I Want a Lifetime with You Chapter 86

13/05/2021 by Novel Heart

When Shi Nuan walked into the kitchen, she saw Fu Chengyan busy cooking. She stood at the door for a while before Fu Chengyan noticed her presence and said, "Why don't you sit outside?"

"We're not doing much outside. Are you sure you can handle all these by yourself?" Shi Nuan looked at Fu Chengyan and noticed that that he was very organized and methodical. She observed him for quite some time before asking, "Do you need my help?"

Fu Chengyan paused for a moment and nodded his head. He then said, "Take a look at the soup and adjust the intensity of the fire. I brought it to boil a while ago. Please let it simmer now."

"Sure!" Shi Nuan walked to the pot and took a sniff and said, "This smells really good. What soup is this?"

"Pork bone soup," Fu Chengyan paused for a moment and said, "You were drugged yesterday and there's definitely some remnant of the drug in your body. Drinking some soup is good for you."

When Shi Nuan heard Fu Chengyan's words, she nodded with a smile and said, "Sure. But since when was I drugged? I have no recollection about it. Also, what about Shi Wei......" At this time, Shi Nuan realized that something was amiss as Shi Wei would usually be gloating or reprimanding her furiously whenever something happened. But this time, she was not around. Doubt started to fill her thought as she could not recall what happened yesterday and Fu Chengyan also did not fill her in on the incident. "Was Shi Wei really the one who kidnapped me?"

Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows and said, "Your reaction time is a little too slow. Shouldn't you have asked this earlier?"

Shi Nuan pursed her lips and replied, "As you have said, I was drugged and that's why my mind is not very alert." Shi Nuan held a ladle in her hand to stir the soup in the pot before bringing it to a simmer. She then leaned against the kitchen island and stared at Fu Chengyan.

She realized that whatever Fu Chengyan did was pleasing to the eye, even if it was only a menial matter. Shi Nuan imitated the usual way Fu Chengyan clasped his hands and said, "How did Shi Wei react when you rescued me yesterday? Based on her character, she would definitely come after me. But I still haven't heard much from her today."

Fu Chengyan lifted his eyebrows, twitched his lips and replied, "Isn't it better if she's not around to give you a hard time? Unless you are the kind of person who likes to be abused. Are you?"

"That's not what I meant!"

"If that's not the case, please help me to cut some garlic and ginger," Fu Chengyan continued cooking while instructing Shi Nuan to help out. "Stop thinking about this matter as it's not going to help you in any way."

"That's true." It was a relief to be freed from Shi Wei. Although Shi Nuan still felt that something was amiss, she could not tell what went wrong.

Meanwhile, a "battle" was taking place at the living room. Although it was merely a misunderstanding between them all these while, Song Rongrong still found Su Shaoqing too snobbish. Furthermore, the smile of Su Shaoqing's was just too irritating to Song Rongrong and that prompted her to challenge Su Shaoqing. The method that they adopted was quite straightforward. The loser of the poker game would be punished with notes being pasted on his or her face.

This was one of the ridiculous games that Song Rongrong and Shi Nuan played in their school days. No one expected that such a game would still be useful in such a context. Song Rongrong met her match today. In the past, she was an expert in this game, but who would have expected Su Shaoqing to be even better in playing card games?

In fact, Su Shaoqing had played poker in various amusement and entertainment outlets. It was rare for him to lose a game. If he was to lose one, most likely it was because of him not wanting to win it and not because of his inability to do so.

After one round of poker, the face of Song Rongrong was covered in paper notes while the faces of Su Yian and Su Shaoqing were still clean.

"Hey, let's stop the game. Did you both play dirty?" Song Rongrong threw the cards in her hand on the table and continued, "Why am I the only person losing in this game? My cards were good."

Song Rongrong stared at Su Shaoqing furiously. She really suspected Su Shaoqing of playing dirty. Otherwise, how did she lose in every game? Indeed, Su Shaoqing and Su Yian did not lose at all.

Su Yian was never someone who was good in playing card games. In the past, she was merely asked to play so as to meet the minimum number of required players. Who would expect Su Yian to outlast her today?

Song Rongrong did not believe Su Yian could improve by leaps and bounds and her only explanation was that Su Shaoqing had applied some dirty tricks and made her lose.

Su Shaoqing raised his eyebrows and smirked while looking at Song Rongrong's sour face, "Ms. Rong, your accusations are unsubstantiated. We really played fairly and you should not blame us if your card playing skill is bad."

"You..." Song Rongrong gritted her teeth and continued, "I don't want to play anymore." She wiped away all the paper on her face. "There's nothing wrong in quitting this game, right?"

"Sure, as a gentleman, I'll not go against a lady's wish." Su Shaoqing then put his cards down on the table with a broad smile.

Song Rongrong felt bored and took the remote control to switch on the television. The program broadcasted at that time was entertainment news.

Shi Wei's face appeared on the news and she was bombarded with questions from reporters. Many mics were placed before her and they almost covered her face. The panic on Shi Wei's face was something that they had never seen before.

Song Rongrong's hand froze for a while and she turned her head towards Su Yian. Su Yian also saw the title of the news: 'Incumbent Popular Movie Star Shi Wei Gained Fame Through Unruly Ways!'

Song Rongrong and Su Yian looked at each other and thought to themselves, Could it be karma?

Song Rongrong laughed loudly and took out her cellphone to get an update on headline news. Indeed, the headlines of all media were about Shi Wei.

The more Song Rongrong read, the more in shock she was. The news was about how Shi Wei was kept as a sugar baby and the relationship she had with various movie directors in order to secure a role. The reporting provided not only words but also photographs. They made it hard for Shi Wei to provide a good explanation.

When Su Yian saw Song Rongrong laughing so happily, she also took her cellphone out to scroll through the news. "Oh my! No wonder Nuan could never defeat her as Shi Wei was such a wicked person with hidden agendas."

Su Shaoqing narrowed his eyes. He stroked his chin with his fingers and watched the television screen as contentment swept across his face. He then looked towards the direction of the kitchen and pursed his lips.

He did not expect Fu Chengyan to do so much for Shi Nuan and it seemed that he was seriously interested in her.

"Who did she offend?"

"Who was offended?" Shi Nuan walked out of the kitchen with a tray of food when she heard the conversation between Song Rongrong and Su Yian. She then put down the tray and walked towards them.

Shi Nuan noticed something amiss from the facial expression of Song Rongrong. She then looked at Su Yian and then asked, "An, what's the matter with you both?"

Shi Nuan shifted her gaze on the coffee table and saw the messy state of it with cards and paper notes everywhere. She then asked, "Did you all play a card game? Who lost in the game?"

"Haha, no one lost." Song Rongrong burst into laughter awkwardly and said, "Nuan, come and take a look at this." Song Rongrong brightened her cellphone screen and then passed it to Shi Nuan.

Shi Nuan held the cellphone suspiciously and was flabbergasted when she read the news. She was in disbelief and reread the news, "When...when did this happen?" No wonder Shi Nuan was not around to make her life difficult today as she was in trouble herself.

"It just happened today. But the entertainment industry is a complicated one. Even a small scandal would cause an uproar on the internet. For instance, this news was only reported a few hours ago but Shi Wei is already on all news headlines now, including social media. Her name tops the list of all search engines." Song Rongrong let out a sigh and said, "Who would know that Shi Wei's character was worse than what we had expected?"

"Who would tip-off the media with regard to such matter?" Shi Nuan was startled as she did not expect the situation to end up this way.

"I don't know. Many bloggers said that Shi Wei had offended many people throughout her acting career in the past. Some even said that she had framed and harmed others. The entertainment industry is so complicated and perhaps someone took revenge against her," Song Rongrong said nonchalantly, for she did not find the identity of the person behind this matter important. As long as Shi Wei was humiliated, that would suffice.

Shi Nuan gritted her teeth and said, "No. I must give grandfather a call!"

"What're you doing?" Song Rongrong snatched the cellphone from Shi Nuan and stared at her strangely. She then said, "Shi Wei deserved to be as such for the bad things she had done. If you call her family now, how would they think about you?"

"But my grandfather is old and he won't be able to withstand such shocking news!" Shi Nuan frowned as she was worried that Shi Yunsheng's mood would be badly affected by such news.

"Don't worry. Grandpa Shi is not a weak person. He would be able to withstand this. Furthermore, Grandpa Shi is not someone who keeps up with the times. Perhaps he still does not know about this. What if your call was picked up by either your parents or Shi Wei? They would vent their anger on you, thinking that your purpose was to mock Shi Wei."

Shi Nuan shrugged helplessly and said, "You always have a justification for everything."

"What Ms. Song said was right!" Su Shaoqing responded after a long pause. "The entertainment industry is absolutely complicated. Since you're not in the industry, you better stay out of it."

"Yes, yes, yes, what Su Shaoqing said was right."

Song Rongrong nodded her head repeatedly and said, "Well, stop thinking about this. Shi Wei should have gotten used to the entertainment industry and she wasn't a kind person to begin with. The number of people who wanted to frame her is definitely more than a handful. Why don't you see this as karma for what she had done to others, as well as a valuable lesson for her?"

Shi Nuan raised her eyebrows and asked, "Isn't this adding insult to her injury?"

"What's about adding insult to her injury?" Fu Chengyan served various dishes on the dining table before looking at Shi Nuan. He said, "Dinner is ready. Let's tuck in."

"Sure!" Shi Nuan smiled while keeping her cellphone aside. She then said, "Let's wash our hands and start dinner!"

Su Shaoqing followed them behind and stopped for a moment when he walked pass Fu Chengyan. He whispered, "Fu Chengyan, you're quite a big deal!"

Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows and asked, "What do you mean?"

Su Shaoqing twitched his lips and replied, "You were the source of the information of Shi Wei's scandal, weren't you?" Su Shaoqing then gave him a thumbs up and continued, "Your girl even thought that this incident was sabotaged by Shi Wei's enemies."

Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows and asked, "Does she know?"

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Following the surface of the news on the Internet, Shi Wei was attacked by netizens and keyboard warriors. Her fans were disappointed with what she had done and the fans of her victims were upset that Shi Wei had sabotaged their idols.

With regard to the few film producers and directors who were involved in the scandal of Shi Wei, they kept silent. Although the media and reporters attempted to contact them, they were denied access with all kinds of excuses. Such action instantly put Shi Wei into the spotlight of beratement.

The entertainment industry had always been hard to navigate. The successful celebrities on top would be glorified while the unsuccessful ones would be ignored. In dealing with this matter, Shi Wei's talent management agency had issued an emergency press release to explain the matter to the public and stating that she was framed.

Once the press release was out, sexy photographs of Shi Wei were released by a small magazine publisher. The photographs seemed to be taken when Shi Wei was seventeen or eighteen years old. At that time, Shi Wei had just entered the entertainment industry.

Once the photographs were published, all the efforts to curb the impact on her image became futile. The talent management agency of Shi Wei requested her to rest at home straightaway and avoid all work in the near future. All the product endorsement work of Shi Wei got withdrawn one after another. Most of them wanted to terminate their contract with Shi Wei.

"Sigh. Sigh!"

At this time, the Shi family was like being covered in dark clouds. Shi Wei was extremely furious and she felt nothing was right around her, including the way her maid looked at her.

Shi Wei had been staying at home for two full days. During this period, she did not dare to go out as she was worried of being disturbed by paparazzies.

The distraught Shi Wei smashed and broke many things at home, including both fragile items and durable items.

Jiang Yu knew that Shi Wei's mood was terrible and she instructed the people at her family on purpose to be more alert. However, doing so did not brighten up Shi Wei's day or alleviate the pain in her heart.

She did not know who the person behind the sabotage was.

It was just too common to see people getting sabotaged in the entertainment industry. Those who were popular would give those who were not popular a hard time and it was not unusual for rivals to find ways to diss each other. Most of the time, people would just throw others under the bus but they would never expose information in such a blatant manner.

This incident had totally caught Shi Wei off guard and she was not prepared to face such an issue. It was obvious that the mastermind was well prepared as more negative news of her were published once a damage control press release was made by her public relations team.

She would definitely want the saboteurs to pay the price if she knew who they were.

"Wei, you have to eat something!"

Jiang Yu was heartbroken when she saw Shi Wei getting thinner as time went by. "Come, I've made you your favorite dishes. Please give it a try!" "No, I don't want to eat!" Shi Wei pushed Jiang Yu's hand away furiously. The food then fell on the ground.

"Wei!" Jiang Yu gritted her teeth and said, "When do you plan to stop all these nonsense? Look at how miserable you are now." Jiang Yu was heartbroken when she saw Shi Wei giving up on herself and at the same time feeling hopeless at her. "Look at yourself! You haven't been eating for the past two days. What's the point of you smashing the food served by the maid?"

"But mother, what can I do? I feel that I'm doomed." Shi Wei had lost weight and she felt really helpless about the situation. She then continued, "My agency had asked me to rest at home but I know that they are giving up on me. Those product sponsors are also demanding to change their product spokesperson. Mommy, who would sabotage me so badly?"

Shi Wei sought a hug from Jiang Yu and said, "I've worked so hard all these while before becoming a star. I really don't want my celebrity career to end here. Mommy, could you please help me?"

Shi Wei tugged on Jiang Yu's sleeves and asked, "Mommy, aren't you the nicest person to me? You have a solution, right?"

Jiang Yu frowned as there was nothing much she could do. She was neither powerful nor influential. All she could rely on was the Shi family.

If this matter was brought up within the family, everyone in the family would start criticizing Shi Wei. This issue was indeed a tough one.

Shi Wei was a little disappointed when she saw Jiang Yu's face fall. She said, "Mommy, do you still love me? How could you see me being sabotaged by others?"

"How is it possible that mommy doesn't love you?" Jiang Yu patted Shi Wei on her shoulder while hugging her. She continued, "You are my only daughter and I love you dearly. There may be a way out but..." "But what?" Shi Wei quickly grabbed Jiang Yu's hand and pursed her lips. "Mommy, you do have a solution, don't you? I knew you would have a way to resolve this problem."

Jiang Yu was in a difficult position but she still gave her daughter a nod. She asked, "Do you remember Xicheng?"

"Xicheng?" Shi Wei replied, feeling dumbfounded. She did not think of Fu Xicheng as she was extremely busy lately. Now when Jiang Yu mentioned his name, Shi Wei could recall that Fu Xicheng was her fiancé although they had not met for quite some time. Shi Wei looked at Jiang Yu in grief and said, "He did not even give me a call after my news was published in the media. Mommy, do you think that the Fu family will abandon me because of this incident? After all, Fu Yuqing was agreeable to let her be with Fu Xicheng because she was the eldest daughter of the Shi family and held some shares of the Shi family."

When Shi Wei thought of this, she subconsciously gripped Jiang Yu's hand.

Jiang Yu was in pain and said, "Wei, what are you doing?" Shi Wei only came back to her senses when she heard Jiang Yu's scream. She took her hands back and said, "I'm sorry mommy. I didn't do it on purpose. It's just that... Xicheng didn't even show his care for me...I..."

"Who told you that Xicheng didn't care about you?" Jiang Yu looked at Shi Wei strangely. "You locked yourself in the room and refused to see anyone. Xicheng did visit our house but I thought that you wouldn't want him to see you in your current state." Jiang Yu continued to hug Shi Wei and attempted to console her, "Xicheng was worried about you but you had switched off your phone."

"Is that so?" Shi Wei's eyes lit brightly and asked, "Did Xicheng really come to visit me?"

"Of course. Why would I lie?" An idea seemed to have come to Jiang Yu's mind and she continued, "Do you still remember the special guest at your grandpa's birthday celebration?" "Mommy, are you referring to Fu Chengyan?" Shi Wei suspiciously asked.

"Yes. Isn't Xicheng related to Fu Chengyan? If Fu Chengyan is willing to help, there will be a solution for you." This was what Jiang Yu had in mind.

Prior to this, Jiang Yu had deliberately investigated the background of Fu Chengyan when he was invited to their residence. Only at that time, she knew that Fu Chengyan was a powerful and influential figure. Coincidentally, Xicheng shared the same family name as Fu Chengyan and they may be related.

The Fu family had a stake in a wide-range of business sectors. Fu Chengyan was also the person in-charge of Shengyuan Group. It was said that he had many personal assets and one of them was a production company. If Fu Chengyan was willing to help, such small matter of Shi Wei's would not be a problem.

Shi Wei chinned up after hearing her mother's words but her spirit dampened again when she recalled Fu Chengyan's impression of her. "But Fu Chengyan can be quite irritating. He..."

"Do you still want to be a celebrity?" Jiang Yu said with a stern voice, "If you still wish to survive in the entertainment industry, you better don't be so arrogant. Further, if our family could pull strings with Fu Chengyan, your father would no longer need to ask for favors from the Yun family."

Jiang Yu then thought of the incident where Shi Nuan did not show up without informing her. Although Yun Shen did not find fault with them, the Yun family had clearly indicated that they would no longer collaborate with the Shi family.

As one such announcement was made by the Yun family, it would mean that no one in Jiang City would dare to work together with the Shi family.

Recently, Shi Jingzheng was extremely busy and that made Jiang Yu furious. She blamed everything on Shi Nuan. If it wasn't for the fact that Shi Wei was in trouble, Jiang Yu would definitely find fault with Shi Nuan. Shi Wei's eyes flashed and she could not believe that Shi Nuan managed to escape from the situation. Shi Wei's hatred towards Shi Nuan increased when she saw herself in trouble, as compared to how well Shi Nuan was doing.

"Mommy, I'll have my meal now. Could you accompany me to the spa after this? I need to meet Xicheng in my best form. When Xicheng sees me, he would definitely help me, wouldn't he?" Shi Wei knew she was grasping at straws but she still tried to be hopeful. She then said, "Based on the relationship between Xicheng and Fu Chengyan, the latter would definitely help me, wouldn't he?"

"Yes. My daughter is so beautiful. Everyone who rested their eyes on her would fall in love with her!" When Jiang Yu saw Shi Wei gaining back her confidence, she held Shi Wei's hand and stood up feeling relieved. "Come, let me make you some food while you get yourself dressed up."

"Sure. Mommy, you better hurry up as I haven't eaten anything in the past few days." Shi Wei was in joy again when she thought of herself overcoming her worries and appearing before audiences in the near future. Shi Wei ate three bowls of rice and she happily dressed herself up to go out with Jiang Yu.

Shi Yunsheng was accompanied and supported by Mr. Yang, the butler, at the balcony. When he saw Shi Wei and Jiang Yu, he shook his head in disapproval and said, "Sigh. What a sin! When did the Shi family commit such a sin?"

"Master Shi, I think it's better for you to put the matter aside." Mr. Yang patted Shi Yunsheng's arm while consoling him. "It seems that young mistress and madam are beyond help."

"Sigh!" Shi Yunsheng shook his head again and said, "Whatever! Just let them go and see what other things they could do." Shi Yunsheng waved his hands and added, "Yang, how's Nuan lately?"

Mr. Yang's eyes flickered and Shi Yunsheng responded with a frown, "Just tell me the truth!"

"Well, this incident happened a few days back. But second young mistress is alright now." Mr. Yang then paused. Shi Yunsheng got more suspicious and asked, "What happened to her?"

"Old Master and Madam didn't let her off the hook. A few days back, they threatened the second young mistress and brought her to meet the third young master of the Yun family. Second young mistress almost got into trouble, but she was subsequently alright. Therefore..."

"Why didn't you tell me such an important matter earlier?" Shi Yunsheng rapped his walking stick on the ground before giving Mr. Yang a cold stare. "What a beast! What sin had the Shi family committed to the extent that they needed to sell their daughter?"

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After Shi Wei had her treatment nicely done, she called Fu Xicheng. Fu Xicheng was overstretched recently. The incident involving Shi Wei had taken a toll on the Fu family.

Even though their family was small, they had a messy and complicated relationship. Back then, his dad, Fu Yuqing had fought hard in order to achieve such an advancement. However, due to Shi Wei's matter, he and his dad were both blamed by Fu clan. Fu Xicheng was ashamed.

Fu Xicheng's uncles always compared him with the true authority of Fu clan, Fu Chengyan. He felt more or less embarrassed by this, but yet he could not refute.

Fu Xicheng was exhausted. Despite that, he still went to see Shi Wei according to his dad's instruction. However, when Shi Wei refused to see him, he decided that he couldn't be bothered. "If she refuses to see me, then so be it!" He had thought arrogantly. She was not the only one who had an attitude. To his surprise, Shi Wei called today. Fu Xicheng stared at his mobile for quite some time before he answered the call and said, "Hello."

"Xicheng, are you busy?" Shi Wei sounded rather lively. Fu Xicheng raised his eyebrows. He paused momentarily before replying, "Yes, a little, how can I help you?"

Shi Wei pursed her lips and said, "I'm at the ground floor of your office building. I made some food for you. I'll go right up to see you now." She looked at the lunch box in her hand and continued, "Xicheng, it was all my fault this time. I have been in a bad mood recently."

"It's alright. Things happened to you and I am worried about you too," said Fu Xicheng. He pinched the space between his eyebrows and said, "Come on up!" before he hung up the phone. However, he felt rather distressed.

Everyone knew Shi Wei. Not just because she was a huge movie star, but also because she was the fiancée of their young boss. Hence, it was impossible for them to not recognize her. Recently, their understanding of Shi Wei had gone one step further. Even though one could not believe in rumors fully, especially those that circled the entertainment industry, at least half of them were real.

So when Fucheng's employees saw Shi Wei, everyone started whispering among themselves, gossiping about her.

Shi Wei was not deaf, of course she could hear all of that. However, for the sake of her own image, she put up with it. She greeted Fucheng's employees with a smile, but deep down, she hated these gossiping employees.

Fu Xicheng's secretary saw Shi Wei step foot into his office area, she stood up immediately to greet her, "Ms. Shi, Mr. Fu has been waiting for you for quite some time."

Shi Wei squinted her eyes and smiled, "Alright, thank you!"

Shi Wei pushed the door open and strode in, "Xicheng, look what I have got for you!" Right after she finished, she heard Fu Xicheng said, "Please have a seat first, I still have some work to finish off."

"Sure," Shi Wei knew that since she wanted to ask for help, she needed to be understanding. Although she did not understand his work, she just sat there quietly without interrupting when she saw Fu Xicheng absorbed in his task at hand.

When Fu Xicheng finally finished his work, Shi Wei hurriedly got up. She poured a drink for Fu Xicheng and handed him a tissue to wipe his face. "Xicheng, you

must be hungry now, I made something delicious for you!" Shi Wei opened the lunch box, smiled and passed the chopsticks to him.

Fu Xicheng's expression shifted ever so slightly. He lifted his head and scrutinized Shi Wei's face, as if he was trying to understand her. Shi Wei was feeling a little guilty, "Why? What's the matter?

Fu Xicheng shook his head, "Nothing, I am just curious. You've never cooked before because you said that you do not like the heavy fumes in the kitchen." He took the chopsticks and reached for the dishes. Although he was hungry, he did not actually have the appetite to eat.

Shi Wei twitched her mouth with a guilty conscience, "People change. Don't you like my cooking?"

"I do!" Fu Xicheng said and continue to eat.

Fu Xicheng knew exactly what kind of person Shi Wei was. She would stay far away from any house chores – it was impossible that she had prepared this meal with pure intentions. Moreover, anyone could tell these dishes were ordered from a restaurant with just one look at them.

It was not like he had not eaten food that Shi Nuan cooked. Even though the dishes were simple, they tasted like home. They were not as delicate as those cooked by professional chefs. That was why Fu Xicheng could tell instantly the moment Shi Wei opened up the lunch box. However, since Shi Wei chose to lie to him, he did not need to expose her.

Fu Xicheng's words comforted Shi Wei. She felt relieved and smiled, "That's great! Then you have to eat more. You've been so busy work."

Fu Xicheng nodded, "Why are you free to come over today? Are you in a better mood today?"

Shi Wei pursed her lips and rubbed her hands together, "Xicheng, you do love me, right?"

Fu Xicheng's hand that was holding the chopsticks paused. His eyes looked obscure, but he still nodded, "Yes. Why did you suddenly ask about this? What happened?"

"Xicheng, you love me, so you will help me, right? Xicheng, you are the only one who can help me now. I beg you to help me, please," Shi Wei grabbed his hand and pleaded.

Fu Xicheng had completely lost his appetite now. He put down his chopsticks and looked at Shi Wei with a trace of suspiciousness in his eyes, "What do you want me to do?" He had a vague idea, but he was not sure.

Shi Wei said, "Aren't you familiar with Fu Chengyan? You are relatives! It's the one who gave grandpa a jade chess set on his birthday banquet some time ago. He is very powerful, isn't he? I heard he has a filming company, can you..."

Fu Xicheng frowned. He moved Shi Wei's hand off his with pursed lips. He was obviously not in a good mood.

Fu Xicheng could not believe that Shi Wei would bring him up too. With all the talk about Fu Chengyan that was going at home, her request was adding fuel to fire. Needless to say, he was not happy with it.

Shi Wei did not notice it at all, "Xi Cheng, you and Fu Chengyan are relatives, can you get him to help me through this difficult time? As long as Fu Chengyan can help, I will definitely be able to return to the peak of my entertainment career. Xicheng, I know you love me the most, please help me!" Shi Wei grabbed Fu Xicheng's hands.

Fu Xicheng pictured Fu Chengyan's cold and unconcerned face. He did not want to go him at all. Furthermore, when Fu Xicheng's dad had encouraged him to

engage with Fu Chengyan more often, Fu Chengyan paid no attention to him at all. This frustrated Fu Xicheng to no end.

"But why? Are you unwilling to help me?" Shi Wei looked pitiful when she grabbed Fu Xicheng's hands. Fully utilizing her advantages of being an actress, she continued, "I know I brought this upon myself. However, one cannot believe everything in the entertainment circles. I had a beef with some people, but it was all about fighting over resources. I didn't do anything to hurt anyone. Someone was trying to screw with me. Xicheng, please help me."

"I....." Before Xicheng could finish his sentence, Xicheng's office door swung open and Fu Yuqing walked in, interrupting him. "It's done, let Xicheng go to Chengyan." Fu Yuqing looked at Shi Wei with his shrewd eyes and curled his lips. "Wei, don't worry, I will have Xicheng help you. Chengyan will help you too!"

Fu Xicheng knitted his eyebrows and tried to protest, but Fu Yuqing just glared at him fiercely. He said, "Wei is your fiancée. After what had happened, you should help her. Besides, I am certain that Wei was framed. How could you let your fiancée get bullied?" He tone was demanding as he continued, "End of discussion."

Fu Yuqing's decision was final. He looked at Shi Wei and asked, "Wei, are you feeling better now?"

What Fu Yuqing said made Shi Wei breathe a sigh of relief, "Yes, thank you, uncle! I shall excuse myself now, I do not want to disturb you and Xicheng."

Shi Wei took her bag and left happily. However, Fu Xicheng did not look good. "Dad, what are you thinking about? You want me to beg Fu Chengyan? You know exactly what kind of person he is!"

Fu Yuqing looked at his son with disdain, disappointed at how Fu Xicheng had turned out. "Do you have better idea? I'm doing this for you. If only you were as smart as Fu Chengyan – I would never let you marry this brainless woman! Don't

you forget, she has 15% of Shi family's shares. Once you get married, you have it all."

"Dad, I don't need it," Fu Xicheng growled.

"Why not? This discussion is over. You have to go and talk to Fu Chengyan. After all, we are part of the Fu clan too, he can't just do nothing," Fu Yuqing responded coldly.

Shengyuan Group building, 27th floor president's office.

Fu Chengyan paused his hand that was holding the pen. He raised his head, squinting his eyes as he asked, "He's here already? Faster that I thought!"

"Mr. Fu, your prediction is impeccable," said Zhou Zheng, who really admired Fu Chengyan's ability. He couldn't believe that Fu Xicheng would really come to Fu Chengyan for help. "But there's one thing I can't figure it out – you have rejected Fu Xicheng numerous times, why is he still so persistent?" Zhou Zheng had met Fu Xicheng a couple of times, and he knew that the young man was arrogant and prideful. Theoretically, he would not have come back.

Fu Chengyan curled his lips, "No one would go against money. Even if he is not willing to come, his dad will get him to come anyway."

Zhou Zheng nodded, "What do we do now?"

"Let him come up!" Fu Chengyan signed the last document before continuing, "Tell them that I will only give this project a duration of one year. The first phase must be carried out as soon as possible."

"Sure, I will send for him now," said Zhou Zheng while he collected the documents.

A secretary led Fu Xicheng all the way to Fu Chengyan's office. This was the first time he came to the core floor of Shengyuan Group's headquarters. He had been here in the past, but he had never been up to that floor.

Fu Xicheng looked at the simple but elegant office, feeling prejudiced.

Both of their last names were Fu, but he not only had lower seniority in the family compared to Fu Chengyan, he also had worse fate.

Fu Xicheng had always felt that he was a capable man, but he still felt inferior whenever he stood before Fu Chengyan. This feeling was horrible.

"Mr. Fu, we are here," Fu Chengyan's secretary announced with a smile and knocked on the door. "President Fu, Mr. Fu is here."

"Come in," Fu Chengyan cold voice came from the president's office.

The secretary pushed the door open and made an inviting gesture. Fu Xicheng pursed his lips, took a deep breath, and stepped into Fu Chengyan's territory. "Uncle!"

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Fu Xicheng immediately brought up his connection with Fu Chengyan upon arriving, hoping that this tactic would bridge the gap between the two of them. No matter how unwilling Fu Chengyan was, he wouldn't directly brush him off from the start.

Obviously, Fu Chengyan knew what Fu Xicheng was up to. Fu Xicheng was also an prideful person, so unless it was absolutely necessary, Xicheng wouldn't address him as 'uncle' willingly.

Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows and gestured for Fu Xicheng to take a seat, asking, "What do you want to drink?"

"Tea!" Fu Xicheng had already researched Fu Chengyan's likes before coming. Fu Chengyan liked traditional Chinese culture and particularly enjoyed tea drinking. So when Fu Xicheng responded as such, Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows and said, "Secretary Chen, prepare two cups of Tieguanyin tea."

He did enjoy drinking tea, but he didn't like drinking it this early in the morning. Evidently, Fu Xicheng was not thorough with his research.

Fu Chengyan cleared his desk and strode towards a seat nearby Fu Xicheng, where he sat down.

With his legs crossed leisurely, his relaxed posture was a stark contrast to Fu Xicheng, who was appeared tense and stiff. It was apparent which of the two had the upper hand.

Fu Xicheng immediately realized that he was in a disadvantageous position, so he adjusted his sitting position and trying to relax as much as he could to appear more composed. However, Fu Chengyan's aura was too strong and the imposing air around him was impossible to ignore.

Secretary Chen, the secretary who guided Fu Xicheng here earlier, arrived with two cups of tea, passing one cup to Fu Chengyan and the other to Fu Xicheng, "Mr. Fu, please enjoy your tea."

Fu Xicheng felt a little awkward. He nervously raised his cup to take a sip.

"What brings you here today, nephew?" Fu Chengyan's gaze swept over Fu Xicheng indifferently as he spoke.

When he heard Fu Chengyan's question, Fu Xicheng nearly spat out his tea as he frantically put the lid back on his cup, placed it down and returned to his tense sitting position.

He was beginning to regret his decision to bring up their familial ties at the very beginning of this meeting, as it caused their positions to immediately be set apart. Fu Chengyan was one generation above him, so he was inherently in a disadvantageous position. However, he couldn't really say anything about it, as their relations were truly as such, as he was the one who initiated this meeting.

Fu Xicheng was inwardly displeased, but didn't dare show it on his face. "Uncle, truth to be told, I came here today to ask you for help with a certain matter!"

Fu Chengyan quirked an eyebrow and feigned interest. "Speak!"

Fu Xicheng took a deep breath and asked, "Do you still remember what happened at the Shi family during Granddad's birthday?"

Fu Chengyan nodded his head, "Yes, I remember, but why are you bringing this up so suddenly?" Seeing how Fu Xicheng was asking for help in such a

roundabout way, Fu Chengyan felt tired on his behalf and prompted, "So what about it?"

"Is uncle close to Granddad?"

"Not really."

Fu Xicheng's expression froze, "I think you may have already heard about this, but I was recently engaged to Granddad's granddaughter. You might remember her, she was the one standing next to me, the eldest daughter of the Shi family."

"Oh!" Fu Chengyan nodded his head, but then continued, "I don't remember."

Fu Xicheng's expression became stiffer – he didn't think Fu Xicheng would treat him like this. However, he also did not seem to be lying. Could he really have forgotten? But with her beautiful appearance and fame as a media superstar, it shouldn't have been possible for her to not leave an impression.

Fu Chengyan brought one hand to teacup handle and tapped on it with his slender finger, "If you have anything to say, say it out!"

Fu Xicheng didn't have much to say, so he could only continue, "Well, Shi Wei has always been working in the entertainment industry. There are all sorts of people in that industry and the current matter has blown up to be quite a huge matter. Wei is the biggest victim, she... she is currently being attacked online."

"What does this have to do me? Get to the point!" Fu Chengyan placed his teacup down and massaged his temple.

Fu Xicheng could tell that Fu Chengyan was starting to lose his patience. "I know that you own a film company, so I wanted to ask for a little favor from you. Please lend Wei a hand, after all, if she is attacked right now, her celebrity career would be destroyed."

Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrow, "I see, so you came to me asking for help! Why didn't you say so earlier?" Fu Chengyan stood up and pressed the office line, "Zhou Zheng, come in for a moment!"

Having been summoned, Zhou Zheng immediately came and entered after knocking the door. "Master Chengyan, you called?" Zhou Zheng saw Fu Xicheng and gave him a curt nod. Fu Xicheng nodded in reply, returning his greeting with a friendly smile.

Fu Chengyan raised his hand, "I remember owning a film company?"

Zhou Zheng was stunned for a moment, but immediately replied, "Yes, Master Chengyan. You have always left its management to me, why are you mentioning it so suddenly?"

"Xicheng, if there's anything you need, just tell Zhou Zheng directly. He is my personal assistant, and that company has also been left for him to manage. He is clearer than me on what needs to be done!" Fu Chengyan tapped the table his fingers and continued, "I still have work to do. Whatever you need, just ask Zhou Zheng for help, he will help you settle it."

Fu Xicheng inwardly let out a sigh of relief when he heard that Fu Chengyan was willing to help, but he was still not content. He scrutinized Zhou Zheng, not expecting a mere personal assistant to have the ability to manage a company. "Then I'll thank you in advance, uncle!"

"Ok!" Fu Chengyan waved his hand, gesturing for Zhou Zheng to leave.

Zhou Zheng pursed his lips and smiled, "Mr. Fu, please follow me."

When both Zhou Zheng and Fu Xicheng left, Fu Chengyan curled his lips and retracted his gaze.

Zhou Zheng brought Fu Xicheng to the meeting room and got Secretary Chen to prepare a cup of coffee. When Fu Xicheng saw the cup of coffee, his face

stiffened. He just had a cup of tea and now there was a cup of coffee ready... Unease was written all over his face, but he felt that it would not be in his advantage if he spoke up about it. "Sorry for the trouble, Mr. Zhou."

"It's no trouble at all. Since it's something Master Chengyan personally instructed, I will naturally do it well. So, can Mr. Fu please tell me what the matter is?"

Fu Xicheng repeated his words earlier to Zhou Zheng again before continuing, "What I want to know is how this matter should be handled."

"It won't be hard to deal with it. Our film company has recently been preparing to film a TV serial and I was just about to ask Master Chengyan if he wanted to invest in it. The main male and female leads have already been decided, but the second female lead hasn't been confirmed yet.

If the young lady Mr. Fu speaks of is fine with it, she can come and try for the audition. Of course, the audition will only be a formality and the role will directly be given to her."

Zhou Zheng continued, "Mr. Fu, please hold on for a moment." Zhou Zheng then got Secretary Chen to bring the project documents over, passing them toFu Xicheng to have a look. "Mr. Fu, please take a look, if Ms. Shi has no problems with it, we can decide on it now.

Fu Xicheng creased his eyebrows. He was unfamiliar with the entertainment industry. In the past, he had only really heard Shi Wei talk about it, so he was unable to make a decision immediately.

Zhou Zheng noticed his hesitation and offered, "How about this, I'll let my assistant hand over the script to you so you can then go back and discuss this with Ms. Shi. However, you should also know that Ms. Shi had probably offended the higher-ups this time, which is why everyone is ganging up on her.

I also understand some of the details regarding that matter, and I am aware that Ms. Shi's current roles and endorsements are probably gone by now as she is receiving the cold treatment from her agency.

The only solution now is for her to pull herself together and film this serial. Only by resuming her media activities can she salvage her career. Otherwise, all her past achievements will simply fade away with time.

Fu Xicheng's expression hardened. He was also aware of the impact this incident had on Shi Wei. That was why he had agreed to meet Fu Chengyan as per Fu Yuqing's instructions despite his reluctance. He understood that at this time, only Fu Chengyan could help him.

"That's fine, I'll bring the script back to discuss it with Wei and give you a reply as soon as possible!"

"I will be waiting for Mr. Fu's good news." Zhou Zheng closed the documents and got someone to bring Fu Xicheng the script. "I hope that I will be getting good news!"

When Shi Wei saw Fu Xicheng leaving Shengyuan building, she could barely keep her emotions in check. Today, she was both concerned and nervous to the point where she disregarded Fu Xicheng's refusal and decided to follow him here.

Her heart had been racing the entire time Fu Xicheng was up there, so when she saw Fu Xicheng coming out, she immediately winded down the windows and asked, "Xicheng, how is it? Did Fu Chengyan agree to help?"

Fu Xicheng could see Shi Wei's actions from a distance away, dampening his mood. However, he still suppressed his discomfort and walked to her in big steps, throwing the script to her.

Looking at the stack of paper in her hands, Shi Wei was perplexed. "Why are you giving me this? I'm asking you if Fu Chengyan agreed to help!" After all, her impression of Fu Chengyan wasn't too good.

Fu Xicheng knitted his eyebrows. "Why don't you look at what that is?" Fu Xicheng sounded frustrated.

Shi Wei could tell that he was in a foul mood. She still had much to say, but her eyes immediately lit up when she saw the script in her hands. "This is for me? From Fu Chengyan?"

"Can you stop repeating Fu Chengyan's name?" Fu Xicheng lost his patience as he spoke, "You are also clear of your current predicament. He didn't promise to help, but gave me this script and asked if you were interested in playing this role."

"Of course! Why would I refuse?" Shi Wei agreed without even looking at the script, "Of course I will accept it!" She knew better than anyone that most of her job offers had been retracted after that incident, Her agency had also given up on her, and as things stood, she would slowly disappear from the public's eye.

This was completely unacceptable to Shi Wei. She longed for the big screen and she enjoyed being the in the limelight. She reveled at the thought of the entire universe revolving around her, where mere mortals could only revere her.

"This is my big chance to make a comeback, but who am I going to be working with?"

"I don't know!" Fu Xicheng frowned, "I don't know the inner workings your industry. His assistant only said that the main male and female leads were already decided and now they were only lacking a second female lead.

He gave us some time to consider it, and once you accept the offer, you can just go to the audition. The audition will only be for show – the second female lead will be yours as long as you agree."

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"What? Supporting actress instead of leading actress?" Shi Wei was immediately upset.

Shi Wei was an arrogant person too. She had been waiting for Fu Xicheng's good news joyfully – she never thought that she would be offered the secondary lead.

How could Shi Wei tolerate such treatment? "And you said you and Fu Chengyan are relatives? Why is he unwilling to help with such small favor?"

Shi Wei was rather agitated, so she didn't think much about her choice of words as she threw a tantrum. She moved to toss away the script in her hand.

Fu Xicheng snatched it back impatiently. "You should be grateful! I don't need to prove to you that Fu Chengyan and I are relatives. Don't you know the situation you're in right now? It is good enough that they are willing to give you a script. Moreover, you will be casted as the secondary lead. What more do you want?" Xicheng said gloomily.

Fu Xicheng thought of what Zhou Zheng had told him just now. The entertainment industry was too complicated, furthermore, there must be a reason behind all that had happened. Fu Chengyan was not obliged to help, but he agreed anyway as a favor for Fu Xicheng.

Fu Xicheng did not understand anything about leading roles or supporting roles, so long as she could turn the tables, it was good enough for him. He had begged Fu Chengyan in a humble manner for it, laying down his dignity and ego for the sake of Shi Wei, but look at her now – she was being demanding and ungrateful.

He did not expect to be this disgusted by someone he loved. "If you hate this role so much, just turn it down! Besides, nothing is set in stone as of now, and it's not like you are irreplaceable!"

"I....." Shi Wei could tell that Fu Xicheng was furious. She finally realized that she might have said something wrong. She then hurriedly grabbed Fu Xicheng's hand and tried to placate him, "I am sorry, Xicheng. I was just too mad.

I never.... I just couldn't accept it at first. It was not my intention to scold you or belittle you. I know that you are doing this for me, and you did everything in your power to acquire this role for me. I am truly sorry."

Shi Wei took the script back, carefully folding it and putting it into her bag. "Sorry, I promise I will never behave like this anymore. I will think this through."

Shi Wei hugged Fu Xicheng and tilted her head. Her tongue flicked out to lick Fu Xicheng's Adam's apple. She then wrapped her arms around Fu Xicheng tightly, as a hand reached into Fu Xicheng's trousers, "Sorry, Xicheng."

Fu Xicheng knitted his eyebrows, and his eyes darkened. "Wei, stop doing this." They were in public right now, and this was inappropriate. He did not expect Shi Wei to be so bold.

Shi Wei clung onto him and took his earlobe between her teeth, nibbling it as she said, "Don't you want it?"

Fu Xicheng inhaled sharply, and flipped over so that Shi Wei was underneath him. Even though the electronics on the chair were making Shi Wei uncomfortable, she did not stop. She lifted her legs to wrap around Fu Xicheng's waist. "Xicheng!" Her soft and inviting voice was sending Fu Xicheng over the edge.

Shi Wei was capable of doing this to him, and he could not help himself, "You little minx!"

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After Zhou Zheng sent Fu Xicheng away, he went back to Fu Chengyan's office immediately to report to him. "Master Chengyan, it's done."

Fu Chengyan was standing in front of the French windows, his eyes fixated on people on the ground floor. They were so far away that he could barely see them. When he heard Zhou Zheng's voice, he turned around and shot him a look, "Alright."

Zhou Zheng fidgeted on his feet. He looked like he had something to say. Fu Chengyan raised his eyebrows, "Cat got your tongue?"

Zhou Zheng shook his head before saying, "I don't really understand the motive behind this. If we want to break Shi Wei, we have a lot of information on all the scandals she was involved in. As long as we release them one after another, she won't stand a chance. That's why I don't understand the reason behind Master Chengyan's doings."

According to his understanding of Fu Chengyan, he was just like Li Heng, who was always quick, swift, and relentless. He showed no mercy to enemies, which was why Zhou Zheng could not understand Fu Chengyan's decision this time.

Fu Chengyan simply curled his lips into a cunning smile, "Once in a while, it's good to change things up and use Mr. Pei's method."

Mr. Pei?

Zhou Zheng knitted his eyebrows. He suddenly recalled a legend about Mr. Pei. It was said that he once threw a woman into the dens of the snakes and wolves. He forced her to deal with the gruesome animals in order to grow her into a pawn he could control. Her abilities were unparalleled, and she served him well. He then kept the woman close to him. He tortured her mind and heart on a daily basis for fun. In the end, the woman turned out to become his most powerful soldier.

Just that, she was just like him, as cold-blooded and cruel. Her ruthlessness had become his weapon, but it was also a weapon she could wield herself.

Zhou Zheng had trouble understanding what was behind that sickening mind of Mr. Pei. Apparently, Mr. Pei truly enjoyed this type of hideous entertainment.

However, Master Chengyan, Mr. Li and Mr. Pei had always had their differences. To his surprise, Master Chengyan wanted to follow the example of Mr. Pei this time. All of a sudden, Zhou Zheng pitied Shi Wei. Of all the people she could have chosen, it was just too bad that she had offended Fu Chengyan.

"It'll be far too easy on her if we grant her a quick death. Let's take our time. Haven't you heard? Raise her up first, and push her to the top of her career ladder. Then crush her just as she reaches the peak. Even if she survives the fall, she will be paralyzed anyway. Isn't this far more excruciating?"

Zhou Zheng could not help but shudder. Once again, he felt that one could mess with anyone but Fu Chengyan.

"Release the best resources for her, but slowly. Before you do, make sure she terminates her previous contract first," instructed Fu Chengyan.

Zhou Zheng was shocked, "Master Chengyan, you want me to contract Shi Wei?"

Fu Chengyan nodded, "Since she asked for the attention of the world, let's give it to her." He curled his lips menacingly, "She will eventually understand that the public attention can turn into spurn in a blink of an eye."

"Got it, I'll get right to it," Zhou Zheng paused when he remembered that Fu Xicheng did not accept his offer on the spot. "I am not sure if Shi Wei will agree to this, though. I only gave her the role as a supporting actress." "She will agree to this. She is ambitious, and she can't afford to turn this down. That's all for now, then."

After Zhou Zheng left, Fu Chengyan buried himself in work for a while before he called Shi Nuan.

"Hello!" Shi Nuan had just finished her work and she answered the call the moment she heard it ring without even looking at the caller ID.

Fu Chengyan's face fell when he heard Shi Nuan's formulaic tone, but he kept quiet. When Shi Nuan did not get a response, she became puzzled. Instinctively, she glanced at the number and was rather surprised, "Fu Chengyan? Why are you calling me?"

"You still have not saved my number?" Fu Chengyan's voice was deep and husky, and he obviously sounded unhappy.

Shi Nuan could feel Fu Chengyan's dissatisfaction through the phone call. "Of course I did. I was just busy, so I didn't pay attention to the caller ID," she hurriedly assured him.

"Right," Fu Chengyan grumbled, evidently doubting Shi Nuan's words. Shi Nuan herself could not believe her words too, let alone Fu Chengyan. She then gnawed on her bottom lip and said, "It is true! Why not I send you a screenshot?"

"Forget it, you didn't save it. Just remember to save it later," Shi Nuan's sweet and melodious voice completely melted Fu Chengyan's anger.

Fu Chengyan was not upset anymore, but Shi Nuan felt that she had been wronged. "I really did save it," she mumbled into the speaker.

"Oh, really? Tell me the name you saved my number under," teased Fu Chengyan while he chuckled good-naturedly. "Can I choose not to tell?" Shi Nuan's felt a blush forming on her face when she recalled the name she saved. She could keep it to herself, but to tell Fu Chengyan was embarrassing.

"That means you didn't save it! You won't even tell a white lie to appease me now?" Fu Chengyan sounded disappointed.

"I...." Shi Nuan was speechless. She never expected Fu Chengyan to be this difficult. "I-I really did save it. Come on. Stop dwelling on this. Don't you have work to do now? Don't be lazy just because you are the boss. How could you have set a good example for your employees with this?"

Fu Chengyan laughed out loud. He could imagine Shi Nuan's flushed face. However, he knew that Shi Nuan was a shy person and decided to go easy on her, "Ok, let's not talk about this."

Shi Nuan felt relieved when Fu Chengyan finally got over this topic, "Why did you call me?"

"I wanted to ask what you'd like for dinner," Fu Chengyan replied.

Shi Nuan paused momentarily and bit her lips. "You called me just to ask what I want for dinner? That's such a waste of time! We could have discussed this together after work," said Shi Nuan. She felt resigned when she thought about Fu Chengyan's childish act.

"Well, I am pretty free right now, and..." he paused before sheepishly admitting, "I miss you."

Shi Nuan's heartbeat accelerated all of a sudden as her cheeks were colored a rosy pink. She held her face with one hand and said, "You and I.... I want to eat braised pork balls tonight!"

Fu Chengyan's eyes shone with mirth. "Sure, then we are going to make braised pork balls tonight, what else?"

"Braised pork."

"And?"

"Braised eggplant."

"Anything else?"

"Braised pork with preserved vegetables!"

Fu Chengyan paused and smiled, "Darling, all of the dishes are very greasy. Are you sure you want such a heavy meal? You don't want something light?"

"What can I say? I like a good, luscious meal. Do you have a problem with that? Unless you can't afford it?" Shi Nuan remembered Fu Chengyan's teases her just now and retorted playfully.

"Alright, I got it. We will have whatever my darling wants to eat. Since my darling likes lavish and heavy food, it would be my fault if I don't get it for you," Fu Chengyan shook his head while he laughed.

"Stop joking already! Alright, I have to go now. I'm still at work, and I can't be caught slacking off. You are the boss, so no one is checking on you, but it's not the same case for me!" Shi Nuan felt she would die of embarrassment if she continued the conversation with Fu Chengyan.

Shi Nuan touched her burning hot cheeks after ending the call hurriedly. She felt like she had not been herself lately. Her relationship with Fu Chengyan seemed to be getting better, as they were a lot closer than before. Moreover, the interaction between her and Fu Chengyan.....

Shi Nuan felt shy when she recalled their playful banter. She had never spoken to a guy in this manner before, including Fu Xicheng. Whenever they went on dates, it would just be a simple meal with no words of affection at all. "Stop right there! Stop thinking! Shi Nuan, calm down, calm down! Focus on your job and stop thinking about others!" Shi Nuan slapped herself to sober up.