

Mr Han 1821

Chapter 1821: Please Continue with Your Performance

Han Zhuoling's explanation made quite a lot of sense. There was no advantage for him when it was four versus one.

He might as well hand over the item, lest he wasted his energy and still not manage to keep the item with him.

And just like what Han Zhuoling said, he just came to help boost the popularity of the show.

He did not need to rely on the show to boost his own popularity, and he was not that interested in becoming popular and famous.

Even though he was already very famous now.

He did not even have a minimum number of episodes to attend.

In this way, Han Zhuoling really did not have any reason to hold on to his item at all costs.

Shi Xiaoya then saw Han Zhuoling take out the fake item he'd showed her earlier on from his waist bag.

It was a small porcelain pill bottle.

There was a hawthorn pill in it.

Han Zhuoling passed this over to Cao Jingcheng. "This is a detoxification pill. I'm guessing that we'd probably get poisoned during the mission. As for how, there are many possibilities. Maybe one of the items in the clues can be used to poison us. Basically, there are many possibilities."

"And with this pill, you can make sure that the poison in your body is successfully cured after you are poisoned. So it's as good as reviving you from the dead and giving you one more life," Han Zhuoling said.

The director kept a smile on her face at the side.

Very good, Young Master Ling, please keep up your performance.

He acted so well that she almost believed him.

It was just perfect that Han Zhuoling's words matched what Lu Dongliu had said earlier on.

Lu Dongliu said before that the item in Han Zhuoling's hand can be used to revive someone from the dead.

Han Zhuoling's words quite nicely matched with what Lu Dongliu said earlier.

In this short period of time, Han Zhuoling had already thought of such an adequate reason and found such a logical fake item to substitute with the real one.

The director had a premonition that Han Zhuoling might really win again today.

She looked at the other four people. They had been completely hoodwinked by Han Zhuoling.

Han Zhuoling then said, "But there's only one pill, so it can only cure the poison once. If you get poisoned again later on, then you will really be eliminated."

"Alright." Cao Jingcheng took the porcelain bottle, took out the hawthorn pill in it, and squashed it right away before throwing it into the trash bin.

"In this way, there would be no such prize item anymore. We will all start anew," Cao Jingcheng said.

Everyone agreed.

"We came here to find Lu Ban's successor. You guys found the clue already?" Han Zhuoling asked.

"No. When we came in, there was already no one here," Cheng He said as he shook his head.

"Looks like we need to start searching for it all over again."

Seeing that Han Zhuoling had not left, and afraid that there was some clue that they missed here, they all stayed behind as well.

Han Zhuoling walked once around the shop quietly as he checked out the surroundings.

The shop was not big, and it took a few sweeps to see everything inside of it.

"Looks like there are no clues here. Let's go somewhere else to look for it," Han Zhuoling said.

He brought Shi Xiaoya to leave with him.

"Okay. Then let's spread out and go off too," Cao Jingcheng said.

The other people all went off to find the clues.

Yet after a few minutes, each of the four people realized that the others, just like themselves, were all hiding in the surroundings of the shop and did not move.

Everybody: "..."

Cao Jingcheng said, "What are you guys doing?"

Cheng He scratched his head and said very honestly, "I suspect Young Master Ling might have noticed some clue, but was not able to say it because we were all around, so we decided to hide here secretly and see if he will come back."

"Me too..." Zhang Xiangyou said.

"What a coincidence eh..." Liu Chuanhui said and laughed awkwardly.

"Looks like he won't be coming back. We just don't know if he really could not tell us or if he already found the clue."

Chapter 1822: Act Out My Elimination for You

Shi Xiaoya also asked a similar question about this.

"If the clue isn't here, then where should we go now?" Shi Xiaoya asked.

Walking around without a goal and direction was really too tiring.

“We’re going to the wine shop,” Han Zhuoling said.

“Why are we going there?”

“In that shop just now, besides wooden products, there were also wine jars around,” Han Zhuoling said. “I’m guessing, it’s probably a hint that this successor of Lu Ban likes to drink. If he’s not in the shop now, then we can only go to the tavern to look around.”

Indeed, they saw Lu Ban’s successor in the tavern.

They received the clue from Lu Ban’s successor.

They were just about to leave, yet Shi Xiaoya suddenly got hit by something.

Right after that, a streak of green appeared on her body.

From the loudspeaker, a voice announced, “Shi Xiaoya is poisoned. Eliminated!”

Shi Xiaoya was stunned. She totally did not expect it.

She could only tell Han Zhuoling “all the best” regretfully.

Zhang Xiangyou then came out with the poison gun and said, “I wanted to hit Young Master Ling, but alas, I missed.”

A pity, the poison gun could only be used once.

“Wait.” Han Zhuoling took out that pocket watch.

He just turned the clock hands to the time around 15 minutes ago.

Coincidentally, this was right before Zhang Xiangyou found the poison gun.

“Han Zhuoling used the time turner item. Time successfully turns back,” the production team announced.

Hence, the poisoned gunshot was nullified. Zhang Xiangyou had also been sent back to the location where he was 15 minutes ago.

The others then knew, they had still been tricked by Han Zhuoling just now!

But Han Zhuoling actually used such an important, critical item that could decide the victory on Shi Xiaoya.

“Why did you use it for me?” Shi Xiaoya said anxiously. “I wasn’t hoping to win either. It’s fine if I just get eliminated. What a waste that you used this on me.”

“I just subconsciously used it when I saw that you got disqualified,” Han Zhuoling said. “If you are not beside me, I won’t be in the mood to continue playing.”

Everybody: “...”

Sure.

Young Master Ling, when you sweet-talk young ladies, you really have a slew of tricks lined up under your sleeve.

“Anyway, I already used this item,” Han Zhuoling said. “As for winning or losing the competition today, I am really not interested. This ancient city looks pretty good, why don’t we just go and walk around?”

Although they did not get eliminated, Han Zhuoling had decided not to continue participating in the game now.

“...” The director quickly said, “Young Master Ling, this doesn’t fit the rules.”

“Why doesn’t it fit? If I don’t participate in the competition, I can just let the other guests eliminate me,” Han Zhuoling said.

Director: “...”

Then why did you use the item just now?

“I just can’t stand seeing Xiaoya being eliminated by the others in front of me,” Han Zhuoling said self-righteously.

Director: “...”

Whatever Han Zhuoling wanted to do, they really could not control him.

Hence, they could only follow Han Zhuoling and watch as he brought Shi Xiaoya to walk around the ancient city.

At first, the other guests still did not dare to be reassured and thought it was Han Zhuoling’s strategy.

To purposely make them lower their guard carelessly, before eliminating them one by one.

So they all went to look.

Who knew, Han Zhuoling was really using the show to go on a date.

He brought Shi Xiaoya to walk around the whole of the ancient city.

From the accessories shops to the local traditional costumes shops, then to the snacks shops, they enjoyed themselves thoroughly and completely disregarded the filming for the show.

“Young Master Ling, if you do this, it puts us in a very difficult position. How are we supposed to air the show like this?” the director said urgently.

“How about I act out my elimination for you?” Han Zhuoling suggested.

Director: “...”

Chapter 1823: So Guarded

“Just air it as you should. Just show that I’m not doing the missions because I wanted to go on a date,” Han Zhuoling said.

Cao Jingcheng, who had been following them secretly all along, said to Zhang Xiangyou, "Since Young Master Ling wants to be eliminated so much, why don't we help them?"

"So we go and eliminated him?" Zhang Xiangyou asked.

"Yeah." Cao Jingcheng nodded. "Anyway, Young Master Ling wants to be eliminated already, so we can just go and eliminate him! Anyway, he definitely would not resist. Look at how he's not doing the missions anymore."

When Zhang Xiangyou heard that, he thought it was reasonable. "Okay."

"I just received an item." Cao Jingcheng took out a glove. "If you wear this glove and pat a person's shoulder, you will be able to eliminate that person."

When Zhang Xiangyou heard that, he immediately retreated an arm's length away from Cao Jingcheng.

"..." Cao Jingcheng tsked. "Gosh, this guy. The two of us have been working together for so long, why do you not trust me at all? Is the trust between people so fragile?"

"Brother Cao, you are the senior, I still have many experiences to learn from you," Zhang Xiangyou said as he laughed awkwardly.

Cao Jingcheng acted as if he was going to smack him and said, "You might as well call me a wily old fox!"

Zhang Xiangyou said, "No, I don't dare to." In actual fact, his expression fully agreed with Cao Jingcheng's words.

"Aiyo, you will really be the death of me! Why do the young juniors not know how to respect their seniors nowadays!" Cao Jingcheng said. "Don't worry, I won't pat your shoulder."

Zhang Xiangyou clearly did not believe him, and he even took another two steps back.

"..." Cao Jingcheng laughed. The youngsters nowadays are really so guarded.

"Really, this guy. Why don't you listen to what I have to say first? I didn't get the chance to tell you just now. My item can only be used once. It can't be used again after patting one shoulder," Cao Jingcheng explained. "I'm going to pat Han Zhuoling's shoulder now. You'll be fine. If you don't believe me, you can walk behind me."

Zhang Xiangyou thought for a bit and still decided to believe Cao Jingcheng in the end.

The two of them then walked towards Han Zhuoling together.

Han Zhuoling was walking around in an ancient Han Chinese costume shop with Shi Xiaoya.

Shi Xiaoya was wondering whether they should rent two pieces so that the two of them could take some photos or whatever.

Since they were in an ancient city, the environment was suitable as well.

The production team had also hired crowd extras to don ancient Han Chinese costumes to walk around, and they'd even prepared costumes for the original vendors here.

The environment was just perfect for it.

Shi Xiaoya was sizing up Han Zhuoling. She felt that if he changed into an ancient traditional costume, he would definitely still look so handsome and tall.

Han Zhuoling laughed helplessly. "What ideas do you have now?"

Shi Xiaoya was about to say something when she saw Cao Jingcheng and Zhang Xiangyou come over from the corner of her eye.

Shi Xiaoya very alertly called out, "Brother Cao, Brother Zhang."

"Aiyo, Xiaoya, you don't need to be so cautious." Cao Jingcheng stretched out his hand. "See, I don't have anything in my hands. Just now, Xiangyou's only poison gun had also been used. Both of us don't have any weapons."

Shi Xiaoya saw that both of them were really empty-handed, but she did not really let down her guard just because of that.

But thinking about it another way, since Han Zhuoling did not care about winning or losing, she would not care about it either.

Cao Jingcheng then laughed out loud as he came over and patted Han Zhuoling's shoulder in a friendly manner. "Young Master Ling—"

Before he could finish talking, the announcement sounded outside, "Cao Jingcheng, eliminated!"

"What the—" Before he could say the word "f*ck," Cao Jingcheng remembered that they were filming a show. He could not cuss, so changed the word and said, "Heck!"

"No, wait..." Cao Jingcheng felt so wronged. He said to the director, "Doesn't my glove item eliminate anyone I pat? Why did I end up being eliminated in the end?"

Chapter 1824: Like an Old Couple

"Who asked you to go and pat Young Master Ling's shoulder?" the director said in a mix of amusement and helplessness.

"What do you mean? His shoulder can't be patted?" Cao Jingcheng asked.

"Indeed, it can't." Han Zhuoling held back his laughter as he said, "My apologies, but I just found Lu Ban's successor and received an item. The person who eliminates me will be eliminated instead because it rebounds. Of course, I can also only use this item once, and it can only be activated passively by a trigger."

"What the heck!" Cao Jingcheng exclaimed. "This is immoral! I came here to publicize my new film, yet you guys won't let me show my face more and eliminated me so early on. It's such a loss, a loss."

Han Zhuoling gave him a look and said with a poker face, "The Han Corporation has partially invested in that film of yours. Do you think we'd not help you to publicize?"

“Oh, I forgot, I forgot.” Cao Jingcheng smacked his head and said, “Okay, then, there’s not much of a problem. I’m going off.”

Everybody: “...”

Must you make it so obvious, sir?

Han Zhuoling raised his eyebrow and turned to Zhang Xiangyou.

Zhang Xiangyou saw that his originally advantageous team suddenly lost a partner, and he quickly laughed awkwardly before running away.

Hence, Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya went around strolling and followed the clues to reach the location of the second to last round.

The second to last round coincidentally needed two people to work together.

Liu Chuanhui also arrived, but he was alone.

He glanced at Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya, then lamented despondently, “It’s always good to have a partner!”

Shi Xiaoya: “...”

Why did this make them sound like an old couple?

With Han Zhuoling around and Shi Xiaoya to help beside him, this round naturally need not be elaborated on.

Both of them passed the round together and waved goodbye at Liu Chuanhui.

“Congratulations to the two of you for being the first to arrive here.” The moment they entered, that man in a black robe that appeared in the underground palace yesterday reappeared through the projection on the screen. “I think you guys can tell by now—actually, today’s missions require players’ cooperation to be completed. Only when you understand the true meaning of working together can you reach this place. Today, being a lone warrior won’t help you to get here.”

Shi Xiaoya turned to look at Han Zhuoling.

Whether Han Zhuoling knew it all along, she did not know.

She simply followed Han Zhuoling along and trusted him.

“Now, I will give you the last mission.” Right after the black-robed man finished speaking, a flash of light lit up behind him.

A checkerboard appeared on the screen, with black and white stones on both sides.

“Such a difficult game like Go?” Shi Xiaoya got a shock. “I don’t know how to play that.”

The black-robed man said, “Don’t worry, it’s Five in a Row.”

Shi Xiaoya: “...”

The moment he said that, the prestige of the game immediately dropped and it made her feel like laughing.

“The person who wins will receive a reward for the last round,” the black-robed man said.

Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya took out their phones according to the instructions. They opened the link to a mini-program they had just received on their phones.

After tapping on it, they each entered the board game.

The system randomly assigned them, and Shi Xiaoya got the black stones and was to start first.

Five in a Row is not a difficult game. It mainly tested how meticulous the player was.

As the number of stones played out increases, the player might get overwhelmed and easily not be able to consider every part, which will give the other party the chance to pick out the loopholes to win.

As for the rest, the requirements for various calculations and placement positions were not that high.

Shi Xiaoya casually put out a stone in the center, and Han Zhuoling casually played as well.

As the number of stones put out by each of them increased, the number of black and white stones became very tightly packed together, making one feel lost having to look at so many stones.

Finally, Han Zhuoling placed another stone. Shi Xiaoya found to her surprise that Han Zhuoling actually made a mistake. He did not see that there was one area in which if he placed another stone, he would get five in a row and win.

Chapter 1825: A Seamless Show of Affection

Shi Xiaoya quickly placed her stone and smiled excitedly, “I won!”

When she looked up, she saw Han Zhuoling smiling at her, a warm and contented look in his eyes.

Shi Xiaoya’s heart skipped a beat. “Don’t tell me you purposely let me win?”

“No. I didn’t notice it,” Han Zhuoling said, smiling.

“No.” Shi Xiaoya was still very confident in Han Zhuoling. “Could you lose at this? That’s impossible. You couldn’t have possibly missed seeing through the trap I’d set with that stone. You definitely let me win on purpose.”

Han Zhuoling smiled and said, “Anyway, the chances of me coming to film for the show will be fewer next time. I don’t know if you will become a regular guest on the show, but who knows, right? If you become a regular guest, it’s better if you win this time.”

Shi Xiaoya would not coyly turn down Han Zhuoling’s gracious act.

He willingly gave in to her like this because he wanted to let her win and make her happy.

He was also making plans for her future considerately.

Furthermore, giving in to his own girlfriend and letting his girlfriend win against him, what a pampering thing it was to do.

Why would she insist on competing with her own boyfriend?

Since she knew she could not win against him—and that he was willing to give in to her and make her happy—that would be very good as well.

Why would she need to be so serious with her own boyfriend?

The subtext in Han Zhuoling's actions was that, how could I let my girlfriend lose?

Someone who had never been soft-hearted towards his opponents and who had beaten everyone else while passing all the rounds—a man who had simply never lost—actually made such a decision when pitted against her.

It was totally inconsistent with his usual behavior.

Shi Xiaoya instantly felt as if she was in ancient times wherein the king was trying to elicit a smile from a beauty.

And she was that beauty.

As for Han Zhuoling, he would naturally be the king, no explanations needed.

“You’re not happy that I let you win?” Han Zhuoling asked.

But judging from her reaction, it did not seem like she was unhappy either.

“No.” Shi Xiaoya smiled 'til her eyes could not be seen. “I’m happy that you’re giving in to me!”

Shi Xiaoya stared at him with a bright smile. “How does it feel like when you don’t dare to win against your own girlfriend?”

“It feels pretty good,” Han Zhuoling said and chuckled. It could be said that he was radiant with delight.

Shi Xiaoya reminded the director, “Director, please edit this part out afterward.”

“Why is there a need to edit it?” Han Zhuoling felt that they were open and upright. There was nothing scandalous to hide about them.

“We are filming for the show. This is not appropriate,” Shi Xiaoya said.

“It’s not that you don’t want to acknowledge me?” Han Zhuoling asked as he raised his eyebrow.

“Of course not. Or else I wouldn’t be so cooperative with you in front of the director and videographer brother. I would have hidden in a corner long ago.” Shi Xiaoya pouted a little at him before she said, “I just feel that, if we showed our affection on the show like this, wouldn’t it not be very suitable?”

Director: “...”

Haha, you both finally realized that!

Both of you have been showing off for two days already, but now you say this?

Han Zhuoling finally nodded his head in satisfaction and smiled again.

It was good that she did not intend to hide him.

“You both think too much.” The director smiled wryly as she said that. “If Young Master Ling doesn’t mind that your relationship is revealed through our show, then the editor will edit it freely, but they still have to consider the overall effects of the show. As for the parts that will be edited out or kept, the editor still has the final say.”

The director thought to herself, in these two days of recording, she had roughly thought over it. In all the scenes where there were Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya, there was none in which they were not holding hands and not showing affection.

Even if they wanted to edit it, they could not, unless they just did not include any scenes with Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya.

Han Zhuoling’s seamless show of affection was very good indeed.

Chapter 1826: Hugging Han Zhuoling Tightly

In the end, Shi Xiaoya won and got the championship points for this episode.

When Shi Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling came out from the last round, the other guests had already gathered there to wait.

“Aish. In this episode, Xiaoya was really on a roll,” Cao Jingcheng said as he shook his head.

“Why was she on a roll?” Liu Chuanhui spoke as if he was the supporting actor in a comic dialog, catching on to Cao Jingcheng’s words.

Cao Jingcheng smiled and said, “Having Young Master Ling accompanying her at all times is one huge cheat.”

They chatted and laughed like this, ending the filming for this episode.

Han Zhuoling arranged to leave on the second day.

Hence, on that night, they along with the other guests stayed in the hotel for one more night.

The production team also considered the issue of time, so they booked the hotel until the next day.

That night, after Shi Xiaoya finished packing, she felt a little tired already.

Speaking of that, today was really much more tiring than yesterday.

Yesterday, they only walked around in the underground palace and very quickly passed the levels.

But today, they actually walked around the ancient city for the whole day.

As they were going to leave tomorrow, Shi Xiaoya was afraid that there might not be enough time to pack, so when she came back after dinner, she started packing her luggage, lest she got into a hurry afterward.

After much busying around, Shi Xiaoya was really tired out.

After taking a bath and blow-drying her hair, she could not even be bothered to put on a mask and just did some basic skincare before she quickly lay down on the bed.

Because she had been so tired today, she did not even have difficulty falling asleep like the previous night when she was thinking about Han Zhuoling.

Yet when she was feeling drowsy from sleeping, she heard someone press her doorbell.

Shi Xiaoya rubbed her eyes and got up to turn on the lights.

She wondered if it was Han Zhuoling, but because she was not sure, she did not dare to open the door just like that.

Yet the moment she walked to the door, she got a call from Han Zhuoling.

"It's me." Han Zhuoling's voice had a light chuckle to it. "I felt that you probably would not really dare to open the door, so I called to tell you about it."

"I really don't dare to open it. I was just about to call you just now and ask if it's you," Shi Xiaoya said.

The hotel room door did not have a peephole and did not have a door chain.

If she opened the door, there would really be no security guarantee at all.

Hearing Han Zhuoling's words now, Shi Xiaoya could finally be at ease and hung up the phone before opening the room door.

Indeed, Han Zhuoling was standing at the door.

When Han Zhuoling saw that she was looking drowsy from sleep, he could not help feeling enticed.

Before Shi Xiaoya could react, he took big steps in and kissed Shi Xiaoya at the same as he lifted her up.

He did not even have time to close the room door fully.

Shi Xiaoya finally woke up for real this time and subconsciously hugged Han Zhuoling tightly.

Han Zhuoling turned his leg and only then closed the door.

And all these were seen by Liu Enxiao.

At first, Liu Enxiao had intended to go and find Shi Xiaoya.

She wanted to ask indirectly to try and get something out from Shi Xiaoya.

She wanted to know what relationship Shi Xiaoya had with Han Zhuoling, and why Han Zhuoling treated her so nicely.

Even during the games today, Han Zhuoling had actually let Shi Xiaoya win on purpose.

Liu Enxiao did not participate in the filming.

Even so, when the guests were chatting with the director team after the filming ended, the things they said revealed that during today's filming, Han Zhuoling stayed together with Shi Xiaoya all the way.

And during the last round, it was also Han Zhuoling who'd wanted to give in.

If there was nothing going on between Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya, they would be treating people like fools.

Hence, Liu Enxiao decided to go and find Shi Xiaoya to have a "chat."

Yet she did not expect that she would coincidentally see such an exciting scene.

Liu Enxiao quietly returned to her room.

She did not need to ask Shi Xiaoya anything anymore. She already got the answer to her question.

Chapter 1827: Bring Along Wherever I Go

But there was still one thing she did not understand.

Han Zhuoling did not like anyone. There were tons of female celebrities in the entertainment industry who were much prettier than Shi Xiaoya.

There were all kinds of beautiful women around, but Han Zhuoling did not fancy any of them.

Why did he like Shi Xiaoya then?

How exactly did Shi Xiaoya seduce him?

Liu Enxiao could not understand it no matter how she thought about it.

In Shi Xiaoya's room, Han Zhuoling's long fingers casually twirled around with Shi Xiaoya's long hair as he said, "Did I wake you up?"

"I didn't think you would come again tonight," Shi Xiaoya said as she blushed.

Seeing how tired she looked, he knew that she had been tired out today.

"When I hugged you to sleep last night, I had a taste of sweetness," Han Zhuoling said without hiding it at all. "If you let me sleep alone again, I won't be able to fall asleep."

Shi Xiaoya did not even think too much about it and said subconsciously, "But when we get back to B City, won't you have to sleep alone?"

Han Zhuoling raised his eyebrow as he smiled. "That reminds me. Why don't I move in to stay with you?"

"You can't do that!" Shi Xiaoya got a shock.

Han Zhuoling looked a little pitiful as he said, "What's wrong? Now you won't let me go?"

"Didn't I tell you before? My older brother and my mom, as well as the auntie from my parents' house, often come to my house, and they're the type who won't notify me beforehand," Shi Xiaoya explained.

"Who knows when they might just see you when they come in?"

“Both of us just started dating. Even if I bring you over to let them see you, and they agree, they won’t agree to the two of us staying together so soon,” Shi Xiaoya explained in a small voice.

Han Zhuoling sighed. “I’m just teasing you.”

“Annoying!” Shi Xiaoya lightly punched him without hesitation.

“No.” Han Zhuoling smiled and said, “I really want to hug you to sleep like this every day. I want to move to your place so I can see you every day.”

“In these two days, I seem to have been spoiled. I got so used to seeing you the moment I come out to being able to hug you to sleep when I come back at night,” Han Zhuoling said in a gentle voice.

Even Shi Xiaoya was shocked.

He was so good at saying sweet nothings. How did he manage to stay single in the past?!

So, it was not that Han Zhuoling did not know how to say these things, it was just that he’d never met someone who could make him say these things willingly.

After they went back, he would actually not be able to act like they could now, and thinking about it made Han Zhuoling depressed.

“I really want to tie you to my belt, so I can bring you along wherever I go.” Han Zhuoling stopped pressing against her and lay sideways, pulling her into his arms and hugging her tightly once.

Shi Xiaoya wrapped her arms around his waist and rested the side of her face against his chest, listening to the sound of his heartbeat. “I still feel very lightheaded now. This still feels like a dream.”

When Han Zhuoling heard that, he suddenly lowered his head and found her lips, kissing her heavily and even biting her lip gently.

“Does it still feel like a dream now?” Han Zhuoling asked in a low voice, sounding a little hoarse.

“Yes.” Shi Xiaoya lifted her head slightly to look up at him. “As long as I look at you, and I am this close to you, I would just feel as if I’m dreaming.”

Han Zhuoling did not really understand. The two of them were already so intimate.

They interacted very naturally with each other in the day as well.

Shi Xiaoya wrapped her arms around his waist and explained, “You are just a very expensive thing that every girl dreams of buying but can’t afford, like a thing that only exists on the stage, like a limited edition bag that’s the one and only of its kind in the world. Like premium jewelry that is out of reach even if one had the money. I don’t know how to put it, but it’s just that kind of feeling where something that is usually out of reach is suddenly brought in front of your eyes and you’re told that it now belongs to you.”

Chapter 1828: The World Is Changing

“Even when you look at it, you still can’t quite believe it, that such a fortunate thing would actually happen to you. You can’t even sleep, afraid that when you wake up, you’d realize that it’s only just a

dream. From time to time, you will want to look at it and confirm that it really does exist, and it really did happen.”

“Even then, you still won’t feel secure, because you just feel that such a good thing can’t possibly belong to you.” Before Shi Xiaoya could even finish, her lips had been kissed by Han Zhuoling.

“I didn’t know that in your eyes, I am actually so good,” Han Zhuoling said. “You are the same to me. That’s why I wanted to come over, to hug you, so that I will feel at ease. Because I am afraid that you will leave, afraid that you will suddenly change your mind and realize that I am actually not worthy of you. Afraid that you will realize that, actually, you don’t really like me that much.”

Shi Xiaoya gaped. She did not expect that Han Zhuoling would have such moments of self-doubt.

“I’m not that good, not something that’s encased within a glass box, that you can see but not touch,” Han Zhuoling said in a low voice, his palm resting on the back of Shi Xiaoya’s waist, where that curve was, and gently, slowly rubbing against it.

“I’m just a normal person, with weaknesses and bad habits here and there, and a little bad temper as well.” Han Zhuoling chuckled. “Saying such things now seem to be quite useless. Once we’ve spent a long time together, you will have noticed it.”

“I am actually afraid that when you notice these things, you will get tired of me,” Han Zhuoling said.

Shi Xiaoya shook her head. “I won’t.”

Those small habits, and not bothering about the little details, everyone would have some of that.

When two people are together, won’t they have to accommodate each other on these things?

“Sleep,” Han Zhuoling said. “You’re very tired today. The journey back tomorrow will be tiring too.”

“Okay. Good night.” Shi Xiaoya was really tired and did not take a long time to fall asleep like yesterday.

The moment she said that, she closed her eyes and fell asleep because she was tired.

Han Zhuoling could not help but laugh.

This girl, what was she saying about how she couldn’t believe what’s happening?

She was sleeping so soundly.

The next day, when Shi Xiaoya woke up, Han Zhuoling actually had not left.

When she opened her eyes, she saw Han Zhuoling’s sleeping face, his eyes still closed.

Shi Xiaoya did not turn around and could only try her best to stretch her elbow backward. She finally found her phone and saw the time.

“Why do you keep moving around?” Han Zhuoling finally awoke from her movements.

Shi Xiaoya thought to herself that they clearly just got together, so why did Han Zhuoling make it sound like they were an old couple?

“Quick, get up. We have to go to the airport in Ning City.” Seeing that he was awake, Shi Xiaoya immediately urged him. “Or else we won’t make it in time!”

Actually, it was Han Zhuoling’s private jet. Even if they were really late, the plane would still be there and they could just rearrange another time for take-off.

Even so, Shi Xiaoya still wanted to return to B City as soon as possible.

Han Zhuoling did not want to wake up and planted a kiss on her lips before getting up.

He returned to his room to pack.

Not long after, both of them were done packing.

They went to the hotel’s cafeteria to eat some light breakfast and went to meet up with Tong Chunian and Guo Yujie to go to the airport at Ning City together.

It was already 3:30 PM in the afternoon when they reached B City.

Han Zhuoling’s car had been parked at the airport all this while.

Tong Chunian and Guo Yujie were on the same wavelength and did not go and be gooseberries along with the two of them.

Tong Chunian very gentlemanly sent Guo Yujie home.

Shi Xiaoya got on Han Zhuoling’s car.

They went back to Shi Xiaoya’s home together. When she saw that Han Zhuoling did not intend to leave, Shi Xiaoya asked, “Aren’t you going back to the company?”

“I won’t go to the company today,” Han Zhuoling said.

Shi Xiaoya was stunned. This man was actually not going back to work immediately. The world was really changing.

Chapter 1829: A Trap

Han Zhuoling was opening his luggage. When he saw Shi Xiaoya’s reaction, he then said, “Didn’t I tell you before? Before meeting you, work indeed came first in my heart. But after meeting you, work can only give way to you. You’re now the one who comes first. Of course I have to stay here and accompany my highest priority.”

“Why? You think I’m only saying this to sweet-talk you?” Han Zhuoling stopped what he was doing and stared at Shi Xiaoya dangerously.

How would Shi Xiaoya dare to admit it? She quickly shook her head and said, “Of course I believe you. It’s just that hearing it is one thing, but actually seeing you do it still makes me feel very shocked.”

Who knew if Han Zhuoling believed it or not? He took out the pajamas he’d brought along in the luggage.

“Throw my pajamas into your washing machine to wash as well,” Han Zhuoling said.

His other clothes could not be machine washed, or else he would have left it all with Shi Xiaoya.

Shi Xiaoya did not think too much about it. She did not really understand why Han Zhuoling would take out just two pieces of pajamas and ask her to wash them now.

She still nodded and took Han Zhuoling's pajamas and threw them into the washing machine.

After that, she heard Han Zhuoling say, "Once they're done being washed, you can just keep them with you."

Shi Xiaoya: "..."

If she still did not understand what Han Zhuoling meant now, she would be a fool!

This man, he actually had not given up on the thought of moving in with her. He was talking in a roundabout way and slowly moving his things into her house.

As Shi Xiaoya thought about that, suddenly, her gaze landed on the slippers that Han Zhuoling was wearing.

A flash of light crossed her mind. Just when she was about to grab it, her thoughts were disrupted by the sound of her phone ringing.

She had placed her phone on the coffee table earlier on. Han Zhuoling glanced at the screen and saw the name displayed as "Brother."

It was a call from Shi Nancang.

Shi Xiaoya answered it. "Brother."

"Xiaoya, have you reached home?" Shi Nancang asked.

He knew roughly what time Shi Xiaoya would be back.

"Yeah, I just reached home. I'm still unpacking my stuff." Shi Xiaoya thought to herself that Shi Nancang could not possibly want to come over.

Shi Xiaoya turned to look at Han Zhuoling nervously.

"Are you going to order takeout again tonight?" Shi Nancang asked.

"Er..." Shi Xiaoya hesitated to answer.

She was so tired after coming back. She really did not have the strength to personally prepare dinner.

She was intending to go out for a meal at a restaurant with Han Zhuoling or order in takeouts.

Shi Xiaoya hesitated, and Shi Nancang thought that he was right.

"It's almost about time now anyway. You'll make it in time if you leave the house now," Shi Nancang said. "I booked a room at Sheng Yue. When you come over, we can eat together."

The house was very quiet. As she was talking to Shi Nancang, even Han Zhuoling did not make a sound.

Shi Nancang's voice rang out from the phone just like that.

Han Zhuoling raised his eyebrow.

He even wanted to eat alone with Shi Xiaoya.

It was fine even if they ordered in takeout.

With only him and Shi Xiaoya around, it would be good if they can stay at home alone peacefully.

Just because of this, he even forsook going to work.

Yet now, Shi Nancang wanted to ask Shi Xiaoya to go for dinner?

Shi Xiaoya said, "Brother, I just came back. Filming for the show these past two days was really tiring. And I had been traveling for almost the whole day today. I'm really too tired to go out."

"I see..." Shi Nancang wanted to change his mind the moment he heard that.

Yet just when he was about to speak, Shen Shi'an kicked him.

Shi Nancang glared at him and Shen Shi'an quickly clasped his palms together to plead with him.

Shi Nancang could only say, "How about I go and fetch you? I'll send you home right after dinner."

Shi Xiaoya felt that something was amiss. "Brother, what exactly is it? Why do you insist that I have to go? Did something happen?"

Chapter 1830: Something to Hide

"Nothing," Shi Nancang suddenly said. "It's you, actually. Why do you refuse to come no matter what I say? Don't tell me you're hiding something from me?"

"I just said it's because I'm too tired." Now, Shi Xiaoya felt guilty from Shi Nancang's questioning.

"That's not true." Shi Nancang changed his sitting posture and said, "If it was in the past, no matter how tired you were, as long as I say I wanted to eat with you, you would always come. Why do you keep refusing today?"

"..." Shi Xiaoya coughed and said, "Okay, okay. I'll just go, then."

After saying the name of the room, Shi Nancang hung up the phone.

He said to Shen Shi'an unhappily, "I really can't be assured introducing Xiaoya to you if you're like this. You don't know how to spare a thought for her at all. She just came back today, and you don't even consider letting her rest for a while. You just kept rushing her to come out."

Shi Nancang was very displeased with this.

Just then, when Shi Nancang said she was very tired and did not feel like coming out, Shi Nancang really wanted to agree.

But Shen Shi'an was urging him every day and really making him annoyed.

He just wanted to have Shi Xiaoya come out and show her face, then express whether she liked Shen Shi'an or not before quickly sending her back home to rest, lest Shen Shi'an pestered him all the time.

“I’m just afraid that because I’m too slow, your younger sister has already been wooed by someone else.” Shen Shi’an also saw the topics about Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya on Weibo.

To be honest, he did not believe Shi Xiaoya would really have anything going on with Han Zhuoling.

It’s true, Han Zhuoling followed her and liked her posts.

But the cold and aloof image Han Zhuoling gave people had been too deeply imprinted in their minds. People probably would not even think in that direction because of that.

Furthermore, Han Zhuoling had just had a divorce not too long ago.

Given his character, he probably would not look for another woman so quickly.

Not because he had deep feelings for his ex-wife. Now, almost everyone knew that Han Zhuoling had had zero feelings for her.

It was mainly because Han Zhuoling might not even want to waste his time on such affairs for the time being.

But no matter what, Shen Shi’an still felt a slight sense of danger.

He was afraid that if Shi Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling kept being talked about as a couple, the lady herself might harbor such thoughts.

Even if Han Zhuoling had a past marriage, it would not really damage his prestige and attractiveness to women.

To put it more bluntly, he only got married once.

He did not have any children, so the lady would not need to be a stepmother after marriage.

The wealth he had aside, he even had that dashing handsome face that was the dream of every girl.

It probably would not even reduce Han Zhuoling’s popularity among women.

Even if he too was a man, he had to say that Han Zhuoling was definitely the dream man in the hearts of most women.

What if Shi Xiaoya developed feelings for Han Zhuoling?

Then it would be troublesome if he started wooing her then.

That was why Shen Shi’an was so anxious to meet Shi Xiaoya earlier.

Shen Shi’an pleaded for mercy and said, “I’m just really anxious right now. If not, I couldn’t possibly be so inconsiderate as to insist on meeting her today. Previously, Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling were shipped as a couple online, and both of them also participate in the same variety show. Won’t I feel insecure?”

Shi Nancang pursed his lips and still did not speak.

Shen Shi’an put his palms together and kept pleading with him.

Zhong Litao persuaded, "Come, come, Shi'an is not a selfish person. Usually, he's very considerate and will always think of others. It's not like you don't know that, or you wouldn't have agreed to introduce your younger sister to him either."

"If not for the fact that he's usually reliable, I wouldn't have agreed to his request today," Shi Nancang said brusquely.