

Priceless Baby 521

Chapter 521: Extremely Guilty

Ying Bao was a four-year-old child after all. No matter how precocious she was, she could have never figured out the underhanded tricks of those criminals.

She thought that it was Huo Yunshen who had sent his staff to pick her up and bully her.

Seeing that her daughter had misunderstood Huo Yunshen, Xu Xiyan patiently explained. "Ying Bao, please listen to Mommy. Daddy is not a bad daddy. Those bad uncles were not even sent by Daddy. Someone pretended to be your daddy's staff and deceived you. You were tricked. Daddy loves you the most and he would never harm you, understand?"

Ying Bao pouted her little mouth, her little eyes staring warily at Huo Yunshen.

Huo Yunshen sighed inwardly. He knew very well that the intimacy he had painstakingly built with the child was completely ruined because of this incident.

If he wanted to re-establish his image in the little girl's mind, he might need to work even harder.

"Ying Bao, didn't Mommy tell you before? Next time, if anyone is looking for you and they say that it was Mommy or Mommy's friends who had sent them, you cannot believe them and you must not go with them, no matter what. And if they say it was Daddy who had sent them, you must not believe them, understand?"

Xu Xiyan took the opportunity to warn her child again and told her not to trust strangers easily.

This incident shall be a painful lesson to her. She hoped that her daughter would not be fooled again in the future.

"Okay," Ying Bao puffed out her cheeks and looked down, not looking at Huo Yunshen anymore.

After a while, she said, "Mommy, Baby has a headache."

Ying Bao felt a headache as well as something pulling tight on her scalp. She reached out to scratch at it subconsciously.

Xu Xiyan held down her hand in time and said, "You are injured. There was a hole in your head. The doctor has stitched it up, applied medicine and bandaged it up for you. You mustn't scratch it now, otherwise, the wound will be infected."

Ying Bao understood and nodded, not saying anything anymore. She only blinked her large eyes as she held onto her mother's hand, not wanting to let her go.

Huo Yunshen felt himself suffocating due to the tension in his chest. He said to Xu Xiyan, "I'm going outside for a while, I'll be back later."

He knew that Ying Bao wanted Xu Xiyan to be with her now, so he decided to leave the ward and give both mother and daughter alone time together.

“Okay,” Xu Xiyao nodded.

Huo Yunshen went out of the ward and met Ye Xun outside the door. Ye Xun saw him coming out of the ward and asked, “Is the child awake?”

“Yeah. She is with her mother now.”

Huo Yunshen looked somewhat down. After he finished his words, he headed for the hospital's smoking room.

Ye Xun had wanted to enter the ward, but he decided to follow Huo Yunshen silently instead.

In the smoking room, Huo Yunshen's towering body was facing away from the door. His head was lowered and the expression on his face was not visible, but a great sadness could be felt emanating from him.

Ye Xun walked into the smoking room. Huo Yunshen lifted his head slightly and saw him handing him a cigarette. He did not refuse him and took the cigarette from his hand.

Ye Xun took out a lighter and lit the cigarette for him. He also lit one for himself and took a puff.

The two men silently smoked for a moment before Huo Yunshen let out a deep sigh.

“Why are you sighing? Isn't Ying Bao already awake?”

“She is, but she's very resentful of me now. She's afraid of me.”

Huo Yunshen pressed a hand to his eyes, a pain in his voice, “I think... I'm not a good father.”

He felt very, very remorseful, and extremely guilty.

He blamed himself for not being able to help when his child needed a blood transfusion.

He felt guilty that he was not being responsible enough for his child and had not protected her well.

Ye Xun gently patted his back and said, “Don't blame yourself, Ying Bao is still temporarily traumatized. After she recovers, she won't hate you anymore.”

Chapter 522: A Weight Off His Chest

After listening to Ye Xun's words of comfort, Huo Yunshen felt as if a weight had been lifted off his chest.

Ye Xun was right. He still had the chance to rebuild his relationship with Ying Bao.

No matter how long it would take, he would put in an effort to get along with his child.

He lowered his hand and let out a sigh of relief. He thanked Ye Xun sincerely, “Ye Xun, I'm really grateful to you. Thank you.”

Ye Xun puffed his cigarette and exhaled smoke. He shifted his posture and then looked at Huo Yunshen, his head lowered. “Don't say that, Boss. I'm your subordinate and it is my honor and duty to serve you. It is you who saved your daughter. You shouldn't blame yourself.”

Being able to serve Zeus, the supreme leader of the JS Group, was the glory of Ye Xun's life.

From a hostile enemy to a subservient subordinate, Ye Xun had been slowly won over by Huo Yunshen's character and charisma. He was willing to become his follower.

In the ward, Xu Xiyan kept her daughter company, chatting with her.

She told Ying Bao everything about how the bad uncles had deceived her and committed the crime. She turned it into a simple and easy-to-understand story for Ying Bao.

After listening to the story, Ying Bao contemplated for a moment. Then, she asked, "The bad things were done by the bad uncles. So, Daddy didn't become bad?"

"Of course not. Have you forgotten? Daddy is the best daddy in the world. How could he hurt you? He still loves you very much."

Xu Xiyan patiently explained over and over again, trying to dispel her daughter's resentment towards Huo Yunshen.

"..." Ying Bao said nothing. She was probably thinking about her mother's words in her heart.

"Listen, Ying Bao. Mommy is going to tell you a little secret!"

"What little secret?"

Xu Xiyan held Ying Bao's little face in her hands and gazed into her big and bright eyes. She said to her earnestly, "Didn't you used to ask Mommy before who your daddy is and who fathered you? Now Mommy can tell you that you're not a bastard child. Daddy is your biological father and you're his biological daughter."

"..."

This secret was not little at all for Ying Bao. It was a very big secret.

Mommy said that I am the biological daughter of Daddy, is this true?

"Mommy, are you lying to Baby?"

Ying Bao still found it hard to believe. If he was really her father, why hadn't Mommy told her in the first place?

Back then, when Xu Xiyan had first introduced Huo Yunshen as her daddy, Xu Xiyan did not mention that he was her biological father. Ying Bao had misunderstood and thought that it was Uncle Dimples who had given her a special deal and given himself away for free.

"No. Mommy is not lying. Think about the little dimples on your cheeks. Don't you think they're the same as Daddy's dimples? You've inherited them from him. Daddy has passed his loveliest dimples to you. With this little pair of dimples, Daddy can find you quickly and accurately no matter where Ying Bao goes. This is the secret mark shared between you and your daddy, understand?"

Ying Bao lifted a chubby little hand and touched her face. She then thought about the dimples on Daddy's face, finally believing what her mother had said.

That's right, she was the biological daughter of Daddy. It's no mistake!

Ying Bao's spirits improved and she was beginning to show a little excitement. She asked, "Mommy, where is Daddy now?"

She was already looking forward to seeing her biological daddy.

Due to Xu Xiyao's patient explanation and persuasion, Ying Bao was gradually forgetting her fear of Huo Yunshen and began to accept him again.

Considering that Ying Bao just got out of critical condition, she needed rest. Xu Xiyao gently coaxed her, "You should lie down and sleep. After you wake up, Daddy will come and see you."

"Okay."

Ying Bao closed her eyes, falling asleep almost instantly due to her weakness.

Chapter 523: Have To Face It Sooner Or Later

The child looked better in spirit as she slept. There was even a faint smile on her lips.

Xu Xiyao's heart was filled with tenderness. She looked at her daughter lovingly for a moment before lowering her head to kiss the child gently on the cheek.

The child was sleeping soundly when Xu Xiyao's phone vibrated. She picked up her phone and went outside of the ward to answer the call.

It was Qi Liya. She asked Xu Xiyao why she had left without saying anything that day at lunch with the whole production crew.

"I'm sorry, Miss Qi. Please apologize to Director Huang for me. I had an emergency at home that day, so I had to leave," Xu Xiyao briefly explained.

"It's okay, I'm just asking. I have good news for you. Our new drama 'Red Sleeved Beauty' is officially releasing today."

Qi Liya wanted to share this piece of good news with her. Originally the drama was delayed due to Huang Guoqiang's case, but now it was back on schedule for the pilot episode.

"That's great, everything's back to normal after so many ups and downs."

Xu Xiyao truly felt that it was not easy to shoot a drama successfully.

Just like "Red Sleeved Beauty," "Root of Evil" had also encountered many special circumstances caused by various reasons during the shooting process.

Now that her very first TV series, "Red Sleeved Beauty," was officially released, it gave her a sense of achievement.

Speaking of "Root of Evil," Xu Xiyao had taken leave from the production crew. With her daughter being hospitalized for several days, she'd been focused on taking care of her.

While Ying Bao was still asleep, Huo Yunshen returned to the ward, rejoining both mother and daughter.

“Cherry's asleep?” Huo Yunshen asked, feeling his heart melting as he looked at his daughter's tender little face.

“Yeah.”

Xu Xiyan turned around and faced him. She asked with concern, “Are you all right?”

She was a bit worried whether Ying Bao's fear and resentment towards him had pressured him psychologically.

“I'm fine. I just feel sorry for her. If it wasn't for me, she wouldn't... sigh...”

Huo Yunshen's deep and dark eyes were filled with regret. If he had simply not revealed his child's identity and had hidden and protected her like Xu Xiyan had been doing, then all of this would not have happened.

Xu Xiyan held his hand, and smiled at him as she comforted him, “I've already said this before. I don't blame you at all, not one bit. We still have to face it sooner or later, and it just happened that this had occurred ahead in time. We'll just have to protect our child better in the future, isn't that right? Don't worry, I've told her that you're her biological father and she is very happy. She will not hate you.”

If she was like a typical woman, she would have definitely quarreled with him over her child's injury. But she did not do so.

This beautiful and intelligent woman had conquered him with her personality and charm, warming his heart with her kindness and gentleness.

She brought him too much joy and surprise, warmth and inspiration. His life was enriched because of her. His life was complete because of her.

His spirit and soul had long been completely possessed by her.

Huo Yunshen caressed his daughter's little face and said with great gratitude, “Thank you, Jing Xi. I thought that I would be lonely till the end of my life. But you've given me the best daughter in the world and I really don't know how to repay you.”

Xu Xiyan looked into his deep eyes and said half-jokingly, “Well, if you can't repay me, then you should marry me!”

“Sure.” A vibrant light glimmered in Huo Yunshen's bright and clear eyes. Then he added, “If you don't mind me.”

As long she did not mind him, he was willing to devote his life to her. He was willing to give everything to her.

Chapter 524: Greatest Fortune

“Why would I? I'm already very grateful that you don't mind my poor background.”

Whenever Xu Xiyan was with him, she often felt undeserving of him.

She wanted to be better and stronger so she would become qualified to stand side by side with him.

“No, you're already perfect enough. In my heart, you're the kindest and the most beautiful woman in the world. It is my greatest fortune to have met you!”

He lifted a hand and held her face gently, as if he wanted to take a good look at her, engraving that perfect image of her in his mind forever.

“Me too.”

It is also my fortune to have met you.

The two gazed at each other, only having each other in their eyes.

At this moment, the whole ward was filled with love and warmth.

The two conversed with each other softly while watching over their daughter. Time passed little by little until they heard a childish voice, “Mommy... Daddy...”

Both Xu Xiyan and Huo Yunshen were surprised. They lifted their heads at the same time and saw that the little girl on the hospital bed had already woken up.

After sleeping, the kid now looked more energized and her face was not as pale as before. Her large grapes-like eyes rolled around as they moved back and forth between the faces of the two adults.

How happy she was to be able to see her daddy and mommy by her side after opening her eyes!

Huo Yunshen suddenly heard the child call him “Daddy.” He could not believe the pleasant surprise and asked Xu Xiyan, “Did she just call me Daddy?”

“Yup, she just called you that.”

Xu Xiyan smiled, then leaned over to check the child's condition. “Baby, are you awake?”

Ying Bao nodded.

Huo Yunshen steered his wheelchair towards her and called her softly, “Cherry.”

Ying Bao blinked her big eyes, then stared at Huo Yunshen for a while before saying, “Daddy...”

She was really calling him Daddy!

He thought that the little girl would continue to resent him and had been searching his mind on how he could restore the image his daughter had known him for. Now, he realized that his daughter was really more sensible than the average child and she was able to understand the hardships of an adult.

“Cherry, Daddy is so happy that he can have such a good and lovely daughter like you. Daddy is really so lucky.”

Huo Yunshen was so moved that tears began to well up in his eyes. He was so happy to be able to hear his child call him Daddy again. He felt like crying.

Ying Bao held out a chubby little hand at him. Huo Yunshen took her little hand in his, both father and daughter clenching each other's hands tightly.

Ying Bao arched her eyebrows as she smiled. "Daddy, Baby is so lucky too. Baby was dreaming about you."

"Really? What did you dream?"

"Baby dreamt that Daddy could walk again, and Daddy was flying a kite with Baby."

The child had even dreamed of flying a kite with him. This showed how much she had longed for a father's love.

Huo Yunshen blinked his teary eyes as he promised her, "Okay, after Cherry is discharged from the hospital, Daddy will fly a kite with you."

Ying Bao was very happy to hear that, but when she thought of her father's wheelchair, she asked again anxiously, "But Daddy can't run and fly a kite in a wheelchair!"

"Yes, I can. Daddy has already learned how to walk. Daddy will never rely on a wheelchair anymore."

"That's great." Wanting to fly a kite with her father as soon as possible, Ying Bao tugged on her mother's sleeves with her little hand and pleaded, "Mommy, Baby is already feeling okay. Baby can be discharged from the hospital."

Xu Xiyan caressed her child's face and persuaded her, "You can't for the time being. The wound on your head is still not yet healed and you still have to stay in the hospital for treatment. You can only go home after the doctor says that you can leave the hospital."

"Oh."

Ying Bao pouted her little mouth, feeling upset after her mother had burst her bubble. She still had to be hospitalized. How much longer would she need to stay in the hospital? It's so boring!

Chapter 525: His Most Beloved Baby

"Well if you're bored, why doesn't Daddy tell you a story?"

Huo Yunshen had brought a storybook in advance and showed it to the child. Ying Bao's eyes lit up at the beautiful picture book. She said excitedly, "Okay! Baby wants to listen to Daddy's story."

Huo Yunshen proceeded to tell a story to the child as Xu Xiyan quietly sat beside them.

Seeing that both father and daughter were getting along well, Xu Xiyan felt very grateful. She hoped that they could be safe and happy every single day in the future.

In a dark basement, the wounded kidnapper knelt on the ground, his hands bound.

Ye Xun and Yi Xiao came over with some men, approaching the criminal. Ye Xun raised his pistol, aiming it in between the cold-faced man's eyebrows.

“Speak! Who do you work for?”

No matter how much he asked, the cold-faced man refused to budge and remained indifferent.

Since he was not speaking up, there was no need for manners. Ye Xun clenched his fist and delivered a hard and ruthless punch to the cold-faced man.

Despite being beaten up, with bruises all over his face and a bloody mouth, the man still refused to talk.

Ye Xun still had other ways to deal with such a stubborn criminal. He went up to him and stepped on the back of the man's leg.

He stepped hard on his leg and pressed the muzzle of the gun against the man's temple. He said through gritted teeth, “If you won't talk, I'll kill you!”

The face of the criminal contorted at the pain. “Don't kill me... Please don't kill me... don't shoot...”

As Ye Xun slightly lifted the muzzle of the gun, the cunning man took the chance to shove Ye Xun away with his shoulder, trying to escape.

How could he escape just like that?

Yi Xiao and the others, who were outside the door, stopped him and kicked him back inside before beating him up madly.

“Don't beat me... Don't beat me... I'll talk...”

The man proceeded to explain his reason for abducting the child, blood spilling from his mouth as he spoke.

Even if he had confessed, it didn't mean that he got to live. What he and his partner had done was really cruel.

Ye Xun lowered the muzzle of the gun back toward him. He fired several shots at the criminal's legs, arms and his heart.

The cold-faced man instantly fell to the ground, blood gushing from his mouth. His body twitched a few times before he died on the spot with his eyes wide open.

Death by gunshot was simply too lenient. Ye Xun resented that he could not slice him into million pieces and obliterate his existence.

Who had told him to harm his most beloved baby?

On the second day of Ying Bao's hospitalization, Ye Xun came to the ward to visit the little girl.

“Daughter, are you feeling better now?” Ye Xun asked as he stroked the little girl's head lovingly.

Ying Bao lifted her little face at him and responded obediently, “Baby is already well!”

“That's great. What a good girl.”

Ye Xun reached out to squeeze the child's cheek. Ying Bao noticed the gauze bandage around his hand and asked, “Uncle Tree-Leaf, what happened to your hand?”

He had gotten the injury on the back of his hand when he punched the wall two days before. Ye Xun withdrew his hand, smiled and told her, "It's nothing. It's just a little injury."

Ying Bao furrowed her little brow, and said, with frustration in her voice, "How could you get injured, Uncle Tree-Leaf? You're already a big adult but you're still worrying. Sigh..."

The child spoke just like an adult. Everyone in the ward was amused by her words and laughed out loud.

Ye Xun held the child's hand in his, stroking it as he thought gratefully:

Fortunately, Ying Bao was saved. How boring would our lives be without this happy little bean?

Just then, while Ye Xun was keeping Ying Bao company, someone barged into the ward.

Just by listening to the hasty clatter of footsteps, he could already guess who had come.

Chapter 526: My Dear Baby

Just by listening to the hasty clatter of footsteps, he could already guess who had come.

"Hey-hey-hey..." Huo Sanyan shot herself towards the hospital bed. Her face was full of anxiety. "Have I come too late? I only got word in the morning, so I came over right away. Is my eldest niece already feeling better?"

Ye Xun turned and glared at her. "Hey, be gentle and don't scare the child."

"Oh, oh, sorry!" Huo Sanyan clasped her hands together apologetically.

She turned to look at the little girl on the bed. She smiled as she greeted her, "Hi, my dear baby. Do you know who I am?"

"Auntie Three-Eyes," Ying Bao replied, spritely and surely.

Huo Sanyan put on a very serious expression as she corrected her, "No, no, I'm not just any auntie. I'm your 'gugu.' You should call me 'gugu,' understand?"

Ying Bao did not understand. She cocked her head and asked, "What's a 'gugu?'"

"Erm... it means that your father and I have the same mother, and when your father gave birth to you, you're my biological niece because of our blood relationship. So you should call me 'gugu,' understand?"

Huo Sanyan was having a hard time explaining and the little girl still wore a blank expression on her face. Huo Sanyan was beginning to become flustered.

Xu Xiyan felt that Huo Sanyan's explanation was too complicated and decided to help. "Baby, do you remember how to sing that nursery rhyme? What do you call Daddy's sisters in Chinese?"

The little girl recalled the nursery rhyme and recited it to herself in her heart before finally getting it.

"Baby remembers now! Daddy's sisters are called 'gugu' in Chinese. Auntie Sanyan is Daddy's sister, so she is my 'gugu.'"

The child finally understood and Huo Sanyan was very happy. She caressed the child's little face as she praised, "Oh my, my big niece is so smart and clever. How adorable!"

After coaxing the child, Huo Sanyan turned to look at Xu Xiyan, then at Huo Yunshen. She said in a reprimanding tone, "What should I say about you two? Don't you think the both of you are being overly secretive about the child? I had no idea the child was already this grown up. If it wasn't for this incident, we would never have known that the two of you already have a child. Seriously, my lovely eldest niece suffered so much grievance for nothing because of this."

Before, Huo Sanyan thought that Huo Yunshen was trying to please his parents by taking Ying Bao back to the Huo family house and showing them the child. She thought that it was for their father's sake that her brother had lied to everyone and said that the child was his daughter.

But now, she finally knew the truth, and it was great. She was really happy for her brother.

"Sis, for the time being I hope you will not expose Ying Bao to the public for her safety's sake."

Huo Yunshen had to remind his sister as a precaution. Otherwise, she would definitely tell the good news to the rest of the Huo family with that big mouth of hers.

Huo Sanyan nodded at him fervently. "Yeah, yeah, I know. Don't worry, I didn't tell anyone except for mom."

Huo Yunshen: "..."

He really felt like questioning Huo Three-Mouths: did she really want to ruin her brother's life?

So that busybody had already told their mother about it. How would his mother react if she found out that Ying Bao was Xu Xiyan's and his child?

Before leaving, Ye Xun told Huo Yunshen and Xu Xiyan everything the criminal had told him during the interrogation.

The two kidnappers who had kidnapped Ying Bao were identified. They were formerly internal employees of Yunhai Entertainment.

A few months ago, they had committed theft of the company's public property, stealing a great amount of it. They had been ruthlessly fired by Huo Yunshen and then turned over to the authorities.

Therefore, the two men held a grudge against Huo Yunshen and kidnapped Ying Bao as their revenge after learning that she was his daughter.

After the truth was clarified to Huo Yunshen, he began to blame himself even more.

Chapter 527: Confessed With All His Heart

It was all his fault. It was all because of his incompetence in handling the situation that his daughter had been abducted.

The truth was, after he had fired the two employees and turned them over to the authorities, he had no idea that Huo Jingtang had bribed them as soon they were released.

Huo Jingtang was looking to take advantage of the two men's vengefulness and had employed them himself.

Even if the truth of the incident was exposed after they'd been used to deal with Huo Yunshen, nobody would suspect that he was behind it.

Huo Yunshen returned to the ward. Ying Bao was asleep. Xu Xiyan noticed that he was looking a bit troubled. She asked, "Uncle, are you all right?"

"I'm all right." Huo Yunshen shook his head, then curved his lips lightly into a faint smile. He didn't want to affect Xu Xiyan with his negative emotions.

"What did Second Senior say?"

Just now, Xu Xiyan had seen Yi Xiao come to see Huo Yunshen. The two men had stepped outside to talk, as if they were deliberately hiding something from her. She wondered whether the topic of their conversation had anything to do with Ying Bao's kidnapping.

Huo Yunshen knew that the more he tried to hide the matter, the more curious she would become. He decided that he might as well tell her the truth, "Jing Xi, what if I told you that I had indirectly caused the child's abduction? Would you blame me?"

He then proceeded to tell Xu Xiyan all possible causes of the incident. After listening, Xu Xiyan smiled and said, "How could I blame you? You were only being a responsible leader of your company and you're right for punishing them. It was obvious that the two men were holding a grudge against you and that's why they harmed Ying Bao."

"Thank you for understanding."

Huo Yunshen looked down, away from her, thinking for a moment. Then he lifted his head and said, "Jing Xi, if... if you and the child will be in constant risk of danger because of me, are you still willing to be with me?"

Huo Yunshen was thinking about his plans in the long run.

If his identity as the supreme leader of the JS group was exposed one day, he was afraid that the dangers he would face would be unthinkable.

Those from the Dark Zone, the survivors of exterminated terrorist groups, and the relatives of those who were killed as mission targets...

Danger may come from everywhere.

When that time came, how was he going to protect his most beloved family?

"You're so stupid!" Xu Xiyan held his hand and looked into his eyes. She said to him very seriously, "I will follow you no matter where you go. I don't care what kind of dangers are there. I'm not afraid."

She pressed her hand to his chest, over his heart, as if she was swearing an oath to the gods. “Even if it was a place full of peril, or even in death or hell, as long as you're there, I'll be there too. Huo Yunshen, in this lifetime, I will be with you no matter what.”

In front of Huo Yunshen, Xu Xiyan cast all her reservations and pride aside and solemnly confessed to him once again. She just wanted to let her prince charming know what was in her heart.

As long she could be with him, why fear the storm?

“...”

Tears began to well up in Huo Yunshen's eyes. He was so moved that he was lost for words.

Xu Xiyan was very faithful to him. He could never repay her kindness in this lifetime no matter what he did.

If he didn't know how to cherish such a loving and faithful woman like her, he deserved to go to hell.

“Jing Xi, I don't know what to say. I just want you to know that—my life is yours.”

He lifted her hand to his lips and gently kissed it.

The atmosphere was just right. Flames of passion danced in Huo Yunshen's charming eyes as he lifted them to gaze at her affectionately. His hand gently held her face as he said to her with deep affection, “Jing Xi, I love you.”

He confessed with all his heart.

“You said that you love me? I don't believe it. How much do you actually love me? How deep is your love?”

Huo Yunshen couldn't help but arch his charming eyes and smile as he listened to Xu Xiyan's question.

Indeed, girls who fall in love are so cute and silly.

He clearly loved her very much and his heart belonged to her. But despite being around him for so long, she could not feel it and still wanted him to say it to her.

Chapter 528: Driven By Passion

“Perhaps my love for you is so vast that I couldn't even figure out how much.”

Their hearts stirred as they gazed into each other's eyes, beating faster and faster.

She wanted to know how deep his love was. Finally, Huo Yunshen slid his hand to the back of her head, pulled her close and planted a long and passionate kiss on her lips.

He was a practical man who always preferred to express his heart through action.

Driven by passion, Huo Yunshen pulled her little face close and planted a kiss on her thick and succulent lips.

He had only wanted to kiss her lightly, but after pressing his thin lips onto hers, Huo Yunshen found that he could not control himself.

Perhaps he had restrained and accumulated too much love in his heart, and now he felt like desiring more.

Xu Xiyan widened her eyes, staring at his up close as their lips were locked together. She felt both shock and joy at the same time.

When she was overwhelmed by his fierce but tender kisses, she slowly closed her eyes and enjoyed his love with her heart.

His kisses were getting stronger and stronger and she felt like she was being completely enveloped by him. His kisses were so strong that he could have swallowed her.

When both of them were kissing affectionately, someone knocked on the door. Their moment of passion in the ward was interrupted.

Flustered, they quickly separated from each other and turned their heads toward the door at the same time. They saw Chen Yunlu standing at the door.

Huo Yunshen steeled himself and said, "Mom, why are you here?"

Chen Yunlu crossed her arms, tilting her chin up slightly. Her discriminating eyes looked Xu Xiyan up and down.

She didn't have to search her brain to figure out that the mother of her beloved granddaughter was Jing Xi.

The daughter of Jing Ruyue had given birth to a child with her son. This was not a slap to her face; it was more like her face was being ruthlessly stomped on the ground.

"I'm here to see my eldest granddaughter of course!"

Chen Yunlu walked straight in, automatically ignoring Xu Xiyan's existence. She stood next to Huo Yunshen and looked at the child on the hospital bed.

"How is my granddaughter?"

No matter how bad Chen Yunlu's opinion of Xu Xiyan was, the child was still her biological granddaughter and she adored her very much. When she had learned that the child was injured, she became very distressed.

"She's much better. She looks more spirited today than yesterday," Huo Yunshen replied.

"That's good, I'm glad to hear that."

Chen Yunlu let out a sigh as she sat down on the bed. "What's going on lately? First, your father, then your grandfather, and now, it's Cherry's turn to be hospitalized. Why is there so much misfortune in the Huo family?"

“Mom, don't be so pessimistic. Just look at Dad, he just miraculously woke up from a coma, and nothing serious will happen to Grandpa for the moment. Cherry will be fine too. They will all be fine, don't worry.”

As Huo Yunshen comforted his mother, Xu Xiyao could only listen to them quietly in the room. It was so awkward being treated like air.

She made a hand gesture to Huo Yunshen that she wanted to go out for a breather and she would be right back. Huo Yunshen nodded at her.

After Xu Xiyao left the ward, Chen Yunlu no longer glanced at her from the corner of her eyes. There was disappointment in her voice. “Yunshen, tell me honestly. What's going on with the two of you?”

At first, Chen Yunlu thought the both of them had just known each other. She thought that Jing Xi was intending to exploit Huo Yunshen's status.

She really didn't expect that the woman had given birth to his child in secret. How sly.

But there was something that she could not figure out. Ying Bao was already four years old. When had that woman hooked up with her son?

“Mom, I've told you about us. I will marry her no matter what. We're both already together, so don't mind us anymore.”

Huo Yunshen didn't want his mother to interfere and ruin his relationship with Xu Xiyao.

“Don't mind you? I'm your mother. Who is going to mind you if not me? I don't object to whoever you're going to marry, but why do you have to choose her?”

Chapter 529: Not On Good Terms In The First Place

Chen Yunlu was angry. She would feel really unhappy inside if the daughter of Jing Ruyue were to become her daughter-in-law.

“What's wrong with her? She doesn't mind your son being a cripple and she doesn't covet your son's status. She painstakingly gave birth to a child alone so your son would still have a legacy. Mom, just put yourself in my shoes and think—don't you think a good girl like her is hard to find in this world?”

Huo Yunshen had already set his mind on Xu Xiyao anyway. He would marry no other than her in his lifetime.

“I know, but I'm just feeling displeased. Whenever I think of her mother, I will...”

Chen Yunlu couldn't describe how displeased she was.

“Mom, you should respect the dead. Auntie Jing has already been gone for more than ten years. You should let go of your grudges against her. Besides, why should the younger generation bear the grudges of the older generation? Don't you wish to see your next generation living a happy life?”

“...”

Chen Yunlu was speechless.

It wasn't that she couldn't understand those reasonings. It was just that she couldn't let go of her grudges.

It was just like a thorn in her heart. It hurt whenever it was tampered with and it was difficult to root it out.

In the end, Chen Yunlu was still stubborn. "In any case, I will only recognize my own granddaughter. I'm taking her back to the Huo family house after she is discharged from the hospital. I don't want the blood of our Huo family to stray outside."

"I know, Mom. You should go home now!"

Huo Yunshen would bring the child back to the Huo family. He would finalize his marriage plans with Xu Xiyan after settling recent affairs, and bring both mother and daughter home as legitimate wife and daughter.

Huo Yunshen herded his mother out of the ward. When Chen Yunlu came to the door, she realized something was amiss. "Yunshen, where's your wheelchair? You can walk again?"

"Yeah."

"That's great!"

Chen Yunlu felt this was great news. Her son who had been disabled for five years actually stood up again.

Chen Yunlu left the ward in a pleasant mood. But when she got out to the corridor, she met Xu Xiyan who was waiting outside the ward.

Their eyes met. They glared at each other as if they were born enemies.

Chen Yunlu gave a scornful look and Xu Xiyan behaved like a stranger in front of her. Neither of them greeted the other.

They were not on good terms in the first place anyway. There was no way Xu Xiyan was going to act humble in front of Chen Yunlu.

Even if she had backed down 10,000 steps, she would not accommodate her just because she was Huo Yunshen's mother and would not even act against her will just to please her if she were to be with Huo Yunshen in the future.

She believed that a harmonious relationship between mother and daughter-in-law could not be forced.

Chen Yunlu let out a long sigh, feeling contempt for Jing Xi inside. She looked up and down at Jing Xi. There was nothing impressive about her. She looked like a floozy—just like her mother.

Especially that attitude of hers; her lack of morals was nothing new.

But if she thought about it, Jing Ruyue had passed away when Jing Xi was still young. It was no wonder that Jing Xi was so rude now because Jing Ruyue had not been around to discipline her daughter.

At this time, Chen Yunlu put on an air of an elder and spoke, sounding displeased. "Jing Xi, come with me. I have something to say to you."

Xu Xiyan narrowed her eyes and said coldly, "What is it that you can't tell me here?"

Jing Xi broke yet another virtue. One more point off for disrespecting elders, Chen Yunlu thought.

Chen Yunlu sneered at her disdainfully, "If you don't mind someone else eavesdropping on your mother's past, I don't mind telling you here at this very spot."

Her mother was suddenly mentioned. Xu Xiyan scrunched up her delicate eyebrows and asked, "What do you want to say?"

"Hmph," Chen Yunlu snorted. She crossed her arms and began to walk out of the hospital.

Xu Xiyan didn't know what Chen Yunlu had up her sleeve, but curiosity urged her to catch up with her.

They came out to a relatively secluded place in the hospital garden.

Chen Yunlu stopped in her tracks, and stood firmly for a while before turning around on her heels to face Jing Xi. She raised her chin at her slightly, showing off her air and superiority of a lady of a wealthy family.

Chapter 530: Half-Siblings?

Xu Xiyan stopped a few feet in front of Chen Yunlu as she caught up with her. She asked, "All right, what do you want to say? Why did you suddenly mention my mother?"

Chen Yunlu took a quick glance around. When she saw no one was around, she said, "Jing Xi, do you know why Yunshen's father suddenly had a stroke this time?"

Xu Xiyan stared suspiciously at her. She threw the question back to her, "How would I know?"

Chen Yunlu fixed her dark eyes at her and said, word by word, "It's because of your mother."

It was because of her mother?

How could that be?

Xu Xiyan seemed to have heard a joke. She said noncommittally, "My mother has been dead for many years. Don't tell me Mr. Huo Zhen's stroke was caused by my mother's ghost?"

"I know you will not believe it, but that's the truth. If it weren't for this case, I wouldn't be telling you about our family's scandal."

After Xu Xiyan listened to Chen Yunlu's explanation about the past, she became confused for a moment.

Wait, let me get this straight...

Chen Yunlu said that her mother, Jing Ruyue, had had a relationship with Huo Zhen, and the two had an unforgettable first-love relationship.

One of the entries in the diary Jing Ruyue left behind was about breaking up with her first love “H” due to a misunderstanding. If what Chen Yunlu said was true, was “H” referring to Huo Zhen?

After learning about their relationship, Xu Xiyan finally understood. It easily explained why Chen Yunlu had always had disdain for her.

But she never guessed that her mother would turn out to be Huo Zhen's first love.

Back to the topic about the cause of Huo Zhen's sudden stroke, Chen Yunlu had found a photo on the ground in Huo Zhen's office.

“This is the photo I found that time.”

Chen Yunlu had brought the photo with her. She took it out and handed it to Xu Xiyan.

Xu Xiyan took the photo from her. The photo was old and yellowed. It had been taken many years ago, but the image was still very clear.

The man and woman in disheveled clothes in the photo were indeed Huo Zhen and Jing Ruyue.

Upon suddenly seeing a disgraceful photo of her mother from the past, Xu Xiyan's mind was completely filled with befuddlement. She felt like she had received a heavy punch to her head.

After a long while, she returned to her senses and asked, “Who gave this photo to him?”

“How should I know?”

Chen Yunlu did not know who had given the photo to Huo Zhen, but she was certain that Huo Zhen had had a stroke after seeing the photo.

Xu Xiyan was silent for a while before speaking again. “All of this is in the past. What are you trying to gain by telling all of this to me now?”

Xu Xiyan believed that Chen Yunlu would not show her the photo for no reason. She must have her purpose.

“Yes, I know it was the past. The reason why I brought the photo to you is that I want you to understand what kind of relationship your mother and Yunshen's father shared in the past. Your mother was involved with Yunshen's father. Do you think it is appropriate that you continue to get entangled with Yunshen?”

Chen Yunlu was impassive as she questioned Xu Xiyan.

“...”

Xu Xiyan was beginning to feel confused. She had always been clear-minded but her mind was so foggy now. She didn't know what to say.

She had already figured out Chen Yunlu's intentions. It was clear that she was trying to indirectly persuade her to leave Huo Yunshen.

Seeing that Xu Xiyao was no longer talking, Chen Yunlu assumed her words had taken effect. She continued to strike while the iron was hot. "Have you ever thought that if they were really together that time, you and Yunshen might be half-siblings? Do you really want a disgusting relationship with him?"

Half-siblings?

Her words came like thunder. Xu Xiyao's heart felt as if it had been struck by lightning.