

Chapter 161: The key lies with someone else

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Nian Xiaomu fussed over the father and daughter tirelessly. When they finally finished their meal, she pulled out a chair and sat down across from Yu Yuehan with a look of anticipation on her face.

“Young Master, have you met Shangxin before?”

“Do you know anything related to her?”

“Why doesn’t she accept endorsements? And what is her background...”

“...”

Yu Yuehan furrowed his brow and kept silent as he watched how Nian Xiaomu began treating him like a human encyclopedia.

When she realized that she was shooting off too many questions, she covered her mouth with her hands and eyed him cautiously.

It was only then that he opened his mouth and slowly said, “If you want Shangxin to agree to the endorsement, the key lies with someone else.”

“...”

“Tang Yuansi, the new president of the Tang Corporation,” Yu Yuehan revealed the key person’s name indifferently.

Without checking if Nian Xiaomu had understood him, he got up from his seat, scooped up Xiao Liuliu since she was already done with dinner, and left the dining room.

Nian Xiaomu was left behind, pondering over his words.

She muttered to herself, “Tang Yuansi...”

When she snapped back to her senses, she quickly returned to her room and turned on the computer to type in Tang Yuansi’s name in the search engine. However, she was shocked to see the results that came up from her search.

There was not a single link related to Shangxin on the screen.

However, there was one link that was rather odd.

[The president of the Tang Corporation is an orphan who was adopted by the Yan Family, the number one clan in City S...]

However, what did this have to do with Shangxin?

Could it be that he did not allow Shangxin to accept endorsements?

Was their relationship what she thought it was...

Nian Xiaomu racked her brains for a long time, but could not figure out anything. What exactly was Yu Yuehan trying to tell her?

Making up her mind, she was determined to get an answer. Nian Xiaomu turned off her computer and left her room to look for Yu Yuehan.

It was so annoying that he had given a partial and unclear reply!

Nian Xiaomu stomped through the living room, but just as she was about to walk up to the second floor, the thought of Yu Yuehan's icy stare made her chicken out.

Turning around, she saw the assistant walk in with documents in his hands. A light bulb lit up in her head, and she dashed forward to stop him.

"Assistant Yang, may I have a few minutes of your time to ask you something?"

"..." The assistant stopped what he was doing and looked back at her with curiosity in his eyes.

"It's nothing much, but it's only that Young Master just told me that the key to persuading Shangxin was Tang Yuansi. Do you know what this means?" Nian Xiaomu looked at the assistant nervously as she asked.

The assistant hesitated for a moment, but proceeded to reply to her, "It seems like Shangxin has been very fond of President Tang for many years, but he hasn't reciprocated at all during this time."

"..."

Nian Xiaomu had not expected an answer like this and felt a mild shock.

The girl was courting the boy...

To think that this legendary gutsy lady was also one who loved and hated without fear.

An idea struck Nian Xiaomu and her eyes lit up.

"I know how to convince Shangxin now! Thank you, Assistant Yang!" As Nian Xiaomu spoke, she turned and ran back to her own room.

After she turned on the computer to check the endorsement proposal that she had prepared for Shangxin, she made amendments to the final clause and added new details.

Then, she checked it over several times to make sure that there were no problems before sending it out again!

After that, she clasped her hands and stared nervously at her email inbox.

Ding! The notification of a new email sounded, and she almost fell out of her chair from excitement. She grabbed the computer mouse and anxiously clicked to open the new email!

Chapter 162: One who is unaccountably solicitous is bound to be hiding evil intentions

...

A short and simple sentence floated into her view.

[I am willing to meet you.]

Shangxin had agreed to meet her?

Nian Xiaomu repeatedly read and reread the email a few times just to be sure that there was nothing wrong with her vision. Excited, she bounced up from the chair.

Ahhhh!

After so much hard work, she finally had a chance to meet Shangxin and talk to her about the endorsement in person!

Nian Xiaomu calmed herself down. She pounced in front of the computer and replied to the email rapidly: [I am alright with any time, when is your convenience?]

The moment she replied to this email, her heart palpitated again as she waited anxiously for the other party's reply.

Sheng Da Science and Technology had only given her a week to settle this.

If Shangxin wasn't free this entire week...

Soon, she received an updated email reply.

[See you at 10 am tomorrow morning at the Yu Corporation.]

[Okay, see you there.] After Nian Xiaomu sent this email, her emotional frame of mind finally calmed down.

She tidied up the proposal on her computer again, did some homework in preparation for the next day, and finally shut her computer down in relief.

Just when she was about to head to bed, the image of Yu Yuehan's face flashed past her brain.

She recalled that if not for his information, she would never have thought of the terms and conditions that would truly touch Shangxin and result in her accepting the endorsement. Come to think of it, she owed him a favor.

She would have to thoroughly think through how to repay him...

—

The next day.

Yu Yuehan had always been a light sleeper and was already awake before dawn.

After taking care of some urgent documents, he finally changed his clothes and headed downstairs for breakfast.

He had just reached the bottom of the stairs when he saw Nian Xiaomu, who seemed to be really busy in the dining room.

She wore an apron and stood before the dining table; she seemed to be fiddling with something, and her expression was full of concentration.

She twisted her head immediately when she noticed that someone had entered the dining room.

“Young Master, you’re awake. Are you hungry? Breakfast will be ready soon. Just give me a minute!” Nian Xiaomu smiled radiantly; her originally pretty facial features became even more charming with her sweet smile.

Subsequently, she turned around and rushed into the kitchen.

Not long after, she carried three glasses of milk and came out of the kitchen.

Yu Yuehan focused his stare and finally realized that three sumptuous breakfast sets were sitting on the dining table.

They seemed to smell, look, and taste great; one would develop a hearty appetite just by looking at them.

Even Xiao Liuliu, who had just woken up and was still a little groggy, ran toward Nian Xiaomu when she caught a whiff of the fragrance.

“Eat, eat!”

“Little glutton.” Nian Xiaomu pinched her little nose lightly. Very quickly, she lifted Xiao Liuliu up, sat her in her high chair, and then placed a breakfast set in front of her.

She looked at Yu Yuehan with an earnest expression only after she saw that Xiao Liuliu was savoring her meal.

“Young Master, try some and see if it is tasty?”

“...”

Yu Yuehan raised his head. He took a look at her, then shifted his gaze to the breakfast in front of him; all that was on his mind was the first meal that she made in the lounge of the office—that meal nearly destroyed the universe.

He took another look at the sumptuous spread before him. With a deep gaze, he pulled a chair out and sat down.

Holding his utensils in his hands, he cut a piece of ham unhurriedly. However, after a long while, he still did not place it into his mouth.

“Nian Xiaomu, one who is unaccountably solicitous is bound to be hiding evil intentions.”

“...”

“Has Shangxin accepted the endorsement?” Yu Yuehan took a glance at her and opened his mouth faintly.

Nian Xiaomu stared blankly before answering obediently, “Not yet, but she has agreed to meet me in person to talk about it.”

After which, she continued on like a lackey and said, “It is all thanks to Young Master’s guidance!”

When he heard this, an unexpected look flashed past Yu Yuehan’s eyes. Raising his head, he looked at her.

He had merely given her some information—she actually managed to think of an endorsement proposal that touched Shangxin within such a short period of time?

“What did you tell her?”

Chapter 163: So damn slow, so damn slow

...

Nian Xiaomu blinked her huge eyes as a crafty look appeared in her eyes. She said, “Young Master, this is considered a classified piece of information to the public relations department since the collaboration has not been confirmed yet—I cannot divulge this to others!”

“...”

“After Shangxin has agreed to the endorsement, you can ask Manager Wen about it when she reports to you on her work if you want to know more about it.”

“...”

Well done, she even guarded against the president!

Yu Yuehan looked at her coldly from the corner of his eye. Even though she had performed little actions like pretending to be mysterious, he did not take them to heart. He swept his gaze past the breakfast spread before him and placed the ham that was sitting on his fork into his mouth.

He tasted a mouthful of it—the taste was pretty decent!

In comparison to the previous time when she tried her hand in the kitchen, her improvement was not just a tiny bit. Instead, she had improved by leaps and bounds.

It was so delicious that one could not help but have suspicions...

“You made today’s breakfast?” Yu Yuehan collected his gaze. He cut a piece of a sunny-side up egg and placed it into his mouth.

It was three quarters done; exactly the texture that he liked.

The taste was appropriate as well; it was neither salty nor bland.

“... not everything.” A guilty look flashed past Nian Xiaomu’s eyes, and she sat down across from him. Stretching her hand out, she pulled her breakfast set toward herself and munched on her food with her head lowered.

She badly wished that they could skip this topic.

“Certainly not the ham and the sunny-side up eggs,” Yu Yuehan replied after he heard what she said. However, there wasn’t a single hint of astonishment on his perfectly sculpted face.

After eliminating the main dishes on the plate, his gaze landed onto a plate of baked bread.

“You baked this?”

It wasn’t tough to bake a loaf of bread. Adjusting the temperature and placing the dough in—she should know how to do all these things.

“...” When Nian Xiaomu heard what he said, she pursed her lips and did not dare to utter a single word.

In that case, it was probably a no.

Yu Yuehan knitted his eyebrows. He swept his gaze past the breakfast in front of him and noticed a bowl of vegetable salad which looked pretty exquisite.

With a movement of his eyes, he asked, “This?”

“Not this either,” Nian Xiaomu replied weakly.

Yu Yuehan: “...”

She had not cooked the ham, the eggs, the bread, or even the salad...

“Then tell me, what contributions have you made to the breakfast today?”

She had been really busy standing by the dining table just now—was she just purely helping the chef to arrange the dishes?

“Who said that I don’t have any contributions!” Nian Xiaomu was outraged. She pointed at the cup before him and declared, “I warmed your milk!”

Yu Yuehan: “...”

So her way of thanking him was merely to warm up a cup of milk for him?

“I even helped to wipe the table and serve the dishes,” she added on hurriedly. Nian Xiaomu felt his ice cold gaze on her, and her back stiffened.

Was this considered a contribution?

She also wanted very much to personally cook, but things like cooking required a natural gift from God.

She would have had to bid goodbye to her bonus if she burnt his kitchen once again.

She was also concerned about his stomach; he ought to appreciate this considerate thought of hers...

“Xiao Liuliu, is it tasty?” Nian Xiaomu twisted her head and looked pleadingly at the little rice ball beside her.

Xiao Liuliu was trying her best to use a tiny ladle to scoop up some egg that had already been sliced. Her tiny mouth was filled with food, but she nodded like a chicken pecking at its food when she heard Nian Xiaomu and replied in a muffled voice, "Very, very tasty..."

A content look filled her tiny and adorable eyes.

"Be careful not to choke on your food." As Nian Xiaomu reminded her, she passed Xiao Liuliu a cup of milk.

Xiao Liuliu hugged the cup and finished everything in a huff.

She even burped.

Covering her mouth, she looked at Yu Yuehan, "Daddi, why are you not eating?"

"..."

"So damn slow, so damn slow." Out from the princess whom he had borne came these quips.

A certain person's face turned even darker.

Nian Xiaomu had not expected the scenario to escalate into this, and her nerves tightened!

Seeing that Xiao Liuliu had eaten her fill, Nian Xiaomu lifted her up promptly, started running away, and said, "Young Master, it's time to head to work. I'll bring Xiao Liuliu to the office first!"

Chapter 164: Her bottom line

...

When they arrived at the Yu Corporation, Nian Xiaomu placed Xiao Liuliu in the care of the assistant at the president's office before heading to the public relations department.

Shangxin had agreed to meet her in the morning to discuss the endorsement deal.

She had to prepare the soundproof meeting room first.

In addition, she had to reprint the amended contract...

As she ran through the list of things she had to do in her head, Nian Xiaomu headed straight back to her own department.

"Will you be applying for approval to head out today, Supervisor Nian?" the secretary asked politely when she saw her.

Everyone in the public relations department was aware that Nian Xiaomu had been out and about to find a way to reach Shangxin for the endorsement deal.

When a few colleagues heard the secretary's question, they turned toward Nian Xiaomu.

"I don't need to go out today..." Before Nian Xiaomu could finish her reply, an exaggerated voice spoke out from behind.

“Oh, not going out? Supervisor Nian, isn’t it a bit too soon to face reality and admit defeat?” asked Fang Lan sarcastically as she entered the office and walked past Nian Xiaomu.

Nian Xiaomu furrowed her brow, but did not want to argue with her over it.

She stepped past Fang Lan to return to her seat.

Seeing that she did not reply, Fang Lan assumed that she had been given the cold-shoulder treatment a few times and was finally giving up. She went on to snub her more.

“Don’t forget our bet, Nian Xiaomu. If you cannot get Shangxin to sign the endorsement contract, then it proves that you are not qualified to stay in our public relations department!”

“Xiaolan, it’s still too early to say. Why are you bringing this up now?” One of her colleagues felt that she was going overboard and pulled her aside to remind her to watch her words.

From the start to the present, Fang Lan had been going on about this bet on her own while Nian Xiaomu had not promised anything.

In addition, Nian Xiaomu was a supervisor in the public relations department. Fang Lan had stepped out of line by talking to her superior like this!

“Even so, I still believe that no one can convince Shangxin... Don’t tell me that none of you feel the same as me?” a voice muttered softly.

When they heard this, many people fell silent.

Fang Lan perked up at those words, and her expression turned haughty.

Since she had already openly challenged Nian Xiaomu, she could shed all pretense of cordiality.

If she could use this opportunity to chase Nian Xiaomu away, she would be the main helper behind Xie Jingjing’s reinstatement!

“Even if we give her a year instead of a week, she will not be able to convince Shangxin. Don’t you guys know that someone tried to pass off as a fan to meet Shangxin at her events, but did not even get to see her manager?”

“...”

“I say let’s not waste any more time depending on a person like this. We should discuss how to explain the situation to the manager to avoid getting implicated by her!”

Fang Lan walked forward, and as she passed Nian Xiaomu, she intentionally shoved her with her shoulder!

The look in Nian Xiaomu’s eyes became sharp. “Wait!”

“What, Supervisor Nian? You were standing there and blocking my way. I only accidentally bumped into you. What do you want?” Fang Lan raised her voice to get the attention of the surrounding colleagues who looked over.

If Nian Xiaomu were to reprimand her for bumping into her, it would make everyone think that Nian Xiaomu was petty.

Nian Xiaomu ignored her sabotaging ruse and faced the people who were looking at them. She slowly said, "I remember you said before that if I manage to sign the deal with Shangxin, you will get down on your knees and apologize to me."

Chapter 165: Kowtow in apology

...

"So what? Don't even mention successfully signing Shangxin to the endorsement deal when you haven't even met her in person yet. Why should I apologize to you?" Fang Lan folded her arms and replied sarcastically.

However, the others did not know that she had specially asked around for insider news.

During the times that Nian Xiaomu had applied to work out of the office, it was rumored that not only had she not met Shangxin, she even injured herself.

She was really in a difficult situation.

The reason for her current behavior was only because she did not want to be embarrassed in front of her colleagues. Hence, she took on the full burden without complaint, right?

Let's see how reluctant she will be to admit her mistake when the one week deadline was up!

"Who said that I didn't manage to meet Shangxin?" Nian Xiaomu raised her head. She glanced at Fang Lan briefly and replied with a pause after every spoken word, "Shangxin will be here at the Yu Corporation office at 10 am today to discuss the endorsement deal with me."

"What did you say?" Fang Lan was in disbelief, and her eyes widened.

She was not the only one in shock—gasping sounds surrounded the both of them.

There was an instant change in everyone's expression.

They seemed to be in disbelief that Shangxin had indeed taken the endorsement into consideration and was even coming down personally to the office...

This was a first!

Nian Xiaomu ignored the astonished stares around her and walked forward directly. With slightly lowered eyelids, she stared down at Fang Lan's shocked face, "There is still an hour left before it's 10 am—you still have time to practice kowtowing in apology."

"..." Fang Lan's eyes shrunk!

Her face turned ghastly pale in an instant.

However, Nian Xiaomu did not stare at her further; she turned her head and instructed the secretary to book the meeting room for a time slot after 10 am.

Turning around, she returned back to her seat and switched on her computer to prepare the contract.

No one in the public relations department had expected such a turn of events.

Nobody pitied Fang Lan, who had acted out for her own benefit and suffered the consequences. Instead, they held some suspicions regarding what Nian Xiaomu had mentioned just now.

It was a known fact in the industry that Shangxin had an icily arrogant character.

There were numerous investors who fancied her popularity and wanted to invite her for endorsements, only to be rejected ruthlessly.

How could she have said yes to Nian Xiaomu...

It wasn't even 10 am, but the public relations department was already waiting seriously for Shangxin's arrival!

Time ticked by.

9.50 am.

The meeting room had already been emptied and furnished with fresh flowers and fruits.

9.55 am.

All the employees from the public relations department had rushed back, including those who were working out of office.

All of them wanted to catch a glimpse of Shangxin in person.

After all, Shangxin was so highly popular. However, apart from her official photos from work, it was nearly impossible for someone to get ahold of her personal photos. Hence, everyone was curious about what she looked like in private.

There were quite a few employees in the department who were fans of her, and they even had their cameras and signature books prepared.

"It is already 10 am. Why isn't Shangxin here yet?" someone asked in disappointment after staring at their watch and seeing the clock strike 10 am.

"There was probably a traffic jam on the roads. Why are you so anxious? Let's wait for a while longer."

The wait continued for another 10 minutes. However, there was still no sight of Shangxin.

Fang Lan, who was on the verge of desperation, regained her vigor in an instant when she noticed the situation and asked, "Could someone be lying and have managed to trick everyone else?"

The moment she spoke up, everyone's gazes turned toward Nian Xiaomu!

Nian Xiaomu did not know what had happened either. Just when she took out her cell phone and wanted to make a call to inquire, the cell phone was snatched away by Fang Lan.

Nian Xiaomu knitted her eyebrows and asked, "What are you doing?"

"I should be the one asking you this! You really have the nerves of a tiger!. How dare you lie to and cheat so many of our colleagues?" Fang Lan grabbed her arms and ridiculed her proudly, "You still wanted me to kneel down before you to apologize previously—I guess you are the one who should kneel down before the rest of us in apology!"

Chapter 166: Are, are you threatening me?

...

"Return me my phone." Nian Xiaomu's face darkened.

Although she had never met Shangxin before, she believed that Shangxin was not someone who would break an appointment without notice.

Something must have cropped up...

"Now you're feeling anxious? You should've considered the consequences before bragging to everyone," Fang Lan turned to look at the surrounding colleagues and spoke even more loudly.

Several people felt agitated toward Nian Xiaomu due to Fang Lan's incitement, and they turned to look at her with disapproval on their faces.

They would have been understanding if she had failed to enlist Shangxin to the endorsement deal.

However, if she tried to save face and told lies to deceive them even though she had not managed to get ahold of Shangxin, then that was too much!

After all, they had put in a lot of effort to prepare for Shangxin's arrival.

The set up in the meeting room had been assembled to the level of a VIP reception.

They had even called in the security staff to help maintain order in case Shangxin's appearance stirred up a commotion...

Now, it had all turned into a joke!

"I am not lying!" Nian Xiaomu had no desire to argue with Fang Lan, a person who wouldn't stop harassing her. She stepped forward to take her phone back.

Although Nian Xiaomu did not have Shangxin's contact number, she did have Shangxin's manager's number.

Since Shangxin had agreed to show up personally to meet Nian Xiaomu and discuss the endorsement deal, there was no reason that her manager would not pick up Nian Xiaomu's call.

She just wanted to find out what exactly was happening.

“If you’re not telling lies, then you have to explain to everyone why it’s past 10 and Shangxin is still not here! Are you still going to make a fool of everyone at this time?” Fang Lan was convinced that Nian Xiaomu was trying to find an excuse and refused to let go of the cell phone.

“If you want me to return the phone to you, you will have to get down on your knees and apologize to everyone!”

“...”

Her last bit of patience had run out. Staring at Fang Lan, Nian Xiaomu took a step forward.

Her eyes were burning with resolution.

It was as if she had transformed into another person. She exuded a domineering presence, enunciated every word clearly, and said, “I’m saying this for the last time. Give me my phone back!”

“...”

Fang Lan felt stunned by the look in Nian Xiaomu’s eyes and almost returned the phone obediently. However, the moment she stretched her hand out, she snapped back to her senses.

She threw her head back and looked back at Nian Xiaomu.

“Are, are you threatening me? Nian Xiaomu, everyone is watching. What are you trying to do to me... Ah!”

Before Fang Lan could finish speaking, Nian Xiaomu had already locked Fang Lan’s wrist and, disregarding the ear-piercing shrieks, took her phone back from Fang Lan’s hand.

As Nian Xiaomu let go of Fang Lan’s hand, Fang Lan fell to the floor.

Holding her wrist that was stinging in pain, she wanted to cry out for sympathy. However, Nian Xiaomu had already turned toward the colleagues and addressed them by saying, “It’s true that Shangxin had agreed to come today. I have proof in my email inbox, and I am not lying.”

“Nonsense! If Shangxin had really agreed to it, then why isn’t she here?” Fang Lan got up from the floor and bellowed through gritted teeth.

To think that Nian Xiaomu was so bold that she used force on her! Fang Lan could not wait to tear Nian Xiaomu apart!

“If you had not stopped me, I would have made a call to clarify.” Nian Xiaomu threw Fang Lan a sideways glance and dialed Shangxin’s manager’s number.

The phone rang twice before disconnecting.

Seeing this, Fang Lan snickered and retorted, “Did everyone see that? Shangxin’s manager did not even want to pick up her call. Nian Xiaomu, aren’t you going to admit that you’re lying...”

Before she could complete her words, she saw a lobby receptionist come running in toward them.

“Shang, Shangxin is here!”

Chapter 167: A strange familiarity

...

“What did you say? Who’s here?” Before Nian Xiaomu could speak, the surrounding colleagues asked in disbelief.

“Shangxin and her team have just arrived in our lobby and are on their way up. I called your department line, but no one picked up the phone, so I had to come here to inform you,” the receptionist pointed in the direction of the elevator, catching her breath as she explained to them.

Ding! The elevator door opened.

A svelte figure walked out from within.

She was tall and slim.

Her features were distinct and delicate, and her lips were a natural crimson red.

She was not wearing thick makeup and was not clad in outlandish clothes. Instead, her keen sense of fashion was apparent even though she had only matched a simple white top with ripped jeans.

It was really Shangxin!

Following behind her was her team of staff who looked professional and cautious. They stood close to her to prevent any unnecessary exposure from the public.

Everyone was stunned in the public relations department.

They watched blankly as Shangxin led her team forward, walked past the secretary who was in charge of welcoming VIPs, and stopped to speak to Nian Xiaomu.

“I’m sorry. We met with a bit of an accident on our way here. That’s why we are late.”

“... No, no worries.” A little spellbound, Nian Xiaomu stared at the person in front of her and replied.

She had thought that Shangxin was not going to turn up today.

Yet, in the blink of an eye, Shangxin had appeared before her and was apologizing sincerely to her.

“Can we start talking about the endorsement then?” Shangxin raised her head and swept her gaze past the other people in the public relations department before looking back at Nian Xiaomu.

“The meeting room is ready. This way please!” Nian Xiaomu snapped back to her senses and gestured for the secretary to lead the way.

Then, she walked in herself.

Inside the meeting room, Nian Xiaomu was finally able to calm down her nerves and take a good look at Shangxin.

She was very different from what Nian Xiaomu had expected.

Rumor had it that Shangxin was a cool and feisty girl who had been fearless since she debuted. In Nian Xiaomu's mind, she had painted an image of Shangxin that had thick makeup and held a cigarette in her mouth, like an aloof member of a triad.

However, the person before Nian Xiaomu was elegant and graceful in her ways. Shangxin's features were clean, exquisite, and appeared very amiable.

For some reason, Nian Xiaomu felt that she looked familiar...

"Have we met before?" Nian Xiaomu could not help but ask.

After she spoke, she felt that she might have been too abrupt and sounded like she was trying to make small talk. She wanted to explain herself, but saw that Shangxin had responded with a smile.

Nian Xiaomu was slightly taken aback.

Had they really met before?

Nian Xiaomu was about to say something when she saw Shangxin pull out a baseball cap from her bag and wear it over her head.

Nian Xiaomu's eyes widened with shock.

"It's you!"

It was the girl with the baseball cap that she had met twice at the event locations!

It was she who had helped Nian Xiaomu up after falling down.

Nian Xiaomu had not expected for her to be Shangxin because she had been wearing a mask and standing among the fans.

So it wasn't that she had not been able to meet Shangxin at the theme park. Instead, she had watched Shangxin leave before her own eyes...

Nian Xiaomu stared at the girl before her and could not regain her composure for a long time.

"I'm sorry I wasn't honest with you the past two times we met. Actually, I was waiting for someone..." Shangxin said as the expression on her face turned downcast.

Chapter 168: Afraid that he'll forget about me

...

"Is it President Tang?" Nian Xiaomu heard what she said and asked subconsciously.

When Shangxin heard her, a hint of surprise flashed past her eyes; it seemed that she hadn't expected Nian Xiaomu to be so straightforward with her questions. Instantly, Shangxin turned her head and looked at the people around her.

Her manager quickly waved her hands and motioned the team of people to exit.

Only the two of them were left in the meeting room.

Shangxin reached out and removed the baseball cap from her head. She pursed her lips and finally opened her mouth slowly to say, "I have known Brother Xiaosi for years. In the beginning, he was still in the orphanage..."

Shangxin seemed to have sunken into a memory hole; her aura completely changed.

Tang Yuansi was still one of the orphans from Orphanage Tongle when she first got to know him.

He was undoubtedly a child, but he seemed like an adult with his cool and mature character. He was cold to everyone and loved to sit alone in the tiny and rundown library of the orphanage, staring at the windows quietly.

He was cold to everyone except to her, whom he treated in an exceptionally gentle manner.

Afterward, he was adopted by her favorite uncle and nominally became her brother.

At that point, her favorite thing to do was to chase behind him; she would call out "Brother Xiaosi" and wait for his gaze to meet hers. Back then, he would look at her with a loving expression.

Alternatively, she would hide and only jump out after he felt anxious from searching for a long period of time—just to see his surprised expression...

Their childhood was filled with happiness; both of them were each other's innocent playmate...

Then, the Tang's appeared. Subsequently, everything started to change gradually...

"I am not afraid that you will laugh at me for saying this—the reason why I became a model was all because of him." A bitter smile emerged from the corner of her mouth; from the way Shangxin looked at Nian Xiaomu, she appeared to be lonely.

"Ever since the Tang Family fetched him home, he rarely contacted me. At that time, I often secretly slipped away from home just to see him. However, it was funny that even though I was already at the Tang Family, I did not want to see him at all. One day, by coincidence, I saw an advertisement for a modeling competition. It was a very simple thought at that time—if I can make it on television, he would be able to see me often and would not forget about me..."

"..." Nian Xiaomu had not expected that such a story existed behind Shangxin's mysterious appearance.

She stared blankly for a few seconds. Feeling sorry for Shangxin, she gave her hand a squeeze.

"I am fine. So many years have passed that I am already used to it." Shangxin shook her head and returned back to her strong, bright appearance.

Reaching out, she held her baseball cap in her hands and paced back and forth in front of Nian Xiaomu. "Do you know why I wear this baseball cap all the time when I disguise myself and sneak into the crowd of fans?"

"It was a gift from him?" Nian Xiaomu raised her eyebrows.

“Yup.” Shangxin nodded her head actively as her smile became even brighter and more beautiful. She added, “He was against me entering the entertainment industry and felt that this industry was too complex. Hence, he always flew into a terrible rage whenever he heard that I had events to attend. Yet, he would be worried about me afterward and could not help but visit me whenever I attended any events.”

As Shangxin spoke on, she seemed to have thought of something, and her smile gradually disappeared.

“However, he would not even be able to come to the events that I am attending now.”

“...”

“I wear this baseball cap on purpose because I worry that he won’t recognize me when he arrives. Sadly, I forgot the fact that it would be useless for me to wear this if he did not visit at all. Look at me, aren’t I very silly?” Shangxin’s expression became uncertain as she spoke on.

Sometimes, persisting on a matter for a long period of time would turn it into a habit.

However, one would still feel exhausted even if it was a habit.

One would feel like giving up...

“Since you wanted to meet him, why didn’t you look for him?” Nian Xiaomu asked, feeling puzzled.

She had checked Tang Yuansi’s personal details—he was single and ready to mingle.

It shouldn’t be a problem even if the roles were swapped and Shangxin was the one chasing him.

Chapter 169: Thinking out of the box with help from the gods!

...

“He is very busy at work and won’t see me.” Shangxin grasped the baseball cap silently in her hand and bit her lip. “Actually, I know that he just doesn’t want to see me. Sometimes, I don’t even know if I should press on...”

“If you still like him, of course you have to press on!” Nian Xiaomu grabbed her hands as she urged Shangxin to not give up.

“Have you forgotten that I had been rejected multiple times when I first tried to get you to be our spokesperson? You had even turned me down personally, but look at us now!”

They were sitting together and were not only discussing work matters, but also chatting like good friends.

This was why one would never know if a miracle would eventually happen if one did not persevere!

“...” Shangxin paused for a moment before breaking into a smile and nodding in agreement.

Nian Xiaomu had initially moved Shangxin with her tenacious spirit.

She was very special!

“I’ve seen your endorsement proposal. I’m interested in the final clause of it. Do you have the utmost confidence that you can deliver the product to him?” Shangxin took the proposal from Nian Xiaomu’s hands, flipping to the last page and pointing at it as she raised her question.

The collaboration between Sheng Da Science and Technology and the Yu Corporation was a series of high-tech electronic products.

The first product to be rolled out was a new smartphone.

The biggest selling point of this new cell phone was its unique design and a novel smartphone experience.

The main promotional point was its exclusivity.

This was why Sheng Da Science and Technology had hoped to appoint Shangxin, who was known for her strength of character, to be the spokesperson. However, the reason Nian Xiaomu managed to win her over was...

“I have already discussed it with Sheng Da Science and Technology. As long as you are willing to be the spokesperson for this cell phone, they will customize a pair of couple phones for you. The home screen for the male set will be your photograph. As for the female set...”

“I have his personal photograph!” Shangxin interrupted excitedly.

Her heart felt fuzzy with delight just thinking about how she would be greeted with Tang Yuansi’s photograph on the home screen whenever she unlocked her phone.

More importantly, her photograph would be on the home screen of his phone!

In the future, whenever he had to pick up a phone call or send a text message, he would see her...

It would be impossible for Tang Yuansi to forget her then!

“I would have been able to arrange a pair of couple phones on my own too. It’s just that he has returned all the presents that I have sent to him in the past. Why would he use a phone with my photograph on it?” Shangxin asked with grave concern.

This was why she had made a special trip to the company office.

She had been willing to break her policy of rejecting endorsements only because there was a tinge of hope that Tang Yuansi would keep an item related to her close to himself.

If the contract could not fulfill this point, then she would not be the least bit interested in the partnership no matter how much the endorsement fees were.

“Then we will have to see if he has you in his heart.” Nian Xiaomu looked to the side and a streak of cheekiness flickered past her eyes.

Seeing that Shangxin was lost in her thoughts, Nian Xiaomu explained with a smile, “The Yu Corporation is in charge of the launch of the new products for Sheng Da Science and Technology. I will deliberately release the news that Sheng Da Science and Technology will customize 10 sets of cell phones as part of its commemorative activities. I found out that the Tang Corporation and Sheng Da Science and

Technology have business ties, so it is quite reasonable to present a cell phone to Tang Yuansi using Sheng Da's name."

This way, Tang Yuansi would not find out that his phone was part of a unique pair of couple phones.

He would treat it as a gift from a business partner and would not find it strange that the photograph on the home screen was Shangxin since she was the product spokesperson.

"What does this have to do with whether or not his heart is thinking about me?"

Chapter 170: Humiliation!

"Of course it has to do with it!" Nian Xiaomu answered without hesitation.

Although the home screen and wallpaper could be set to Shangxin's photographs and this would be unchangeable, if Tang Yuansi refused to use the phone, there was nothing they could do about it.

Customizing 10 sets of luxury cell phones was only an excuse to present one of them to Tang Yuansi.

Whether Tang Yuansi used that phone or not depended on his feelings toward Shangxin.

"It is common for collaborating partners to exchange gifts with each other. If Sheng Da Science and Technology were to present the phone to Tang Yuansi, it definitely would not be refused. However..."

"I understand. I'll be content if he keeps that phone by his side even if he does not use it!"

Shangxin reached over for the contract and signed it without a second thought.

Then, she handed it back to Nian Xiaomu.

Nian Xiaomu took back the contract, and her heart pounded slightly as she looked at the signature on it.

Shangxin had really agreed to be the spokesperson...

Outside the meeting room.

From the time that Shangxin entered the room, the entire public relations department had been leaning against the wall and trying to listen in to find out what was going on inside.

"Shangxin is so gorgeous. She's my queen..."

"She's so polite too! Not the least bit cold and aloof like she was rumored to be. Did you all hear how she personally apologized to Nian Xiaomu just now?"

"I didn't expect that Nian Xiaomu could actually manage to invite Shangxin to the office to discuss the endorsement deal. Do you think that she will really seal the deal?"

"Since Shangxin is already here, the chances of signing the contract should be very high, right?"

"Then Fang Lan would have to..."

Everyone turned to look at Fang Lan spontaneously as they spoke.

She was now standing behind everyone and had not moved an inch since Nian Xiaomu led Shangxin into the meeting room. Just a moment ago, she had been relentlessly pestering Nian Xiaomu, but she now appeared to have stiffened up.

Her face burned with worry as she listened to her colleagues' discussion...

"How can all of you be so sure? It's well-known in the industry that Shangxin does not accept endorsement deals. Maybe she is here for other matters," someone said nervously.

Immediately, she was rebutted by another person. "I heard it with my own ears when Shangxin said that she was here to discuss the endorsement deal with Supervisor Nian."

"They're only discussing it, so it might not be a done deal."

When Fang Lan heard that, her eyes lit up.

That was right!

If the deal fell through, then she would not lose the bet even though Shangxin had appeared at the company.

On the other hand, Nian Xiaomu would have to explain herself to everyone if she did not succeed in closing the deal!

Fang Lan's eyes turned sullen as she squeezed to the vanguard of the group that had gathered in front of the meeting room. She saw Shangxin's team standing there and prepared to approach them.

However, before she could speak, the door to the meeting room opened from within.

Shangxin walked out first with a beautiful smile on her face.

As she walked out, she was still looking back into the meeting room. It was only when she fully walked out of the meeting room that everyone realized that she had been holding Nian Xiaomu's hand!

The two of them looked chummy, as if they were a pair of sisters.

Ye Mingmin stepped forward and cleared her throat, asking carefully, "Shangxin, what is your final decision regarding the the endorsement deal?"

Without waiting for Shangxin's reply, Ye Mingmin worried that her question had been too abrupt, so she continued, "If you cannot decide right now, please take some time to consider it. We are very sincere..."

"I don't need to consider it." As Shangxin cut Ye Mingmin short, she turned and clasped Nian Xiaomu's hands with her own. "I agree to the deal. In addition, I hope that all the proposals related to my endorsement deal will be handled by Supervisor Nian!"