

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 61

In the villa, Fu Jiayu put Cheng An to sleep, but Fu Renjiang was nowhere to be seen. “Is uncle Jiang not back yet?” She anxiously asked.

“Miss, Mr. Fu...”

“Are you looking for me?” Fu Renjiang was back. His eyes darkened as he saw Fu Jiayu’s car. “What did Fu Chengyan say?”

“You get to keep your shares, but you’ll have to send in your resignation tomorrow!” Fu Jiayu said. “This is the furthest Yan can tolerate, uncle Jiang.”

Fu Renjiang glared at Fu Jiayu. “Didn’t you say this little brother of yours always listens to you?”

“You should know that Yan is already very merciful. I’m sure you’ve seen how he dealt with things before. I’ve told you that Yan will turn a blind eye as long as you don’t go overboard, but you’ve really gone too far this time.”

Fu Jiayu was frustrated. Just one wrong thought back then and she was dragged down by Fu Renjiang. “Don’t think that grandpa doesn’t know you have other businesses outside. Even if he doesn’t say anything, it doesn’t mean he agrees with what you’re doing. I’ve done what I can, the rest is up to you. Either submit your resignation or go to jail.” Fu Jiayu sneered. “Don’t blame me for not reminding you; Yan can do much more than this.”

With that, Fu Jiayu left with Cheng An in her hands. Fu Renjiang was so angry that he kicked over the coffee table, causing the maid to rush over. “Master...”

“Get out!”

The next day during a morning meeting, all of Shengyuan’s directors had already arrived and were in the midst of a discussion. There wasn’t supposed to be a morning meeting, but all of them had received a notice that there was going to be an important announcement.

When the first few directors received the news, they began to discuss it. “Looks like Fu Chengyan is ready to attack.”

“He’s just a little boy and wants to start burning bridges already? Even his father paid us some respects.”

“Well, Shengyuan is no longer who he used to be. Besides, everyone knows how capable Fu Chengyan is.”

“Wait and see. He’s not someone who would make a move so easily.”

“Stop talking already. He’s coming!”

Everyone was speechless.

The person who pushed the door open and entered was Fu Renjiang. He didn’t look too good and became more upset upon seeing all the directors seated there.

“Why are you late today, Jiang?” Fu Yu, who always clashed with Fu Renjiang, asked. Fu Renjiang merely responded with a cold laugh, “I’m not late!”

“Is that so?” Fu Yu squinted. He looked at Fu Renjiang with a pair of foxlike eyes and felt delighted to see the latter looking angry. “I wonder what the young master is up to, calling all the directors over today. Do you happen to know the reason, Jiang?”

“You...”

The door to the meeting room opened once again before Fu Renjiang could speak.

“Good morning, everyone. Mr. Fu will be here shortly!” Zhou Zheng said as he opened the door. Fu Renjiang stood up and asked, “What’s going on with Fu Chengyan, calling all of us here but not coming over himself?”

Zhou Zheng’s eyes narrowed. “Please be patient, Mr. Jiang. Mr. Fu will be here once he receives a document!” He noticed Fu Renjiang’s face stiffened slightly when he mentioned the ‘document’. It was clear that the man felt guilty.

Zhou Zheng sent a text message to Fu Chengyan with his lips curled. In fact, Fu Chengyan wasn’t even awaiting a document; he was actually going through some information in his office.

His eyes narrowed as he traced the information with his slender fingers while flipping through it. The information concerned the Shi family and some details about Shi Wei.

Fu Chengyan tapped the papers lightly before putting them away and replying to Zhou Zheng’s text: I’m heading over now.

He adjusted his tie and got up to leave for the meeting room.

At this point, everyone began to feel impatient. Several people who followed Fu Renjiang belonged to the same faction. The people here knew what was going on but refused to believe Fu Chengyan would do anything to them. The shares that belong to a few of them didn’t add up much, but it could still cause a stir to Shengyuan’s foundation if they were to sell them off. Hence, they didn’t believe that Fu Chengyan would really dare to take action against them.

They were clearly wrong. Fu Chengyan wasn’t just going to take action; he would make a very bold move.

So the moment Fu Chengyan entered the meeting room, he tossed his documents on the table, sat down domineeringly, and asked with a slight smile on his face, “Don’t you have something to announce, Mr. Jiang?”

“You...” Fu Renjiang’s expression looked hideous. “Are you serious about this, Fu Chengyan?”

Fu Chengyan threw his hands up. “You should know me by now, uncle Jiang.”

“And if I don’t? I may not own the most shares, but—”

“No buts!” Fu Chengyan raised his hand. “I don’t like it when people try to negotiate with me, especially when they don’t have enough bargaining chips!” Saying that, he turned to Zhou Zheng. The latter quickly took out a file and handed it to Fu Renjiang. “What Liu Jiang has isn’t the final chip but this.”

Fu Chengyan smiled. “Would you like to take a look at what’s inside?”

Fu Renjiang was stunned for a moment, but quickly put on a brave front. “I don’t believe you still have something up your sleeves. What Liu Jiang has will put me in jail at most, but I’ve already sold my shares long ago. Do you think you can threaten me like this, Fu Chengyan?”

“Sold?”

“No way!”

“That can’t be!” The other shareholders were extremely shocked. They couldn’t believe that Fu Renjiang had already sold his shares.

Those who were on Fu Renjiang began to stand up. “That’s right. The annual dividends from Shengyuan are never enough. Which shareholder hasn’t been miserable under your leadership these few years, Fu Chengyan? We’ve thought this through. Instead of working under you, it’s better to sell our shares and enjoy our freedom.”

Fu Renjiang looked at Fu Chengyan smugly. “Now that the shares aren’t in our names, we’re naturally not shareholders of Shengyuan anymore. Do you think your threats will work against me now, Fu Chengyan?”

Fu Chengyan smirked. Instead of looking fearful as Fu Renjiang had expected, he now had a profound smile on his face.

Fu Renjiang couldn’t tell what Fu Chengyan was up to, but he dared not act blindly without thinking.

Seeing the man look so nonchalant, Zhou Zheng immediately knew his boss had everything prepared, so he handed the file over to Fu Renjiang once again. “Do you really not intend to open this up, Mr. Jiang?”

After realizing the weight of the problem, Fu Renjiang opened the file given by Zhou Zheng. He instantly turned pale and fell onto his chair. “Y-You actually...”

Fu Chengyan said while tapping onto the table with his slender fingers, “Had you agreed just to announce your resignation, I would’ve never brought up that file.”

“How did you know about this?” Fu Renjiang now looked as pale as a ghost. “I don’t believe this.”

With a wave of Fu Chengyan’s hand, Zhou Zheng immediately declared, “Everyone, Mr. Fu would like to have a word with three directors in private!”

Those who regularly sided with Fu Chengyan left first. Then, those who remained neutral knew that today’s affair had now reached a foregone conclusion. They also left, not wanting to be involved.

In an instant, only Fu Chengyan and Fu Renjiang, along with two other directors, remained in the huge meeting room.

Fu Chengyan raised a hand, beckoning them to sit down.

They were all of senior age and had been through a lot, but despite having witnessed how Fu Chengyan took care of matters, they had never seen him this forceful. They finally realized the kind of person they had messed with.

“Will you not have a look?”

“T-There’s no need.”

Fu Chengyan’s lips curled. “Offshore money laundering and engaging arms dealers” – these are no small matters. His expression suddenly changed as he continued, “Shengyuan has always done business legitimately. My grandfather may have retired, but the rules are still in place.”

Fu Renjiang looked utterly defeated. “When did you find out about this?”

He couldn’t understand because he had kept things hidden so well that anyone would not be able to find out, yet Fu Chengyan knew everything. So the issues about creating false accounts under the company’s name and embezzlement of public funds weren’t Fu Chengyan’s focus at all.

In that case, the only reason he did that last night was... Fu Renjiang suddenly looked up in realization. “You had it all planned out? You got Fu Jiayu out of this and let us sell our shares? So our shares are now...”

“You’re not that dumb after all, uncle Jiang,” Fu Chengyan said as he tapped the table lightly. “It’s just a shame that you found out too late.”

“Hmm, as expected of a Fu family member and Fu Sheng’s son!” Fu Renjiang exclaimed with a pale face. Despite not enjoying the dividends anymore, he had sold his own shares, thinking that at least Fu Chengyan would end up under other people’s control and Shengyuan’s internal affairs would be messed up.

When his other companies grew, Fu Chengyan wouldn’t be able to stand up against him.

“You set your own relative up? Are you even human, Fu Chengyan?”

“Are you my relative?” Fu Chengyan retracted his gaze and stood up before glancing at Zhou Zheng. “The three of you are no longer shareholders of Shengyuan, so please leave at once.”

“What are you all smug for, Fu Chengyan? Aren’t you afraid...”

Fu Chengyan threw a sharp glance at Fu Renjiang, then lifted his own arm to look at his watch. His lips curled when someone knocked on the door. “Mr. Fu, you have a call from downstairs. The police are looking for Mr. Jiang for a series of questioning.”

Fu Chengyan’s narrow eyes were full of sneers as he glanced sideways at an ashen Fu Renjiang. Fu Renjiang was about to pass out. “You think you can do this to me? Let me remind you that I still have Fu Jiayu in the palm of my hand...”

“Oh?” Fu Chengyan’s ice cold gaze landed on Fu Renjiang. “Then I’d like to see you try. I never do anything that I’m unsure of! Security, get Mr. Fu and his men out of here, and hand Mr. Fu over to the police!”

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“You’ll pay for this, Fu Chengyan!”

Fu Renjiang’s scream rang across the entire Shengyuan Group building. No one knew what happened to him, but everyone was aware of the person in power.

“The young lady is looking for you, Mr. Fu!”

Fu Chengyan’s secretary called him up. “Ms. Fu is waiting in your office.”

“Got it,” Fu Chengyan said and turned to Zhou Zheng. “I’ll leave the rest to you. Remember to eliminate the root cause!”

“Yes, sir!” Zhou Zheng replied solemnly. “I’ll take care of it at once!”

Fu Chengyan returned to his office to find Fu Jiayu seated on the couch. She looked rather unsettled and nervous. She had a cup of coffee in her hands, but she didn’t take a single sip of it.

Hearing the door open, Fu Jiayu immediately stood up. “Yan!”

Fu Chengyan narrowed his eyes, closed the door, and said with his lips curled, “We’re at work now.”

“Mr. Fu!” Fu Jiayu said reluctantly. “Mr. Fu, I’m here today because...”

“Because you want to ask me about today’s incident?” Fu Chengyan interrupted with a smile. “Shouldn’t you know best?”

Fu Jiayu pursed her lips as her eyes carried a hint of jest. “I knew you were the smartest among us all since young. Tell me, what do you intend to do?”

Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows to beckon Fu Jiayu not to be so nervous. He walked over to his desk and stood there for a moment before taking a document out of his drawer to hand it over.

“What’s this?” Fu Jiayu was puzzled.

“It’s what you want most!” Fu Chengyan answered, his low voice showing a trace of a grin. “Take it. I hope there won’t be a second time!”

“You...”

Fu Jiayu’s expression changed slightly before she reached out to grab the document from Fu Chengyan. The moment she took a look at it, she turned pale. “You...” She understood at once. “Fu Renjiang didn’t resign?”

Fu Chengyan curled his lips. “You’ve been working with him all this while – you surely know what he’s like?”

Fu Jiayu said with a bitter smile, “You really know everything. Then, why did you say those things to me yesterday?” Fu Chengyan clearly had everything under control, so there was no need for him to behave that way yesterday.

Fu Jiayu bit her lip. “I got it, Yan. Thank you!” If it weren’t for that slip-up from back then, she wouldn’t have worked with Fu Renjiang, but the latter had unfortunately blackmailed her with it. “But how did you do it?”

“You don’t need to know that. Just make sure it doesn’t happen again,” Fu Chengyan replied while gazing coldly at her. “Cheng An is still young. He needs a complete family.”

Fu Jiayu’s heart trembled slightly, but she understood this was the most Fu Chengyan could do for her, and this was certainly enough.

Fu Jiayu had made many mistakes when she was young and ignorant, but the girl didn't expect that Fu Renjiang would use them against her. "So you told me all that yesterday just to get me to face off against Fu Renjiang?"

"He wouldn't have burned his boats if you didn't," Fu Chengyan smiled.

"But he still has Shengyuan's shares. If he and his other accomplices were to sell them off, Shengyuan would be under the control of others!"

If Fu Jiayu could consider this, how could Fu Chengyan not? "They're in my hands!"

"What?"

"He immediately gave up his shares last night and acted faster than I had expected!" Fu Chengyan said with a smile. "Alright, I've given you what you want, so see to it however you wish!"

Fu Chengyan made it clear that it was time for her to leave. Since Fu Jiayu had already gotten what she wanted most, she naturally didn't stay any longer. When the girl walked to the door, she stopped for a moment. "Yan, let me know if you ever need anything. I'll surely help you."

Fu Chengyan smiled but said nothing.

Shi Nuan received a phone call from Shi Yunsheng just as she got off work. She was rather surprised to see his number. "Grandpa?"

"Nuan, are you done with work?" Shi Yunsheng's old man voice came through. "I want to see you."

Shi Nuan pursed her lips and looked at the time. "Now?"

“Yes. I haven’t seen you for quite a few days, and I miss you. I know it’s not good for you to come over. Your parents... sigh!” Shi Yunsheng couldn’t help but let out a sigh. “Let’s meet up!”

“OK!” Shi Nuan nodded. “Then let’s meet at Ruyi Tea House!” Shi Nuan and a friend had opened the tea house. Back then, Shi Nuan merely bought some shares, but she no longer had much to do with it as the business picked up.

After deciding on the venue, Shi Nuan gave Fu Chengyan a call. “It’s me!”

Fu Chengyan was just about to get off work and was surprised to receive a call from Shi Nuan. “Hmm? What’s up?”

“I may be back a little late. My grandpa wants to meet me.” Shi Nuan felt a little bad. It was Song Rongrong yesterday, and today she had to meet her grandfather. “He probably has something to tell me.”

Fu Chengyan’s eyes narrowed slightly as his gaze darkened. “Alright!” he said. “Be careful on the way there. Call me if you need anything!”

“OK!” Shi Nuan hung up, her heart feeling rather warm. Back when she used to date Fu Xicheng, they would occasionally talk on the phone for hours and give each other an update on their respective schedules.

As they started having their own jobs, such interactions dwindled to a trickle.

Now, she didn’t quite know why she was doing this with Fu Chengyan. She just figured that since they were now married, updating him on her affairs was a form of respect.

Shi Nuan arrived at Ruyi Tea House and found her good friend, Su Yian, at first sight. “Your grandpa’s been waiting for a while.”

“Thanks, Yian,” Shi Nuan replied with a smile, taking off her shoes and entering. Shi Yunsheng sat there with Mr. Yang next to him. He waved at Shi Nuan upon seeing her enter. “Nuan, come over to grandpa!”

“Grandpa!” Shi Nuan walked over. “You’re early.”

“Hmm,” Shi Yunsheng responded with a grunt and poured Shi Nuan a cup of tea. “It must be tough at work!”

“No, not at all!” Shi Nuan replied. “Why did you want to see me today, grandpa?”

Shi Yunsheng went silent for a moment and turned to Mr. Yang. Mr. Yang immediately took out a file and handed it to Shi Nuan. Shi Nuan looked at Shi Yunsheng in surprise. “What’s this?”

“Open it up and take a look!”

Shi Nuan took the file in suspicion, only to be astonished when she opened it up. “Grandpa, why are you giving me Huancheng’s shares?”

“I’ve wanted to give them to you since long ago, silly girl. You’re from the Shi family too. It doesn’t make sense for you not to own any when your sister does,” Shi Yunsheng said and had Mr. Yang take out a pen for Shi Nuan. “Sign it, and I’ll have it notarized.”

“No, I don’t want it.” Shi Nuan pushed the share transfer agreement away and shook her head. “You know I don’t want any of this. You also know that because of these things, mom and dad once...” She shook her head again. “These are your shares. I don’t want them.”

“Nuan.” Shi Yunsheng looked at Shi Nuan pitifully. “It’s because you’re like this that the incident happened. These shares are yours, whether you want them or not. Hurry up and sign your name. Are you not going to listen to your grandpa?”

Shi Yunsheng pretended to be angry. “Your sister received Huancheng’s shares when she was 18. It doesn’t make sense that she has some, but you don’t. If your mom and dad didn’t give you any, then I will.”

Shi Nuan looked at Shi Yunsheng awkwardly. She had never wanted anything from Shi Yunsheng.

Yes, that was the truth. When she turned 18, everyone in the Shi family refused to give her Huancheng’s shares. She was certainly very sad about that. But Shi Nuan wasn’t sad about not receiving the shares. She was upset about how Shi Jingzheng and Jiang Yu treated her as her parents.

“I’ve never thought about wanting these. If you give them to me, won’t they think I intend to fight over the family properties with Shi Wei?” Shi Nuan was already not favored by Shi Jingzheng and Jiang Yu, but if she were to obtain these shares, they would probably see her as a bigger eyesore.

“Don’t bother about what they think. These are what I want to give you. Hurry up and sign!”

“He’s right, Ms. Nuan,” Mr. Yang couldn’t help but chime in. “Master Shi has wanted to give them to you. If you don’t take them and they fall into Ms. Wei’s hands...”

“But grandpa...”

“Nuan, are you not going to listen to me?” Shi Yunsheng asked solemnly. “Are you hoping for the Shi family to fall into someone else’s hands?”

“What do you mean?” Shi Nuan asked in confusion. “Why would you say that?”

“The Fu family were an ambitious bunch of people – why do you think Fu Xicheng wants to marry your sister? You’re still young, so you don’t understand yet. Your sister doesn’t have an aptitude for business. She only focuses on her

carrier. In the end, Huancheng has to be in your care.” Shi Yunsheng advised sincerely. “The Fu family is always an outsider to us. Do you understand?”

Shi Nuan’s heart sank. She didn’t know much about business, but she understood what Shi Yunsheng meant.

“With these shares in your hands, no one can stop you from entering Huancheng, understand?”

Shi Nuan left Ruyi Tea House with a heavy heart. She had come out only after Shi Yunsheng, and Mr. Yang had left.

Thinking about what Shi Yunsheng had said to her, Shi Nuan felt thrown off because of the words her grandfather had told her.

“Come on in!”

A car suddenly stopped next to Shi Nuan, pulling her back to reality.

She was confused to see a head sticking out of the window, “Why are you here?”

Fu Chengyan curled his lips. “Get in, and we’ll talk!”

In reality, he had arrived long ago. The moment Shi Nuan inform him about meeting Shi Yunsheng, he was already at the entrance of her workplace and followed her car.

Fu Chengyan watched as Shi Nuan entered the teahouse and left that place, looking dejected.

As Shi Nuan got into the car, Fu Chengyan frowned slightly and leaned over, causing the woman to feel nervous. She stared at Fu Chengyan, not knowing what he was thinking.

Click. It turned out that Fu Chengyan had put on her seatbelt for her.

“What happened?”

Shi Nuan returned to her senses and stared at Fu Chengyan’s face in embarrassment. Pursing her lips, she said, “My grandpa just gave me 20% of Huancheng’s shares.”

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“Since he’s given you, then why not you accept it?” Fu Chengyan turned and said. “Don’t feel burdened!”

“Are you not surprised at all? It’s 20%! That’s more than what Shi Wei owns!” In reality, Shi Nuan had her own plans. Although she is not on good terms with her family members, the girl had never actually wanted to fall out with them this way. She didn’t want to argue any further with Shi Wei. Now that Shi Yunsheng had suddenly given her 20% of the shares, things would not be very smooth for long.

Shi Nuan was a very simple person. She didn’t want these shares at all; perhaps her family’s treatment of her had long caused her to mellow out.

“The Shi family is going to change drastically now that I’ve gotten this 20% of shares.”

Fu Chengyan merely smiled and casually tapped the steering wheel. “It’s not as serious as you think. Your grandfather has his own reasons. Let’s put Shi Yu aside, the Shi family only has you and Shi Wei. If the Shi family were to fall into others’ hands, your grandfather’s legacy would end in your ends. He’s giving you the shares as a precaution.”

“How do you know that?”

Shi Nuan looked up and turned towards Fu Chengyan in disbelief. These were all Shi family affairs that outsiders would normally be unaware of, yet Fu Chengyan knew. “I’m talking about Shi Yu, and how you know what my grandpa is thinking.”

Fu Chengyan merely smiled. “It’s not hard to guess! Are you hungry?”

It was now that Shi Nuan realized she hadn't eaten ever since she got off work. She nodded. "Have you eaten?"

"I haven't either," Fu Chengyan said with a faint smile. "Wanna grab a bite somewhere?"

"Yeah!" Shi Nuan thought for a moment. "Are we eating outside?"

"Yeah, it's getting late. It's fine if you wanna prepare something at home." Fu Chengyan didn't mind at all. "It'll probably be late by the time we're done buying groceries and preparing dinner."

"Then let's eat outside. I'm in the mood for some spicy hotpot. Is that OK?" After all, she didn't quite understand Fu Chengyan's taste about food. As for herself, she enjoyed spicy food.

"Sure!" Fu Chengyan nodded. "Where do you feel like eating? Tell me about the place."

Shi Nuan suggested a place she used to frequent. Fu Chengyan didn't know how to get there, so Shi Nuan leaned over to key in the GPS location. "It's not far, actually. It's near Jing University. There's a mall behind it, right?"

Fu Chengyan arched his brows and nodded. "Looks like you had a pretty enriching college life!" He knew about that shopping mall; it was one business under Fu family's conglomerate.

Shi Nuan scratched her head in embarrassment. "I used to visit this place often for some food and drinks with my friends. This place isn't far from Jing University, so we would come here regularly. The prices are reasonable too, but I haven't been here much ever since I graduated."

Shi Nuan couldn't conceal her good mood when she spoke about her past, but soon looked slightly dejected. "My two best friends were Song Rongrong and Su Yian. What if I introduce you to them next time?"

“Sure!” Fu Chengyan nodded. It was rare for Shi Nuan to be this tactful. “When you’re free then!” She had truly accepted him.

Shi Nuan couldn’t help but sigh inside. She felt that Fu Chengyan wasn’t as how others describe him.

Fu Chengyan drove very steadily, and they arrived at the shopping mall near Jing University in about half an hour. The restaurant Shi Nuan wanted to go to had been operating since this mall was built.

Unfortunately, the place was packed, although Shi Nuan had booked a table half an hour earlier. She scratched her head in a slight embarrassment and said, “Hmm... we can always grab something in another place.”

“There’s no need!” Fu Chengyan merely took Shi Nuan’s hand and walked towards the waiting area. Shi Nuan was stunned for a moment. She held a ticket with one hand while another one was being held onto Fu Chengyan.

After taking a seat, Fu Chengyan released Shi Nuan’s hand. Shi Nuan looked at the hand where Fu Chengyan had just held. It felt slightly moist.

She blushed while staring at her palm before averting her gaze in embarrassment. She looked directly into Fu Chengyan’s brooding eyes. Shi Nuan felt butterflies in her stomach as she subconsciously tightens her grip on the ticket in her hand; the girl’s mouth twitched slightly as she exclaimed, “There are so many people!”

“Yeah,” Fu Chengyan smiled from ear to ear. “There’s no rush.”

“Yeah, there’s no rush!” Shi Nuan smiled. Fu Chengyan opened her palm to get the ticket and flattened out before gazing at her deeply. His face was full of smiles.

“Two more tables!”

Shi Nuan felt embarrassed as she felt Fu Chengyan was doing this on purpose. "Yeah, it'll be our turn soon!" She bit her lip.

After a couple of minutes, it was finally their turn, and Shi Nuan quickly got up. "Let's go. It's our turn!" She subconsciously took Fu Chengyan's hand.

Fu Chengyan's raised his brows as he looked at Shi Nuan holding his hand with a tender smile, and he allowed her to do as she pleased.

Shi Nuan had actually taken his hand without even realizing it, but Fu Chengyan had already clasped her hand when she noticed that, and it was too late for her to let go.

There was a small table which catered to only two people. Their sittings were not spacious, but it was good enough for them.

Shi Nuan tried to go along with Fu Chengyan's palate and handed him the menu. "Run through the menu and tell me what you want to eat. I forgot to ask earlier if you can take spicy food."

They had some bland food at home for the past two days, so Shi Nuan was a bit worried.

Hearing that, Fu Chengyan raised his brows and tapped the menu with his slender fingers. "No issues!"

Shi Nuan understood that he could take spicy food, but not too much. She nodded. "Then we'll have some mild spicy one! What do you feel like eating? Fish or..."

Fu Chengyan pushed the menu back to Shi Nuan. "You don't have to go along with me. Just order whatever you feel like having!"

Shi Nuan's eyes lit up and formed a smile. "OK!"

Despite agreeing, she still ordered a mildly spicy dish and asked for his opinions while ordering. “Their business is doing great. It’s getting late, yet there are still so many people.”

“Yeah. You have a keen eye, May!”

Upon hearing that, Shi Nuan was stunned for a moment while sipping her tea because that word sounded familiar. She felt embarrassed to be called by that nickname and tried to change the topic, “Actually, you can just call me by my name!”

“Can I just call you May?” Fu Chengyan asked with a smile. “ Because it’s different from how others address you.”

Shi Nuan was speechless because asking him to call her May was just a spur-of-the-moment decision. Now that she thought about it, no one gave nicknames based on one’s birth month. She was glad that he didn’t call her April, for that was the pen name of a well-known author, and thankful for not being born in March, as it was named after Roman’s god of war.

While thinking about that, Shi Nuan chuckled. Fu Chengyan frowned while holding his teacup, “What’s so funny?”

Shi Nuan froze for a moment and bit her lips while thinking how to explain it, but just shook her head, “It’s nothing.” Because it was rather odd to tell him she was glad for not being born in March.

Fu Chengyan smiled and poured Shi Nuan another cup of tea, “Since your grandfather had given you the shares, just take it. You should keep an eye on what Fu Xicheng and Fu Yuqing are up to!”

Shi Nuan nodded sternly. “I know my grandpa has his own reasons, but I just thought things weren’t that complicated.”

“Your grandfather was the founder of Huancheng. Therefore, this company is undeniably very important to him. Shi Yu was merely his adopted child. Meanwhile, your father only has two daughters, so Huancheng belongs to you and your sister. Shi Wei may have 15% of the shares, but she knew nothing about managing business and is in the entertainment industry. If she marries Fu Xicheng, what do you think will happen to her shares?”

Shi Nuan smiled bitterly, “I understand. Back then, Fu Xicheng courted Shi Wei behind my back because of this. I knew it all these times, and I believe my father isn’t a fool, so—”

“Surely he isn’t. He even wanted to make use of you in order to gain something from the Yun family.” Fu Chengyan said, and Shi Nuan’s face turned somewhat ashen upon hearing that. He frowned and responded quickly, “Sorry, I—”

“It’s fine. What you’re saying was true, anyway.” Shi Nuan said with a bitter smile; her look didn’t appear pleasant. “Honestly, Huancheng isn’t as great as it used to be. My father—I didn’t expect him to do such a thing. I thought only my mother was biased because my sister had always been more likable.”

“Your grandfather is technically retired, so your father basically is the decision-maker in Huancheng now. It was no news that he coveted the shares, and perhaps that’s why everyone was against the transferring of the shares to you.

“You know that you are wise enough to make the right choice. If you were to receive those shares, you will definitely not hand them over.”

“That’s right, but I’m not the smart one. You are.” Shi Nuan said with a bitter smile. She was surprised that an outsider like Fu Chengyan knew so much about the Shi family’s interpersonal relationships.

“There is another way if you don’t want to own these shares!”

“What?” Shi Nuan looked up. “Give them to Shi Yu!”

Shi Nuan was taken aback. “You expect me to get my uncle back for this matter? That’s not possible because my uncle left the Shi family for this reason. My grandpa adopted him, and my father was wary of him for many years. My uncle never cared about any of this.”

Shi Nuan felt that she could relate to Shi Yu as fellow sufferers. However, she couldn’t get away from this situation as he did.

“Is that so?” Fu Chengyan raised his lips slightly, but his look remained cold. He lowered his gaze and tapped on the table. The hotpot was served, and he said, “Let’s eat!”

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Shi Nuan smiled. She quickly placed her bowl nearer as she saw Fu Chengyan getting some food for her. "I'll help myself!"

"Eat up!" Fu Chengyan said with a smile.

Shi Nuan enjoyed her food as she hadn't had the chance to enjoy such a meal for a while, but the girl noticed that Fu Chengyan ate little. Shi Nuan realized that Fu Chengyan didn't really enjoy spicy food, so she silently noted that.

After their meal, they left the restaurant and walked downstairs. A couple who just came out of the movie theater discussed a movie they had just watched, "Hey! You promise to watch the movie with me, but you fell asleep?"

"It's not my fault! Girl's love watching movies like these where everyone misunderstands each other. Something like that doesn't happen in actual life."

"Well, movies draw inspiration from life but are more dramatic; it definitely wouldn't be completely realistic! But I don't care. You said you'd watch it with me."

"Pfft..."

Shi Nuan couldn't help herself, but laughed after the couple had walked farther away.

Fu Chengyan was standing next to Shi Nuan. He raised his lips while seeing her unable to control herself. "What are you laughing about?"

Shi Nuan turned to him and shook her head gently. “The girl wanted her boyfriend to keep her accompanied. It doesn’t really matter if the guy watches the movie, as long as he isn’t too half-hearted about it.”

“Hmm?” Fu Chengyan’s narrow eyes sparkled slightly, and he looked at his watch. “It’s still early, so let’s watch a movie!”

“What? A movie?” Shi Nuan was stunned. We were talking about that couple? Why is this happening to us now? A movie with Fu Chengyan?

Shi Nuan couldn’t picture that at all. “You want to watch a movie with me?”

“Yeah. Is there a problem?” Fu Chengyan said before giving Zhou Zheng a call. “Get me two movie tickets, and yes, we’re at Shengwei. What movie?” Fu Chengyan fell silent for a moment, then dragged Shi Nuan by the hand and walked towards the fifth floor as there were many posters of new movies. Fu Chengyan took a glance and said, “Hmm, two tickets for ‘I Like You!’”

“Mr. Fu, are you sure that you want two tickets for ‘I Like You’?” Zhou Zheng was horrified.

“You have something to say about that?” Fu Chengyan asked. Zhou Zheng immediately shook his head. “Not at all, Mr. Fu. I’ll get you the tickets at once. Are you going to watch the movie right now?”

“Yeah, around this time!” Fu Chengyan said and hung up the call. Shi Nuan stared at him for a moment. He looked back at her in amusement. “Why are you giving me that look?”

Shi Nuan returned to her senses. “No reason. Are you sure you want to watch ‘I Like You’ with me?” she asked doubtfully. After all, this was all rather unbelievable, especially when Fu Chengyan mentioned the movie’s name.

“Is there a problem? Don’t you girls enjoy this type of movie” Fu Chengyan asked with a smile.

Shi Nuan was speechless while she pursed her lips slightly. "To be honest, you don't have to go along with me. I never said that I wanted to watch a movie."

"You didn't say no either," Fu Chengyan replied and glanced down at his phone. Zhou Zheng had just sent him the verification code for their tickets. Fu Chengyan frowned slightly. "Didn't you say girls want to be accompanied? Those two were a couple, but we're husband and wife. Isn't this a proper reason for me to accompany you?"

Fu Chengyan reached out to hold Shi Nuan's hand. Shi Nuan was stunned and wanted to retract her hand, but she ignored it and went with the flow.

Fu Chengyan walked to the self-service counter while holding her hand. He frowned as he stared at the machine in front without budging. Someone behind the queue grew impatient and exclaimed, "Hey, are you getting the tickets or what? Don't hold us up if you're not!"

"Sorry about that. We're getting them now!" Shi Nuan quickly apologized to the person behind, then tiptoed and whispered to Fu Chengyan's ear. "Don't tell me you don't know how to retrieve the tickets!"

Fu Chengyan looked sideways as a hint of darkness surged in his eyes, but he said nothing, merely casting a glance at Shi Nuan. For some unknown reason, Shi Nuan found him rather amusing. She grabbed Fu Chengyan's phone from his hands, looked at the numbers, and entered them into the ticketing booth system.

When the tickets were released, Fu Chengyan quickly took them before Shi Nuan could and walked away while dragging her along.

Shi Nuan followed Fu Chengyan out from the crowd while being held onto by him. The girl stared at Fu Chengyan's back as her lips curled slightly.

She suddenly felt that getting along with Fu Chengyan was not a bad idea at all. Besides...

“What are you thinking about?”

Fu Chengyan’s clear voice interrupted Shi Nuan’s thoughts. Shi Nuan smiled slightly and shook her head. “Nothing. But there’s still 30 minutes until the hall opens, so let’s walk a bit. We don’t have to go far.”

“Sure!” Fu Chengyan smiled. “We’ll take a stroll nearby then.”

Fu Chengyan placed the movie tickets in his wallet and held Shi Nuan’s hand once again. Shi Nuan still felt slightly uncomfortable, but Fu Chengyan raised an eyebrow and looked at Shi Nuan from above. “May.”

“Yes? What is it?” Shi Nuan looked up towards Fu Chengyan.

“We’re married, but I know you’re still not used to our relationship being this way.”

“I’m sorry. It’s my problem!” Shi Nuan responded in shame.

“No, it’s not your problem.” Fu Chengyan said while placing both his hands on Shi Nuan’s shoulders. He bent down slightly, trying his best to look at her with a gaze. “You don’t need to feel burdened by our marriage. If you’re not used to our relationship, we can always start from the very beginning!”

“What do you mean by beginning?” Shi Nuan was puzzled.

Fu Chengyan smiled and held onto one of Shi Nuan’s hands. He lifted it slowly and interlocked their fingers. Giving their hands a little shake, he said with a smile, “As Lovers. We can start as a couple and do what usual couples normally do together.”

“What? Are you sure?” Shi Nuan asked suspiciously.

“I’m sure.” Fu Chengyan nuzzled Shi Nuan’s cheek with his other hand. “You don’t need to feel burdened. We’ll go one step at a time. All you need to know is

that we're a couple, so whatever lovers do, I'll do it with you!" Seeing Shi Nuan appear in such a daze, he couldn't help but shake his head. "Don't look at me in this way. I won't be able to resist myself from kissing you."

Shi Nuan's face reddened as she looked away. Feeling at a loss, she clasped her hands together and frowned slightly. "Stop teasing me."

Fu Chengyan smiled. "Alright."

He let go of Shi Nuan's shoulders and went back, holding her hand. "Let's go take a stroll and let our food digest."

In reality, they took a little stroll. The timing wasn't the best, so they merely walked around the fifth floor for a while before heading into the movie hall.

Fu Chengyan went to get some popcorn and coke before entering the hall, just to be like an actual couple.

While carrying the bucket of popcorn, Shi Nuan glanced sideways at the man next to her. She gulped as she saw two cups of Coke in his hands. "Honestly, you don't have to..."

"Shhh!" Fu Chengyan placed his index finger over Shi Nuan's lips. "Let's go in."

Since it was nighttime, it's perfect for couples to enjoy a movie date. The hall was practically full when the two walked in. Shi Nuan and Fu Chengyan's seats were at the end of the hall, so they had to walk a distance to make it there.

After taking her seat, Shi Nuan finally let out a sigh of relief. "It's been years since I last came out for a movie. I didn't expect the theater to be packed at this hour!"

"Yeah," Fu Chengyan said as he helped Shi Nuan hold her purse. He then handed a drink to her. "Are you thirsty?"

Shi Nuan shook her head. "I'm good!" But she still took a sip.

"This place is near Jing University. There are many students here with a school nearby," Fu Chengyan said. Shi Nuan looked around. True enough, the hall was filled with young couples. She replied with a smile, "You're right. But students nowadays sure are braver than we were back then. They show up so boldly."

"Hmm? Did you date during college?" Fu Chengyan asked. Shi Nuan cast a sideways glance at him and pursed her lips, asking, "Is that wrong? Did you not date anyone during your college days?"

Fu Chengyan laughed softly and patted Shi Nuan on the head. "You sure are savvy."

Shi Nuan pushed his hand away. "It's not about being savvy. I'm telling the truth here! Who doesn't have their own past?" She then turned to Fu Chengyan, exclaiming, "There's no way you've never dated anyone during college!"

Fu Chengyan's lips curled into a smile. He placed his fingers on the armrest and took the chance to hold Shi Nuan's hand. "What are you doing?" Shi Nuan asked while blushing.

"Focus on the movie!"

Shi Nuan wanted to say more, but seeing that Fu Chengyan's gaze was now on the huge screen, there was nothing else she could do. Her hand was being held by Fu Chengyan and that man even squeezed her knuckles slightly.

Shi Nuan's body jerked a little as though an electric shock traveled through every vein of her body. The tingling sensation was something new to her.

With Fu Chengyan holding onto her hand like that, Shi Nuan couldn't focus on the movie at all. She could only think of how to get her hand off. Yet, every time she tried to retract her hand, Fu Chengyan would tighten his grip. It was as though he was doing it intentionally.

Shi Nuan bit her lip. "Let go of me."

"Don't make a fuss!" Fu Chengyan said softly. He played with Shi Nuan's fingers before laughing softly, "I wasn't even 18 when I went to college. Did you forget?"

Shi Nuan turned to look at Fu Chengyan in shock. Amidst all the lights and shadows, she couldn't stop her heart from pounding erratically when she gazed upon Fu Chengyan's chiseled face.

Shi Nuan's chest tightened as the two main characters interacted in the movie, but she felt her fingers gripped even more tightly.

Fu Chengyan then placed her hand on his thigh and tapped her fingertips gently. "May, girls like this type of movie? Domineering CEOs?"

I Want a Lifetime with You

Chapter 65

Shi Nuan turned to Fu Chengyan with a flushed face and felt rather embarrassed, “Girls do like a domineering guy to some extent!” Fu Chengyan looked slightly doubtful, then she added, “I’m serious. But the movie is a little overdramatic. I’d rather go for a regular guy if a guy were to act like this in real life.”

“Mhm!” Fu Chengyan raised an eyebrow. He didn’t refute her but didn’t say anything else either.

Feeling rather awkward, Shi Nuan shifted her gaze to the huge screen. Fu Chengyan was constantly holding her left hand, she felt extraordinary, and her heart couldn’t stop pounding.

“Hmm... My hand is sweating.” Shi Nuan spoke carefully.

Hearing that, Fu Chengyan looked at Shi Nuan thoughtfully. He opened up Shi Nuan’s palm, placed it on his own thigh, and rubbed it against his pants.

Shi Nuan was dumbfounded.

“How am I going to eat?” Shi Nuan asked. “Fu Chengyan, can you stop being so—” Before she could say the word ‘childish,’ Fu Chengyan had already used his other hand to grab a popcorn and put it in her mouth.

Shi Nuan’s eyes widened as she stared at Fu Chengyan in disbelief. She couldn’t figure out what that man was thinking in his mind.

“Swallow it!” Fu Chengyan’s low voice sounded so pleasant. It sounded better than the male lead’s voice in the movie.

Shi Nuan remembered how Song Rongrong and Su Yian fawn over voice actors. They would talk about how those men had such beautiful voices that could impregnate one’s ears.

Shi Nuan used to think her friends were so dramatic. Looking at Fu Chengyan and hearing his voice, she now realized nothing was exaggerating about what her friends used to say.

“Why are you looking at me?” Fu Chengyan asked while smiling. “I thought you wanted to eat?”

Shi Nuan quickly swallowed her popcorn. Just as she felt thirsty, Fu Chengyan brought a Coke cup in front of her with his slender arms.

Shi Nuan’s eyes widened, but she remained unmoved. “Don’t choke yourself while eating,” Fu Chengyan said patiently. “Take a sip, but don’t drink too much.” Shi Nuan subconsciously opened her mouth to drink the Coke. After that, she realized that they were both behaving unusually.

Shortly after, Shi Nuan heard a woman from behind saying, “Look, how good that guy is! He is not only here for the movie, but that man is feeding his girl! What about you? You kept saying ‘NO’ when I invited you to watch this movie and even fell asleep here.”

“If you’re jealous of other people, why don’t you date someone else?”

“You...”

A speechless Shi Nuan turned her head and took a glance from the corner of her eye to determine the couple’s location. She then turned back to face Fu Chengyan and pointed to herself. “Is she talking about us?”

“Are we not like a couple?” Fu Chengyan asked in return, smiling. “Do you want more?”

“That’s not the point, OK? The point is we’re being watched!” Shi Nuan didn’t feel good. They were in a public place, and being watched by other people made her feel uncomfortable, especially when she was being used as someone else’s example.

Fu Chengyan didn’t seem to care. “That shows how different we are from the crowd. Eat up!” he said as he picked up another popcorn with his slender fingers. Shi Nuan couldn’t help but think that the Creator did practice favoritism when creating human beings.

Fu Chengyan was probably one of the favorites. He didn’t only have a brilliant mind and captivating appearance – even his fingers looked so stunning. Just an act of him holding a pen or picking up a popcorn was a beautiful sight.

“Wow! They’re so sweet. Why do you think I invited you to a movie with me? As if all the P.D.A in the movie isn’t enough; now we’re seeing P.D.A in real life too! You idiot!”

“Why are you being so unreasonable today?” a man asked unhappily.

“What? Say that again!” The girl responded rudely.

“I said you’re being unreasonable!”

“You don’t love me anymore.”

“Do I have to put on a show like them just to prove that I love you?”

Shi Nuan was speechless. Why were she and Fu Chengyan getting caught up in other people’s crossfire? She turned to Fu Chengyan. “He said we’re putting on a show!”

“Hmm, that’s just a sign of jealousy!” Fu Chengyan concluded as he placed another popcorn in Shi Nuan’s mouth. “Eat up!”

Shi Nuan was speechless once again. Sometimes, she felt that she was just childish.

In reality, what that guy said earlier made perfect sense. She and Fu Chengyan really weren’t a real couple, but she dared not say this aloud. Even if they weren’t a couple, they were husband and wife!

Besides, Fu Chengyan’s little actions truly were so heartwarming that Shi Nuan felt proud as a woman. At that very moment, she enjoyed how well she got along with Fu Chengyan.

The movie finally ended. Shi Nuan had practically finished the popcorn on her own, along with the two cups of Coke.

When the two walked out of the movie theater, Shi Nuan didn’t feel too good.

She felt like her belly was about to explode. “It’s all your fault! Why did you feed me so much popcorn?”

“I thought you love eating!” Fu Chengyan lowered his gaze and looked at Shi Nuan’s belly. “It does look a little rounder now!” he said candidly.

“Fu Chengyan!” Shi Nuan gritted her teeth. “Can’t you say something nicer!?”

Fu Chengyan laughed. His mood brightened, seeing Shi Nuan grit her teeth like that. He reached out to wrap Shi Nuan’s hand with his. “OK, what do you want me to say then?”

“What do you think?”

“No matter how round or flat you are, I like you as long as it’s you’?” he grinned.

Shi Nuan bit her lip and pulled her hand away from Fu Chengyan's. "You're so annoying!"

She walked straight ahead. A grin worked its way into Fu Chengyan's eyes. Seeing the girl in front of him he smiled helplessly, then strode over to her, and held her hand.

Feeling some warmth on her hand, Shi Nuan looked down to see Fu Chengyan holding it once again and smiled. "Shall we go home?"

"Yeah, or do you still want to walk around?" he replied. "If you like shopping, I'll go with you!"

"That's not it!" Shi Nuan shook her head and bit her lip. "My car is still at the tea house! Did you forget about it?"

Fu Chengyan said with a grin, "It's fine. I already asked Zhou Zheng to take your car home. Don't worry!"

"When was that?" Shi Nuan was shocked. "But the keys..." Nevermind. Fu Chengyan has his ways. Besides, he's much more thorough than I am, so he surely got everything planned out.

"Do you still want to walk around?"

"Is that OK?" Shi Nuan gave it a thought. "Won't people recognize you?"

Fu Chengyan felt amused by how cautious Shi Nuan was. "Do you think I'm some huge celebrity who'd get surrounded by the crowds?" Fu Chengyan reached out to poke Shi Nuan's nose. "What are you thinking?"

Shi Nuan responded with a pout, "Hmm? But aren't successful businessmen like you always as famous as celebrities?" She would often hear rumors about people from the corporate world coming from the entertainment industry, so she thought Fu Chengyan was one of such people.

Fu Chengyan smiled. “Those are other people, not me. No one dares report about me, nor do people know what I look like. So you don’t have to worry about your husband being surrounded by women who have all sorts of hidden motives, May.”

Shi Nuan was flabbergasted. This man always seemed to have the ability to distort any truth she said into something of his own preference. “That won’t do either. Didn’t you promise to keep our relationship secret for now? Won’t people find out if they were to see us together?”

“Why do you keep thinking about such things?” Fu Chengyan asked in frustration. “Why is it so hard to just watch a movie and go shopping with my wife?”

“You think I am not aware that this mall belongs to Shengyuan?” Shi Nuan pursed her lips. She didn’t actually know until she remembered how someone once said that Shengyuan’s shopping malls were all over Jiang City. It was practically a monopoly. Thus, any domestic or foreign brand that wished to enter Jiang City had to go through Shengyuan first.

When Fucheng had plans to develop its own brand, it also wanted to enter Shengyuan’s shopping malls. Shi Nuan recalled that the company had managed to obtain Shengyuan’s approval but couldn’t set up its outlets in every mall.

“I work at Fucheng anyway, so I absolutely know about these things.”

“Oh?” Fu Chengyan’s gaze narrowed as the smile in his eyes shone more visibly. “So are you saying we can’t walk around?”

Shi Nuan nodded solemnly. “It’s getting late anyway.”

“Don’t worry. If this mall belongs to me, not all the managers here can recognize me,” Fu Chengyan said with a smile. “Do you think I’m that easy to come across?”

Shi Nuan opened her mouth to speak, only to be dragged forward by Fu Chengyan. “Since we’re starting as a normal couple, the first step is to go shopping and watch a movie, so I’ll shop with you!”

Fu Chengyan sounded so decisive that Shi Nuan didn’t even have a chance to refute him.

Shi Nuan felt rather passive, being led by him, but that man didn’t walk fast. It seemed more like he was going along with her pace.

She wore heels on that day. They weren’t very high, but it was natural that she felt uncomfortable since she had worn them all day. Shi Nuan had already felt her legs hurting long ago, but as a woman, she had to go through a little bit of pain for the sake of beauty. It was not a big deal for her.

Fu Chengyan walked in front of Shi Nuan, with his arm stretched out behind him to hold her hand. The woman was about half a step behind him, then she lifted her chin to look at the back of Fu Chengyan’s head.

He was tall – so tall that she had to straighten her neck to look at him despite wearing heels.

It was as though Fu Chengyan knew Shi Nuan was looking at him, so he stopped for a moment and glanced at her sideways. “Tired?”