

Marry Me 121

CHAPTER 121

The studio was packed. Some of them were staff while the others were people who came just to see Gu Hanyan.

It had been more than a decade since her debut. She had amassed countless fans since then; most of them were even diehard fans.

Moreover, they were all from various countries.

Su Ziyue only went in to ask a few words before she sat at the side and kept quiet.

An Xia was following behind her back all this while. She seemed very excited.

She did not have the chance to meet her when Gu Hanyan went to their company that day. As Gu Hanyan's fan for so many years, it was an exciting matter for An Xia to be able to look at Gu Hanyan at such a close distance.

"Ziyue, it's her! It really is her!" An Xia grabbed Su Ziyue's sleeves; even her voice started trembling.

Su Ziyue quietly pulled her sleeves out from An Xia's grip. "I've seen her. Of course, it's her. Otherwise, how could the Su Group pay a great amount of endorsement fee for her to make an appearance? What a poor child. Enjoy your time this once."

Su Ziyue rubbed An Xia's head as she heaved a sigh.

She was kind of worried. What if An Xia knew Gu Hanyan was a woman who was going after her husband? Would An Xia still remain as Gu Hanyan's fan? Maybe yes, maybe no...

An Xia was done feeling excited. She then suddenly thought of a news from a few days ago. "Goddess Yan and Mr. Qin were on the news that day. Was she the one who had asked someone to do it on purpose?" An Xia asked straightforwardly.

She was an international movie star for so many years after all, so how could someone have possibly managed to take her photo once she had returned?

Furthermore, her privacy had always been well-kept; no one had ever found out anything about her.

Su Ziyue touched her head again. "If you were to choose between me and her, who would you choose?"

"Huh?" An Xia was quick-witted. "I've only wanted to ask if Goddess Yan really has feelings for Mr. Qin?"

"What do you mean?" Su Ziyue asked deliberately.

An Xia took a glance at the surroundings before she started whispering, "I mean, does she love Mr. Qin as well?"

"What do you think?" Su Ziyue let out a suggestive smile.

An Xia only shook her head. She was only taking a guess based on her instincts, so she could not be sure.

Moreover, she could feel Su Ziyue acting slightly strange these few days. She had been constantly putting on a look that suggested there were more to the words she said.

It was then when something had happened at the front. Someone was calling for Su Ziyue.

"Director Su, can you come over?"

Su Ziyue raised her head to find one of the staff calling her.

She stood up and walked toward that direction. An Xia, who was sitting beside her, had followed behind her back as well.

Su Ziyue walked up to inquire about the matter. "What's the matter?"

"Nice to meet you. Are you Director Su?" A woman with short hair had walked over. She then swept a look at Su Ziyue.

"Nice to meet you. I'm Su Ziyue." Su Ziyue could sense bad intentions coming from this woman with short hair, so the look she gave the latter was slightly frosty.

The short-haired woman then spoke up with a sullen look on her face. "I'm Gu Hanyan's manager, Meng."

She could have just said her name without telling Su Ziyue her post.

Su Ziyue seemed calm. "So, Miss Meng, can you tell me what's the matter?"

Meng was putting on a heavier frown. It seemed like she did not like the way Su Ziyue had talked to her. "The second outfit that was provided by you was of poor quality. The fabric was uncomfortable to the skin. Hanyan's skin is very sensitive. Therefore, it's necessary to change to another outfit."

As soon as Meng was done speaking, she turned around to grab the outfit from another assistant's hands before handing it over to Su Ziyue. "Hanyan has a lot of work and she's really busy. She can't stop a few days of work just because an outfit has caused her allergies. Even if it's only a few days, it'll still be a huge loss. Who is going to bear the responsibility by then?"

Meng even raised her chin after she was done talking. The look she had put on was arrogant.

Her tone was noticeably aggressive, and she didn't sound friendly at all. Nevertheless, it was all understandable, since she was the manager of Gu Hanyan; the both of them were of the same mould.

“Meng.”

Before Su Ziyue could even start talking, Gu Hanyan had come over from the back.

Due to the shoot, the makeup on her face was exquisite. She looked more gorgeous than usual. “I'm sorry. Meng has a bad temper.” She seemed apologetic when she came over to say sorry to Su Ziyue.

Right after those words had come out from her mouth, Su Ziyue could already hear some people talking at the side. “Goddess Yan is so gentle...”

Su Ziyue snorted in her mind. I should forgive your manager who has a bad temper just because you came over to apologize on behalf of her?

“You shouldn't apologize, Miss Gu. You haven't done anything wrong. You're making me feel guilty.” Su Ziyue reached over to grab the plastic bag which Meng had given her.

She then looked down at it. “I'll bring this over to the sponsor right away to get it changed to another outfit with the exact fabric as the first outfit.”

If Gu Hanyan really were sensitive to this kind of fabric, Su Ziyue would not be able to bear the responsibility if there happened to be any problems and ended up holding up her work schedule, for every minute was worth money for an international movie star like her.

Gu Hanyan smiled generously. “Sorry to bother you, Director Su.”

Su Ziyue put on a smile as well. “It's part of my job.”

“Can you hurry up please?” Meng spoke with an impatient manner as she looked at the time. The way she urged Su Ziyue to get things done quickly was blatantly impolite.

Su Ziyue stared at Meng, but before the latter could even speak up, Su Ziyue had turned around and left.

She then gave orders to An Xia after pacing two steps away. “Wait for me here. I'm going over to the sponsors. I'll be back soon.”

Su Ziyue headed straight for the sponsors after she had exited the studio.

They were still working when Su Ziyue had gotten there. She communicated with the person-in-charge over at the sponsors and brought another outfit back to the set. An hour had passed when she had

returned.

If it were not for the sake of changing an outfit, they would have been close to the end of the shoot already.

Although Su Ziyue had slight complaints toward Gu Hanyan, she knew it was part of her job.

Everyone was anxiously waiting for her until she got back to the studio.

Meng started ranting the moment she entered the studio. "Why have you come back so late? We've waited for a long time. Don't you know how precious Hanyan's time is?"

Su Ziyue was annoyed by her, but she had to take her own identity into consideration. Thus, she could only ignore her straightaway. "This is the outfit."

Su Ziyue stuffed the outfit over into Meng's hands. When she was about to leave, she was held back once again.

She turned around to find Gu Hanyan being the person who was grabbing onto her hand.

"Is there any problem?" Su Ziyue had retracted her hand before she asked her that.

"Sorry to bother you. Meng has a bad temper. I hope you don't mind." Gu Hanyan seemed elegant and generous as she put on that smile of hers.

When Su Ziyue was about to say something, Gu Hanyan pushed her away forcefully all of a sudden.

Crash!

The entire studio was plunged into chaos after the deafening noise was heard.

Su Ziyue was lying on the ground as she turned her head around. She had no idea what had happened.

She could only hear Meng screaming, "Hanyan!"

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Amidst the chaos, everyone had surrounded Gu Hanyan, but An Xia was the only who came running to help Su Ziyue up. "Are you alright, Ziyue?"

"I'm fine."

Su Ziyue shook her head. She was pushed to the floor by Gu Hanyan, but she had only knocked her knees. She wasn't injured anywhere else.

She held onto An Xia's hand as she stood up, but she only realized what had happened when she saw the ceiling light that had fallen on the floor.

She pushed her way through the crowd and walked up to Gu Hanyan who was still sitting on the floor. Su Ziyue then realized that Gu Hanyan's head was bleeding due to the impact of the lights that had fallen on her head. She then turned around and asked, "Has anyone called the ambulance?"

The moment she finished talking, Meng, who was initially beside Gu Hanyan, suddenly stood up and gave Su Ziyue a slap before anyone could reply to her.

The sound of the slap was crisp. With a stern look, she started scolding Su Ziyue, as if slapping her wasn't enough. "Are you blind? Why did you dodge by yourself over under that kind of circumstance and let Hanyan get hurt? If she becomes disfigured, you'll never hear the end of it."

An Xia, who was behind Su Ziyue all this while, could not stand this anymore, so she pushed her way through the crowd and pointed at Meng as she scolded, "Who are you calling blind? You're the one who's blind. It was Gu Hanyan who shoved Ziyue aside. Everyone here saw that. What's your intention by shifting the blame to Ziyue? I really don't understand why a great celebrity like Gu Hanyan would hire an unreasonable manager like you."

An Xia's temper had always been worse than Su Ziyue's. She would blurt out anything that came to her mind.

"You..." After stuttering for a few moments, Meng only said, "Who are you? Do you have the right to voice out your opinion here?"

"Do you think you're an emperor? And that everyone has to kowtow to you before getting your approval to speak? Why don't you look at yourself in the mirror and see how shameless you are?"

An Xia was slick with her words when it came to arguments.

After being a manager for so many years, Meng was not an easy person to be dealt with too. Even though she was being unreasonable, she would not give in as well.

The two of them then continued arguing back and forth.

Su Ziyue touched her own face before giving Meng a cold glare. Then, took out her phone and called the ambulance.

Someone had helped Gu Hanyan up, but her head was still bleeding and nobody knew if the injury was serious or not.

Su Ziyue walked up to her and helped her up. "How are you feeling?"

She was having mixed feelings inside. Although she did not know why the ceiling light in the studio would suddenly drop, Gu Hanyan had shoved her away and saved her.

Even though the both of them had conflicts in the past, she could only put it aside for the time being.

After all, Gu Hanyan was now hurt because of her.

"I'm fine..." answered Gu Hanyan in a soft voice. Her face had turned pale and the injury on her head

had caused blood to trickle down her face. Su Ziyue did not dare to touch her head as well.

Fortunately, the ambulance arrived in no time.

An Xia and Meng only stopped their argument when the ambulance came.

Meng walked up to Su Ziyue, wanting to pull her away as she demanded in a nasty tone, "Move! Let me do it!"

Su Ziyue raised her head and threw her a glance. Letting out a cold chuckle, she said, "Let me do it. Your emergency response is rather awful, Miss Meng. Miss Gu is already injured, yet you did not know that the first thing you need to do was to call the ambulance. If you don't help her up cautiously later, she may knock her head again and that will leave a scar. That won't be good."

"You..." Meng viciously glared at Su Ziyue, as if she wanted to burn a hole right through her with her eyes.

Nonetheless, Su Ziyue ignored her.

Meng was really outrageous. She had slapped her just now, and the slap was significantly heavy-handed, so she wanted to think of a way to return the favor.

Meng seemed to have realized her fault too, so she turned her head and looked at Gu Hanyan. "How are you, Hanyan?"

"I'm fine..." Gu Hanyan shook her head, looking frail.

Meng turned her head and gave Su Ziyue another vicious glare when she saw Gu Hanyan's condition.

A cold light gleamed in Su Ziyue's eyes.

The medical personnel rushed over and after briefly attending to Gu Hanyan's wound, they let her lie on the stretcher before carrying her away from the scene.

Su Ziyue followed from behind, wanting to get onto the ambulance as well.

Unexpectedly, Meng stopped her and did not let her get into the ambulance. She looked at her like she was an enemy. "Haven't you hurt Hanyan enough? Why are you still following her?"

Everyone at the scene overheard Meng because of her rather loud voice.

Su Ziyue's ears were sharp; she then heard the click of the shutter. It was the sound of a camera flash.

She then abruptly turned her head to take a look. As expected, a few people were holding their

cameras.

At this moment, a medical personnel came up to them. When he saw Meng blocking the way, he furrowed his brows and scolded, "Why are you blocking the way? This woman is the person-in-charge, so if she doesn't follow us, you'll be held responsible for anything that happens!"

After hearing what the medical personnel had said, Meng then reluctantly let go.

Su Ziyue quickly got into the ambulance and followed them to the hospital.

After she got into the ambulance, she couldn't help but to glance at Meng again. She really felt that this manager was a retard.

She had no idea how this woman managed to become Gu Hanyan's manager.

Soon, they arrived at the hospital.

After completing all kinds of checkups, the doctor concluded that Gu Hanyan was fine. The wound on her head did not injure her skull, but she was suffering from a mild concussion. Hence, she needed to stay at the hospital for a week for further observation.

Su Ziyue felt relieved when she heard that.

After the doctor had left, Gu Hanyan's manager, Meng, started acting retardedly again.

"What are you still doing here? It's already so late and Hanyan hasn't had dinner yet. Why don't you go and buy dinner? Do you even have any conscience? If Hanyan hadn't done that to save you, would she be in this situation?"

Meng continued ranting before turning away to look at Gu Hanyan, feeling sorry for her.

After the incident, Meng's first reaction was to rush up to her and give her a slap. But now, she was feeling sorry for Gu Hanyan.

Su Ziyue then lowered her head to look at the time. After being so occupied, she did not realize that it was almost seven o'clock.

It was indeed time for dinner.

There happened to be a high-end restaurant just opposite of the hospital. So, Su Ziyue immediately headed there to order some porridge and light dishes for takeaway.

She had some evil thoughts of not buying for Meng since Meng had said it herself that Gu Hanyan was the one who helped her, not Meng.

Although she had this thought, Su Ziyue still ordered dinner for the three of them.

When she was bringing dinner back, Gu Hanyan was leaning against the bed, talking about something with Meng.

The moment Meng saw Su Ziyue come in, she immediately walked up to her. "What took you so long? Are you trying to starve Hanyan to death?"

Su Ziyue remained silent, but within her head, she was cursing at Meng. F*cking retarded!

It was now the peak hour for dinner. The dining hall was packed, so of course, she had to wait for a while to buy dinner.

Furthermore, if she were to put things bluntly, Gu Hanyan wasn't going to starve to death anyway.

Pursing her lips, Su Ziyue looked at Meng coldly, truly feeling that this retarded manager's brain had yet to fully developed.

Su Ziyue was truly curious about the source behind Meng's audacity. Why was Meng behaving like an old mistress disciplining a young girl every time when she was walking to Ziyue?

Su Ziyue circled past her and walked up to Gu Hanyan. She had injured her head and lost some blood. Thus, she did not look well and her face was slightly pale.

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Gu Hanyan was a beauty. With her current condition, it made her seem gentler, which was a look that would strike sympathy in people's hearts.

Su Ziyue pulled out the simple table from the bed and placed the food she bought on it.

Gu Hanyan said softly, "Ziyue, don't take Meng's behavior to heart. She has been spoiled by me."

Ziyue?

"Miss Gu, we're not that close." Su Ziyue took out a single-use chopstick before placing it nicely in front of Gu Hanyan.

She recalled that she had never served anyone in this manner before.

Even though she had helped Qin Muchen so many times before this, she had never been treated this way. The thought of this made her feel like she had been mistreated.

"Don't be like this, Ziyue. There aren't any outsiders here." Gu Hanyan was looking into her eyes as if

she was looking at a kid who was throwing a tantrum.

Su Ziyue paused for a moment.

Gu Hanyan's gaze resembled the way Qin Muchen looked at her when she was throwing tantrums.

This made her recall some of the things which she had neglected.

When Qin Muchen was giving her his explanation, he only mentioned that Gu Hanyan and him were friends. There was nothing out of the ordinary between them.

However, he did not tell her how he met with Gu Hanyan and how long they had known each other.

It was plain to see that Bai Jingshu treated Gu Hanyan quite well.

Although Bai Jingshu might usually seem like a spoiled, wealthy kid, seemingly treating every woman well, he still knew the kind of relationship they had.

The kindness that he treated Gu Hanyan with was the kind of natural affection between friends after knowing each other for a long time.

This was enough to explain that Gu Hanyan and Qin Muchen had known each other for quite some time.

Meng, who was standing at the side, interrupted, "Su Ziyue, what is going on with you? Hanyan is thinking highly of you..."

"Can you shut up?" Su Ziyue turned her head toward Meng and threw a cold stare at her.

Just because she did not say anything, Meng had really treated her like a weakling, a target whom she could simply bully.

"What's this attitude that you're giving me?" The way Meng looked at her was like an old mistress looking at a rebelling young lady.

Su Ziyue silently let out a snort before turning her head back to Gu Hanyan. "Did you see my dog when you came to my house the other day, Miss Gu?"

Gu Hanyan glanced at Meng before shifting her gaze toward Su Ziyue. She did not know what Ziyue was up to, but she still smilingly nodded. "Yes, I did. Jingshu told me it was called Beef. A fitting name indeed."

"Sure indeed. It's adorable, but it's very stubborn and naughty as well. If your dog is naughty, just discipline it a few more times and that'll do the trick. It's no biggie."

While Su Ziyue was talking, she turned her head to catch a glimpse of Meng, as if she was implying something else. Gu Hanyan's expression had slightly changed as well.

"You..." Meng obviously knew that Su Ziyue was actually insinuating that she was the naughty dog. Nonetheless, she did not finish her sentence.

Si Ziyue knew that she was acting on impulse. After all, Gu Hanyan had saved her, so she still had to take Gu Hanyan's pride into consideration regardless.

However, Meng's words became more and more intemperate. Nevertheless, Gu Hanyan did not stop her. Instead, she only asked Su Ziyue to not take it to heart.

That couldn't be done, for she was being pampered by Qin Muchen, so she had a bad temper as well. It would be a surprise if she did not mind that.

"Have your dinner first. After you're finished, take a good rest." Su Ziyue pushed the dishes toward her. After pondering for a moment, she lifted her gaze and looked at Gu Hanyan with sincerity. "Thank you for what you did."

Although she found it quite hard to believe that Gu Hanyan would save her, it remained a fact that Gu Hanyan had done so in the end.

Gu Hanyan only let out a chuckle and did not say anything else.

At this moment, Su Ziyue's phone rang.

After taking her phone out, she realized that it was Qin Muchen who was calling her.

She normally got off from work at five. She had been working overtime for the past two days, so she had been going home late. That was why he only called her after he was done cooking.

After all these that had happened on this day, she had forgotten to give Qin Muchen a call.

"Excuse me. I have to take this." She lifted her head and glanced at Gu Hanyan before stepping out to answer the call.

She then answered the call when she was outside of the ward. "Hello."

Su Ziyue was holding her phone on one hand while touching her face with the other. It was only with that touch did she realize that her face was swollen; she had been so busy that she didn't realize that

her face had become so puffy due to the slap.

“Have you gotten off from work? I cooked your favorite dish.”

Qin Muchen’s voice that came from the other end of the call sounded attractive as usual. It had an electrifying effect on her, for it sounded incredibly magnetic and sexy to her ears.

Leaning against the wall while listening to his voice, Su Ziyue’s mind suddenly calmed down. Then, she slowly told him about everything that had happened.

In the end, before she even finished talking, the call ended.

Su Ziyue said ‘hello’ a few more times, but only silence answered her.

She frustratedly leaned against the wall for a few moments. She knew that Qin Muchen must be on his way here, so she turned around and returned to the ward.

Meanwhile, the moment Su Ziyue stepped out of the ward, Gu Hanyan said in a cold voice, “Meng.”

“What is it, Hanyan?” Meng quickly walked up to her.

“You’ve gone overboard.” Gu Hanyan slowly sat herself up and had put on a cold expression. “This is my own matter. You don’t have to intervene.”

Hearing this, Meng’s expression also slightly changed. Then, she let out a snort. “Don’t forget who the person who has helped you to accomplish everything that you have today is. Don’t you do anything that will disappoint my boss.”

Gu Hanyan’s expression instantly changed at the mention of her boss. Her already awful look turned even more miserable in an instant.

Then, Su Ziyue happened to push the door and came in.

Looking at the both of them, their expressions seemed normal, but she could feel that something was wrong with the atmosphere.

“Quick, have your dinner.”

Su Ziyue walked up to the bed and sat down. She noticed that the food in front of her was still untouched.

Gu Hanyan did not utter a word as she began to have her dinner, but she did not eat much.

Su Ziyue did not really have an appetite, so she only had half a bowl of the porridge. On the other hand,

perhaps Gu Hanyan might have said something to Meng, as she did not cause any trouble for Su Ziyue anymore.

After dinner, Su Ziyue was packing up the things when Qin Muchen came by.

He wasn't wearing any sweater. He only had a thin, black shirt on, while his hair was disheveled and he was breathing heavily. It was apparent that he came in a hurry.

"Muchen."

Su Ziyue turned her head when she heard Gu Hanyan's surprised voice. That was when she saw Qin Muchen.

Qin Muchen glanced at Gu Hanyan before his gaze fell upon Su Ziyue. He looked at her from her toe to head. When he finally saw her face, his expression turned sullen.

Su Ziyue put down the things which she was holding and looked at him smilingly. "You came."

"What happened to your face? Who hit you?" Qin Muchen marched over with his brows drawn together. He reached his hand out, wanting to touch her face, but seeing how swollen her face was, his hands landed on her forehead to help her brush the messy hair in front of her forehead instead.

Seeing Qin Muchen focusing all his attention on Su Ziyue the moment he came in, Gu Hanyan pursed her lips. "Sorry. Meng went overboard..."

Hearing Gu Hanyan's voice, Qin Muchen turned toward her.

Su Ziyue had told him what happened over the phone. There was concern in his eyes as he looked at Gu Hanyan. "How's your injury?"

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"I'm fine." Gu Hanyan shook her head.

Qin Muchen nodded. "Thank you."

Gu Hanyan lifted her gaze to look at him before she softly said, "I know Ziyue is important to you. If she's hurt, you'll surely be distressed..."

A gauze was still wrapped around her head and her face was ghastly pale. However, she still spoke in such an earnest manner, which would definitely move other people's hearts if someone else were to hear her.

Su Ziyue found it hard to think that this Gu Hanyan was the same Gu Hanyan who had previously told her that she was not worthy of him at the Su Group.

There was a world of difference between those behaviors.

Subconsciously, she had leaned against Qin Muchen.

Although Qin Muchen was looking at Gu Hanyan, he still interlocked fingers with Su Ziyue when she neared him.

Feeling an inexplicable sense of warmth, Su Ziyue pursed her lips and lowered her head. She kept quiet, silently listening to his conversation with Gu Hanyan.

“Hanyan isn’t like someone we know. She’s a loving and affectionate person. Mr. Qin...” Meng, who had been quiet all along, suddenly spoke up. However, she was interrupted halfway.

Qin Muchen looked to the side to take a glimpse at her. His gaze was filled with unfamiliarity. “Who are you?”

“I...” Meng was stuttering, but she still forced out a smile. “I’m Meng, Hanyan’s manager. We met when we were overseas.”

Meng widened her eyes, as if she was hoping that he could remember her.

Qin Muchen briefly looked at her before turning back to Gu Hanyan. “Since you’re fine, we’ll take our leave first.”

His gaze seemed cold and distant. The concern that was previously in his eyes only seemed like a hallucination.

Gu Hanyan subconsciously clenched her hands that were hidden under the blanket, balling them into fists.

After exhausting much effort, she finally got a hold of her expression. “Sure. It’s getting late. You guys better head home and take a rest. Ziyue must have gotten a scare today.”

Su Ziyue could not describe how she was feeling. Regardless, Gu Hanyan had saved her, so she should be thanking Gu Hanyan. However, after Qin Muchen had arrived, she felt like Gu Hanyan did not save her out of sincerity.

That feeling was as if Gu Hanyan had purposely rescued her so that she could use it as an excuse to get closer to Qin Muchen.

Su Ziyue was terrified by her own thoughts. Gu Hanyan was a movie star. Of course, Su Ziyue understood how important her body and face were. So, she felt that the possibility of this happening was small.

“I will handle the aftermath of the matter. Just focus on recuperating.”

The moment Qin Muchen finished talking, he pulled Su Ziyue away, wanting to leave the scene. However, he suddenly stopped when he almost reached the door.

Su Ziyue was looking at him in a puzzled manner, but he was looking at Meng who was behind them.

Meng had a look of shock on her face. Before she could say anything, Qin Muchen softly said, "You're Meng, right? I've remembered you."

With that, he pulled Su Ziyue away and left the ward.

In the ward, Meng was still knitting her brows, trying to figure out what Qin Muchen had meant. Then, she suddenly heard Gu Hanyan snort. "Idiot."

Her voice was filled with disdain. She wasn't behaving like her usual self—generous and elegant—any more.

"Who are you scolding?" Meng turned around to glare at her. "Gu Hanyan!"

"I'm scolding you of course. Is there anyone else here?" Gu Hanyan coldly chuckled. "Qin Muchen now treasures Su Ziyue. He is a person who is extremely protective of his loved ones. Since you've been my manager for so many years, let me give you some advice. Be careful."

With that, Gu Hanyan started laughing sarcastically.

How would she not notice the concern Qin Muchen had for Su Ziyue? But how could she willingly accept the situation? She was the one who knew Qin Muchen first after all.

She could endure it if Qin Muchen hadn't taken notice of her love for him, but she could not stand to watch Qin Muchen, who had never fallen for anyone else, suddenly catch feelings for another woman.

Her word successfully struck terror in Meng's heart.

Seeing her behavior, it was as if Gu Hanyan had let out her discontent. She lifted her head and leaned backward, shutting her eyes and feeling relaxed.

Pursing her lips, Meng's expression suddenly turned sullen. "Then what good intentions do you have? So what if you've become an international movie star? Qin Muchen still won't fall for you. Don't think I don't know that the reason you purposely shoved Su Ziyue away is because you wanted to use the opportunity to seek some attention from him."

Upon hearing this, Gu Hanyan abruptly opened her eyes. "Shut up!"

"I'm right, aren't I?" A mocking smile emerged on Meng's face. "In the end, he didn't even bother to care about you."

Gu Hanyan turned her head to look at her; her gaze was frosty. "Are you any better than me? You're just that man's dog that he had put beside me so that he can keep an eye on me."

"You..."

Seeing that Meng was so furious that she was at a loss for words, Gu Hanyan felt slightly better.

Then, as she recalled Qin Muchen's previous reaction, she furrowed her brows. Although he still seemed cold, at least he looked her in the eye, right?

She was certain that nobody understood Qin Muchen better than she did. Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen had only known each other not long ago. If Qin Muchen paid more attention to Gu Hanyan, he would see the good in her.

Who was Su Ziyue compared to her?

It was still not that late when they arrived home.

Su Ziyue did not get much to eat when she was at the hospital. Hence, she was hungry the moment she got home.

The second she entered the house, she ran straight toward the dining hall.

While she was moving, she asked Qin Muchen, "You said you cooked my favorite dishes. Where did you put it?"

Following her from behind, Qin Muchen patted her on her head when he saw her greedy look. "Go and have a seat. I will heat up the food for you."

"Sure." Upon hearing this, Su Ziyue demurely sat down in front of the dining table and waited for Qin Muchen to heat up the food for her.

Soon, Qin Muchen had heated up the food, so he brought them to the dining table.

Su Ziyue couldn't wait to start eating, but she suddenly remembered that when he called her just now, he said that he had finished cooking. Not long after that, he was already at the hospital. So, he probably hadn't had his dinner yet as well.

She then put down her chopsticks at the thought of this.

After Qin Muchen had finished washing his hands, he noticed that she was still sitting there without touching the food. So, he asked her, "Why aren't you eating?"

"I'm waiting for you." Su Ziyue was biting on the chopsticks while looking at him.

Qin Muchen was slightly stunned when he heard this. Then, he sat down across her. "You can eat now."

After they had finished dinner, the both of them then went to their bedroom.

Su Ziyue immediately lay on the bed after taking her shower.

She had been so exhausted for the past few days and with the incident on this day, the APP collaboration event would not be completed for the time being. She was too tired to think about the follow-up matters as well.

Hence, she lay on the bed and immediately shut her eyes.

A few moments later, she felt a cold sensation at the swollen spot on her face which was hit by Meng earlier.

She opened her eyes and saw Qin Muchen sitting beside her.

Qin Muchen moved the ice bag and pressed down on the blanket. In a soft voice, he asked, "Does it still hurt?"

"No." Su Ziyue shook her head. She was already feeling a little drowsy. "Sleepy."

"Go ahead and sleep. Don't bother about me." Qin Muchen helped her comb the hair that was in front of her forehead. There were no emotions on his face, but his voice was soothing.

Su Ziyue reached out one of her hands to grab Qin Muchen's other empty hand before contentedly shutting her eyes.

Seeing that she had shut her eyes, Qin Muchen's expression turned sullen instead.

CHAPTER 125

Su Ziyue had a good night's sleep.

When she was finally awake, Qin Muchen was no longer by her side.

The phone which she had put by the bed also started ringing.

Su Ziyue sat herself up to grab the phone from the bedside. The moment she saw who the caller was on the display was, her semi-conscious mind immediately became alert.

She tucked the lock of hair that was in front of her eyes to the back of her ears before answering the call. "Grandpa."

Su Youcheng's stern voice came from the other end of the call. "Come to the company at this instant."

The moment he finished talking, he hung up the phone.

He sounded really frosty indeed. Su Ziyue did not care too much about it, so she put the phone back.

He was probably called her because of what happened at the studio the previous day.

Su Ziyue freshened up and put on some makeup before leaving the house.

Su Youcheng sounded like he was infuriated, but she would just let him be; he had never shown her a good attitude after all.

The angrier he was, the calmer she had to be.

When she passed by the study room just now, the door was half open and she overheard a conversation inside.

"Muchen, regardless, Hanyan got hurt because of Su Ziyue. What do you have to lose by paying her a visit?"

This was Bai Jingshu's voice.

Hearing him mention Gu Hanyan, Su Ziyue subconsciously stopped in her tracks.

She took out her phone to look at the time and noted that it was nine in the morning. Bai Jingshu had put in so much effort because of Gu Hanyan.

Compared to Bai Jingshu's relentless persuasion, Qin Muchen sounded much more composed. "I visited her yesterday."

"You visited her yesterday, but that doesn't mean that you can't visit her today." Bai Jingshu sounded mad.

"Why do I still need to visit her today?" Qin Muchen's voice sounded calm, but there was a hint of frustration.

Su Ziyue felt like she had become more observant as she could know Qin Muchen's emotions through

his tone.

“Y-You know how she feels toward you, yet you...” Bai Jingshu was getting angry.

The room was silent for a moment before Qin Muchen’s voice was heard once again. He sounded solemn. “I know the way she feels toward me. That is more the reason why I can’t visit her. I have a wife and I need to take her feelings into consideration. I’m not like you.”

“Why am I being dragged into this?”

“You need to draw in your horns too. If not, you’ll meet your misfortune sooner or later.”

Su Ziyue almost giggled when she heard this.

Bai Jingshu must have dropped by to persuade Qin Muchen to go to the hospital to pay Gu Hanyan a visit, but in the end, he was scolded by Qin Muchen instead.

Su Ziyue immediately felt a sense of accomplishment.

Bai Jingshu then changed the topic of conversation when he felt like Qin Muchen could not be persuaded.

When Su Ziyue heard them changing the topic of conversation, she pushed the door open and entered the room.

“Morning.” Su Ziyue marched in looking like her usual self.

When she shifted her gaze toward Bai Jingshu, she pretended to be shocked as she asked, “Why are you here so early, Bai Jingshu? Are you here to scrounge a free meal?”

“Haha, yes.” Seeing Su Ziyue, Bai Jingshu felt guilty as he recalled the conversation he just had.

He rubbed his nose and coughed a couple of times before shifting his gaze somewhere else.

Su Ziyue did not look at him anymore. She had turned her head toward Qin Muchen. “I need to drop by the company.”

Qin Muchen’s gaze turned sullen as he looked at her. “Do you want me to accompany you?”

“No need. I’m just going to settle some matters in the company.” Su Ziyue shook her head, feeling that Qin Muchen was making a mountain out of a molehill.

Ding!

Su Ziyue received a notification on her phone. Her expression turned sullen after she took out her phone to look at the notification.

“Have you seen this?” asked Su Ziyue, putting her phone right in front of Qin Muchen.

Qin Muchen answered, “Yes.”

So, he wasn’t actually making a mountain out of a molehill.

Su Ziyue read the news again and her expression turned even more sullen.

‘International movie star, Gu Hanyan, was injured yesterday when a ceiling light in a studio fell down while she was having a shoot for a software application’s collaboration. Her current condition remains unclear and the company hasn’t made any clarifications... Some witnesses heard Gu Hanyan’s manager saying, “Haven’t you hurt Hanyan enough?” Perhaps from the very beginning, this matter...’

This news had its facts and it was detailed.

It had indirectly pointed the problem toward the company, claiming that the company was too petty for using such a lousy studio, which was why even the ceiling light would drop.

Then, the news emphasized on the remark and pushed this incident in the direction of a conspiracy theory.

Su Ziyue put on a poker face while she finished reading the news. She also understood why Su Youcheng was so angry now.

When a celebrity was injured by a ceiling light that had dropped down in a studio while working for the sake of being the spokesperson for a product, this matter could be dismissed as a small matter, but it could also turn into something major depending on how it was handled.

If the incident was well-handled, it would be a simple, minor incident and everyone would come out unharmed at the end of the matter.

If it was poorly handled, it would directly affect the image of application, and even Su Group would be affected too.

When Su Ziyue was reading the news, Bai Jingshu also received a notification on his phone.

After reading the news, his face turned solemn as well. He only said a sentence after he finished reading the news. "There is someone behind this."

"I still need to go to the company first regardless."

Su Ziyue kept her phone away and did not bother on how she was going to handle the aftermath of this incident. She had to go to the company and face Su Youcheng first before proceeding to the next step.

"Are you sure you don't want me to accompany you?" Qin Muchen looked at her in a solemn manner while knitting his brows.

Su Ziyue was touched. She then reached her hands out and poked him on his forehead. After staring at him for half a second, she suddenly leaned in toward him and gave him a kiss on the lips.

After that, she said, "I can handle this." With that, she ran out in her high heels.

"D*mn it. Stop displaying your affection so publicly early in the morning," said Bai Jingshu softly, covering his face with his hands.

With no emotions on his face, Qin Muchen touched his lips before quickly retracting his hands again. He then opened his laptop as if nothing had happened.

Bai Jingshu turned his head and pointed at Qin Muchen. "Muchen, why are your ears so red?"

Qin Muchen was relentlessly typing on the keyboard. His voice was steady and had no emotions in it as he replied, "The air in here is stuffy."

Bai Jingshu took a look at the half-open window and really took Qin Muchen's words for it. So, he got up and helped Muchen open the window.

After Qin Muchen had come back to his senses, he calmly deleted all the letters which he had randomly typed out just now and started his work.

Bai Jingshu turned around and saw Qin Muchen who was working seriously.

Since he did not manage to persuade Qin Muchen, he did not want to linger there any longer, so he turned around and left.

He was at the main door when he stumbled across Su Ziyue, who had just driven out of the garage.

“Ziyue, do bring Muchen to the hospital to pay Hanyan a visit when you’re free.” Bai Jingshu waved at her.

Su Ziyue rolled down her window and put on a big smile. This smile was so dazzling that it nearly blinded Bai Jingshu’s eyes.

Then, he heard Su Ziyue’s cold voice. “Miss Gu saved me. I should be the one visiting her. Why should I have Qin Muchen go visit her? I’m not crazy.”

Bai Jingshu was speechless. Haha, I’m the crazy one here. Are you satisfied now?

Su Ziyue nodded. “Good.”

Bai Jingshu was baffled. What the heck? I didn’t even say anything. What did Su Ziyue mean by this?

CHAPTER 126

Su Ziyue merely responded to Bai Jingshu’s horrified expression with a cryptic smile. Then, she wound up the car window and drove off, leaving Bai Jingshu to shudder alone while standing in place.

That was perhaps because he was always partial to Gu Hanyan over Su Ziyue. In reality, he had been hoping deep down inside that Gu Hanyan would be together with Qin Muchen, which was why he felt inexplicably guilty while facing Su Ziyue.

Su Ziyue pondered along the way to the Su Group over how the matter should be resolved. However, she couldn’t think of a proper solution even when she arrived at the company.

Furthermore, there were so many people in the company, so it was not up to her to decide how to resolve the matter.

After arriving at the Su Group, she went straight to the meeting room, where Su Youcheng and some related higher-ups were sitting inside while waiting for her.

Upon seeing her entering the meeting room, almost everyone looked at her with a subtle hint of displeasure in their eyes, but most of them did not show their displeasure openly.

Su Youcheng shot a glance at her with a deep furrow in his brows, but he did not say a word.

Su Ziyue walked up to him and gave him a slight nod. “Grandpa.”

Su Youcheng responded with an audible grunt, so Su Ziyue seated herself to his right, only to realize that everyone showed no sign of starting the meeting.

She couldn't help but turn to look at Su Youcheng when the door to the meeting room was pushed open once again. She looked up to see that the person who came in was none other than Su Yuanming.

A long time had passed since Su Yuanming returned to the company to call the shots last time during Su Youcheng's hospitalization.

Su Yuanming had previously asked her to hand the partnership project with the LK Group over to Su Yige, which she refused right before she was being injected with drugs. When she returned to the company again later, Su Youcheng was back, so Su Yuanming went back to the branch office again.

She was surprised that they would meet again under such circumstances. However, she could expect that Su Yuanming would surely stab her in the back when he came back this time.

"Sorry for keeping everyone waiting." Su Yuanming looked grim, but the humble tone in his voice made the expressions of Su Youcheng and the others at the meeting ease up somewhat.

Su Ziyue clasped her hands together on the table as a pondering look flashed across her eyes.

Su Yuanming looked up at Su Ziyue, and something flickered in his eyes.

"Since everyone is present, let's start the meeting now." Everyone adopted a serious countenance at Su Youcheng's instruction. Su Youcheng turned to look at Su Ziyue with a grim face, yet he said to the secretary behind him, "Let her read the stuff."

The secretary then put a pile of documents down in front of Su Ziyue with a straight face.

Su Ziyue opened up the documents to realize that all of them were media reports, for the tide of media reporting had turned against the Su Group.

“This partnership project was assigned to you with full responsibility, yet this is what you have done. The Su Group’s shares were affected today. You’d better think up a reasonable explanation and the best way to solve the matter,” said Su Youcheng in a reproachful tone, though he was actually weak despite his fierce appearance. Apparently, he couldn’t care less about what happened in the process, since he cared only about the result.

Such an attitude from him was also within Su Ziyue’s expectation, so she wasn’t much perturbed deep down inside.

“I’ll take full responsibility for this matter, and I’ll certainly resolve it with the most appropriate solution. It was my mistake this time,” answered Su Ziyue with a grim face. She had to acknowledge her mistakes, but she did not have to explain too much to those who cared nothing about her.

However, she still had to explain a little bit of the specific situation.

After detailing what had happened the day before, she was criticized by everyone, which was something she had expected.

“How could you let Miss Gu push you aside when such an incident happened to you? Don’t you know what the consequences would be?” asked an elderly higher-up of the company.

Su Ziyue looked at him expressionlessly as she answered, "You're right. If I could predict the future, I would never have let them go to that studio."

No one could expect accidents to happen, yet these people wanted to find fault with her.

Her answer rendered the higher-up speechless.

A round of attacks—both overt and covert—then followed, which Su Ziyue fought back cleverly without turning a hair.

When nobody deliberately found fault with her anymore, she finally said, "I think that we should hold a press conference before doing anything else. This is the simplest and most effective solution to this matter."

She looked so firm and resolute that Su Youcheng couldn't help but cast her another sidelong glance, which inevitably reminded him of his eldest son, Su Yizi, who was also Su Ziyue's father.

To be honest, he used to think of Su Yizi as the more desirable heir to his company, but after that incident happened, he couldn't even bring himself to like Su Ziyue.

Su Youcheng frowned and came back to his senses. "Let's do as you said, but you must let Yuanming assist you so that nothing wrong could happen."

A startled look flashed across Su Ziyue's eyes when she heard what Su Youcheng said. She looked up at Su Yuanming, who smiled gently as he said, "Of course, I will assist Ziyue as much as I can to take care of this matter appropriately."

"In that case, may we have a smooth cooperation." Su Ziyue glanced at him with a half-smile before withdrawing her gaze.

After getting back into her car, Su Ziyue heaved a long sigh to relieve some of her pent-up frustrations.

She had a feeling that Su Youcheng did not call Su Yuanming back only to have him deal with the matter together with her.

Forget it. Let's put the matter aside until it happens, she thought to herself.

The press conference was scheduled for the weekend, so she had to make some preparations on this day. Therefore, she had to go to the hospital to visit Gu Hanyan right now.

Su Ziyue pulled her car over to buy a fruit basket before heading toward the hospital.

Nothing felt even worse than being saved by one's rival in love. It felt like chewing on sand while she was enjoying her dishes, which wasn't a big deal, though it still made her feel uncomfortable. The feeling

it left behind was superficial, but it made her feel so uneasy all over.

Upon arriving at the hospital's entrance, Su Ziyue sorted out her emotions and entered while carrying the fruit basket.

She knocked on the door twice and pushed the door to enter after hearing an answer from the inside.

Meng was absent, and there were another two people in the ward besides Gu Hanyan. They were a man and a woman; the man looked scrupulous in his suit, whereas the woman followed behind him reverently.

Perhaps some company's boss had brought his secretary along to visit Gu Hanyan, Su Ziyue thought.

Gu Hanyan smiled the instant she saw Su Ziyue. She said in an affectionate tone, "You've come, Ziyue."

"Yeah. How are you?" Su Ziyue felt extremely uncomfortable upon hearing Gu Hanyan's tone of voice, but she couldn't say anything.

"Miss Gu, I'll be leaving first since your friend has come to visit you. I'll visit you again tomorrow," said the man before he left with his secretary.

Before he left, he even gave Su Ziyue a polite nod.

Su Ziyue put the fruit basket aside, whereas Gu Hanyan glanced at her before looking at the door. The affectionate tone in her voice faded as she asked, "Did... Did you come alone?"

Su Ziyue pretended not to understand what Gu Hanyan meant. "That's right. I should come to visit you since you have saved me."

Then, she took an apple out of the fruit basket, asking, "Would you like to have an apple? I'll peel one for you."

Gu Hanyan glanced at Su Ziyue, and the expression on her face faded away. "There's no need for that."

CHAPTER 127

Su Ziyue turned her head to glance at Gu Hanyan. Then, she took the paring knife and sat down in front of Gu Hanyan's bed straight away as though she did not hear what Gu Hanyan had just said. After that, she began peeling the apple with the apple in one hand and the paring knife in the other.

Gu Hanyan looked at her with a frown, saying, "I said I don't want to eat the apple." She had previously thought that Su Ziyue was easy to deal with since the latter was merely a little girl. However, she did not expect Su Ziyue to be much more difficult to handle than she had imagined. She thought that Su Ziyue would at least feel guilty after she had saved the latter's life on the previous day, but she did not expect Su Ziyue to be so on guard as to forbid Qin Muchen to come to visit her.

“Perhaps you’ll want to eat it after I finish peeling it,” said Su Ziyue as she looked up and gave Gu Hanyan a wide smile. Her face was so beautiful that it was beyond description, yet her smile looked bright and innocent.

Gu Hanyan found Su Ziyue’s smile a little offending to her eyes, so she bit back the words that rose to her lips without saying another word.

Su Ziyue lowered her eyes with a smile on her face as she sat there while peeling the apple for Gu Hanyan. She looked calm on the outside, but that wasn’t the case in her heart. She would be blind if she were still unable to tell Gu Hanyan’s purpose in saving her. I have been perceiving human nature through rose-colored glasses, she thought to herself.

In the end, Gu Hanyan did not eat the apple after she finished peeling it, so she ate it instead. Su Ziyue sat in front of Gu Hanyan’s bed while nibbling at the apple, producing clear crunching sounds that made one think that the apple must have smelled pleasant and tasted sweet.

Gu Hanyan kept pulling a long face; when she could almost no longer keep the expression on her face, Su Ziyue finally finished eating the apple. She wiped her hands clean with some tissues and feigned shyness as she said, “I’m sorry, Miss Gu, but I thought it was a pity that you didn’t eat the apple, so I ate it for you.”

“It’s fine. I want to take a rest.” Gu Hanyan’s smile vanished as she said that in a tone as though she wanted to chase Su Ziyue out of the ward.

“Alright. Is Miss Meng not here? Let me go out and find two care workers for you. Otherwise, she won’t be able to take care of you all by herself,” said Su Ziyue as she stood up obediently and went out.

After a while, she brought two middle-aged women into the ward. “Miss Gu, I have found two care workers for you, and they should be able to take good care of you. Remember to call me anytime if anything happens.” After that, she turned around and left with a smile.

As soon as Su Ziyue left the room, one of the care workers stepped forward, asking, "Miss Gu, would you like to drink some water right now?" Su Ziyue had just paid them their wages—which were generous—but Gu Hanyan did not seem to need anyone waiting on her. However, they would feel unworthy of the wages Su Ziyue had paid them if they did nothing.

Gu Hanyan still cared about her own image after all. She closed her eyes without even looking at them as she said, "Leave the room. I want to rest for a while right now."

The care workers' job was to wait on the sick, so they quickly noticed that Gu Hanyan was in a bad mood. Upon hearing her words, they could only turn around obediently and leave the ward. However, as soon as they left the ward, they heard a loud thud inside, as though something was thrown onto the floor.

One of the care workers wanted to push the door open and enter, but she heard Gu Hanyan saying inside, "Don't come in!"

Upon hearing her words, the two care workers immediately closed the door as they dared not enter the ward. Inside the ward, Gu Hanyan had thrown the fruit basket Su Ziyue gave her as a present onto the floor, scattering the fresh fruits inside the basket all over the floor.

What is there for her to be smug about? Gu Hanyan thought to herself as she narrowed her eyes with a look of viciousness. Su Ziyue, is it? How dare a little girl like her be rude to my face? Su Ziyue is merely riding on the fact that Qin Muchen hasn't grown tired of playing with her yet. Who does she think she is without Qin Muchen? She's just like these fresh and nice-looking fruits. They looked nice, fresh, and likable inside the basket, but who would pick them up after they were thrown onto the floor?

Gu Hanyan took a few deep breaths to calm herself down. Then, she picked up her cell phone expressionlessly and made a phone call. Meng sounded impatient over the phone. "Cut to the chase."

Gu Hanyan couldn't care less about Meng's tone of voice as she instructed, "Come and pick me up; I want to leave the hospital. Don't forget to notify the reporters when you come."

However, Meng did not give a d*mn about what Gu Hanyan had said, and she sounded even more impatient. "Leave the hospital yourself if you want to. Why would you ask me to come over? It isn't that you don't have the reporters' phone numbers. I'm still sleeping..."

“You’d better come. Don’t forget that you’re still my talent agent; remember who gave you the money you spend and the house you live in. You’re nothing but a lapdog who could only survive by fawning on somebody else obsequiously. Do you actually think that you’re a bigwig after having lived comfortably for a long time?” After she finished her sentence, Gu Hanyan gave a sneer and hung up.

...

Having managed to make Gu Hanyan feel uncomfortable, Su Ziyue left the former’s ward and walked out while humming to herself. She just knew that Gu Hanyan wasn’t that kind. If she were Gu Hanyan, she wouldn’t have wanted to save herself out of heartfelt sincerity. She felt relieved at the thought. But Gu Hanyan still saved me in the end. Did I go a little over-the-top by doing that just now? she thought to herself.

The elevator door opened with a ‘ding’. After a while, the elevator stopped at the floor she wanted. Su Ziyue came to her senses and stepped out only to notice the person who stepped out of the elevator opposite hers.

“Shichu!” Su Ziyue was surprised to meet Lu Shichu here.

Lu Shichu was wearing a doctor’s uniform with a pen and a stethoscope inside the upper left pocket, making him look handsome, refined, and elegant. He had two nurses behind him; one of them seemed a little shy as she lifted her head while talking to him with a blushing face.

Lu Shichu was listening to what the nurse said with a serious expression when he heard Su Ziyue calling him. He was dazed for a few seconds as he thought he must be hallucinating, but one of the nurses pointed at Su Ziyue and reminded him, “Over there, Director Lu.”

Having a sharp ear, Su Ziyue heard the nurse calling Lu Shichu ‘Director Lu’. Therefore, when Lu Shichu turned to look at her, he happened to see the look of surprise on her face; he then said something to the two nurses before turning around to walk toward her.

“What brings you here?” Lu Shichu walked up to Su Ziyue while looking her up and down. However, he did not notice anything wrong with her, so he fixed his gaze back upon her face.

Su Ziyue was about to say something when she heard Lu Shichu saying, “This is not the right place to have a conversation. Follow me.” As he spoke, he gently placed his hand on her arm and dragged her to his office.

When Su Ziyue entered the office, she looked up expressly to glance at the door. It’s the Deputy Director’s office... What a big title he has, she thought to herself.

“Feel free to have a seat.” Lu Shichu poured her a glass of water and handed it to her before seating himself across from her.

Su Ziyue took the glass of water and drank it while staring at him. This was the first time she saw him wearing a doctor's uniform.

Lu Shichu asked her, "What are you looking at?"

Su Ziyue answered honestly, "I haven't seen you wearing a doctor's uniform before."

Lu Shichu gave a light chuckle upon hearing her answer. "You haven't told me the reason you are here."

CHAPTER 128

The smile on Su Ziyue's face faded a little. "I came to visit Gu Hanyan, who is wounded. She was smashed by the falling overhead light while saving me at the studio yesterday."

Lu Shichu's expression turned serious. "Why would the overhead light fall?"

"Who knows?" Su Ziyue's focus wasn't on that at all. "Perhaps the light wasn't installed correctly; maybe one of the screws had loosened or something like that. The point isn't this..."

Su Ziyue frowned as she put the glass of water in her hand down with an unconcerned expression. "The matter is a little complicated anyway."

Lu Shichu was indeed very busy these few days, but he did hear that a movie star had been staying in this hospital, though he never cared about that. Never did he expect this to be the story behind the movie star's hospitalization.

"Let's wait until tomorrow's press conference. The matter has to be resolved anyway." Su Ziyue checked the time and said, "It's getting late, so I have to go home first. I still have tons of work in the afternoon."

"Let me see you out," said Lu Shichu as he stood up.

Su Ziyue wanted to refuse him since she also knew that he was busy, but he had walked outside before she could do so.

After stepping out of the office, she looked back and pointed at the sign on the door. "By the way... How did you become the Deputy Director?"

"This hospital belongs to my family," explained Lu Shichu softly as he raised his brows.

Su Ziyue nodded her head in realization upon hearing his words.

She had always known that the Lu Family was a family with its roots in the medical field, but she was no longer Lu Shichu's neighbor since she was nine years old, so even though she knew that his family had a hospital, she did not know which hospital it was.

Lu Shichu saw her to the door and said, "Feel free to come often..."

He broke off in the middle of his sentence and smiled in resignation before continuing, "Don't visit the hospital at your whim."

"Okay." Su Ziyue was amused by his words. Shichu has always been such a considerate and warm person, she thought to herself.

Just then, a Bentley stopped beside them, and its passenger side window wound down, revealing Bai Jingshu, who stuck his head out of the window. He said with a smile, "What a coincidence to see you here, Doctor Lu."

Lu Shichu's eyes flickered briefly when he saw Bai Jingshu. He replied, "Hello, Mr. Bai."

A look of surprise flashed across Su Ziyue's eyes, and she directed her gaze toward the driver's seat without her realizing it.

The next instant, the driver's side door was opened, and Qin Muchen stepped out of the car in a well-ironed suit. His slender figure grabbed all Su Ziyue's attention at once.

"Qin Muchen!" she called him in surprise while taking a step toward him subconsciously. Then, seeming to have recalled something, she turned to look at Lu Shichu.

Lu Shichu glanced at Qin Muchen. As the two men's gazes met, they gave each other a slight nod before averting their gazes naturally.

Lu Shichu noticed what Su Ziyue did just now, and he could see that Su Ziyue was very dependent on Qin Muchen.

One would step toward another person upon seeing the latter without the former realizing it only when the former was subconsciously very dependent on the latter.

Lu Shichu suddenly felt a little despondent, for Su Ziyue used to be very dependent on him.

He gave an inaudible sigh, yet he sounded as usual when he said, "Go with him. I still have some work to take care of."

His eyes flickered right after he finished his sentence. Then, he raised his hand and patted Su Ziyue's head before turning around to walk into the hospital.

Dumbfounded, Su Ziyue shot a glance at Lu Shichu's back. She couldn't help feeling that what he did just now was too affectionate. Moreover, Qin Muchen had been staring at them all the while.

She touched her head before turning around to trot toward Qin Muchen. Then, she lifted her head and asked him, "Why are you here?"

Qin Muchen's gaze fell upon the top of her head before it quickly moved away. His voice was devoid of emotion, but one could easily tell the hidden anger in it as he asked, "Why didn't you answer my call?"

“What call?” asked Su Ziyue in reply. Only then did she recall that she had silenced her cell phone while having the meeting at the Su Group earlier.

She quickly took out her cell phone and looked at its screen, only then did she realize that she had three missed calls, all of which were from Qin Muchen.

“I didn’t hear my cell phone ringing because I put it on silent mode earlier...” Su Ziyue stole a careful glance at Qin Muchen’s expression and noticed that he looked a little frosty.

She thought at first that she did nothing wrong, but after seeing the look on his face, she lowered her voice in spite of herself.

Qin Muchen was apparently unmoved since he did not even twitch his brow.

Bai Jingshu, who was ignored all the while, also opened the car door and stepped out of the car. “Hey, how long do the both of you want to stand here? Since we have come, why don’t we go inside to visit Hanyan together?”

Su Ziyue turned to glance at Bai Jingshu upon hearing his words. She wanted to say that she had already visited Gu Hanyan, but she still turned to Qin Muchen and asked, “Do you want to go inside to visit her?”

Qin Muchen frowned slightly. He had been avoiding unnecessary suspicions by minimizing his contact with Gu Hanyan, but it was only reasonable for him to visit her since she was his long-time friend. After all, he had come here anyway.

“Let’s go,” he said.

After Qin Muchen finished his sentence, Su Ziyue felt that her hand was wrapped in a large hand as he dragged her forward.

Bai Jingshu looked at Qin Muchen in surprise, but he did not say another word.

Gu Hanyan sat on the sofa while waiting for Meng after she hung up the phone. However, after waiting for a long time, she saw Su Ziyue, Qin Muchen, and Bai Jingshu instead of Meng.

The first person who came in was Bai Jingshu, who was holding a bouquet. A look of pleasant surprise flashed across Gu Hanyan’s face when she saw him, but she kept looking over his shoulder as she said, “Jingshu.”

However, she soon saw Su Ziyue and Qin Muchen holding hands with each other behind Bai Jingshu, and the expression on her face changed slightly.

“Are you feeling better? We came specially to see you.” Bai Jingshu walked up to her and put the

bouquet aside before observing her face. "You look pretty good today."

Qin Muchen frowned slightly when he heard Bai Jingshu taking the liberty of using the word 'we'. Right after that, he saw the fruits that were scattered all over the floor.

Gu Hanyan was talking to Bai Jingshu, but her attention had been on Qin Muchen. A look of panic flashed across her eyes when she saw him looking at the scattered fruits on the floor.

"Uh... I accidentally knocked the fruit basket over, and I haven't had the time to pick it up yet..." What Gu Hanyan said sounded like a poor lie.

Only then did Bai Jingshu look back and noticed the scattered fruits on the floor.

Su Ziyue lifted her foot to kick the apple next to her to one side. Then, she glanced at Gu Hanyan without saying a word.

The atmosphere suddenly turned a little awkward.

"Muchen, please have a seat with Ziyue first while I pick up the fruits," said Gu Hanyan as she stood up.

Su Ziyue crouched down before Gu Hanyan did, saying, "Let me do it since you're wounded."

"That's right. Let us do it." Bai Jingshu also picked the fruits up together with her.

Su Ziyue picked an apple up from the floor and looked at it carefully. The apple was visibly thrown onto the floor instead of being knocked over.

She thought to herself, It seems that Gu Hanyan's temper is not as good as it appears, for I must have driven her mad just now. Her temperament is a little similar to Su Yige's.

Upon thinking of Su Yige, Su Ziyue had a feeling that something was odd, for she felt that there was something strange about Su Yige going abroad all of a sudden.

Su Ziyue picked the fruits up and put them back into the basket one by one.

The three of them then stayed for a while before they got ready to leave.

When they were about to leave, Qin Muchen suddenly walked over and picked up the fruit basket, which contained the fruits that Su Ziyue had previously picked up. Then, he looked at Gu Hanyan and said coldly, "I'll be taking this with me."

CHAPTER 129

Su Ziyue turned to look at Qin Muchen with a look of astonishment. Even though she couldn't fathom why he wanted to take the fruit basket with him, she did not ask him the reason.

On the contrary, Gu Hanyan took Qin Muchen's words pretty hard; she stood up and tried to snatch the fruit basket from Qin Muchen. She said in a desperate tone, "These fruits can't be eaten anymore; they have dropped to the floor."

"It's alright." Qin Muchen glanced at Gu Hanyan's hand, which was still holding the fruit basket. Exerting some strength on his hand, he then freed the fruit basket from her grasp and said, "Have a good rest. We're leaving first."

Upon hearing his words, Gu Hanyan staggered as though she suffered a crushing blow; she barely managed to keep her feet only by grabbing the edge of the table to support herself.

However, Qin Muchen had turned around and walked outside while holding Su Ziyue's hand as though he did not see anything.

Qin Muchen came to the hospital with Bai Jingshu at first, so he gave his car keys to Bai Jingshu when they left the hospital. "Go back in my car."

Bai Jingshu caught the car keys, but before he could say anything, Qin Muchen had taken Su Ziyue's car keys and opened the car door for her. After stuffing her into the car, he got into the car as well.

Then, the car drove off smoothly without any interruption.

Standing at the roadside, Bai Jingshu lowered his head to glance at the car keys in his hand. Then, he shook his head and turned around to get into his car.

Meanwhile, Su Ziyue looked back at the fruit basket, which Qin Muchen had put in the backseat. She asked him, "Why did you take the fruit basket with you?"

Qin Muchen asked in reply without even looking back, "You bought that, didn't you?"

"Yeah..." replied Su Ziyue. She thought to herself, So he wanted to pick it back even though Gu Hanyan had thrown it onto the floor because I was the one who bought it?

Qin Muchen was finally willing to look back and glance at her. He replied flatly, "Uh-huh."

Su Ziyue was puzzled. 'Uh-huh'? What did he mean?

Qin Muchen did not say another word until they arrived at their home.

They soon reached Cloud Bay Hilltop Villa.

As soon as the car came to a complete stop, Su Ziyue pushed the car door open and stepped out of the car herself. Qin Muchen stepped out of the car from the other side and took the fruit basket out of the

backseat.

Then, he strode toward the dumpster in front of their villa and threw the fruit basket—along with the fruits it contained—into the dumpster.

Su Ziyue was rendered speechless. So he took the fruit basket all the way back just to throw it into the dumpster in front of our home?

“Why are you still standing there? Go inside.” Qin Muchen grabbed Su Ziyue’s hand and pulled her into the villa when he turned his head and saw her standing there in a daze.

Su Ziyue walked into the villa with him while lifting her head to look at him with a curious expression. "Why did you take the fruit basket back to throw it away?"

"Would you want to eat the fruits if I didn't throw them away?" Qin Muchen turned to glance at her with a serious expression, as though he would go back and pick the fruits back for her if she said she wanted to eat them.

Su Ziyue pursed her lips and muttered, "If you just wanted to throw it away, why must you take it back before throwing it?"

"You bought it yourself. Even if you don't want it anymore, you have to throw it into the dumpster of our house," said Qin Muchen, his voice resounding clearly in Su Ziyue's ears as he stepped ahead of Su Ziyue to open the door.

You bought it yourself. Even if you don't want it anymore, you have to throw it into the dumpster of our house. Tsk, what a possessive control freak he is, thought Su Ziyue to herself. She dared not speak her thoughts out loud, but for some reason, she felt inexplicably great.

Gu Hanyan was so angry at her that she even threw the fruits onto the floor, but Qin Muchen took the fruits back with him straight away and threw them into the dumpster in front of their home.

Because of that, she felt like Qin Muchen was implying that he wouldn't let an outsider throw the stuff that his wife bought away even if the stuff was no longer wanted.

Su Ziyue was immensely pleased as she followed him into the house and found that he went to Beef's room.

She went after him and watched as he fed Beef some dog food and water. After that, she followed him out of the room.

Qin Muchen went to the kitchen and washed his hands to get ready to prepare dinner. When he looked back and saw that she was behind him, he asked, "Why are you following me around?"

Su Ziyue couldn't hide the smile on her face at all. "You don't seem to be so petty on the outside."

It was only a fruit basket, yet he carried it back with a serious face just to throw it away.

Qin Muchen cast a sidelong glance at her without speaking.

Staring at his broad back, Su Ziyue tilted her head as she asked, "How did you know that Gu Hanyan threw the fruit basket onto the floor on purpose?"

Qin Muchen's body went stiff for a moment. "I know her well."

Su Ziyue's smile faded when she heard Qin Muchen's answer. She pressed her lips together before asking him again, "How long have you two known each other?"

"I knew her right after I started my business," answered Qin Muchen straightforwardly without hiding anything. He didn't speak in a roundabout way, and he sounded frank and open.

The way he answered left Su Ziyue at a loss for words. "Oh."

Time was a magical thing, for it was both a therapist and a witness; it could both heal the wounds in people's hearts and witness the relationships and feelings between them.

Qin Muchen started his business at 14 years old, and thirteen years had passed since then. In other words, he and Gu Hanyan had known each other for more than ten years.

What did the decade imply? It simply meant many unexpected changes had happened and habits were developed.

Su Ziyue could no longer remember how blissful and happy she used to be when her Dad always called her 'Little Princess' before she was nine years old.

Right now, being both alert and grown up now, she had lost all traces of her childhood.

Su Ziyue felt a sense of danger; even though Qin Muchen had appeared to distance himself from Gu Hanyan, the latter was someone different in his eyes after all.

Su Ziyue didn't want to stay any longer in the kitchen, so she turned around and left quietly.

Sensing that the person behind him was no longer there, Qin Muchen looked back to see that there was no sign of Su Ziyue in the kitchen. He paused what he was doing for a moment, but after that, he still turned around and continued preparing the dishes.

Su Ziyue walked outside to see Beef, who came out for a stroll after having eaten and drunk to its heart's content.

"Beef."

Beef had gotten a lot more familiar with Su Ziyue these days, so it wagged its tail while running up to her

when it heard her calling its name.

When Su Ziyue touched its head, it rested its head on her palm in a seemingly affectionate manner.

After having dinner, Su Ziyue got busy as she started making preparations for the next day's press conference.

Qin Muchen asked nothing much when he saw that she seemed to have a ready plan in mind.

The next day, Su Ziyue woke up early in the morning.

Qin Muchen looked at the time and realized that it was only six, and it was a Saturday.

He got up and sat leaning back against the headboard while staring at Su Ziyue, who sat in front of the mirror while wearing her makeup. Having just woken from sleep, he said in a drowsy tone, "It's too early."

"I won't get into a panic if I set out early," said Su Ziyue to him as she applied makeup on her brows.

Su Yuanming and those at the Su Group couldn't wait to laugh at her, so of course she wanted to make sure that nothing wrong would happen at the press conference.

Qin Muchen frowned slightly before he got out of bed and entered the bathroom.

When Su Ziyue finished wearing her makeup, Qin Muchen pulled himself together and came out, having changed into his clothes.

"What are you doing?" Didn't I say that he doesn't have to deal with this?

Qin Muchen straightened his tie and put his suit jacket over his arm. "I'll be your driver."

Then, he opened the door ahead of her and went downstairs.

Su Ziyue's eyes widened in surprise as she followed him downstairs.

CHAPTER 130

Qin Muchen prepared two servings of simple breakfast by making some toasts and frying two eggs.

He had wanted to prepare a better breakfast at first, but upon seeing the anxious look on Su Ziyue's face, he decided to make only something simple.

They set out from home together after having breakfast as he sent her directly to the venue for the press conference.

After the car came to a complete stop, Su Ziyue opened the car door and was about to get out of the car, but Qin Muchen held her hand down before she could do so.

“What’s wrong?” Puzzled, Su Ziyue looked back at him, only to be kissed on the lips.

Feeling the warmth and softness of Qin Muchen’s lips on her own, Su Ziyue subconsciously clenched her hands into fists out of nervousness.

Qin Muchen held the back of her head and wrapped her fist in his hand while kissing her passionately by prying her lips open to catch her soft and tender tongue. It was only after a long while did he let go of her.

Su Ziyue was in a daze for a moment when her blank eyes met his inky eyes. Then, she slowly came to her senses and drew her hand back.

As her gaze moved downward, she happened to see a peculiar pale-red patch on his lips. Turning her face slightly to one side, she said in a low voice, “My lipstick had come off.”

Qin Muchen gave a light chuckle as he raised his hand to wipe the lipstick mark off his lips.

Su Ziyue pursed her lips upon seeing him wiping off the patch of lipstick spot-on. Does he have an eye on his hand? Is that why he could wipe the lipstick mark off without looking at the mirror?

“Don’t you need to go inside?” Qin Muchen helped Su Ziyue wipe her lipstick off after having wiped the lipstick mark off from his lips.

Feeling his slightly rough fingertips rubbing the corner of her mouth, Su Ziyue took his hand off her with a slight blush. Then, she took her mirror out of her handbag to reapply her lipstick.

Qin Muchen seemed to think that her lipstick was interesting. Seeing him reaching over to touch her lips, Su Ziyue immediately moved backward.

She glared at him, asking, “What are you doing?”

“You don’t have to apply any lipstick.” Qin Muchen raised his brows as his gaze fell upon her lips, which looked even more delicate and tender with the lipstick on them.

Her lips were red enough in the first place, so they looked pretty even without any lipstick on them.

For some reason, Su Ziyue understood what he meant, and she blushed even more. Then, she opened the car door in a fluster and said, “I’m going inside.”

“Okay. I’ll be waiting for you.” Qin Muchen sat still while fixing his gaze on her without averting his eyes for even a second.

I'll be waiting for you...

Su Ziyue felt a surge of warmth in her heart upon hearing his words, for the simple sentence touched her in a way that was beyond words.

She took a few steps forward and glanced back before walking into the building in long strides.

Qin Muchen slowly wound up the car window when Su Ziyue disappeared from his sight. He felt for a cigarette and lit it, only to stub it out after taking just a puff on it.

When Su Ziyue reached the conference hall, she checked the time and saw that it was almost 8 a.m.

Even though the press conference would formally begin at 9 a.m., everyone would be present at 8.30 a.m., so she arrived merely over half an hour earlier than they did.

Actually, she had nothing to do even if she came early, for she had finished the necessary preparations the day before.

She came early just to familiarize herself with the scene of the press conference. To be honest, she was actually a little nervous.

Luckily, An Xia came soon after that.

“You came so early, Ziyue. I thought I was early enough,” said An Xia while holding half a cup of unfinished soy milk in her hand.

Su Ziyue smiled as she gave An Xia a bottle of drinking water, saying, “I have just been here for a while.”

Soon after that, Su Yuanming came as well. He walked up to her with two higher-ups behind him as he greeted, “Ziyue.”

Su Ziyue gave him a slight nod and called him in a distant manner, “Vice President Su.”

A look of displeasure flashed across Su Yuanming’s eyes when he heard Su Ziyue calling him that way. He reached out to pat her shoulder, saying, “There are no outsiders here, so you don’t have to call me in such a formal way.”

Su Ziyue merely smiled at him without saying a word. There were things that everyone was aware of, but they had to pretend like they didn’t know about them.

Upon seeing the expression on her face, Su Yuanming did not say another word. He then turned around and said something to the higher-ups behind him.

At 9 a.m., all the reporters had arrived, and everyone seated themselves at their respective places.

Su Ziyue sat down next to Su Yuanming with a serious look on her face. However, the tenseness of her expression proved that she still felt a little nervous deep down inside.

Su Yuanming, who was next to her, suddenly said, "Ziyue, you don't have to be so nervous."

"I'm not feeling nervous." Su Ziyue took a deep breath and turned to look at Su Yuanming.

Su Yuanming nodded at her and said in a slightly meaningful tone, "You have better manners than Yige does."

Su Ziyue's heart skipped a beat at his words. Why did he suddenly mention Su Yige?

However, she couldn't think much about that at the moment, for the press conference had begun.

As the main person-in-charge of the partnership project, Su Ziyue was, of course, the center of attention at the press conference.

"I would like to give an open and truthful explanation regarding the incident where Miss Gu Hanyan got injured at the studio while endorsing our company..."

Su Ziyue had thought out these words the day before. Despite feeling a little nervous earlier, she wasn't nervous anymore when she gave her speech right now.

Everything went smoothly at a steady pace, and it seemed that nothing had gone wrong as all the questions that these reporters asked were quite decent.

Suddenly, some of the reporters bowed their heads to look at their cell phones.

Su Ziyue had a bad feeling. She had switched off her cell phone at 9 a.m., and upon seeing the scene, she immediately lowered her head and switched on her cell phone.

A piece of news emerged as soon as she switched on her cell phone. She checked the time of publication and saw that the news was published a minute ago.

She only managed to run her eyes over the title, which read, 'Gu Hanyan, the international movie star, shows herself for the first time since her injury. She said frankly...' Before she could finish reading the title, pandemonium broke out at the scene.

All the reporters jostled against one another to come in front of her. The security guards responsible for maintaining order came over, but they only managed to stop some of the reporters.

The reporters stretched out their hands as they tried to hand their microphones toward Su Ziyue. Their

questions no longer conformed to the conventional practice, for they began asking pointed questions that appeared to be overbearing.

“Miss Su, you have been fully responsible for the app’s partnership project, so it can be said that you have a great deal of authority. Did you feel jealous of Miss Gu Hanyan because of your past experience? Did you deliberately orchestrate this incident because you wanted to end her career in show business by disfiguring her?”

“Miss Su, did your elder cousin, Su Yige, suddenly go abroad earlier because you did something that she could no longer bear with?”

As these reporters hurled more questions at Su Ziyue, they eventually stopped addressing her politely.

“May I ask how did someone with a bad reputation like you make your subordinates listen to your arrangements when you work as a management personnel at the Su Group?”

“Miss Su, may I ask who was the father of the baby that you aborted when you were still in high school?”

When the question was hurled at her, the scene fell silent for an instant. After that, another round of questioning began.

Looking dumbfounded, Su Ziyue raised her hand to block the continuously flashing flash lights in front of her as her face turned a little pale.

She knew that she should calm down quickly and solve the problem right away, but the incident four years ago had always been a thorn in her flesh that was never removed. Whenever the incident was mentioned, it would sink deeper into her heart and hurt both her bones and flesh, causing unbearable pain.