

# Marry Me 461

## CHAPTER 461

Su Ziyue smiled when she saw the message. Come on, he should at least reply something sweet like 'Love you, baby girl.' I can't believe this guy merely sent such a cold reply.

If this had happened in the past, Su Ziyue would probably complain about Qin Muchen for being unromantic. But now, she understood that was exactly the kind of person Qin Muchen was.

He didn't have a sweet tongue, but he was able to capture Su Ziyue's heart with some unintentional, random remarks.

Su Ziyue's heart was warmed as she drank the warm black sugar tea.

She still had to head to Feng Group in the afternoon, so she put on the heat pad, set the alarm, and went to sleep after finishing the tea.

Sure enough, the pain was greatly alleviated...

...

Su Ziyue had a peaceful sleep and instantly woke up when the alarm rang.

She walked to the window to realize it was pouring outside.

The day was bright and sunny when I went to sleep. I didn't expect it to suddenly start to pour. Oh well, I guess this is the typical weather during summer. The rain will most likely stop after a while. I'm flying back to Yunzhou City tonight. I hope the flight won't be affected by the weather. Everything please go well!

After washing up, Su Ziyue grabbed a quick lunch and went to the company.

Because of what she had said in the morning, the meeting in the afternoon was rather smooth.

Although the other directors in the company were snobbish, Su Ziyue was a member of the Feng family and the largest shareholder – she held the greatest power. So, no matter how reluctant the other shareholders were, they knew they should yield to her.

Moreover, most of them were corrupted, while Su Ziyue was from a younger generation and didn't have close connections with them. As such, they wouldn't want to drive Su Ziyue up the wall, too, lest things turn ugly.

On the other hand, Su Ziyue wasn't able to concentrate during the meeting. She glanced at the pouring rain outside the window from time to time.

After the meeting ended, she took out her phone and saw some news notifications stating that several flights had been delayed due to the downpour.

Su Ziyue's heart sank. She quickly searched for the flight to Yunzhou City. As expected, the flight was canceled too.

Su Ziyue immediately stood up and walked out of the meeting room, ignoring the fact that other directors were still in the meeting,

"Contact the pilot and check with him if the plane is still able to take off now. I need to go back to Yunzhou City." She ordered the bodyguards while striding toward the exit.

Upon arriving at the main entrance of the building and seeing the torrential rain and thick fog, Su Ziyue knew she couldn't make it back today.

She recalled the scene when Qin Muchen lifted his head to gaze at the sky this morning when they were bidding farewell at the villa. He must have seen the weather forecast and knew that it was going to pour today.

Su Ziyue sighed. Thereafter, the bodyguards escorted her into the car when the driver drove the car into the lobby.

The pilot soon called Su Ziyue back and informed her that the plane was not allowed to depart.

Although Su Ziyue was mentally prepared for this outcome, she couldn't help feeling disappointed.

Staring at the thunderstorm outside the window, Su Ziyue was reminded of the restaurant Qin Muchen brought her to the last time they came to Jingcheng City. So, she ordered the driver, "Head to Nine Oriental Pavilion."

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Sometime later, they arrived at Nine Oriental Pavilion.

A bellboy came forward with an umbrella to help Su Ziyue get out of the car. However, the rain was so heavy that her calves and high heels still became wet.

When the wind howled, she could feel a chill down her spine.

After entering the restaurant, she mentioned Qin Muchen's name to the waiter because she knew she might not be able to get a seat using her own identity.

Sure enough, Qin Muchen's identity was like a universal pass, and she successfully got a table next to

the window.

While waiting for the food to be served, Su Ziyue felt blue as she gazed at the rain.

She gave Qin Muchen a call, but the call wasn't answered. So, she sent him a message to tell him that she was eating at Nine Oriental Pavilion. Then, she took a picture and sent it together with the text.

However, Qin Muchen had not replied to her even after the meal was served. Flustered, Su Ziyue lost her appetite as she was worried about Qin Muchen.

Just then, a familiar voice emerged in the air. "Mrs. Qin?"

Su Ziyue lifted her head to see Bai Yunan standing in front of her table with a surprised look.

Su Ziyue quickly put down her cutlery and stood up. "Hi, Mr. Bai."

Bai Yunan sized Su Ziyue up and quickly averted his gaze. "Are you having dinner alone?" He asked.

Although Su Ziyue didn't have a good impression of Bai Yunan, she answered courteously, "Yes."

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"I see. I hope you don't mind me sitting here then." Bai Yunan didn't ask for permission and directly sat down across from Su Ziyue.

Su Ziyue was startled.

Jingcheng City was the capital city of Country Z, while the Bai family was a reputable family in the city. Although Nine Oriental Pavilion was often fully-booked, Su Ziyue reckoned it shouldn't be a problem for Bai Yunan to get a seat.

Su Ziyue knew Bai Yunan used this as an excuse to sit with her, but it was inappropriate for her to reject him.

It feels like back in school days, someone took my apple and took a bite of it without asking my permission. Yet, this person is asking me not to mind him. Honestly, I'm very bothered!

However, Su Ziyue was timid. Bai Yunan had a prominent identity, so she didn't want to offend him and cause trouble for Qin Muchen.

After Bai Yunan sat down, a waiter passed the menu to him.

Flipping through the menu, he started the conversation as if he was close to Su Ziyue. "What brings you to Jingcheng City, Mrs. Qin?"

"I have some company affairs to attend to." Su Ziyue answered aloofly.

Bai Yunan paused and lifted his eyes to look at Su Ziyue. Just as the latter thought he was going to ask for more details about the company affairs, Bai Yunan blurted, "I guess Mr. Qin has very much affected you. It seems like both of you are cold toward the others."

What else do you expect? We're just acquaintances. Don't tell me you're expecting me to receive you enthusiastically.

In fact, Su Ziyue had a hunch that Bai Yunan approached her with intentions. He's a powerful man, so it's normal for him to seek cooperation from various parties to investigate Lee Yannan and Gricy. But what if he seeks cooperation from Muchen and raises some unreasonable conditions? That's totally possible.

At that moment, Su Ziyue could no longer control her enmity toward Bai Yunan.

Keeping her cool, she said in an even colder tone with downcast eyes. "I'm sorry. It has been a long day for me. I'm tired and starving."

Su Ziyue 'apologized' out of sarcasm, hoping that Bai Yunan would be more sensible.

However, Bai Yunan answered, "Mrs. Qin, you're indeed one of a kind. Your husband is a magnate, yet you refuse to depend on him. You're a very special woman."

Special my foot!

Su Ziyue bit her tongue and ended up replying, "You flatter me, Mr. Bai. I'm embarrassed to say that I actually plan to become a full-time housewife."

## CHAPTER 462

Bai Yunan's expression turned stiff. The next second, he regained his composure and said with a smile, "But you're very independent."

Su Ziyue was not pleased by Bai Yunan's flattery at all.

"If you have something to ask or tell me, please get straight to the point. You're an outsider to our marriage. All that you can see is from the surface, but you have no idea that I can do all this stuff

without worrying because my husband gave me a sense of security."

Hostility flashed through Su Ziyue's eyes.

My first unpleasant impression of this man is proved right. Although he seems to adopt a gentle attitude whenever he talks to me, he actually gives off an aggressive aura.

Su Ziyue was certain that Bai Yunan intended to ask her something else.

Finally, Bai Yunan changed his expression when he heard Su Ziyue's words. "Since you've said so, I shall stop beating around the bush."

Then, he took out a picture from his pocket and placed it in front of Su Ziyue.

When Su Ziyue lowered her head and saw the person in the picture, there was a slight change in her expression.

It was a picture of Lin Enyang and Lee Yannan. The picture seemed to be taken on a random street, but Su Ziyue couldn't tell where exactly it was.

Has Bai Yunan started investigating Lee Yannan some time ago? Or he has long noticed that Lin Enyang was impersonating Feng Xingyan?

Su Ziyue feigned a confused look and gazed at Bai Yunan. "What do you mean, Mr. Bai?"

In fact, she was aware that Bai Yunan intended to ask her about Lee Yannan.

"I believe you can recognize the person in the picture." Bai Yunan answered with his eyes narrowed.

"Of course I do. This is my uncle. The man standing beside him looks familiar too, but I can't recall who he is..." Su Ziyue pretended not to recognize Lee Yannan because, given Bai Yunan's ability, he would surely find out that she had met Lee Yannan before during the charity event at Mount Village.

"I reckon you're aware that I'm assigned some tasks. I need to know more about this person. His name is Lee Yannan." Bai Yunan fixed his gaze on Su Ziyue while pointing at Lee Yannan in the picture.

"Lee Yannan?" Wearing a perplexed face, Su Ziyue pretended to ponder for a moment before she answered as if she had suddenly recalled something. "I remember now – he's a teacher in the village where I attended a charity event before this. But why is he with my uncle?"

Bai Yunan's eyes darkened as he asked in a solemn tone, "Didn't your uncle mention this person to you? Did anything unusual happen when you guys were in the village?"

"No. Is there anything wrong with Lee Yannan? He's just a teacher. Why are you investigating him?" Su

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Bai Yunnan's expression became weird.

Su Ziyue frowned and gazed at him in perplexity. "Mr. Bai?"

"Mrs. Qin, please think again carefully. Did your uncle really not tell you anything?" Bai Yunan asked with an incomprehensible look.

Su Ziyue didn't bother concealing her impatience anymore. "Mr. Bai, you can directly look for my uncle if you have any questions, but he's receiving treatment overseas now since his illness relapsed. He's a gentle and polite person, so I believe he'll be willing to cooperate with you even though he's unwell now."

Su Ziyue was implying that Bai Yunan was being inconsiderate.

Even if she was aware of any details, she was displeased with how Bai Yunan was questioning her as if she was the culprit.

Su Ziyue's aversion toward Bai Yunan was so obvious that the latter finally realized his behavior was inappropriate. He laughed and said, "I'm sorry for interrupting your meal, Mrs. Qin. Please allow me to buy the meal."

Why should I listen to you?

Su Ziyue smiled and took a napkin to wipe her mouth. "You don't have to do this, Mr. Bai. Jingshu is my husband's close friend, so I deem him a friend too. You're Jingshu's brother, so you're not a stranger to us. I won't be bothered with such a small matter like this, but I have to leave now to attend to some other matters. Please enjoy your meal."

After saying that, Su Ziyue stood up and left while Bai Yunan wore an awkward expression.

...

After getting into the car, Su Ziyue snorted in disdain. Although she knew it was natural for a man like Bai Yunan, who had authority and came from a high-class family background, to be shrewd and schemeful, she was annoyed because her alone time at dinner was disturbed.

She would be willing to cooperate if Bai Yunan had adopted a proper attitude and asked questions in a professional manner, but she was disgusted because Bai Yunan had been playing tricks with her from the beginning.

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the beginning.

Alas, that was the table where she and Qin Muchen were seated when they visited Nine Oriental Pavilion last time. As such, she had no choice but to return to the hotel and place an order for room service.

While waiting for the food to be served, Su Ziyue called Qin Muchen and wanted to tell him about the encounter with Bai Yunan.

The call was answered in no time. Instead of Qin Muchen's voice, Qin Zixi's cute and childish voice came forth from the other end of the line.

"Mommy!"

Su Ziyue subconsciously wore a smile. "Hey, Zixi."

Qin Muchen's phone was put on speaker, so Su Ziyue could hear her husband's gentle voice teaching Qin Zixi to ask if she had had dinner.

The next second, she could hear Qin Zixi mumbling, "Mommy... dinner..."

It was considered a long sentence for Qin Zixi, so he was only able to spit out these few words.

Su Ziyue's sulkiness as a result of being disturbed by Bai Yunan was immediately dismissed when she heard Qin Zixi's voice.

"Mommy is going to eat soon. Have you eaten, sweetheart?"

This time, Qin Zixi blurted instantly, "Noodles."

I see. He had noodles for dinner.

"Alright, pass the phone to daddy." Qin Muchen's voice emerged. The volume was rather soft as Qin Zixi was holding the phone.

Qin Zixi seemed to be reluctant to return the phone. Su Ziyue could vaguely hear the kid muttering and trying to bargain with Qin Muchen.

A few moments later, Qin Muchen got the phone back and said, "Zixi went to watch cartoons."

Su Ziyue answered with a smile. "You're pretty good at coaxing kids."

After having some small talk, Su Ziyue told Qin Muchen that she bumped into Bai Yunan at Nine Oriental Pavilion.

Qin Muchen remained silent for a moment before croaking in a voice tinged with displeasure. "Just ignore him if you don't feel like dealing with him. There's nothing he can do about that."

Su Ziyue laughed in spite of herself when she heard his reply. Indeed, I can do whatever I want without worrying because of Muchen. I never think I'm an independent woman with Muchen being around. It's not shameful to depend on men. After all, Muchen is a dependable man.

#### CHAPTER 463

The two continued to talk for a while, and Su Ziyue only hung up the call when the food arrived.

Before hanging up, she asked Qin Muchen about his condition again.

Qin Muchen replied briefly, "Everything's normal. I'm fine. Just focus on your matters."

Su Ziyue was very relieved when she heard the reply. Since Qin Muchen had repeatedly urged her to focus on her affairs, she didn't want to let him down.

As such, Su Ziyue concentrated on handling Feng Group's affairs the next few days and worked until late at night as she was yearning to go home as soon as possible.

Finally, after a few days of hustles, she finally finished dealing with the crucial agendas on the fourth day and was ready to head back to Yunzhou City. She didn't inform Qin Muchen about her return as she wanted to give him a surprise.

The day before, she only gave Qin Muchen a short call in the morning. Qin Muchen knew she was occupied, so he didn't call her either after that.

However, little did she expect that not only did her plan to surprise Qin Muchen fail but there was bad news awaiting her.

Before Su Ziyue flew back, she especially took some time to buy some souvenirs for Qin Muchen and Qin Zixi. After the plane landed at Yunzhou City, she eagerly took a cab and headed back to Cloud Bay.

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When the car arrived at the villa, Su Ziyue didn't bother taking her luggage and directly strode into the villa with the souvenirs in her hand.

There were only a few servants in the house, while Qin Zixi and Qin Muchen were nowhere to be seen.

"Are both Muchen and Zixi not at home?" Su Ziyue asked one of the servants.

"They're not in." The servant shook her head.

Su Ziyue nodded in response, thinking that Qin Muchen might have brought Qin Zixi out to play or brought him to the company while he worked.

Let me give Muchen a call and check where they are at. Then, I'll take a shower and go find them.

After going back to the bedroom, she put the souvenirs aside and called Qin Muchen.

"Hey, I thought you would be busy working." Qin Muchen's voice was extraordinarily gentle.

Su Ziyue subconsciously softened her voice. "I need to eat and rest despite being busy. Although I didn't call you, I was hoping for you to call me first..."

It was around lunchtime, so Qin Muchen hummed, "Go and have lunch then. I'm attending to some matters outside. I'll call you back at night."

"Is Zixi with you?"

"Yeah."

"Did you bring him to work?"

Qin Muchen hummed in response and started urging Su Ziyue to go get lunch again.

Su Ziyue didn't question further as she reckoned Qin Muchen would either be in the office or at Lumiere Jade House. If he were at neither of these places, she would call him to ask again.

After hanging up, Su Ziyue put her phone aside and went to shower. She was so impatient that she didn't bother taking a bath in the tub and directly took a shower. However, after finished showering, she realized the drainage system seemed to be blocked as the water accumulated in the area.

This is weird. Why would the shower drain be blocked?

She put on her clothes and asked the servants to get a plumber to unclog the drain. Then, she went to dry her hair in another room.

When she walked out of the room after drying her hair, she saw a worker walking out of her bedroom, so she reckoned he was the plumber.

"Is everything okay now? How did the drain get blocked?" She asked casually.

"It's blocked by hair." The worker replied honestly.

Su Ziyue's tone changed as she was surprised. "Hair?"

I haven't been at home for a few days. Where did the hair come from?

"Here." The plumber showed Su Ziyue the plastic bag in his hand as proof.

Su Ziyue lowered her head and was shocked to see the bag full of men's hair!

Frowning, she nodded at the plumber who was still standing at the spot. "Thank you, sir."

Then, she looked toward a servant and ordered, "Walk him out after paying him."

Just then, another servant spoke up in hesitation. "Madam..."

"What is it?" Su Ziyue turned to gaze at the servant. Seeing her hesitant look, she said, "Just spit it out."

"Sir has been losing a lot of hair recently. Maybe... he should go for a body checkup..." The servant finished her sentence when she perceived that there was no obvious change in Su Ziyue's expression.

After hearing the servant's statement, Su Ziyue was reminded of something all of a sudden.

Muchen can't possibly have such severe hair loss for no reason. The only issue with his body is that he's inflicted with the K1LU63 virus. Since he's showing symptoms like this, the only explanation is that the virus started taking effect in his body, and his situation has deteriorated.

Only then did Su Ziyue realize why Qin Muchen had been urging her to focus on attending to Feng Group's matters. He must have known that his condition is getting out of control, so he's trying to delay my return.

Immediately, tears of anxiety welled up in Su Ziyue's eyes. Without wasting more time, she directly called Mo Xiyi, but the latter didn't pick up the call. So, she called Nan Chuan. Fortunately, Nan Chuan answered the call.

"Where's Muchen?" Su Ziyue went straight to the point.

"Boss is..."

Su Ziyue interrupted Nan Chuan. "Tell me the truth. I know his situation has deteriorated."

Hearing Su Ziyue's shaky voice, Nan Chuan couldn't bring himself to deceive her. "He's in a rehabilitation center on the outskirts of town."

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After getting the address from Nan Chuan, Su Ziyue hung up the call and headed straight to the rehabilitation center.

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When Su Ziyue arrived at the rehabilitation center, Nan Chuan was already waiting for her at the entrance. Nan Chuan greeted her with a weary look. "Hi, Mrs. Qin."

Seeing Nan Chuan's look, Su Ziyue felt her heart squeeze again, although she had been trying hard to stay calm while traveling to the rehabilitation center just now. "Where is he?" She asked calmly.

Nan Chuan forced a smile and said, "Let me show you the way."

Then, he turned and walked into the building in silence.

Perhaps it was because the rehabilitation center was located on the outskirts of town, Su Ziyue perceived a cold and gloomy sensation as she walked down the corridor.

With her heart in her mouth, she was hoping that Qin Muchen's situation was not as terrible as she had imagined.

"Here it is. You may go in."

Nan Chuan's voice interrupted Su Ziyue's thoughts.

She lifted her eyes to gaze at the ward door. Then, she released her fists which were covered with sweat before she pushed the door open while biting her lips.

Crack.

The atmosphere was so quiet that the sound of the opening door was extraordinarily discordant.

The moment she opened the door, she saw Qin Muchen sitting beside the window, answering a call with his back facing her.

He was dressed in a patient gown and wore a hat.

Su Ziyue had never seen him wearing a hat.

Hearing the commotion from behind, Qin Muchen hung up the call and said while turning around.  
"That's fast. Didn't you..."

When he saw that the person standing at the door was Su Ziyue, his voice stuck in his throat.

Su Ziyue had a sharp eyesight. She could clearly notice the wrinkles between Qin Muchen's forehead, which used to be smooth. His face was as white as a sheet, as if he had aged ten years overnight.

Aging...

In fact, she had heard that the K1LU73 virus would cause one to age rapidly, but she had been deceiving herself that Qin Muchen's situation was not that serious since he had not shown obvious symptoms all the while.

But now, the symptoms are gradually showing. Does this mean that Mo Xiyi's drugs are not effective anymore?

Qin Muchen stared at Su Ziyue stiffly as he remained silent and motionless.

Gulping, Su Ziyue squeezed a smile and walked toward Qin Muchen after closing the door. "Hey, I'm back."

She drew close to Qin Muchen and held his face to kiss him, but Qin Muchen turned his face away to avoid her.

#### CHAPTER 464

Both of them stiffened when Su Ziyue's kiss fell on Qin Muchen's cheek.

Su Ziyue pulled her arms back and squatted down to hold Qin Muchen's hand. "Hey, what's wrong?" She asked gently.

Although Qin Muchen had turned his face away from Su Ziyue, the latter could clearly see the wrinkles on his forehead, which was more obvious, given the proximity between them.

To begin with, Qin Muchen had an attractive appearance, so he merely looked slightly under the weather, even with the wrinkles. Su Ziyue felt a lump rise in her throat, but she still wore a faint smile as if she had not noticed the changes.

She could feel Qin Muchen's palm turning stiff in her hand, and so was his body.

She tilted her head to look at him. Despite the changes in his appearance, his deep-set eyes were alluring as always, and his aura remained the same.

If it wasn't that Su Ziyue was well aware of Qin Muchen's character, she would have been misled by his hostile pretense.

Qin Muchen was talking to her in a gentle tone when she called him upon arriving home before this because he didn't know she was back.

Arrogance was an inherent quality of Qin Muchen's. He might not fear aging or death, but he definitely wouldn't want his lover to see him in this state.

Su Ziyue was able to understand his mentality by putting herself in his shoes.

She put on a wide grin and cooed in a coquettish and light tone, "Aren't you excited that I'm back?"

Finally, Qin Muchen responded. He glared at Su Ziyue frigidly and blurted, "Who asked you to come back? Have you finished settling everything in Jingcheng City?"

From where Su Ziyue was standing, she could see Qin Muchen's downcast eyes and callous expression, but she knew this was his pretense.

"Yeah, I've been pulling all-nighters for several days and only had four to five hours of sleep every day so that I can come home as soon as possible. Why didn't you tell me that you were admitted to the rehabilitation center..." Su Ziyue babbled on in an affectionate manner and pouted like a child when she finished complaining.

Qin Muchen stared fixedly at her and sat motionless in his seat. The only expression that could be observed was the subtle twitch in his brows, and Su Ziyue wasn't able to gauge his emotions through his straight face. He fixed his gaze on Su Ziyue's face as if his gaze could pierce through her while the latter remained still and allowed him to stare at her.

Moments later, Qin Muchen narrowed his eyes all of a sudden as the muscles on his chin stiffened. Just as Su Ziyue noticed his weird response, he suddenly reached out his arm and shoved her away.

Then, he yelled at her, "Why are you pretending not to see my changes? Do you think you would be able to comfort me by doing so?! I asked you to focus on attending to the affairs in Jingcheng City. Why wouldn't you listen to me and stay there? Do you think you're giving me a pleasant surprise by returning



out of the blue? Well, I don't think so!"

Su Ziyue was caught off guard when Qin Muchen suddenly pushed her. She staggered backward and remained stunned even after she slumped onto the cold, hard ground.

Did... he just pushed me?

Qin Muchen finally calmed down slightly after flaring up. His hand moved subtly when he saw that Su Ziyue was still sitting on the ground in a daze, but he didn't reach out his hand in the end.

Su Ziyue didn't feel much pain and wasn't injured, but she sat on the floor and refused to move. Tucking her hair behind her ears, she glared at Qin Muchen and fumed, "Apologize! Or I'll not get up!"

Stunned, Qin Muchen retorted coldly, "Stay there if you like." Then, he turned his face aside with a gloomy countenance.

"Qin Muchen, how could you yell at me? From the beginning, we already knew the symptoms of the K1LU73 virus, so why should I be surprised by your changes? It's just aging – what's the big deal? You don't have to react in such an extreme way! Or, you'd be disgusted by me if I were the one who was inflicted with the virus?"

Su Ziyue knew Qin Muchen couldn't accept his current situation being exposed to her due to his ego. Hence, she didn't want him to think she was disturbed by his changes.

He was pretending to be aloof to conceal his insecurity. Su Ziyue knew the best way she could help was not to appear shocked or disturbed because only then would Qin Muchen be at ease.

Qin Muchen denied it almost immediately, "Of course not!"

"Why did you yell at me then?! How can you ask me to focus on work when your condition is deteriorating? I'm your wife; I should be sharing your burden with you!" Su Ziyue's eyes reddened as she felt more aggrieved the more she continued.

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Qin Muchen always kept the bad news from her – this was not the first time. However, in contrast to the previous occurrences, Su Ziyue wasn't annoyed this time, but she felt sorry for Qin Muchen.

He was the distinguished and capable Qin Muchen, yet now, he could only be tortured by the virus helplessly and become weaker day by day. Su Ziyue could imagine how agonizing that would be for him.

It was understandable for him to lose his cool under such circumstances, so she wasn't angry. In fact, she was rather grateful that Qin Muchen merely kept the truth from her and didn't chase her away this time.

Qin Muchen was defeated when he saw Su Ziyue's tears. He stood up and crouched down to help Su Ziyue to her feet.

His countenance remained cold, but his gaze softened.

However, Su Ziyue still refused to move. There was a subtle change in Qin Muchen's expression. Perceiving that, Su Ziyue hesitated if she should directly get up because she would be eating her words if she did.

Qin Muchen stared at Su Ziyue and broke into laughter all of a sudden. He drew close and kissed her before coaxing her in a gentle and mirthful tone, "I was wrong. I shouldn't have flared up and pushed you. Will you get up now?"

He maintained a close distance from Su Ziyue after kissing her lips. The latter's cheeks flushed when she sensed his breath gushing at her face as he talked. Pretending to be calm, she squealed, "Who said you could kiss me?"

Qin Muchen's grin widened as he drew closer to her. Their lips were half a centimeter from each other. He hesitated for a moment and mumbled, "Should I... allow you to kiss me back then?"

Su Ziyue exclaimed gleefully with a triumphant smile, "Sure!"

Before Qin Muchen could regain his composure, she encircled his neck with her arms and kissed him.

Qin Muchen was originally squatting down, but he then sat on the ground to adjust to Su Ziyue's posture.

Just as the couple was kissing fervently, the ward door was opened.

"Mr. Qin, it's time for..."

Mo Xiyi was so flabbergasted at the scene that his voice stuck in his throat.

#### CHAPTER 465

Mo Xiyi adjusted his glasses awkwardly and let out a cough. "Sorry for the interruption. I didn't know Mrs. Qin was here." After saying that, he turned and left the room at lightning speed.

Su Ziyue was facing the door, so she opened her eyes and saw Mo Xiyi walk in when she heard him calling Qin Muchen. She wanted to push Qin Muchen away, but the latter held her tight in his arms.

It was only after Mo Xiyi left the room did Qin Muchen release her.

Su Ziyue panted for a while before she caught her breath. She thumped Qin Muchen's chest and complained, "Dr. Mo already came into the room just now. Why did you still..."

"He came in without knocking on the door first. How can you blame me?" Qin Muchen said unaffectedly and helped Su Ziyue to her feet.

Ha! As if you'll stop if Dr. Mo knocks on the door.

...

After the couple pulled themselves together, Su Ziyue went to invite Mo Xiyi in.

"Please come in, Mr. Mo." Su Ziyue was still rather embarrassed at that moment as she felt extremely awkward. If it was Bai Jingshu who bumped into them making out, he would have teased them, and Su Ziyue wouldn't have felt this awkward because he was a cheeky man, after all. However, it was the solemn and disciplined Mo Xiyi who bumped into them...

Mo Xiyi nodded and entered the ward.

Seeing the white coat that Mo Xiyi was wearing, Su Ziyue was confused. Did Mr. Mo leave the laboratory and come to look after Muchen in this rehabilitation center due to Muchen's condition?

After doing some general checkups for Qin Muchen, Mo Xiyi hesitated for a moment before speaking up in a serious manner. "Mr. Qin, you should rest more, given your current condition."

He paused for a second before adding, "Please avoid exercising."

The first sentence was completely normal, but Su Ziyue felt as if her face was burning when she heard the second sentence.

Oh my goodness! What could be more embarrassing than this? Moreover, we were sitting on the floor just now...

Mo Xiyi was there to perform routine checkups, so he didn't elaborate further regarding Qin Muchen's health condition and merely advised him about things to take note of.

When the examination was completed, Su Ziyue walked Mo Xiyi out. It was obvious that Su Ziyue wanted to take the chance to ask Mo Xiyi about Qin Muchen's condition because no one would be more aware of it than Mo Xiyi did.

After following Mo Xiyi out, Su Ziyue closed the door. Mo Xiyi turned and looked at her with a solemn expression. "As you've seen, Mr. Qin's situation has deteriorated."

Su Ziyue nodded. Of course, she knew Qin Muchen's situation had deteriorated because it couldn't be more obvious.

Perceiving Su Ziyue's response, Mo Xiyi continued, "The drug that I previously developed to combat the K1LU73 virus has lost its effect. Mr. Qin's situation is not looking good. Even if he's given the most delicate treatment every day, his energy, body functions, and organs are being damaged substantially, and it's only getting worse day by day..."

Su Ziyue couldn't focus on what Mo Xiyi said subsequently. The descriptions clearly depicted Qin Muchen's current condition.

Su Ziyue asked in a cracking voice, "Is there no other way besides getting the antidote?"

After pausing for a while, Su Ziyue became agitated all of a sudden. She gazed at Mo Xiyi with her eyes filled with anticipation. "Please don't tell me you're not confident that you can develop the antidote. You're so capable; it's impossible that you're at your wit's end!"

Su Ziyue yelled at the top of her lungs as she failed to keep her shirt on.

Mo Xiyi was distressed too. To him, Qin Muchen wasn't just a business partner and a friend, but he was someone whom Mo Xiyi respected too. So, even though Su Ziyue lost her cool and yelled at him, he didn't show the slightest trace of anger.

Guilt flashed through his eyes as he pushed his glasses and croaked, "I'm sorry. I still couldn't develop the antidote at this moment. Mr. Qin doesn't have much time left. Within half a month or even less, he'll become..."

Mo Xiyi felt sorry to see Su Ziyue's exasperated expression, but he still continued, "He'll become an old man. His hair will all turn gray while his body functions impair. That'll be the end of his life..."

Drip!

Su Ziyue's tears fell on the ground like strings of beads, but she remained stone-faced.

Even Mo Xiyi felt a sense of hopeless sorrow when he saw Su Ziyue tear up in silence.

He tried to comfort her. "Mrs. Qin, you..."

However, Su Ziyue interrupted him and asked, "Did you say he'll have at most fifteen more days?"

"Yes, but that's just an estimation. I can only guarantee his condition for the next ten days. Given that he maintains a good mood and everything goes well, he might be able to pull through fifteen days."

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"Yes, but that's just an estimation. I can only guarantee his condition for the next ten days. Given that he maintains a good mood and everything goes well, he might be able to pull through fifteen days."

"Alright." Su Ziyue nodded numbly.

Regardless of ten or fifteen days, both were an extremely short period of time to Su Ziyue, so short that she could hardly accept it. However, although they were running out of time, they still had fifteen days,

or ten days, at least.

Perceiving Su Ziyue's unyielding expression, Mo Xiyi pondered for a moment and said, "There's another way, Mrs. Qin, which is to get the prescription for the K1LU73 virus. If we can obtain that, we'll be on the road to success. Even if the antidote couldn't be developed immediately, there'll be ways to control Mr. Qin's situation."

In fact, Mo Xiyi had mentioned to Qin Muchen about the virus' prescription earlier. However, two months had passed; Qin Muchen had yet to find the location of K7, let alone the virus' prescription and antidote. And now, his condition was worsening day by day, and he couldn't hold out for long anymore.

Even the capable Qin Muchen couldn't find it, so it was unlikely that Su Ziyue was able to. The hope was as thin as a reed.

However, Su Ziyue's eyes lit up at once when she heard Mo Xiyi. She tugged at his coat agitatedly and asked in a loud voice, "As long as we can find the virus' prescription?"

She was overjoyed when she saw Mo Xiyi nod.

I knew it. Muchen is such a powerful man. There must be some way to save him! Isn't Lin Enxue still in Muchen's hand? I can use her to threaten Lin Enyang to find the K1LU73 virus' prescription. Lin Enyang cares a lot about Lin Enxue, and he's smart, so he can definitely obtain the prescription. I'm sure he can!

With that, Su Ziyue couldn't bother to say goodbye to Mo Xiyi and directly walked away to the other side while dialing Lin Enyang's number.

But alas, the call didn't get through.

After countless failed attempts, fear crept in and replaced Su Ziyue's original confidence.

Finally, she didn't care whether the call was answered and directly bawled into the phone. "Lin Enyang, get ready to collect Lin Enxue's body if you can't find the K1LU73 virus' prescription within the next ten days! DOYOU HEAR ME?! YOU ONLY HAVE TEN DAYS!"

#### CHAPTER 466

As Xiyi could only guarantee ten days, they could not afford to waste even a day.

After she was done yelling, she heard a pre-recorded female voice saying, "The number you have dialed is not available."

The call did not get through. It meant Enyang did not hear what she said.

What am I to do?

Ziyue covered her eyes and kneeled. She finally could not hold back her emotions anymore and burst into tears.

She needed Muchen to survive no matter what. All she wanted was for him to live.

She had finally obtained justice for her father. Moreover, her child had returned, and she finally had a home. But just as she and Muchen was about to live happily ever after...

While sobbing uncontrollably, Ziyue suddenly sensed a slight weight on her shoulder. She turned and saw a big hand resting there.

Then, Muchen walked around from behind her to see her face-to-face.

It saddened him to see her shoulders trembling as she cried.

He helped her to stand up and wrapped her in his arms. At the same time, he patted her shoulder gently to comfort her.

Ziyue was out of breath from crying and was a sorry sight. She continued to sob as she said, "Enyang... The call didn't get through, and no one answered."

Muchen's voice was unusually gentle. "Don't worry. We can call him again tomorrow."

In actuality, he knew that even if Ziyue called Enyang tomorrow, the call would still not get through.

It was because after Ziyue informed him about what Enyang said on the phone that day, he tried to contact Enyang but to no avail.

Enyang could not be contacted even now.

The reason Enyang contacted Ziyue was likely because he had entrusted Enxue to Muchen. He must have been concerned about Enxue's safety, so he did not contact Muchen directly.

From this, one could deduce that Enyang might have been punished by Gricy and was likely dead. However, as he was too far away, Muchen could not confirm the situation.

Since Ziyue had thought about this, Muchen had naturally considered it too. Still, he would not give up as long as there was a chance to survive. There were people he could not stop worrying about or bear to let go.

However, the plan for Enyang to find the formula of the K1LU73 virus failed.

Now, their only choice was to either search for a member of the K7 research team to obtain the formula or look for the leader of the K7 research team to get the antidote.



Unfortunately, due to K7's secretive nature, both options would be time-consuming. Muchen could not afford to wait much longer.

At this moment, Muchen's comfort seemed to have worked as Ziyue gradually stopped crying.

She suddenly remembered what Xiyi said about Muchen needing to remain calm.

Thus, she quickly left Muchen's embrace, wiped her tears, and forced herself to smile. "Let's go back to your room. I'm a little hungry. How are the meals here?"

Muchen looked at her intensely. His eyes flashed with conflicting emotions. After a while, he said, "Don't smile like that. It's ugly."

If he had said this in the past, Ziyue would get mad at him.

But now, it did not matter what Muchen said. His voice was the most beautiful sound she had ever heard.

"I won't smile then." She could not bring herself to smile anyway. She only forced herself to smile so as not to let her tearful face affect his emotions.

Muchen arched his eyebrows and looked at her calmly. His voice was melodious to her ears. "That won't do either."

You have to smile and be happy. Otherwise, how can I not worry?

...

When they returned to Muchen's room, someone had already set out lunch for them.

Ziyue had no appetite but was careful not to show it. As they ate, she chatted with Muchen about matters in Jingcheng City and placed more food on his plate from time to time.

In actuality, Muchen's appetite was much less than before. But seeing Ziyue's smile made him slowly eat a little more.

Ziyue said excitedly, "Those fellows are cowardly. I've prepared a grand plan to deal with them, but they suddenly retreated."

Unexpectedly, Muchen said, "They just haven't figured out your weakness. A competent person strikes when the opponent least expects and makes a kill."

In other words, Ziyue should not celebrate too early. Otherwise, she would eventually be defeated by

them.

Ziyue was not angry but said with a cheerful smile, "I'm not scared. After all, I have you. You won't let them harm me."

After saying that, she noticed Muchen's expression turned somber.

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In other words, Ziyue should not celebrate too early. Otherwise, she would eventually be defeated by them.

Ziyue was not angry but said with a cheerful smile, "I'm not scared. After all, I love you. You won't let them harm me."

After saying that, she noticed Muchen's expression turned somber.

Ziyue's expression stiffened, but she quickly appeared normal again.

She poured him a bowl of soup and asked, "By the way, where's Zixi?"

Muchen stirred the soup in his bowl and said evenly, "With Jingshu. He likes having Zixi around."

Muchen was not in the condition to take care of Zixi. Furthermore, he felt the nursing home was not a good place for a child.

He kept stirring the soup as if waiting for it to cool down. In actuality, he was full and could not finish it. Ziyue had no idea that his appetite had reduced drastically.

However, he did not want her to worry. In the end, he finished the soup one spoonful after another.

He ate the soup slowly and with elegant gestures. He looked pleased and seemed like a model straight out of a magazine.

Ziyue considered. My husband is an outstanding man. He founded LK Group, which provides livelihood to numerous people. I believe God won't let him die in vain.

Muchen thought briefly and added, "They come here every afternoon. You should be able to see them soon."

In actuality, Muchen was already admitted into the nursing home on the second day Ziyue had left. He thought it would be similar to when his condition first occurred, and he would recover in a few days. That was why he sent Ziyue away.

He wanted Ziyue to see his usual self by the time she returned.

Unfortunately, it was not as he thought. He had severe hair loss, his appetite turned poor, and he suffered from numerous other conditions. It seemed his situation had turned life-threatening.

Thus, he sent Zixi to Jingshu and admitted himself into the nursing home. As for Ziyue, he planned to delay letting her know as long as he could.

He even thought of keeping her away. However, he could not bear to do that. If he could not make it through this time, he hoped Ziyue would not hate him but still love him after he died.

He knew he was possessive and selfish. However, this might be the last time he could be as such.

As expected, shortly after their meal, Jingshu came to visit, bringing Zixi. Xia followed them too.

As soon as the child saw Ziyue, he struggled down from Jingshu's arms and ran to her. "Mommy."

#### CHAPTER 467

Zixi was still small and could not walk well. Thus, Ziyue feared he would fall and rushed to him. "Sweetie, don't run. Slow down a little. Otherwise, you would fall."

However, Zixi was too excited to hear her and flung himself into her embrace. Then, he looked up happily and called out, "Mommy!"

"What an ungrateful little kid. How can you forget Uncle Bai as soon as you see your mother? I've changed your diapers for you!" Jingshu came up behind and reached out to squeeze Zixi's face.

"Bad Uncle Pie..." Zixi shook his hand away impatiently and lay on Ziyue's body, refusing to move.

"Whoa, you little..."

But Xia came forward, pushed Jingshu away, and stood before Ziyue.

Ziyue had been busy with work in Jingcheng City for the past few days and kept having to work through the night. Furthermore, she had cried a few times since she returned this morning. Thus, she looked pale and unwell.

Xia looked concerned as she asked, "Ziyue, did you arrive today?"

"Yes, please come in." Ziyue smiled and carried Zixi into Muchen's room.

Previously, she asked Chuan to bring two recliners and place them before the window. Since they were in the countryside, there was a decent view from the window. Thus, whenever Muchen did not feel like

lying in bed, he could rest on the recliner for a while.

At this moment, Muchen sat in a recliner and looked relaxed. He did not seem like someone who was battling a life-threatening condition.

Hearing the noises behind him, he said, "You're here."

Jingshu went to Muchen and said, "You have quite a relaxing life over here."

Muchen closed his eyes and answered softly, "Yes, it's quite nice. I get to take a long holiday from work."

Ziyue whispered a few words to Zixi before setting him down.

As soon as Zixi touched the floor, he ran to Muchen on his stubby legs.

Then, he tugged Muchen's hand and said in a childish voice, "Daddy."

Muchen looked at him and smiled kindly.

Then, he reached down and lifted Zixi, letting the child lay on his stomach. He patted Zixi's bum and said, "You haven't had your afternoon nap, right? You can sleep here. I'll hold you."

He noticed Zixi stopped moving after a bit of coaxing. Thus, he looked down and realized Zixi had fallen asleep.

That was one of Zixi's good points. He would fall asleep with minimal coaxing whenever it was his nap time.

Ziyue kept observing the father and son. Seeing this, she came to him and asked, "Is he asleep?"

Muchen placed his index finger on his lips, indicating for her to speak softly.

"I'll carry him to a bed," Ziyue said, reaching out to take Zixi. However, Muchen shook his head. He wanted Zixi to continue sleeping in his arms.

Ziyue frowned in disagreement.

Muchen's condition...

But Muchen seemed to have guessed what Ziyue was thinking and frowned. "I'm not so weak as to be unable to hold my son."

His words clearly expressed his wish to hug Zixi a little longer.

Ziyue felt tears threatening to form in her eyes. She did not want Muchen to see her cry, so she came up with an excuse. "I have to talk to Chuan about something. You guys stay here and chat. I'll be heading out."

She rushed outside right after saying that.

When the door closed, Muchen turned to Xia. "Miss An, can you please help me to check on her..."

Xia had planned to check on Ziyue even if he did not ask her. She noticed that Ziyue was not her usual self.

"Sure." Xia nodded and left.

...

After coming out of Muchen's room, Ziyue leaned against the wall tiredly and did not move for a long time. She looked up and forced back her tears.

Xia came out and saw her like this. She sighed and said, "Let's walk in the garden. I saw a beautiful garden in front of this place when I came here just now."

Later, the two ladies sat on a bench by the garden path.

Although it was summer, there was still an occasional cool breeze along the path. Thus, it was comfortable to sit there.

Ziyue held her forehead with one hand and looked dejected.

"You can cry if you wish to. There's no one else here," Xia said and gave her a tissue.

How could such a thing happen to a brilliant man like Mr. Qin?

Ziyue shook her head and declined the tissue Xia offered. "I don't want to cry anymore. There's nothing to cry about. We still have a chance. All I want for today is to spend time with him. I will do everything I can to search for the cure tomorrow."

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She rushed outside right after saying that.

When the door closed, Muchen turned to Xio. "Miss An, can you please help me to check on her..."

Xio had planned to check on Ziyue even if he did not ask her. She noticed that Ziyue was not her usual self.

"Sure." Xio nodded and left.

...

After coming out of Muchen's room, Ziyue leaned against the wall tiredly and did not move for a long time. She looked up and forced back her tears.

Xio came out and saw her like this. She sighed and said, "Let's walk in the garden. I saw a beautiful garden in front of this place when I came here just now."

Later, the two ladies sat on a bench by the garden path.

Although it was summer, there was still an occasional cool breeze along the path. Thus, it was comfortable to sit there.

Ziyue held her forehead with one hand and looked dejected.

"You can cry if you wish to. There's no one else here," Xio said and gave her a tissue.

How could such a thing happen to a brilliant man like Mr. Qin?

Ziyue shook her head and declined the tissue Xio offered. "I don't want to cry anymore. There's nothing

to cry about. We still have a chance. All I want for today is to spend time with him. I will do everything I can to search for the cure tomorrow."

There must be a reason why someone from Gricy poisoned Muchen!

It can't have been to kill him!

"How are you going to search for it? Even Mr. Qin can't find it..." Xia knew she was telling the truth, but this truth struck a blow to Ziyue's confidence.

Although she could not empathize with Ziyue's sadness, she could still understand it.

Ziyue took a deep breath and replied with a smile, "As long as there's still time left, we have a chance to find the cure."

...

Ziyue let Zixi stay with them.

She could see that Muchen loved Zixi. If Zixi could stay and accompany him, Muchen would feel much better.

It did not matter that they were in a nursing home. She did not believe in superstitions.

Furthermore, this was a high-end nursing home, so Muchen's room even had a kitchenette. Thus, she decided to stay there until Muchen became well again. Therefore, the following morning, she instructed Chuan to get some groceries and toiletries before she left to visit Enxue.

Since Ziyue could not contact Enyang, she wanted to check if Enxue had heard from him.

When she arrived at Enxue's room, Shichu was also there.

He was surprised to see Ziyue. "Ziyue?"

Ziyue smiled at him and said, "I would like to speak to Miss Lin for a while."

She urgently needed to find a cure for Muchen's condition. Thus, she did not have time to chat with Shichu.

Shichu was an astute person. He saw Ziyue's expression and vaguely understood her intention. Thus, he left straight away.



Once Shichu left, Enxue turned to Ziyue.

She felt awkward seeing Ziyue staring straight at her. "Mrs. Qin, what brings you here? Is something wrong?"

Ziyue went straight to the point and asked, "Did your brother contact you?"

Enxue was stunned for a moment. "No, he didn't contact me after he left."

Enyang loved Enxue more than his life. He knew he would face unprecedented danger in returning to Gricy this time. Thus, for her safety, he steeled his heart and resolved not to contact Enxue.

## CHAPTER 468

Ziyue did not give up but asked, "He didn't contact you, but did he get someone to pass a message?"

Enxue was not stupid. When Ziyue asked such questions, she guessed something was wrong and implored Ziyue, "Mrs. Qin, have you lost contact with my brother? Did something happen to him?"

By now, Ziyue no longer had the mind to care about Enxue's emotions and replied frankly, "I don't know. I can't contact him."

How am I supposed to look for Enyang?

If I can't contact Enyang, we won't be able to get the formula for the antidote.

Ziyue's face turned pale as she thought about this.

Enxue noticed her expression and asked worriedly, "What's wrong, Mrs. Qin? Did something happen to my brother? You look pale. Are you all right?"

Ziyue answered calmly, "I'm not sure what happened on your brother's side. He entrusted you to our care before he went overseas. But now, I can't get in contact with him. You should find a way to contact him."

She decided to be selfish this time and told Enxue about the situation with Enyang. That way, Enxue would try to contact him.

If Enyang were safe, he would worry about Enxue exposing her presence to Gricy and showing up to stop her. Then, Ziyue would be able to find him.

But if Enyang never showed up, it would prove that something had happened to him.

"I understand. Thank you, Mr. Qin." Enxue looked anxious as she thanked Ziyue. Then, she turned

around and began to call someone on her phone.

Seeing that, Ziyue added, "If you manage to contact your brother, please let me know."

Even if Li Enxue did not tell her, she would assign people to keep a close watch on Enxue. Once Enxue contacted Enyang, those people would inform her.

...

Ziyue saw Shichu as soon as she came out of Enxue's room.

It seemed he had been waiting for her for some time.

Ziyue remembered how she had brushed him off in Enxue's room just now and said apologetically, "Shichu, sorry for just now. I had something urgent to speak to Miss Lin."

Shichu patted her head and looked at her kindly, "What happened? You seem anxious."

Ziyue suddenly recalled that Shichu was a doctor and wondered if he knew anything about the K1LU73 virus.

She felt like a person drowning and would cling to anything, even something as useless as a straw, to try her luck.

Thus, she pulled Shichu to an empty corner and glanced around to confirm there was no one. Then, she faced his curious gaze and said, "Have you heard of the K1LU73 virus?"

Shichu frowned upon hearing her. "What?"

"You must have heard about Gricy. Gricy has a K7 research team that focuses on medical research. It created a virus called the K7LU73 virus!"

After saying that, Ziyue looked at Shichu hopefully. "Do you know about it? Have you heard it before? Do you have overseas doctor friends who might know about this?"

"A virus? Ziyue, can you first tell me what happened?" Shichu's expression immediately turned serious. It was likely a doctor's instinctive reaction to the word virus.

Ziyue shook her head and said, "I'm sorry. I don't have time to explain further to you. I need the antidote to the K7LU72 virus!"

It was not because she did not trust Shichu. She did not want too many people to know about Muchen's condition.

Muchen's condition was worsening day by day. If she told Shichu about this, judging from his character, he would insist on visiting Muchen.

But Muchen had always disliked Shichu. Furthermore, in his present condition, he would be even unhappier to see Shichu. Moreover, Xiyi advised that Muchen needed to maintain a happy disposition.

"I don't know about the K7LU73 virus, but I know Gricy has been making illegal drugs. I'll ask my oversea friends about it for you, so don't worry." Shichu agreed to her request and comforted her.

Ziyue did not hold much hope initially, but seeing that Shichu had agreed to help her, she felt Muchen's chances of survival increased considerably. Thus, she grabbed Shichu's hand and said, "It needs to be quick, within nine days."

Shichu looked at her small hands holding his hands. His eyes flashed with glee. He did not pull his hands away but nodded. "I'll help you ask around."

Ziyue nearly choked with gratitude. "Thank you, Shichu."

Shichu smiled and patted her head quietly.

"I've some other matter, so I must leave first." Ziyue considered before continuing, "Once your friends respond, you must let me know. I'll be heading off now."

"All right. I'll walk you out."

Shichu stepped to the side, indicating that Ziyue should walk ahead. He had a lean figure and was considerably shorter than Muchen. He wore a white coat that made him seem refreshing as a cool breeze.

Thus, she pulled Shichu to an empty corner and glanced around to confirm there was no one. Then, she faced his curious gaze and said, "Have you heard of the K1LU73 virus?"

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"All right. I'll walk you out."

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After sending Ziyue to the hospital entrance and watching her leave in her car, he turned around and returned to the hospital.

Initially, he planned to go to his office, but he suddenly recalled something. Thus, he paused, turned, and headed to Enxue's room.

"Doctor Lu."

Enxue seemed depressed as she sat on her bed. But a smile appeared on her face the instant she saw Shichu.

Once he came near, she asked, "Has Mrs. Qin left?"

Shichu smiled kindly and sat by the bed. He focused his gaze on Enxue. "Yes, she had just left. I was passing by, so I came to check on you."

"I see..."

His eyes gleamed when he noticed Enxue blush under his gaze. Then, he asked casually, "Why did Ziyue come to see you?"

Enxue's blush disappeared slightly when she heard him ask about another woman. "Are you talking about Mrs. Qin? She... She asked whether I was in contact with my brother."

"Your brother?" Shichu seemed puzzled.

"Erm... It's..." She could not say that her brother could be a criminal gang member. If she did, she feared Doctor Lu would not treat her kindly anymore. After all, he looked like a respectable member of society.

Thus, she looked down and did not dare to meet his gaze as she said softly, "Oh, my brother and Mr. Qin are friends."

"Is that so? I understand. You should get some rest. I'll return to my office."

Enxue finally dared to look up upon hearing Shichu and coincidentally met his smiling gaze. She blushed and looked back down shyly.

After leaving the room, Shichu's smile gradually disappeared, and a hint of excitement appeared in his eyes. For a moment, his demeanor was completely different from before.

The K7LU73 virus?

Soon, his expression returned to normal, and he walked toward the office.

On the way, he passed by nurses and doctors who greeted him. He responded to them accordingly.

As soon as he arrived in his office, he sat behind his desk, took out his phone, and tapped the screen a few times before typing something. His lips curved into a smile.

CHAPTER 469

It was nearly noon when Ziyue returned to the nursing home.

When she left in the morning, she told Muchen that she would come back to make lunch and eat with them. She made it back on time, but the morning was already gone, and she still had nothing.

She sat dejected in the nursing home's garden for a while before heading to Muchen's room.

...

When Ziyue came in, she found Zixi playing with wooden blocks on the carpet.

He looked up when he heard the door open. Once he saw it was Ziyue, he immediately got up.

"Mommy!"

He called out to Ziyue and ran to her.

Ziyue lifted him into her arms and asked, "Where is daddy?"

Muchen would never leave Zixi alone in the room.

"There." Zixi pointed to the other side of the room. It was the kitchen.

Ziyue put Zixi down. He then held her by one of her fingers and led her toward the kitchen.

As they came closer, she could hear the pan sizzling.

That prompted her to forget about Zixi and rush into the kitchen.

Muchen was cooking at the stovetop with his back facing her. Ziyue smelled the aroma and guessed he was cooking a spicy beef dish. But with his current health condition, he should not be cooking.

"Muchen!" She shouted at him.

"You're back." Muchen turned off the stove and placed his cooking on a plate.

His tone was calm and gentle, causing Ziyue's anger to melt away.

"Why... Why are you cooking? Doctor Mo said..."

"You should wash your hands. We should be able to have lunch soon." Muchen finally turned to her with a smile.

Xiyi said Muchen's condition would worsen day after day. Even though only a night had passed, his face seemed to have aged considerably. However, to Ziyue, Muchen was still himself. She could not find any difference from before.

Ziyue shook her head. "You should sit down. Let me do it."

Muchen raised his eyebrows slightly and said calmly, "I want to do something that makes me happy. Are you going to forbid it?"

Ziyue easily cried these days. His words made her want to cry again.

Before she shed any tears, she quickly turned around so that Muchen would not see her cry.

"I'll wait outside," she said and left quickly.

After a while, Muchen served the food on the dining table.

Then, the three ate together at the same table as they usually did at home.

Muchen made a few dishes suitable for children and some food that Ziyue liked. But he hardly ate any. He mostly ate a bowl of soup and took a little bite of the food from time to time.

Ziyue felt as if something was stuck in her throat. The sensation felt unbearable, and she found it hard to swallow food. It took some time before she could calm down.

On the other hand, Muchen behaved as if he did not notice anything but coaxed Zixi to eat.

He gave Zixi a slice of dessert. Zixi's eyes brightened as soon as he took a bite. "It's sweet?"

"Yes, I can make more for you tomorrow if you like it." Muchen smiled at him lovingly. He looked no different from any other father at this moment.

Ziyue stopped looking at them but looked down and focused on eating.

This was what Muchen wanted to do. He loved cooking for her and Zixi. Thus, she needed to eat more.

After lunch, Zixi and Muchen took an afternoon nap.

Zixi had a habit of napping in the afternoon, but Muchen had to sleep due to his weakening health. He became tired and drowsy quickly.

His constitution had become like an older man's. The signs were growing obvious. Ziyue tried her best to appear calm, but seeing him like this felt like a stab to her heart.

Ziyue sat by the bed and watched the father and son cuddling as they slept. Once they were asleep, she got up and left the room with her phone.

She had set her phone to silent mode. Just now, she noticed the screen lit up a few times and guessed

someone had called her.

She walked softly out of the room and glanced at her phone. It was a call from Chuan.

As she was about to call back, she suddenly heard Chuan panting from the other end of the corridor.

"Mrs. Qin!"

"You're here. I was about to call you," Ziyue said once Chuan came nearer.

"You didn't answer the call, so I guessed you were at the nursing home. That's why I came here straight away." Chuan rushed out of the car and ran there. Otherwise, he would not be so out of breath.

Everyone was rushing about due to Muchen's condition. Chuan was also doing the same.

Chuan was a westerner with prominent facial features and deep-set eyes. As he had been rushing about recently, he lost much weight. His eyes appeared sunken, and his whole face seemed haggard.

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Ziyue asked, "Have you had lunch?"

Chuan shook his head. "Not yet. I planned to see the boss before heading back to Lumiere Jade House for lunch."

Ziyue glanced at the time. It was already one o'clock in the afternoon.

She considered and said, "We just finished lunch and had many leftovers. If you don't mind, I can warm them up for you to eat here. You can also inform anyone you want to. Muchen and Zixi are sleeping."

Chuan must have been hungry as he accepted the offer straight away. "Sure, thank you."

...

After that, Chuan went to check on Muchen while Ziyue went to the kitchen to warm up the food.

By the time she returned from the kitchen with the food, Chuan was already in the dining room.

"I've just warmed up the food. Please eat them while..." Ziyue placed the food on the table as she spoke, but she suddenly noticed Chuan's red eyes. She cleared her throat and paused briefly before continuing, "Please have them while they are warm."

"Thank you." Chuan began to eat after thanking her.

He ate quickly and finished the food in a while.

Ziyue opened her mouth but did not know what to say. Although Chuan's relationship with Muchen was different from hers, she understood he cared about Muchen as much as she did.

"There's nothing much. I came here mainly to see the boss for a while. Also, I found out someone has been investigating Gricy." Chuan still appeared downcast as he said these words.

Ziyue was slightly stunned and said, "Is it Yunan?"

"How do you know?" Chuan was surprised as he looked at Ziyue.

"He came to see Muchen previously. It was Jingshu who brought him." Ziyue frowned slightly as she recalled meeting Yunan in Jingcheng City.

"He couldn't find anything."

Muchen's voice suddenly sounded behind them.

Why is he awake so soon?

Ziyue wanted to stand up, but Muchen came to sit beside her. "He couldn't find anything in the country. Although Gricy's prohibited drugs are being sold in the country, there is no official business operation here. Usually, people in this country would contact Gricy directly to obtain them. If Yunan wants to investigate Gricy's prohibited drugs, he must investigate overseas."

#### CHAPTER 470

Ziyue knew Muchen had been investigating Gricy. He knew about it more than anyone else.

After Muchen had spoken, he saw Chuan and Ziyue looking at him. Thus, he continued, "We can ignore Yunan. There's no need to be bothered about him."

Unfortunately, while they could ignore Yunan, it did not mean Yunan would not come looking for them.

Furthermore, he soon showed up.

Ziyue made dinner that evening. Just as they were about to eat, Yunan arrived.

Ziyue heard someone knocking on the door and took off her apron. "I'll get the door."

As soon as she opened it, she saw Yunan standing before her with his clothes covered in weeds. He looked very different from his usual self. "Mr. Bai?"

However, she soon figured out why Ban Yunan appeared disheveled. Although this nursing home did not have many patients, it had plenty of bodyguards. Thus, people would not be able to get past them unnoticed.

Although Yunan had a prominent status, he could not reveal his identity carelessly. If she guessed correctly, Yunan was likely investigating in secret.

Therefore, he must have climbed over the walls to get in.

It would not be a difficult task based on Yunan's abilities. After all, he was a trained, high-ranking soldier.

Although Yunan seemed disheveled, his gaze was as alert as usual. "Mrs. Qin."

"Is something the matter?" Ziyue did not plan to let him see Muchen.

After all, Muchen's condition had weakened him considerably, and he got tired quickly.

"Is Mr. Qin in?" Yunan asked and tried to glance behind her.

Ziyue did not say anything, but her demeanor indicated that he was not welcome there.

However, Yunan did not seem to notice and asked, "Mrs. Qin, may I go in for a while?"

"Come in." Muchen suddenly appeared behind her.

Ziyue glanced behind and saw Muchen standing calmly behind her. She went to him immediately.

Yunan's eyes flashed with disbelief as soon as he saw him.

However, Yunan was no ordinary person. He was able to compose his expression immediately.

He came in and closed the door.

Muchen did not say anything but headed into the dining room.

Ziyue was puzzled. Is he inviting Yunan to dinner?

But once they reached the dining room, Ziyue realized she had overthought.

Muchen took a seat at the dining table and glanced at Yunan. "Mr. Bai, why are you here?"

After saying that, he placed some food on Zixi's plate.

Zixi glanced at Yunan curiously but quickly looked away.

Astonishment flashed across Yunan's face. He did not expect Muchen not to show any courtesy. Although he might not want to have dinner with Muchen and his family, he still thought Muchen should at least offer out of politeness.

Muchen looked at him and knew what he was thinking. But he merely arched his eyebrows and said nothing.

Yunan was Jingshu's elder brother, so Muchen should have shown him some hospitality. However, knowing that Yunan went to look for Ziyue privately angered Muchen.

Furthermore, Yunan had snuck in here. Thus, he definitely came here for something. Therefore, why would Muchen want to invite him to dinner? Furthermore, he would rather feed Ziyue's cooking to dogs than let another man taste it.

Ziyue also was unhappy to see Yunan. Thus, she did not ask if he wanted to join dinner.

Meanwhile, Yunan's expression stiffened upon receiving such cold treatment from everyone.

Thankfully, he was skilled in adapting to various situations and soon appeared natural again. He asked, "What's your illness, Mr. Qin."

"Mr. Bai, why do you ask when you already know the answer?" Muchen asked indifferently.

Yunan's expression tensed slightly as he asked, "Who?"

Although he did not elaborate, Muchen understood what he was asking. "There's no point mentioning names. The person is already dead."

Yunan instantly figured out that Muchen was talking about Yannan.

It reminded him of the connection between Yannan and Feng Xingyan.

Thus, he could not resist looking at Ziyue.

However, he did not say anything to her but asked Muchen, "May I ask if you're willing to provide me with a vial of your blood."

It was a reasonable request. Furthermore, the K1LU73 virus was dangerous. If Muchen had provided the blood sample, Yunan could bring it to the National Research Institute. It may be helpful to him.

"I will ask Jingshu to give it to you later."

Yunan was not surprised. It seemed he had expected such a response from Muchen.

Muchen took a seat at the dining table and glanced at Yunon. "Mr. Boi, why are you here?"

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However, he was not done speaking and said, "Mr. Qin, can you explain..."

"Mr. Bai! We are having dinner. Can you leave now?" Ziyue interrupted him.

Yunan turned and saw Ziyue glaring at him furiously as if he was her enemy.

Ziyue was furious.

She did not care what Yunan wanted to investigate or that he was doing his duty. All she knew was that anyone could see Muchen was not well.

However, Yunan was determined to ignore Muchen's condition. He requested a blood sample and asked all sorts of questions. Although Ziyue and Chuan were overwhelmed by the matter, they would never mention it before Muchen. With Muchen's condition, they feared it would exhaust him.

Now, Yunan barged in and asked such questions despite knowing Muchen was unwell. Muchen owed him nothing, and she would not allow anyone to strain Muchen's health.

Not just Yunan. Even Muchen was surprised by her outburst.

"My husband is the victim in this matter. There is only so much that he knows. Your questioning will only exhaust him and achieve nothing. Thus, you might as well go undercover in Gricy's headquarters to investigate this matter!"

Ziyue's hatred toward Yunan grew.

She had been carefully taking care of Muchen all this while, so how could she bear to let others trouble him?

Yunan's expression changed upon hearing her.

"I shouldn't have been presumptuous."

After saying that, he gave Muchen a nod and left on his own.

Ziyue's cheeks were still puffed up with anger even after Yunan left.

Before Muchen could say anything, Zixi picked up a dumpling and blinked. "Mommy's face... Dumpling..."

"Haha!"

Muchen broke out in laughter.

Ziyue pursed her lips and turned to Muchen. At this moment, Zixi said, "Dumpling is gone..."

He meant Ziyue had stopped puffing her cheeks in anger.

"You should give this dumpling to mommy. See how unhappy mommy is." Muchen chuckled and coaxed Zixi to give the dumpling to Ziyue.

Zixi quickly gave the dumpling to Ziyue upon hearing him.

Ziyue looked at Muchen indignantly. But Muchen suddenly got up and kissed her from across the table.