

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 371

“Is that too much to ask for?” Shi Nuan mumbled under her breath and seemed to be seriously pondering over it. Then, she looked at Fu Chengyan and asked, “Darling, am I being too much to ask you for a diamond?”

“Not at all!” Fu Chengyan reached out and brushed aside the loose strands of hair on Shi Nuan’s forehead. “You can have any kind of diamonds you want!” Fu Chengyan replied affectionately, going along with his wife’s demands.

Shen Qianan’s expression changed as she said, “I used to be Yan’s fiancée after all. Isn’t Ms. Shi going a little overboard now?”

“Hehe, I’ve already said just now that I don’t lack anything and will not covet anything that belongs to others. Even though I am not exceptionally capable, I am still apt at protecting my properties. I won’t be going after things that belong to others, but if anyone has their eyes on what’s mine, I won’t go easy on them. What are your thoughts on this, Ms. Shen?”

“You... “

“It’s nice to be sentimental, but no one can accurately predict events that will unfold. Change is the only constant. Sometimes, we think we’re sure that something would last forever, but that’s just because it’s not time yet. When the time comes, we may then realize that there’s no such thing as forever. That’s why it’s most important for us to cherish the present.”

Shi Nuan slid her hand into Fu Chengyan’s hand and said, “This man is mine now. If you’re still not convinced, Ms. Shen, let’s just wait and see then!” After she finished speaking, she opened Fu Chengyan’s car door and pushed him in before

turning around and looking at Shen Qianan. “I got my looks from my parents and not you. Ms. Shen, you should really think about your words just now. If Yan married me because of my looks, you wouldn’t have been his past tense.”

Shi Nuan got into the car after that. She put on her seat belt and shut the door immediately, not giving Shen Qianan any chance to reply. Her execution was smooth without missing a single beat.

With one hand supporting the left side of his face, Fu Chengyan looked at Shi Nuan with interest.

Shi Nuan halted her actions and eyed the man suspiciously. “Why are you looking at me like that? Is your heart aching from the way I spoke to her just now?”

Fu Chengyan had an amused glint in his eye and smiled broadly as he replied, “Why would my heart be aching?” The man had never known that his wife had such a silver tongue. Her domineering aura had completely knocked Shen Qianan out earlier on.

Shi Nuan managed to relax a little after hearing what the man said. When she saw that Fu Chengyan had looked away and was driving past Shen Qianan, she appeared to be deep in thought before asking, “Regarding Shen Qianan... What are your feelings toward her?”

Fu Chengyan cocked his head to the side and looked at Shi Nuan again. “What do you think?”

Shi Nuan shook her head and answered, “I don’t know and I can’t tell. But like what I told you previously, if there’s something that you’re intentionally keeping from me, then keep it from me forever.”

Fu Chengyan reached for Shi Nuan’s hand and gave it a light squeeze. “It’s not the right time to tell you some things yet.”

“Then when’s the right time?” Shi Nuan held Fu Chengyan’s hand and continued, “You should know that I’m just an ordinary woman. There are certain things that are inflexible to me and I’m very serious about them. Even I myself don’t know what I would do if I’m triggered.”

Shi Nuan had tried not to mind at first, but Shen Qianan kept pushing it. She wasn’t someone who would allow herself to be taken advantage of.

“Give me some time. I’ll tell you all about it after my investigation is complete.” Fu Chengyan patted the back of Shi Nuan’s hand and added, “Trust me, alright?”

Shi Nuan nodded and agreed, “OK then!” After pausing to think for a while, she said again, “Are we going to House of Chigu to pick a gift for your grandpa?”

Fu Chengyan nodded and replied, “Did you hear it from Zhou Zheng?”

“Yup. But you should have told me about it earlier so that I would have time to prepare!” It was too rushed. Besides, Shi Nuan was not exactly in Fu Zhengyun’s good books. If the gift she had chosen was not to Fu Zhengyun’s taste, wouldn’t that give the old man a reason to split them up again?

“Actually, if Zhou Zheng had not reminded me, I would have forgotten as well.”

“What?” Shi Nuan was bewildered and widened her eyes in disbelief. “Are you kidding me?”

In response to that, Fu Chengyan looked at Shi Nuan seriously to make a point that he was not joking at all. Shi Nuan held his gaze for a while before letting out a helpless sigh. “Fine, so what are you thinking of getting him?”

“We can just get him anything. The old man already has everything,” Fu Chengyan replied nonchalantly. “Besides, do you really think that it’s gonna be purely a birthday celebration?” Fu Chengyan had never liked attending such events. For the past years, he would leave shortly after showing up and he intended to do the same this year.

Seeing that the man was taking his own grandpa's birthday celebration so lightly, Shi Nuan suddenly felt pity for Old Master Fu. The old man had spent so much time worrying and thinking about Fu Chengyan's marriage, but this grandson of his did not care much about his birthday at all.

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

Shi Nuan shook her head and looked away. "Nothing!"

Fu Chengyan chuckled and said, "Grandpa won't be particular about it. There's nothing that he lacks, so we can just pick anything for him. It's the thought that counts."

Time seemed to pass by quickly while they spoke and they reached House of Chigu shortly after. It had been a long while since the last time they visited.

At that time, Shi Nuan wasn't married to Fu Chengyan yet. The purpose of their previous visit to House of Chigu was to choose a present for Shi Yunsheng. Shi Nuan remembered feeling shocked that the place was owned by Fu Chengyan. "Yan, just how many assets do you have that I don't know of yet?"

"Why? Since I'm already all yours, everything that belongs to me are naturally yours as well!"

After Fu Chengyan parked the car, he put his arms around Shi Nuan as they entered the shop. When Mr. Qin saw Fu Chengyan approaching, he went up to welcome him immediately. He was slightly stunned to see Shi Nuan as he found her really familiar, but was unable to recall where exactly had he seen her before.

However, seeing how intimately Fu Chengyan was behaving with Shi Nuan, the man knew that they definitely shared an extraordinary relationship. "Mr. Fu, you're here!"

"Yup!" Fu Chengyan nodded and said, "Where's the item that Mr. Zhou asked you to prepare?"

“It’s right here!” Mr. Qin called out to his employee to bring out a long rectangular gift box and passed it to Fu Chengyan. “Mr. Zhou said that it’s Old Master Fu’s birthday. This painting would make a suitable gift!”

Fu Chengyan nodded. “Put it in my car later!”

“Understood!” Mr. Qin immediately instructed an employee to carry it to Fu Chengyan’s car. Seeing that Fu Chengyan was venturing further into the shop, Mr. Qin followed behind and said, “Mr. Fu, a new batch of antiques has arrived recently. Would you be interested to take a look?”

Fu Chengyan dismissed the suggestion with a wave and said, “Not today. I remember that there was a jade pendant in the shop a few years back. Is it still here?”

“Yup, it is!” Mr. Qin replied immediately. “That’s one precious treasure and I’ve been keeping it till now! Someone was asking about it a while back but I didn’t take it out. Mr. Fu, please give me a while. I’ll go get it right away!”

“Sure!” Fu Chengyan nodded. After Mr. Qin had gone in, he held Shi Nuan’s hand and headed to the private room to have a seat. Shortly after, an employee served tea to Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan. Mr. Qin took quite a while before returning with a box in his hand. “Mr. Fu, this jade pendant is a treasure from the Song dynasty and it has a very good shine. Even after so many centuries, it’s still so well maintained.”

He handed the item to Fu Chengyan, who held it in his hand and observed it for a moment before passing it to Shi Nuan. “See if you like it?”

“Is it for me?” Shi Nuan was slightly astonished. She didn’t know much about jade pendants or antiques, but after listening to the introduction by Mr. Qin, she took a close look at it and felt that it was indeed a masterpiece. “But I don’t know anything about this stuff. Why are you giving it to me?”

“You don’t like it?”

“I love it!” It was actually love at first sight for Shi Nuan. However, liking it was not the same as being suitable for it.

A smile appeared on Fu Chengyan’s face as he asked Mr. Qin to pack the item up and said to Shi Nuan, “If you don’t like the design, I can bring it to Jian and get her to redesign it!”

“Better not.” Shi Nuan felt a slight pity in her heart. “This is such a lovely item and the design is perfect as well. But for some reason, I feel like it doesn’t match my charisma. You know how my workplace is like. It’s doesn’t seem very nice for me to wear it to work. If you get Jian to make changes to it, the pendant would lose its original feel.”

“Silly girl, it’s more important that it suits you than to retain its originality. However, since you are not keen about the idea, we shall keep it as it is.” Fu Chengyan took over the jade pendant from Mr. Qin and handed it to Shi Nuan. “Since it’s for you, you can do anything you want with it. You can choose to just keep it as well!”

“OK then!”

Shi Nuan thought that she should just accept it since the pendant would be lying in the shop anyway.

“Oh yeah, who are the people who will be present at your grandpa’s birthday banquet?”

Shi Nuan had mulled over it for a while. After all, it was her first official visit to the Fu Residence, so she wanted to be more careful in order not to embarrass herself. Besides, the Fu clan was an influential large family with wide networks. Shi Nuan was sure that there would be a huge turnout, including both family members and guests. She was worried that she might accidentally do something wrong and become the joke of the day.

Fu Chengyan frowned slightly at her question and replied, "I'm not sure! I don't usually stay long enough to notice who the people there are. The Fu clan is huge and I don't see a need to greet every single one of them."

"OK then!" Shi Nuan let out a sigh after hearing what her husband said. Indeed, being the future head of the Fu clan came with privileges. She should have known that there was no need for Fu Chengyan to get to know everyone but the other way round instead.

"Oh, since this is the case, wouldn't Fu Xicheng and Shi Wei be there as well?" Shi Nuan suddenly remembered. So much time has passed that Shi Nuan had almost forgotten that even though Fu Xicheng was only distantly related to the Fu clan, according to Fu Yuqing's personality, he would definitely not miss out on such an important occasion.

A crease appeared between Fu Chengyan's brows as he replied, "I suppose so, but I am not very sure! What about that?"

"Sigh, your grandpa already doesn't like me. If he sees Fu Xicheng and Shi Wei, I may become the target of ridicule."

Fu Chengyan took Shi Nuan's hand and headed outside. When he saw Shi Nuan pulling a long face and seemed to have reservations, he couldn't help but give her cheeks a light pinch. "Don't worry. Given the number of people who are going to be present, no one is going to pay much attention to all these. Besides, most likely, they wouldn't be able to enter the main hall inside the Fu Residence."

"Huh?" Shi Nuan looked at the man quizzically and asked, "What do you mean?"

"As there were too many guests turning up at his birthday celebrations the past few years, the Old Master had split the celebration grounds into two parts in order not to be disturbed by too much noise. There is the main hall inside and an outside reception area. Entry into the main hall requires a formal invitation. As long as they do not have the formal invitation, you won't bump into them."

“Really?” Shi Nuan’s eyes lit up. “It’s a surprise that your grandpa came up with such a fantastic strategy.”

Fu Chengyan pinched Shi Nuan’s face slightly harder with a grumpy look on his face. “What do you mean by ‘your grandpa’? Since you are my wife, wouldn’t my grandpa be your grandpa too?”

Shi Nuan slapped Fu Chengyan’s hand away and pouted her lips. “Well, first, I would need to gain Old Master Fu’s approval. Didn’t you notice his look of disdain every time he saw me? I am quite sure that he wouldn’t be happy to see me on his birthday too.”

“Are you being a coward now? When you argued with him in the morning, I don’t remember that you cared for his feelings that much?”

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Fu Zhengyun's birthday party was considered a big event among the upper class of the entire Jiang City. It wasn't very much because of Fu Zhengyun himself, but rather because of the fact that the Fu clan was currently one of the most powerful clans in Jiang City. Besides, the Li clan was the only clan that was comparable to the Fu clan previously, but after what Li Heng did, the Li clan had fallen to the bottom of the pit and did not seem to be rising up anytime soon. As such, it could be said that Jiang City was ruled by the Fu clan at the moment.

Moreover, Fu Chengyan was doing increasingly well and getting more famous these days. Everyone was fighting for a chance to be associated with the Fu clan and Shengyuan.

As long as they could establish some ties with Shengyuan however remotely it might be, it would be easy for them to gain a foothold in Jiang City. *Every man for himself*. That saying was applied perfectly to businessmen.

People from all parts of the city were thinking of ways to get their hands on an invitation card, but not everyone could have their wishes fulfilled. Fu Yuqing's family was no exception. However, the butler of the Fu clan had not promised that family an invitation and Fu Yuqing was getting increasingly anxious. He was previously vying for a share in Shengyuan's project but had failed to do so.

Fu Yuqing took a look at his son and daughter-in-law and was frustrated that the two of them couldn't be of any help.

Fu Xicheng, on the other hand, was not very keen on attending the Old Master's birthday celebration as he was a man of dignity. Both he and Fu Chengyan were members of the Fu clan, but there was a stark difference in their statuses. Fu

Xicheng had lived with this disparity for many years and it had gotten worse in the recent two years.

Despite that, Fu Xicheng had still intended to go, disregarding his personal preferences. That was because even if he did not get to enter the main hall, he would still be able to meet and network with other successful businessmen, which was of utmost importance to Fucheng at that point in time.

Shi Wei had dressed up and gotten ready in advance. She was not aware of the split in venues and was certain that she would be able to meet some big shots at the banquet. Besides, she was currently a popular artiste under Xinhuang, a subsidiary of Shengyuan. As such, Shi Wei had made sure that she was in tiptop condition today.

However, Shi Wei noticed that Fu Xicheng did not look too good and had assumed that he was not feeling well. It was until they arrived at the location that the woman realized what her husband had been brooding over on the way there. “Why can’t we go inside? You mean there are two separate venues?”

Fu Xicheng was already looking gloomy. After hearing what Shi Wei said, his expression darkened even further. “Must you talk so loudly?”

“Why are you reprimanding me? Isn’t your last name ‘Fu’ as well?” Aren’t you a member of the Fu clan? Why are you not allowed to go in?” Shi Wei seemed to have suddenly realized that not all members of the Fu clan were equal. Even if they shared the same last name, they might not necessarily share the same treatment.

With that new understanding, Shi Wei’s face fell and she looked at Fu Xicheng with a cold gaze. “Previously, were you just bullshi*ting when you told me that every member of the Fu clan is prominent?”

“OK, that’s enough.” Fu Xicheng glared at Shi Wei and continued, “It’s too late to regret anyway!”

“You...”

“Hello, are the both of you Mr. Fu Xicheng and Ms. Shi Wei?”

Just when the couple started quarrelling, someone wearing a maid’s costume approached them. “Greetings, I’m a servant of the Fu clan.”

“Oh, yes, that’s us. What’s the matter?”

“That’s great. Ms. Shen wants me to invite the both of you inside!” The servant led Fu Xicheng and Shi Wei toward the main hall after she stated her intention. The couple exchanged a confused glance with each other as it was puzzling to them that they were allowed into the main hall despite not having a formal invitation.

“May I know who is this Ms. Shen you are referring to?”

“Oh, Ms. Shen is a distinguished guest of our family,” the servant replied with a smile before she continued leading the way. “It’s right inside, please enter!”

Even though Fu Xicheng and Shi Wei did not find Ms. Shen familiar, they would not decline the opportunity to go into the main event venue. After both of them went inside, they noticed that there was an obvious difference in the people there compared to those whom they saw outside. The invited guests present in the main hall were mostly the rich and distinguished from Jiang City’s upper echelons. Furthermore, it was Fu Xicheng’s first time seeing some of them in person, despite having heard of their names for some time.

Shi Wei spotted Su Shaoqing and Su Bancheng from afar and tugged on Fu Xicheng’s sleeves. “Look over there!”

Fu Xicheng’s gaze followed the direction in which Shi Wei was pointing and saw the two men as well. “They seem to be on close terms with the Fu clan,” Shi Wei commented while feeling that something was off. “Who do you think that Ms. Shen is?”

“I have no idea!” Fu Xicheng frowned. Both Su Shaoqing and Su Bancheng were people whom he did not like. Ever since that time when Su Shaoqing pretended to be dating Shi Nuan under the disguise of Su Bancheng, Fu Xicheng had already felt enmity toward him.

“Let’s take a look over there!” It was a hard-to-come-by opportunity for Shi Wei to be present at an event like that, so naturally, she would not waste any moment of it. The woman had not forgotten Jiang Yuqian’s reminder to her before she came here tonight. She was supposed to get to know more people, which would be of help to the Shi family business.

Even though Fu Xicheng was rather reluctant, he still put on a smile and accompanied Shi Wei as she went around making acquaintances.

Su Shaoqing narrowed his eyes as a smile surfaced on his innocent face. Su Bancheng shot him a glance and asked, “What’s the matter?”

“Oh, it’s nothing, I just noticed that an unidentified species has been let in,” Su Shaoqing replied before excusing himself and headed to a corner to call Fu Chengyan. “Chengyan, the banquet is already starting. Why aren’t you here yet?”

“What’s up?” Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan were getting out of the car when he received the call from his friend. He had brought Shi Nuan to Chen Mian for some styling on the way there and was delayed as a result.

As Fu Chengyan supported Shi Nuan as she alighted, he swept a glance toward Zhou Zheng, who was standing outside the car. The assistant immediately retrieved the gift box from the car and said, “Mr. Fu, here is the gift.”

Fu Chengyan nodded and held Shi Nuan’s hand while holding his phone in his other hand. “Quick, what’s the matter? I’m already outside.”

“Oh? It seems like it’s time for a good show,” Su Shaoqing said as the corners of his lips curled up. Fu Chengyan could tell that there was an underlying meaning behind his words. “What do you mean by that?”

“I mean there’s definitely going to be drama tonight. Chengyan, why did you save an invitation for Fu Xicheng?”

“Fu Xicheng?” An icy glint appeared in Fu Chengyan’s eyes. However, in the next instant, he could feel the hand which he was holding stiffen. “OK, I understand. I’m hanging up if there’s nothing else!” Fu Chengyan ended the call and turned his attention toward Shi Nuan and looked at her with his deep-set eyes. “You don’t want to see them?”

Shi Nuan shook her head and answered, “It’s fine. Since we’re already here, there are things that we can’t avoid.” Shi Nuan wasn’t someone who lived in self-denial. “Let’s go!” She said resolutely.

Fu Chengyan nodded. “OK!” However, he turned his head subtly and shot Zhou Zheng a glance. Zhou Zheng immediately understood what that meant and disappeared shortly after.

Shi Nuan pursed her lips when she saw Zhou Zheng leave and said, “Given our current status, I can’t be avoiding them forever.”

“You’re right!” Facing problems head-on was one of the many qualities Fu Chengyan admired in his wife. “However, I’ll still have to find out what exactly happened!” The situation piqued the man’s curiosity and he was determined to find out who was pitting themselves against him.

Holding tightly onto Shi Nuan’s hand, Fu Chengyan led Shi Nuan toward the main hall. It was then that Shi Nuan started to tense up when she was still feeling relaxed just a while ago. Even Fu Chengyan, who was standing next to her, could easily feel the woman stiffening.

He frowned slightly and tightened his grip on Shi Nuan’s hand as a way of letting her know that he was there for her. “I know you can do this! Just behave like you normally would. Dealing with these guys is just part and parcel of life, yeah?”

Shi Nuan bit her lip and answered, “Yup!”

“There’s no need to be so nervous. Have you forgotten who you are now? They should be the ones who are dying to suck up to you instead!” Fu Chengyan lifted Shi Nuan’s hand and guided her to take his arm. Shi Nuan took a deep breath while straightening her back and stood confidently next to Fu Chengyan.

The couple were stopped a few times along the way by people who had come forward to greet Fu Chengyan. Shi Nuan could see the crowd casting astonished glances on her as they walked past.

Fu Chengyan patted his wife’s hand lightly and gave her a reassuring smile. Even though it wasn’t a long walk, to Shi Nuan, it felt like ages. Finally, they arrived at the main hall. Most of the guests who were engaged in hearty discussions suddenly stopped when Fu Chengyan walked in with Shi Nuan. It was as if time froze in an instant.

At that moment, all eyes were on Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan. Except for Su Bancheng and Su Shaoqing, who were already aware of their relationship, the rest of the guests were all shocked to see Shi Nuan holding Fu Chengyan’s arm.

Fu Xicheng and Shi Wei were in the middle of the conversation with another guest when they realized the sudden silence in the room. Feeling that something was amiss, the two of them looked up and saw Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan standing there. Shi Wei and Fu Xicheng were both momentarily stunned as their burning gazes were fixed on the other couple.

How could this be!

Shi Wei gripped her wine glass as her eyes followed Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan while they walked in.

Fu Chengyan was dressed in a black suit that was fully tailor-made which flawlessly showcased his well-built figure. As for Shi Nuan, she was wearing a light-colored evening gown that displayed her perfect curves. It was simple, yet elegant.

Even though Shi Nuan was considered tall for a lady, she still looked petite while standing next to Fu Chengyan. She was also wearing the jade pendant from House of Chigu which Fu Chengyan had gifted her earlier that day.

Shi Nuan kept a gracious smile on her face throughout as she held on to Fu Chengyan's arm. Not only was she not overshadowed by Fu Chengyan's domineering aura, but she had also managed to emit her own warm vibes which balanced out Fu Chengyan's iciness.

Even Fu Xicheng was in extreme shock. He stared at Shi Nuan, as well as the man next to her, in a daze. As he continued gazing at the couple in disbelief, only one thought appeared in his mind—*what a match made in heaven*.

They...

“Hey, Chengyan! Why did you reach so late? This is your grandpa's birthday banquet and you're supposed to be the host. How can you make everyone wait for you!” Su Shaoqing brought over a wine glass and tapped on Fu Chengyan's shoulder, before looking at Shi Nuan smilingly. “Mrs. Fu, you look amazing today!”

“Thanks!” Shi Nuan smiled back and replied, “You look very dashing too, Shaoqing!”

“Haha! Mrs. Fu, aren't you scared that your husband wouldn't like it that you're complimenting another man in front of him?” Su Shaoqing had a wicked smile on his face as he said that.

Just then, Su Bancheng joined them as well and nodded at Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan. “Mr. Fu and Mrs. Fu, long time no see!”

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“Mr. Su!” Shi Nuan was slightly taken aback to see Su Bancheng present as well.

Su Bancheng nodded in acknowledgement as he looked at Shi Nuan. *Indeed, she is a beauty just as Su Shaoqing described.* The look in Su Bancheng’s eyes was that of pure admiration for the woman’s beauty, without any other intentions. Shi Nuan smiled faintly at him in response.

Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes. Even though he knew that Su Bancheng did not mean anything else, just as any other men, Fu Chengyan still felt slightly jealous and pulled Shi Nuan closer toward himself. “Mr. Su!” He greeted Su Bancheng as well.

The rest of the crowd were bewildered to see that the four of them seemed to be enjoying their conversation, especially when they noticed that both Su Bancheng and Su Shaoqing were on close terms with the woman. The most shocking moment was when they heard Su Shaoqing address the woman as ‘Mrs. Fu.’ When they heard Su Bancheng also addressing the woman as ‘Mrs. Fu’ a moment later, everyone’s jaws dropped.

“What? Second Master Fu is already married?”

“When did Mr. Fu get married? Who is that woman?”

“Exactly! It’s such big news that Mr. Fu is married. How could it be that no one in Jiang City is aware of it?”

“Maybe they intend to announce it at a later date. Like today?”

Shi Wei's face turned ghastly pale and she further tightened her grip on her wine glass as sounds of the crowd's reactions traveled to her ears, which sounded just like voices from hell. "Mrs. Fu? Ha! Fu Xicheng, did you hear that? Shi Nuan is so capable. Even though she was unable to become your wife, she had become Mrs. Fu Chengyan instead. I really can't believe it. Mom and I were so concerned about her happiness and tried introducing a few men to her but she did not even inform us that she has gotten married! Besides, her husband is the mighty Fu Chengyan!"

A look of menace appeared on Shi Wei's face as she spoke while she fixed her stare on Shi Nuan and the few men surrounding her. Every single one of those men was able to hold their own forts and exert their influences over Jiang City. Never had Shi Wei imagined that Shi Nuan would be acquainted with them.

Not only was she acquainted with them, but she had also even married Fu Chengyan, the most powerful of them all.

Seeing how close they were, Shi Wei was sure that they did not just get to know each other. *Have they known each other for a long time? How about the marriage between Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan? Did they already get married long ago?*

Shi Nuan recalled the times when she racked her brains trying to get Shi Nuan to marry Yun Shen or Su Bancheng so that her sister would no longer harbor any ideas toward Fu Xicheng. Although her wish had come true, she did not feel any sense of relief as she had imagined she would.

That was because the man Shi Nuan ended up marrying was Fu Chengyan, the future head of the Fu clan which was one of the most influential and powerful families in Jiang City's history. Fu Chengyan was such a man. *After Fu Chengyan officially takes over the position as the head of his clan, won't that make Shi Nuan the matriarch? She will become the envy of many then.*

Shi Wei bit her lip as she analyzed the situation and her eyes turned bloodshot. She could not believe that Shi Nuan had gotten so lucky. The woman also did not

forget that her entertainment company was a subsidiary under Fu Chengyan's group, which meant...

Shi Wei looked toward Fu Xicheng and said, "See, that woman probably thinks you're not good enough for her!"

"Enough!" Fu Xicheng yelled at his wife as his expression darkened as well. It was obvious that the new piece of information was a huge blow to the man.

"Enough? Not enough!" Shi Wei let out a cold snort. "Since my sister has married so well, how can I, as her elder sister, not go over and send them my blessings? That wouldn't make sense!"

Shi Wei was about to head over when Fu Xicheng quickly grabbed her arm and asked, "What are you trying to do?"

"I'm not trying to do anything. As her family, is there anything wrong with saying 'hi' to my sister and brother-in-law?" Shi Wei pushed aside Fu Xicheng's hand and continued, "If you feel that it would embarrass you, you can just stay here!"

Shi Wei looked at her husband with a frosty gaze and let out another cold snort. Then, she took a new glass of wine from the waiter and walked toward Shi Nuan.

"Nuan, I'm so surprised to see you here!"

Actually, Shi Nuan had already seen Shi Wei approaching and understood that some things could not be avoided forever. If that were the case, she would choose to face them head-on.

As such, when Shi Wei came over and said such things, Shi Nuan merely responded by smiling faintly and replied, "It's a surprise for me to bump into you here as well." Then, with a broader and warmer smile, she continued, "Why are you here, Wei? I don't remember informing you about Yan and me!"

Shi Wei's expression changed abruptly as she replied, "Hehe, I came here with your brother-in-law. Have you forgotten that he also belongs to the Fu clan? Isn't it just normal that I'm here as well?" Shi Wei shot a glance at Fu Chengyan, who was standing before Shi Nuan.

It was undeniable that Fu Chengyan was a beautiful sight just like a work of God. Shi Wei thought that she was used to meeting big shots and had dealt with countless situations in life, but still, her heart couldn't help but started thumping faster when faced with the man.

With a bright spark in her eye, the woman smiled alluringly and said, "Nuan, you're too much. Getting married is such a serious matter and yet you did not even inform the family about it. Is brother-in-law..."

"Brother-in-law?" Shi Nuan chuckled. "It doesn't seem right for you to call him that!" Shi Nuan looked at Shi Wei with an amused glint in her eye, which sent a chill down Shi Wei's spine. The latter sputtered, "W-Why not? You're my sister! Naturally, Fu Chengyan is my brother-in-law. Isn't he your husband?"

Shi Nuan nodded and replied, "Well, you can say so, but didn't you just say that Fu Xicheng is also a member of the Fu clan? If that's the case, according to seniority, you should be addressing Yan as 'uncle' and I'll be your 'aunt'."

Shi Wei turned as white as a sheet when she heard that. She was gripping the wine glass so tightly that her knuckles had also turned white.

Although she had already cursed Shi Nuan countless times in her heart, she still forced herself to continue smiling. "Er... I... About this... I wasn't aware that you and Mr. Fu had gotten married. Besides, Xicheng and I got married first and you've addressed him as brother-in-law for so long, haven't you?"

Looking at Shi Wei's pitiful expression, Shi Nuan couldn't help but feel like giving her a standing ovation. *This woman is indeed an actress! What a great pretense.*

“Wei, I’m afraid you’ve gotten it wrong. When I married Yan, you and Fu Xicheng were only engaged to each other and not yet married. Since that’s the case, you should go according to Xicheng’s seniority in the family and address me as ‘aunt’. But of course, it feels a little strange too. Perhaps you should check with Fu Xicheng if he and Yan share a close relationship? Otherwise, we can just skip the titles.”

“Nuan, you... “

Shi Wei did not expect Shi Nuan to be so smooth-tongued. That had put Shi Wei into a tight spot.

As compared to Shi Wei’s miserable state, Shi Nuan had an obvious upper hand with her domineering aura.

Initially, the feud between those two sisters was supposed to be a family matter. However, since Shi Wei and Shi Nuan had already put it out in the open, everyone else heard it and was then aware that the relationship between them was not too good. As such, even if they had to take sides, they would obviously take the chance to butter up to Shi Nuan and not Shi Wei. It was an important time for the rest of the guests to show which side their loyalties lay.

At that instant, Shi Wei felt utterly humiliated but could not flare up at Shi Nuan in Fu Chengyan’s presence. If they were at home, she would have already taught Shi Nuan a good lesson. “Nuan, but marriage is not just a trivial matter. Why didn’t you at least inform the family? Dad, mom and granddad... Granddad has always treated you so well!”

“I’m afraid you’ve misunderstood, Wei. Both Granddad and Grandpa were notified of our marriage and we’ve even had a meal together. The reason you’re not aware could be because you were too busy filming. It’s not surprising that you’re unaware of the latest updates given that you’re always not at home!”

Throughout the conversation, Shi Nuan had kept a smile on her face, which had rendered those skills which Shi Wei had learnt from the entertainment industry useless.

“What? Did you just say that Granddad and Grandpa already knew?”

“Yup, as you have said, marriage is a serious matter. So, of course I’d have to inform them beforehand.” With her arm linked with Fu Chengyan’s, Shi Nuan tilted her head to one side and continued, “However, we have not had a wedding banquet yet. Even though you’ve missed out on our marriage registration, we will be happy to have you at our banquet. We’ll look forward to receiving a big red packet from you.”

“S-Sure! I definitely will! After all, you’re my only sister!” Shi Wei spoke through gritted teeth, but Shi Nuan had maintained the same expression throughout.

If it were in the past, Shi Nuan could never win Shi Wei in an argument. However, after being with Fu Chengyan for so long, she had been influenced and learnt a little from him.

“Wei, your husband seems a little lonely standing alone over there. Do you want to go take a look?”

Only then did Shi Wei leave begrudgingly.

After watching a good show, Su Shaoqing and Su Bancheng looked at Shi Nuan with approval, especially Su Shaoqing. The innocuous smile on his face explained his mood at that moment. “Mrs. Fu is so cool!”

Shi Nuan smiled and replied, “Thanks for the compliment!”

“OK, since you guys are the hosts for the event tonight, we shall leave you to it.” After Su Shaoqing and Su Bancheng left, Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan exchanged glances with each other. Letting out a sigh, Shi Nuan asked, “Who was it who allowed Shi Wei and Fu Xicheng to come in?”

Fu Chengyan's eyes glinted and soon after, Zhou Zheng came over. The assistant leaned in and whispered something besides Fu Chengyan's ear, after which a startled expression appeared on his face. With a cold glint in his eye, Fu Chengyan asked, "Are you sure about it?"

Zhou Zheng nodded and replied, "Yes, I've checked carefully."

The corners of Fu Chengyan's lips curled up. Even though he looked like he was smiling, his expression was cold. "Take them away first. We'll talk about it later!"

"Understood!" Shi Nuan looked at Fu Chengyan after Zhou Zheng left and asked, "What happened?"

"It's nothing important."

"Oh!" Shi Nuan pouted and said, "You haven't answered me just now. Regarding Shi Wei and Fu Xicheng... Was it someone from the Fu clan who let them in?" Even if it weren't Fu Zhengyun, it could be Song Zhenyan, or even Shen Qianan.

Shi Nuan was sure that it could not be Fu Heng nor Ning Xin. As for Fu Chengyan's dad, she wasn't too certain about that.

"Yup, don't worry, they can't do anything to you!" Fu Chengyan patted the back of Shi Nuan's hand and said, "I'm here!"

Shi Nuan smiled faintly and replied, "I know." She felt very safe because of him. With her husband around, she wasn't afraid of anything. Even if she had already known that it wouldn't be a peaceful night, at least she would have the strength to endure through it. "If I perform badly, you have to stay by my side."

"I will!" Fu Chengyan flashed a comforting smile at Shi Nuan and said, "I'll always be by your side!"

Not far away, there was a pair of eyes that was fixed on Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan. The woman clenched her fists tightly and bit her lip while having a pained look in her eyes.

Yan, are you really in love with her? What about me then?

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 374

“Madam, our young lady would like you to go over!” One servant from the Fu clan approached Shi Wei respectfully and invited her over. Shi Wei narrowed her eyes and asked, “Who is your young lady?”

“Ms. Shen. She’s the one who allowed you and your husband to enter just now!”

Ms. Shen?

Shi Wei was led by the servant to a private lounge. Once she walked inside, she saw a woman with a curvy figure who had her back to her. It wasn’t difficult for Shi Wei to guess that she must be that ‘Ms. Shen’ whom the servant was referring to.

Shi Wei put on a serious expression and approached the woman with a smile. “Ms. Shen, are you looking for me?”

The woman turned around slowly when she heard Shi Wei speaking to her. She looked at Shi Wei with a soft smile on her face and replied, “Yup. It’s nice to meet you, Ms. Shi!”

At the instant when Shi Wei saw Shen Qianan, her brain seemed to stop functioning for a moment. She stared at the woman and blinked her eyes a few times, thinking that her eyes were playing tricks on her. After taking a deep breath, she asked, “You are... Ms. Shen?”

Shen Qianan nodded and replied, “I’m Shen Qianan.” As she spoke, she noticed how shocked Shi Wei looked, but she continued keeping a smile on her face and carried on, “Ms. Shi seems to be very shocked to see me. Actually, that’s not

surprising, given that I myself could not believe it too when I saw your sister, Shi Nuan. It scared me and I was wondering how could there be two people who looked so alike in this world. People who don't know may even mistake us for twins!"

Shi Wei had a grim expression on her face as she realized that the woman definitely did not have any good intentions, especially when she mentioned Shi Nuan.

Even though Shi Wei was not exactly fond of Shi Nuan, the latter was still a part of the Shi family.

Shi Wei took a deep breath and responded with a gracious smile, "May I know why are you looking for me?"

Shen Qianan merely smiled without replying to her immediately. Instead, she got Shi Wei to take a seat. "You're my guest now since you're here. Ms. Shi, please have a seat." After Shi Wei sat down, Shen Qianan got someone to bring some tea over. "I like drinking tea usually. But I'm not sure if it's to Ms. Shi's taste!"

"I'm OK with it!" Shi Wei nodded. "It's all thanks to you that we get to enter the main hall tonight. But what do you have in mind though?" Shi Wei was no fool. She was sure that she was not Shen Qianan's target, especially after the woman had said that Shi Wei was her guest. "There's something that I'm not sure if I should be asking," she continued tentatively.

"Ms. Shi, you can ask me anything."

"Ms. Shen, what's your relationship with the Fu clan?" Shi Wei met Shen Qianan's gaze as she asked that question.

Shen Qianan was slightly taken aback. Immediately after, an awkward smile with some bitterness appeared on her face as she replied, "I don't have any sort of relationship with them now!"

Shi Wei frowned and asked, "Why?"

As Shen Qianan beckoned Shi Wei to have some tea, she started speaking. "He's already married. Besides... It seems that he and his wife are very loving to each other! I-I'm just an extra person."

Shi Wei finally understood the reason Shen Qianan wanted to meet her. The 'he' whom she was referring to was most likely Fu Chengyan. If so, his wife would be Shi Nuan.

A flicker appeared across Shi Wei's eyes and she replied with a smile, "Why are you sharing this with me? It's your private matter, Ms. Shen."

A sharp glint appeared in Shen Qianan's eyes as she said, "I know that you're an intelligent woman. I'm sure you already know the reason I'm looking for you. I was Yan's fiancée. Previously, some misunderstanding occurred between us and I left. When I returned, I was shocked to find out that he's already married to someone else. Actually, I should be giving him my blessings now that he has found his happiness, but when I saw that his wife looks exactly like me, I know that there are just some unfinished business between us. I-I just can't bring myself to let him go easily!"

"So, you think that Fu Chengyan married my sister as a substitute for you?"

"Ms. Shi, let's just lay it out in the open. Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan's marriage does not benefit you at all. You've experienced it yourself just now at the banquet. With Fu Chengyan's backing, there's nothing you can do to Shi Nuan. Will you be willing to be subject to her oppression for the rest of your life?"

Shi Wei tightened her grip on her tea cup until her knuckles turned white.

When Shen Qianan saw that, a faint smile appeared across her face. She knew that the woman was already wavering. "Ms. Shi, why don't we strike a deal?"

"What's the deal about?"

...

Back at the Fu clan's banquet hall, almost all the guests had already arrived. Everyone was still in a state of shock by what happened a while back. When Fu Zhengyun, who had been resting, heard about it, he was livid with anger. "Did she really say that?"

"Yes," the butler answered while observing the look on Fu Zhengyun's face. When he realized the man's expression was turning grim, he said, "Old Master, please mind your health!"

"Ha! That rascal is going to be the death of me! Mind my health? I think he can't wait to drive me to my grave!"

"Old Master..."

"Let's go! I want to see how long can he protect that woman till!" Fu Zhengyun picked up his walking cane as he finished speaking and left the room. The butler quickly followed behind him while cautioning, "Old Master, please slow down!"

Just then, Fu Zhengyun suddenly stopped in his tracks and asked, "Where's Shen Qianan?"

"She should be busy with something!" The butler replied without much thought. Fu Zhengyun frowned slightly and said, "She needs to be present tonight. And where's Yu?"

"Madam Ning is taking care of Yu. He should be asleep by now!" The butler answered while observing a sudden change in expression on Fu Zhengyun's face. Seeing that, the butler's heart skipped a beat. *Is Old Master intending to...*

Just then, Fu Zhengyun shot a sharp glance at the butler and instructed, "Carry Yu over to me."

“But Old Master, Yu...” *If the boy appears at the banquet, chaos would definitely ensue!*

“Are you the master or am I the master?” The butler was at a complete loss for words after Fu Zhengyun said that.

“Understood. I’ll get someone to bring Yu here immediately!” He was extremely worried about what was going to happen next.

The banquet hall was especially lively due to Fu Chengyan’s arrival. Everyone wanted to have a chance to speak to him in order to establish good ties with the man and that night was a golden opportunity for them to achieve that goal.

Besides, Fu Chengyan was already married. That was no doubt one of the most shocking news in Jiang City. Even though everyone already knew the identity of Fu Chengyan’s wife, no one knew her background at all. As such, all of them were eager to butter up to Shi Nuan.

They were sure that Fu Chengyan’s wife would be an easier target than the man himself.

Therefore, for the rest of the night, there was always someone surrounding Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan at any moment in time.

Shi Nuan could feel her face stiffening from keeping a smile on her face for so long. In fact, Shi Nuan had never been fond of such parties.

In the past, whenever an elder from the Shi family held a birthday banquet, even though Shi Nuan was a part of the family, she seldom stayed throughout the entire event. Besides, she wasn’t exactly very popular among the Shi family members. Basically, the woman would usually take her leave shortly after showing up.

Right then, the heels which she was wearing were so tight that it was making her feel extremely uncomfortable. She could hardly continue to keep up the smile on her face.

Noticing that Shi Nuan was acting strangely, Fu Chengyan put his arms around Shi Nuan's waist and whispered next to her ear, "Tired?"

Shi Nuan nodded and replied, "Ugh, why are there so many people?"

Fu Chengyan chuckled. "It's fine. Shall we take a break first?"

Shi Nuan nodded. When Fu Chengyan was about to lead her to a resting area, he saw Shen Qianan supporting Fu Zhengyun as they headed toward the banquet hall.

At that moment, everyone turned their attention toward the two. The guests gasped in shock when the two of them walked out, especially when they saw Shen Qianan. Murmurs of discussion immediately ensued. "Who's that woman? Why does she look..."

The next moment, everyone shifted their gazes toward Shi Nuan. Right then, Shi Nuan could hear buzzing sounds in her head. She stiffened up, as if all the blood in her body had frozen.

Shi Nuan was mentally prepared that she might be humiliated at the banquet that night, but she had not expected Old Master Fu to pull off such an act and subject her to such ridicule.

She was Fu Chengyan's wife. But at that instant, with Shen Qianan taking her place next to Fu Zhengyun with such a look on her face... It felt like Shen Qianan was exerting her dominance over Fu Chengyan instead.

Fu Chengyan frowned as he held on tighter to Shi Nuan's waist. He was feeling displeased with his grandpa's arrangement. Nevertheless, he lowered his head and whispered to Shi Nuan, "I'm here!"

Shi Nuan looked up and met Fu Chengyan's deep-set gaze. She moved her lips, but was unable to say anything.

Shi Nuan was neither a submissive nor an insecure woman, but what Fu Zhengyun did was akin to a slap to her face. She did not want to be melodramatic but she was indeed feeling really miserable at that moment.

Just then, Shi Nuan could feel warmth in between her fingers. She lowered her eyes and saw that Fu Chengyan had interlocked his fingers with hers. "Don't be bothered by the actions of others. They don't concern us. You just have to remember that you are Fu Chengyan's one and only wife!" Fu Chengyan said.

Shi Nuan took a deep breath and replied, "OK!"

Fu Chengyan had a point. She was his wife. Even if the entire Fu clan were against their marriage, she would still be Fu Chengyan's wife, unless the man abandoned her.

Fu Zhengyun narrowed his eyes as he saw the interaction between Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan. Letting out a cold snort, he held Shen Qianan's hand and gave it a light pat. "Dear all, allow me to make an introduction. This lady here is Shen Qianan, and she's my future granddaughter-in-law!"

Fu Zhengyun's words started a commotion in the hall. At once, the guests started discussing among themselves and speculating what could have happened.

They all knew that Fu Zhengyun had only two sons. His elder son, Fu Sheng, had one son and one daughter. The daughter had already gotten married, while the son was Fu Chengyan, who had also just announced his marriage. As for Fu Zhengyun's second son, Fu Heng, he and Ning Xin had only one daughter, who was also married. So whose future wife was Fu Zhengyun referring to?

After Fu Zhengyun made the shocking revelation, the crowd erupted. Shi Nuan was almost losing it. She bit her lip and squeezed Fu Chengyan's hand.

The deep abyss of Fu Chengyan's gaze surged with darkness and just when he was about to speak, everyone heard a child's voice coming from somewhere.

"Daddy!"

Suddenly, Fu Chengyan felt someone hugging his leg and froze. Naturally, he could feel that the woman next to him had the same reaction.

The entire banquet hall went quiet as everyone held their breaths. They were all confused as to what exactly was going on. No one dared to speak as the more they spoke, the more mistakes they were likely to make. So, the best option was to keep quiet and watch the show.

Yu extended his neck while hugging Fu Chengyan's leg. He had a sweet and innocent smile on his face. "Daddy, why didn't you come and visit me?"

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 375

As a matter of fact, Yu's greeting toward Fu Chengyan earlier could have passed off as the bystanders hearing things if they didn't hear the boy's remark. Obviously, everyone was stunned by what they heard, but Shi Nuan was the most surprised of them all.

Even though it was evident that Yu had directed the greeting toward Fu Chengyan, she didn't know how to respond to that. It went without saying that it was impossible for her to bear a child of this age since their marriage was only half a year ago.

After a while, she lifted her head to stare at Fu Chengyan, and her eyes gleamed with confusion and disappointment. Then, she removed his grasp from her hand while her fingers were still quivering with disbelief.

"May!" Fu Chengyan frowned when he noticed Shi Nuan's ashen complexion, and a hint of apprehension flashed across his eyes.

With his brows knitted together, he turned his gaze toward Shen Qianan while exuding a cold and dangerous aura that would suffocate anyone within his sight.

Right then, he bent over to push Yu aside while the latter cried out with tears streaming down his cheeks, "Daddy, you don't want us anymore? Is it because of this nasty woman?" Then, as Yu spoke, he ran toward Shi Nuan to push her away.

Meanwhile, Shi Nuan was disconcerted by the sight of Yu hugging Fu Chengyan's leg. She was rendered motionless in a dazed state. When Fu

Chengyan noticed Yu pushing Shi Nuan, he strode forward and grasped her arm. “May, watch out!”

At that, Shi Nuan shoved him away while throwing an icy glance at him as though she was looking at a stranger.

The shocking sight of it caused Fu Chengyan’s heart to skip a beat. “May?”

“Fu Chengyan! Have I not mentioned that you should never lie to me? And even if you did, you must conceal it forever?”

Fu Chengyan could hear every word Shi Nuan uttered, though her voice was so soft that it was barely audible. The next moment, he pursed his lips at her remark with a fuming expression on his face. “So, you don’t believe in me?”

“You liar!” Shi Nuan muttered, “You lied to me!”

“No kidding! You people of the Fu clan are a bunch of bullies! Do we look like pushovers to you?” Shi Wei spoke while dashing toward Shi Nuan abruptly. She clutched the latter’s hand, stood in front of her, and continued, “Wow! I didn’t know that a member of the prestigious Fu clan would stoop so low! Mr. Fu, why are you still mingling with my sister when you are already a married man with children? How long do you plan to cheat on her? Look at how old your child is! Are you playing Nuan for a fool?”

Right then, Shi Wei turned her gaze toward Shen Qianan and scoffed. “I believe this woman...” She pointed her finger at the latter before continuing, “She’s the mother of your son since your grandfather has recognized her as his granddaughter-in-law! What a great man you are, Fu Chengyan! Is this how you treat my sister—by welcoming your illegitimate son and his mother so that you can enjoy the company of two women?”

Everyone at the scene froze at her remark.

According to Shi Wei's words, Fu Chengyan was originally with Shen Qianan, and their child was Yu. Yet the man had married Shi Nuan, who was a doppelganger of his first partner. The others might not know what had led to this outcome, but obviously not Fu Chengyan. It was clear as daylight that he had deceived Shi Nuan while abandoning Shen Qianan and their son.

At that, the bystanders had a shake-up of their opinions on Fu Chengyan and Shi Nuan. *What an a**hole! Fu Chengyan just abandoned his wife and son like that? Shi Nuan may be a victim, but she's playing gooseberry, isn't she? Considering Old Master Fu's stance earlier, he is obviously rooting for Shen Qianan and her son.*

Wow! These rich people really take their family drama to the next level!

Seeing that Shi Nuan was lowering her head while allowing Shi Wei to hold her hand, Fu Chengyan couldn't see her expression. As much as he wanted to take her away from the scene, he refrained from doing so as it wasn't the wisest choice at that point. *Things will get ugly if I take her away forcefully!*

Left without a choice, Fu Chengyan clenched his fists and glared at Shi Wei with a piercingly cold look. At that, fear immediately took control of Shi Wei's consciousness, which caused her heart to palpitate. *Wait a minute—wasn't I just stating the truth? On second thought, if I manage to get them to divorce, I wouldn't have to let her step all over me anymore!* Thus, she regained her composure after finding her newfound courage.

“The Shi family may not be a prominent family in Jiang City. Still, we are a family of scholars. Nuan is one of the highest achievers in our family. Moreover, she's quite popular among men. Since your heart belongs to someone else, why don't you let her go? That way, she doesn't have to suffer public humiliation anymore. Wouldn't it be the best solution for everyone?”

“Humiliation, you say?”

Shi Nuan, who had remained silent, suddenly spoke up. Her voice was soft yet exigent. At once, she lifted her head with a confident smile on her face, and then she removed Shi Wei's clasp from her hand. "Why would I suffer humiliation?"

While Shi Wei was staring at her empty hand, Shi Nuan made a remark before the former could react. "Thanks for standing up for me! What would I do without you? You are the best sister I could ever have!"

"Don't sweat it. You're my sister, after all. Who would I help if not you? Nuan, you should divorce this man who abandoned his wife and son. Why are you sacrificing your youth for a heartless man like him? I'm sure you'll meet your Mr. Right if you give yourself a chance."

However, Shi Nuan sneered at her reply. "You are right! I believe everyone has heard what she said. I am the legitimate wife of Fu Chengyan. Nothing anyone says or does will ever change the fact, except if one of us..." She turned to gaze at Fu Chengyan before continuing, "Except if one of us decides that our marriage can no longer go on."

As Shi Nuan spoke, her attention was constantly fixed on Fu Zhengyun and Shen Qianan, while the smile on her face never faded, not even for a second.

A glint flashed across Fu Chengyan's black eyes. Smirking, he remained silent beside Shi Nuan.

After Shi Nuan's eyes met with Fu Chengyan's, she raised a corner of her mouth. "In fact, it isn't even that hard to get us to divorce."

Right after Shi Nuan uttered those words, an ominous aura suddenly exuded from the man standing beside her. He had a murderous glare in his eyes that could kill with just a look. Yet, she continued with a smirk, "As I've mentioned earlier, that will only happen when he decides to end our marriage. This isn't a big project, so we don't need a complex strategy. All you have to do is to convince Fu Chengyan and make him ask me for the divorce himself. By then, I'll

not hesitate for a second to say yes. But if you can't even do that, it'd be practically impossible on my side."

Right after Shi Nuan finished speaking, the dark aura that was full of bloodlust earlier had vanished into thin air.

Shi Nuan placed her hand on Fu Chengyan's shoulder with a calm expression while peering at the child behind the nanny, who looked terrified and timid.

A while later, Shi Nuan smiled. "Since you've involved an innocent child, I guess that must be the ace up your sleeve. But, Ms. Shen, why have you revealed your cards so early in the game? You should know that this is nothing but a small hurdle to me. Yet, it has fatally backfired on you," Shi Nuan declared in a resolute tone while holding Fu Chengyan's hand. Even though he was the public figure that most would look up to, she didn't pale in comparison while standing beside him.

"Paternity testing is very convenient and effective nowadays with our advancement in science and technology. Ms. Shen, has it ever crossed your mind that to hide a lie, a thousand other lies are needed?"

"I don't know what you're talking about." Shen Qianan seemed collected on the surface, but her heart was filled with anxiety.

This isn't the kind of reaction I've expected. She shouldn't be this calm. Why is she...

Then, Shen Qianan turned to look at Yu and called out, "Yu, come to me."

At this, Yu toddled toward Shen Qianan and launched himself into her arms. "Yu is my son. I'm his only parent. My apologies for the interruption. It seems like I'm not welcomed here. We shall take our leave immediately."

“Hold on!” Fu Zhengyun exclaimed. “Where do you think you are going? You are my future granddaughter-in-law and the one I acknowledge! As for the rest... They are just outsiders!”

With Fu Zhengyun’s conclusive announcement, everyone turned their eyes to Shi Nuan and Shen Qianan. They were very much eager to know Fu Chengyan’s stance in this matter, since he had remained taciturn from the start. *Is Shi Nuan his final choice since he allows her to rest her hand on his shoulder?*

After hearing that, Shi Nuan chuckled. “Old Master Fu, your understanding of the modern days’ laws and social norms are a little off. It seems like we need some clarifications here. This is not an ancient society where polygamy is a norm. Neither am I the principal wife nor is Ms. Shen the concubine. Unless you want Yan to commit the crime of bigamy? Or is it your plan to get us to divorce all along so that you can make Ms. Shen your granddaughter-in-law? But has it ever occurred to you that doing this may cause Yan’s status as a law-abiding citizen and a man of integrity to be precarious?”

The crowd was flabbergasted at her sharp comment because no one had expected her to defy Fu Zhengyun publicly.

Though retired, Fu Zhengyun was once a formidable man in the business world, and his ways were comparable to even the likes of Fu Chengyan. Hence, no one would dare to offend him. Yet, Shi Nuan had the courage to cross a man like him.

It was something that had crossed no one’s mind, especially Fu Zhengyun himself. Shortly after, a sharp glint flashed across his eyes, “You’re just a little girl! Aren’t you afraid that this will make it even harder for me to accept you?”

Without delay, Shi Nuan replied with a smile, “Since you’re against my marriage with Yan no matter what I do, why should I waste my energy and time to please you? After all, the person I’m married to is Yan, not you. If I have to please someone, that person should be Yan. People should really learn to face the music. You’ll have to bear the full consequences if you so much as stand on the wrong side. Isn’t that so, Ms. Shen?”

At once, Shen Qianan's already gloomy expression changed for the worse especially after she noticed Fu Chengyan's smile at Shi Nuan's words. Right then, she knew that it was her defeat. An utter defeat!

Fu Chengyan... He never cared about my feelings. His heart is already occupied by Shi Nuan.

The sudden epiphany threw Shen Qianan off. Her heart was overwhelmed by uneasiness as she realized that she could never make up for her regrets three years ago.

"Ms. Shi, don't you think that you've gone overboard? I have never intended to separate you and Yan. But Yu and me—"

"Haha!" Shi Nuan laughed aloud. "I hope you'll keep your words. Otherwise, you'll face my wrath!"