much preferred it when you used to call me Beiting. He Beiting." Li Cenbei gazed affectionately at his mother's photograph and continued, "Mum, this is Pei Huan, my wife!"

"I'm not your wife," Pei Huan snapped immediately. "Li Cenbei, do you think I'll still come running back to you after what you did?"

Hearing this, Li Cenbei's face clouded over dangerously. He gazed murderously at Pei Huan and said, "Pei Huan, my mother wishes for me to find a gentle and loving woman as my wife!"

"Go and find one, then!" Pei Huan said irritably. "We have nothing to do with each other."

"Nothing to do with each other? We got married in C Country. Don't you remember that?"

"You tricked me into it," Pei Huan retorted, gnashing her teeth in frustration. "Li Cenbei, stop fooling yourself, will you? You know that's impossible for us to get back together again. You..."

At that moment, Li Cenbei narrowed his eyes and clapped a hand over her mouth. "Be quiet!"

He could hear some voices in the distance. They were coming from the foot of the hill, and they were approaching them fast.

Li Cenbei grabbed hold of Pei Huan and dragged her in the opposite direction immediately. Pei Huan started to scream, but one look from Li Cenbei silenced her instantly. "If you want to live, I advise you to shut up right now. Have you forgotten that I have the antidote with me? You might not want to live, but what about Bao? Do you want him to die with you?"

Bao!

Pei Huan's eyes widened. She glared at Li Cenbei with hatred. Her words were muffled a little by his palm as she said, "Don't hurt Bao. I won't scream."

Seeing that Pei Huan had quietened down, Li Cenbei smiled and dragged her down the hill.

When Jiang Hu and the rest got there, Li Cenbei and Pei Huan were already gone. He gave Li Heng a call immediately. “Mr. Li, they’ve already left! I don’t think they’ve gone very far yet, though. We found your wife’s handkerchief at the scene.”

Li Heng’s expression turned rather grim. Turning to his GPS again, he instructed them to continue the search. “Head down to City River Park. They’re heading in that direction as we speak.”

As soon as Li Heng hung up, he received a call from Fu Chengyan. Frowning, he asked, “What’s up?”

“Aunt Ning’s surgery went very well. What’s happening on your side?” Fu Chengyan glanced at Ning Xin, who was being pushed into the Intensive Care Unit, before turning to look at Fu Heng and Shi Nuan. “Do you need my help?”

“Yes. Head to City River Park. Li Cenbei is heading there with Huan right now.” Li Heng paused before continuing, “What about Pei Jingxiu?”

“He’s with Ning Xi... I’ll head over right away!” Fu Chengyan hung up quickly and walked into Ning Xi’s ward. “Hey, Pei Jingxiu!”

Pei Jingxiu’s eyes rove over Ning Xi’s sleeping face. “What?”

“Li Heng needs our help with something.”

“Let’s go!”

Pei Jingxiu gave a call to his subordinates and told them to come to the hospital and take care of Ning Xi. After that, he left the hospital with Fu Chengyan immediately.

The two of them got into Fu Chengyan’s car. Pei Jingxiu sat in the passenger’s seat and quickly turned on his laptop. He frowned when the GPS located Pei Huan’s location. “Why is Li Cenbei bringing her there? Is he trying to flee the

country through the river?” Pei Jingxiu narrowed his eyes. “Your men have already secured the airport and the sea channels. He can’t leave the county without being spotted.”

“The He Residence used to be located right by City River Park!” Fu Chengyan spoke up and suddenly frowned. “Bad news. He isn’t trying to escape the country at all.”

Li Heng, who was on a conference call with them, frowned too. “He’s trying to get back at the Li family. Back then, Li Xinzhi caused the downfall of the He family. He imprisoned He Xinyuan in one of the He family’s old villas.” Li Heng clenched his fists. He had only found out about this after some thorough investigation on his part.

Ever since Li Xinzhi accepted him as part of the Li family, Li Cenbei had been plotting his revenge. However, because his mother’s life was in Li Xinzhi’s hands, he hadn’t been able to do anything. When He Xinyuan finally passed away, Li Cenbei no longer had anything to live for. That was when he decided to strike.

Li Heng knitted his eyebrows into a frown. “He’s trying to take the Li family down. What does Huan have to do with all of this?” Li Heng hadn’t seen this coming at all.

He always thought Li Cenbei’s final target would be him. Just after Li Heng learned how to talk, Li Xinzhi had appointed him as the next Li clan head. Hence, Li Cenbei had always been resentful of him.

“He’s using Huan to control you! Li Heng, calm down,” Fu Chengyan said as their car sped through the streets. He glanced sideways at Pei Jingxiu. “Have you found their exact location yet?”

“Yes. I was just informed that Li Cenbei’s car may be loaded with explosives and other dangerous weapons. We have to be careful.” Pei Jingxiu’s slender fingers flew over the keyboard. With a rather cold expression, he pressed a hand to his earpiece and asked, “If the situation gets dangerous, do we kill him on sight?”

“Yes,” Li Heng replied. “Kill him right away.”

Pei Jingxiu smiled wickedly and let his hands fall onto the keyboard again. “Do you want to do the honors, or shall I do it instead?”

“Whatever you want!”

Pei Jingxiu hung up and kept his laptop away. “At this rate, we’ll probably catch up with them in about forty minutes.”

Fu Chengyan smiled. “Pei Jingxiu, you truly underestimate me!” As he spoke, he stepped on the accelerator. The car shot forward, easily exceeding the speed limit. “I’ll make sure to disable the CCTV cameras nearby later.”

“Alright!” Pei Jingxiu shot him an admiring glance. “Your skills aren’t rusty yet.”

Fu Chengyan wriggled his eyebrows at him teasingly. “Back to you.”

Li Heng was racing towards Li Cenbei and Pei Huan, too. As he sped there, he gave a call to Jiang Hu and Zhou Zheng, informing them to get into position and prepare themselves.

Fu Chengyan and Li Heng’s cars caught up with Li Cenbei almost simultaneously. Pei Huan was seated at the passenger’s seat. When she spotted Li Heng in the other car, her eyes widened. However, Li Heng shot a look at her through the window, telling her not to act rashly.

Li Cenbei had spotted Li Heng, too. He stepped on the accelerator and sped forward immediately. Feeling a little panicked, Pei Huan stuck out her hand and tried to stop him. “Li Cenbei, you can’t escape now. Stop the car!”

“Stop the car? Pei Huan, I can’t do that. Since I found out the truth of my birth thirty-five years ago and realized that my mother had been locked up in that windowless room by Li Xinzhi all this while, I can never stop again. Aren’t you

curious about my relationship with the Li family? I'll bring you somewhere soon. That way, you can understand why I have to kill everyone in the Li clan."

"I don't understand, and I don't want to! Your grudge with the Li clan doesn't concern me at all!" Pei Huan screamed. She wondered if Li Cenbei had lost his mind.

"Are you sure it doesn't concern you? From the day you started dating Li Xufan, I've started paying attention to you. Pei Huan, you're a very special girl. At first, I thought your relationship with Li Xufan was nothing more than puppy love. I thought that he would get sick of you soon. As I expected, he did get sick of you. However, you got into another relationship with Li Heng immediately after that!"

Pei Huan's heart skipped a beat. "The person who wronged you was Li Xinzhi, not Li Cennan or Li Heng!"

"So what? As long as he's a member of the Li clan and the future head of the family, I'll make sure he suffers my wrath!" Li Cenbei's expression looked awful. He glared daggers at Li Heng's car. He glanced at the rearview mirror and saw that Fu Chengyan's car had caught up with them.

"Pei Huan, I'm sorry for putting you in such a difficult position. I might have offended the Fu clan for your sake, but I never meant any of that." As he spoke, Li Cenbei reached out a hand to caress Pei Huan's face. However, Pei Huan grabbed hold of his arm and bit down hard on it. "Li Cenbei, you're insane!"

"Don't you want to know who else you've made an enemy of? Other than myself, of course."

"What do you mean?"

Li Cenbei barked with laughter. "I was lying to you. I don't have the antidote to the virus in your body. In fact, I wasn't even the one who injected it into you. I never did it to Bao either." He pinched Pei Huan's cheeks affectionately. "Since I've returned to this country, I have no plans to leave ever again."

Hearing this, Pei Huan felt her hairs stand on end. “What are you trying to do?”

She couldn't tell what was going on in Li Cenbei's mind. He was no longer the 'He Beiting' she had once known—the man before her was the devil incarnate. “Li Cenbei, there's still a way out for you if you stop the car right now.”

“A way out for me? I was born wicked, and I'm going to die wicked, too. How is anyone going to save me?” Li Cenbei's eyes narrowed as he laughed again. “You were never in my revenge plans, to begin with. But since you've appeared, I'll take it as a gift from God. I promised my mother that I would go and look for her after tying up all my loose ends on this earth. I suppose I'll be seeing her with you as my companion—my mother shall be very pleased!” He sped up the car. “Pei Huan, we'll be seeing my mother very soon.”

“You're crazy! You're crazy! Li Cenbei, let me out of the car! You can kill yourself if you want to, but I want to get out of the car!” Pei Huan could hear the desperation in her voice, but she couldn't care anymore.

Back when she had been kidnapped and starved to the brink of death, she hadn't felt such a strong desire to live. But now, she had Li Heng, Bao, her parents, and all her relatives in the Fu family. She couldn't die now!

Pei Huan pounced at Li Cenbei, trying to pry his fingers off the steering wheel. “Li Cenbei, stop the car right now! Stop the car!”

Upon seeing such a scene, Li Heng's eyes narrowed. Tightening his grip on the steering wheel, he accelerated, making the car jerk forward.

When he saw Li Cenbei's car speed forward and start zigzagging all over the road, Fu Chengyan frowned. “Pei Jingxiu, sit tight!”

Fu Chengyan stepped down on the accelerator fully. Beside him, Pei Jingxiu picked up a call from Li Heng. “Fu Chengyan will swoop in from the front and block him off. Start decelerating now. Are you confident that you can get the two tires at the back?”

“Yes!” Li Heng slowed down the car a little. “What about the two at the front?”

“Leave that to me!” Pei Jingxiu reached below his seat and pulled out two small revolvers. He threw one to Fu Chengyan. “Fu Chengyan, let’s score a headshot with these!”

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 350

Bang! Bang! Suddenly, two loud noises rang out. Li Heng had already busted both the car's back tires, causing it to sway left and right. At the same time, he unbuckled his seat belt and attempted to jump out of his car, but Li Cenbei showed no intention of stopping his vehicle.

Fu Chengyan squinted as he held the gun in his hand, aiming at one of Li Cenbei's front tires. Meanwhile, Pei Jingxiu aimed his gun at Li Cenbei's head. Yet, Li Cenbei's stopped his car all of a sudden. He proceeded to hold onto Pei Huan, making Pei Jingxiu unable to aim straight.

Li Cenbei opened the car door, dragged Pei Huan down with him, and stared at the three men before him. "Looks like I've underestimated you guys," he remarked while pursing his lips. Li Cenbei had thought that with only Fu Chengyan and Li Heng around, he would still have a chance at survival as long as he had Pei Huan. However, Pei Jingxiu had decidedly shown up too.

Pei Jingxiu sat inside the car, tampering with his laptop. Then, very quickly, he shut down all the surveillance cameras in the area and exited the vehicle.

"It's done."

"Don't come any closer, or I'll shoot!" Li Cenbei held Pei Huan by the neck and pointed a gun at her. "I didn't want to make an enemy out of you, Fu Chengyan, but you just had to get in my way."

Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes. As he walked over, he glanced at Li Heng while signaling Pei Jingxiu with his hand. "The person you've taken hostage just so happens to be a member of the Fu family. She's my sister, so how could I not

intervene? How about this? Let Pei Huan go. You can do whatever you want with Li Heng. The Li family's affairs have nothing to do with the Fu family. What do you say?"

"Do you think I'm a three-year-old, Fu Chengyan?" Li Cenbei scoffed. "You and Li Heng have been friends for so many years. There's no way you'd leave him be."

Fu Chengyan smirked and nodded slightly. "You're right, but..." Before Fu Chengyan could continue, Li Heng suddenly showed up and gave Li Cenbei a kick from behind. Before the latter realized it, Li Heng had already snatched Pei Huan over to his side.

Li Cenbei swiftly turned and aimed his gun at Li Heng. The moment Pei Huan saw this, all she managed to do was scream, "Be careful!" *Bang! Bang!* Two shots rang out. As Li Heng fell into Pei Huan's arms, Li Cenbei received a bullet to his forehead and chest. He stared wide-eyed in Pei Huan's direction.

Pei Huan's heart pounded frantically as she felt herself being weighed down by another person's body. "Li Heng? Li Heng!"

She cried out Li Heng's name while relentlessly slapping him on the back. "Are you okay? Don't scare me like this. Don't you die on me!"

Cough, cough! Li Heng glanced at Pei Huan in frustration. Then, he turned over and got up, helping the woman up at the same time. "Even if I didn't get shot, I would've died from being slapped in the back like that."

"You're okay?" Pei Huan stood up and looked around, making sure Li Heng was unharmed before heaving a sigh of relief. "You scared me."

She really thought Li Heng had been shot from trying to protect her unconditionally during that crucial moment.

Tears swirled around in Pei Huan's eyes as her face turned pale. "How could you be so stupid to now know that he had a gun—Li Cenbei!" She hurriedly turned to

the man lying on the floor, but she couldn't bring herself to keep her gaze on him. "He's..."

"Don't be afraid!" Li Heng pulled her into his arms. "Everything's okay."

"Alright. You'll all okay, aren't you?" Fu Chengyan glanced at the sweet couple after inspecting Li Cenbei's corpse. Seeing they were uninjured, he nodded at Li Heng. "Aunt Ning's surgery was a success, Huan. She's currently resting in the hospital. Do you want to go and see her?"

"Really?"

Having just gone through a life-and-death situation, Pei Huan felt deeply shaken. But after hearing what Fu Chengyan said, all the anxiety and fear in her heart was washed away by happiness. "So, my mom's..."

"Shaoqing said the surgery went even more smoothly than the previous one, so you don't have to worry anymore," Fu Chengyan replied before turning to Li Heng. "Take Huan to the hospital, Li Heng. I'll handle it from here."

"Alright." Li Heng nodded. He knew how much Ning Xin mattered to Pei Huan. The latter woman would never be at peace as long as she didn't see Ning Xin safe and sound. "I'll leave this to you."

"Chengyan," Pei Huan called out to Fu Chengyan. "Thank you."

Fu Chengyan's lips curled into a smile. "Go on, now."

"But Li Cenbei..."

"Since he insisted on coming here, his body will remain here too," remarked Fu Chengyan. "Don't worry. I'll take care of everything here."

Once Li Heng left with Pei Huan, Fu Chengyan cast Pei Jingxiu a glance. "I'm counting on you again, Jingxiu."

Pei Jingxiu returned him a glance, got into the car, and began to work on his laptop again. "I can help you sort things out, but as for the guy..."

Fu Chengyan raised a brow. "Jiang Hu's coming."

As expected, the moment Fu Chengyan's words sounded out of his mouth, Jiang Hu and Zhou Zheng showed up. "Hello, Mr. Pei and Mr. Fu!"

"Clean this place up, Jiang Hu."

Fu Chengyan drove off right after giving his orders. Still, he couldn't help but ask Pei Jingxiu while on the road, "I thought you'd deal him a headshot."

Pei Jingxiu glanced at him. "I told you I'd let you do it."

Fu Chengyan smirked. "Where to, now?"

"The hospital," Pei Jingxiu responded emotionlessly, causing Fu Chengyan to be slightly astonished. "To see Ning Xi?"

Pei Jingxiu, who was busy typing away on his keyboard, suddenly froze for a moment before nodding. "Yeah. I'll be taking her to the Nings in Sheen City, now that we've confirmed she's part of the Ning family."

Fu Chengyan frowned slightly. "Are you sure? You won't regret it, will you?"

Pei Jingxiu calmly closed his laptop, but no words escaped his lips for a long time. Despite his eyes glimmering slightly, they still looked especially gloomy. "You know I've lived just for this moment."

The car instantly fell into silence. Fu Chengyan pursed his lips before he said, “You should really think about it. This isn’t an easy path to walk. On top of that... She’s innocent.”

“Innocent?” Pei Jingxiu smirked. “No one is ever innocent in this world—especially if they’re from the Ning family!”

Ning Xin was still in slumber when Pei Huan and Li Heng arrived at the hospital. Su Shaoqing had mentioned that Ning Xin wasn’t in good health, to begin with, so she would take a while to regain consciousness. Pei Huan nodded her understanding and sighed with relief upon knowing that Ning Xin was truly okay.

Her eyes brimmed with tears as she peered at the woman, who was sleeping peacefully, through the glass window.

Li Heng left Su Shaoqing and walked over after getting his minor injuries bandaged. Upon seeing Pei Huan’s eyes turn red, he proceeded to hold onto her. “What’s wrong?”

Pei Huan turned around and buried herself in Li Heng’s arms upon seeing him, hugging him tightly. “Nothing. I’m just so happy my mom’s finally okay.”

“Yeah. She’s fine now. Everything will get better soon,” Li Heng consoled her while patting her back gently. Suddenly, Pei Huan recalled the virus in Pei Huan’s body, as well as... “Li Cenbei said Bao was injected with the virus too. What should I do, Heng? Bao is still so young!”

“Don’t worry!” Li Heng responded when he saw how frantic Pei Huan became. “Don’t get all worked up.”

“But... Li Cenbei said he doesn’t have the cure. He said that himself. He also said that he had only injected the virus into me. It was someone else who injected it into Bao. Who else has the Li clan offended aside from Li Cenbei, Heng?”

Li Heng's eyes narrowed. "You're saying he wasn't the one who injected the virus into Bao?"

Pei Huan nodded. "Plus, he said there isn't a cure for this virus in the entire world. In fact, the one inside Bao is an improved and purer strain. Heng—"

"Don't worry. Leave this to me," assured Li Heng as he held Pei Huan's hand. "Did Li Cenbei say anything else?"

"He said..." Pei Huan shook her head. She couldn't come up with anything else despite trying her best to recall the previous encounter. "I can't remember, but I suppose he meant that there are other people who are out to get the Fu clan apart from him. I'm part of the Fu clan, and so is Bao. On top of that, my mother is ill and needs a bone marrow transplant, so it has to be either Bao or..."

Pei Huan could no longer continue. The more she thought about it, the more frightened she became.

Li Heng's heart ached at the sight of this woman. "Don't think about it," he said, pulling her into his embrace. "It's not like things can never change for the better. Honestly... We've long been aware of the virus inside you and Bao. Chengyan and I are already looking into it, so don't worry. If a virus exists, there has to be a cure too."

"But..."

"Okay, let's stop thinking about this. Don't you want to see Bao?"

Pei Huan nodded. "I've been so busy that I've neglected him. Is he at the Wuyun Residence?" she asked, pushing Li Heng away.

"Yeah. Do you want to go and see him now?"

Pei Huan shook her head. "I want to see Ning Xi first." In any case, she owed Ning Xi too much. She wouldn't have known what to do at all if it weren't for that

woman. Even if Ning Xi were part of the Ning family and was associated with Ning Xin, the fact that she could help out at this time made Pei Huan extremely thankful.

“Okay, then. Let’s go see her.” Li Heng placed a hand on Pei Huan’s waist, and the two headed over to Ning Xi’s ward.

Ning Xi had long regained consciousness. She was young and healthy, after all. She was only initially hurt during the bone marrow aspiration process, and she needed some rest after. By now, she had regained all her energy. Still, Fu Heng felt that she had saved Ning Xin’s life and was eternally grateful. However, he kept refusing to let her leave the hospital out of concern for her health.

Ning Xi was feeling bored out of her mind when she heard footsteps approaching her ward. Her ears had always been extremely sensitive, given the environment she had grown up in. With a squint, she hastily got off the bed and swung a dagger toward the door the moment it opened.

Ning Xi was fast, but the other party moved even quicker. Ning Xi felt her arm being grabbed as a cold voice rang out from above her, “You can fight already? I guess you’re all better now.”