

Rebirth Of The Villainess: Young Master Lu's Wicked Wife -

Chapter 211 : We Can't Have It All (1)

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It was also around the same time the recruits Su Xiaofei met earlier were allowed to go home after they finished their dance class. They all saw her rushing from the elevator, then to the front doors with a wide smile on her face, with her two bodyguards following closely behind her.

‘She’s still here? What’s up with her?’ One of them asked curiously, while Xiao Rufeng only stared at Su Xiaofei’s retreating form.

Then they saw a young dashing man, coming out from the car, greeting Su Xiaofei.

One of the young male recruits whistled upon seeing Lu Qingfeng.

‘Ah, one should know a pretty girl like her is already taken. Even her boyfriend looks outstanding.’ He commented while the others nodded in agreement.

With the beauty Su Xiaofei possessed, it would be surprising if she wasn’t seeing anyone. As they looked at the young, handsome man standing next to her looked like he was also from a well-off family.

‘I thought people can’t have it all, but it seems like she has everything. Am I deep asleep when God decided to bless everyone

with beauty and talent?’ The young woman next to Xiao Rufeng frowned.

Without knowing what the others were thinking about her, Su Xiaofei met Lu Qingfeng.

‘You don’t look like you were tired.’ Lu Qingfeng said upon meeting her. He had come straight to Bluemedia from the Qiyang City branch of Lu Corporation because she complained that she was tired and hungry from all the walking she did with Uncle Fang.

‘Of course, I took a break and rested before meeting you. Where are we going to eat?’ She asked with such excitement on her face as she hooked her arm with Lu Qingfeng’s.

‘Do you have anything in mind?’ He asked in return. ‘I know a place, but I’m not sure if you would like the menu.’

‘I trust your judgment, Xiao Feng.’ Su Xiaofei replied before they decided to take a stroll around the business district of Guangshang, the Zhang siblings keeping a short distance from them.

Lu Qingfeng was more familiar with

the place and knew where they were going. After fifteen minutes of walking, they reached their destination.

Su Xiaofei’s eyes gleamed when she saw the menu. Lu Qingfeng was worrying for nothing!

While they waited for their order, Su Xiaofei looked around and found her bodyguards also ordering their meals.

‘Don’t worry about them. I don’t starve my subordinates. You should know this.’ She heard Lu Qingfeng say.

Su Xiaofei hummed. This was one of the things she liked about Lu Qingfeng. He was very generous to his subordinates.

The first time she had seen something like that was when they were younger. Whenever Lu Qingfeng treated her for a meal, he wouldn’t forget to remind his subordinates to have their share as everything would be under his tab.

‘Feifei, whatever happens tonight, you should listen to me, okay?’ Lu Qingfeng raised the topic Su Xiaofei had been waiting to hear.

‘En, but do you have a plan?’

Tonight must be the night Mo Yuan was supposed to lose his life over a car accident, but if Old Madam Mo was really behind it, it would be troublesome to save the young man from her scheme.

‘Yes, but there’s no assurance that Mo Yuan would be able to survive unscathed. I just received a report from Nine that the Old Madam has sent her people to trail her second grandson.’ Lu Qingfeng replied.

Su Xiaofei stared at her drink, wondering how could that old hag be this vicious towards her own flesh and blood. Even if Old Madam Mo didn’t like Lan Xiaoju, Mo Yuan was still her kin.

Anyway, who was she to criticize the old woman, when her own mother had abandoned her for her own selfish needs?

‘So we’re just going to follow him?’ She questioned the young man across from her. Looking at Lu Qingfeng, Su Xiaofei’s suspicion regarding him knowing something was starting to stir in her heart again. She didn’t know why she was feeling this, but something about Lu Qingfeng was really different from what she could remember.

Lu Qingfeng’s demeanor and attitude weren’t like this when they were at this age. They weren’t this close as far as she could remember. Was it because Lu Qingfeng had confessed to her this early that things between them had changed?

‘We don’t have many options, Xiaofei.’ Lu Qingfeng reminded her. ‘What would you think that old woman would do if she knew that we intercepted her plans? You’ve already offended the Mo family by breaking your engagement with Mo Yuchen. If the madam knew that we were involved tonight, she wouldn’t be able to instigate something towards me, but she could certainly stir trouble for your mother.’

Su Xiaofei pursed her lips hearing that. Why was it that whenever she did something, it was always her mother that needed to bear the consequences? That was unfair in her opinion, but anyway, Lu Qingfeng had a point, so she couldn’t do anything reckless right now.

‘I know.’ She conceded. Su Xiaofei felt that she couldn’t win against this young man at all. Lu Qingfeng always have some to say in return to her excuses.

‘It’s good that you know. I don’t think you realized how afraid and worried we were when we heard from Xi Qian that you’ve been stabbed.’ Lu Qingfeng’s face darkened upon remembering what happened.

It hadn’t been too long since he was reborned into his fifteen-year-old body and yet, the moment he heard the news that Su Xiaofei had been stabbed, he felt like his heart had been stabbed by a hundred needles at the same time.

Su Xiaofei could only pout and hold back her words as the waitress came back with their food.. How can she not feel guilty when Lu Qingfeng put it that way? She knew now that she couldn’t be reckless and put her life in danger again just to reach her goals.

Chapter 212 – We Can’ t Have It All (2)

Three hours later, Su Xiaofei found herself seated next to Lu Qingfeng at a stadium where young racers and youngsters were driving on the track. At her insistence, she had managed to convince Lu Qingfeng to dress up and pretend to be a couple who was on a late night date.

From where they were seated, they could see Mo Yuan laughing with his friends while drinking with them. Unless Mo Yuan turned his head and stared at them, it would be hard for him or anyone to recognize the two.

Zhang Lan was also there, participating in their game under Lu Qingfeng's instruction. She would be keeping a close eye on Mo Yuan, while informing Lu Qingfeng what was happening or if Old Madam Mo's people were nearby.

Su Xiaofei fought the urge to yawn and pinched her arm to stay awake. After her long day at Bluemedia and with her hunger satisfied, it was normal that she would feel sleepy and tired even though it was still early.

'Feifei, you can take a nap if you can't keep up. I'll keep an eye on him.' Lu Qingfeng suggested, but Su Xiaofei shook her head. She needed to make sure that she would be able to ensure Mo Yuan's safety.

'No, I just need some coffee.' She said, and waited to see what would happen next.

Lu Qingfeng then glanced at one of his bodyguards, and one of them immediately left to fetch their future lady boss a cold coffee she could drink. They'd been working for a long time as Lu Qingfeng's bodyguards, so how can they not know that this woman was in their young boss's heart?

By treating Su Xiaofei well, their young boss would surely treat them better. They had all witnessed how angry Lu Qingfeng could be when one of their former colleagues made a mistake and said something bad about the young Su Xiaofei back then.

'No one is allowed to bully, Xiaofei! If anything, I'll let her bully every one of you!' The young Lu Qingfeng was seething with

anger when he overheard what the bodyguard said about Su Xiaofei.

Since then, everyone has been cautious with their words when it comes to Su Xiaofei. None of them dared to say anything against her, especially in their young boss's presence, in fear that they would lose their jobs because of their loose mouths.

'I didn't know that Mo Yuan could be this impulsive. Doesn't he value his life?' She chuckled as they saw Mo Yuan took the driver's seat of one of the cars that were about to race.

'Must be eager to lose his life this early.' Lu Qingfeng scoffed. Even if the old woman didn't instigate to kill Mo Yuan, he could easily lose his life if he continued to be this reckless.

After an hour of waiting, Su Xiaofei had dozed off next to Lu Qingfeng, with her head resting against his shoulder. Even the cold coffee had no power to keep her awake. As she was peacefully napping next to Lu Qingfeng, Zhang Lan raced with Mo Yuan, beating him in the process.

When Mo Yuan reached the finish line, he burst in laughter and shook hands with Zhang Lan, congratulating her. He had never expected that a woman like Zhang Lan would be able to beat him so easily.

Lu Qingfeng noticed that Mo Yuan was the exact opposite of his elder brother. While Mo Yuchen was cold and arrogant, Mo Yuan was a social butterfly who could easily get along with other people.

It didn't take long before Mo Yuan bid goodbye, which alerted not only Old Madam Mo's people, but also Lu Qingfeng. Lu Qingfeng immediately nudged Su Xiaofei to wake her up.

'Feifei, wake up. It's time to leave.' He said in a gentle voice that others would find surprising, given how he could be impassive but polite when talking to others.

Su Xiaofei shot her eyes open and rubbed her eyes. She then thought that it was a good thing that Lu Qingfeng was with her, but regretted that she had fallen asleep while waiting for Mo Yuan to leave.

'Did he leave already?' She asked as she blinked her eyes, allowing her eyesight to adjust to her surroundings.

'En. Zhang Lan and Zhang Ling are following after him. Madam Mo's people have left with him.' Lu Qingfeng replied, before leading her to the other exit of the stadium, making sure that she was safe before leaving.

As they followed the GPS of the car that Zhang Lan was using, Lu Qingfeng kept on tapping his fingers over his knees as he couldn't stay calm. He had never met Mo Yuan in his previous life, and he was wary on how this sudden change would affect Su Xiaofei's life in the future.

By saving Mo Yuan's life, she was indirectly announcing war against the old woman, and while he wouldn't allow anyone to touch even a strand of her hair, Lu Qingfeng would rather prevent her from putting herself in danger.

‘Boss, Zhang Lan’s car just stopped.’ His driver told him and Su Xiaofei.

‘How long has she been inactive?’ Lu Qingfeng asked.

‘It’s about one and a half minutes, boss.’

Lu Qingfeng checked the time on his wristwatch and waited until it was time to intercept Old Madam Mo’s people.

‘Wait here, Feifei. I’ll bring Mo Yuan to you alive.’ He told Su Xiaofei, but she shook her head, refusing to be left behind by him.

There was no way she would allow Lu Qingfeng to do it on his own.

‘I’ll go with you. Don’t think that you can just leave me, Lu Qingfeng!’ She gripped his arm, refusing to allow him to alight the car without her.

Lu Qingfeng stared at her and considered his options. If he left Su Xiaofei now, he was certain that she would do something reckless behind his back.. He can’t really leave her under his driver’s watch.

Chapter 213 – Saving Mo Yuan (1)

‘Please, Xiao Feng. Don’t leave me here.’ Su Xiaofei begged Lu Qingfeng, her eyes never leaving his. She couldn’t just leave everything to him. Until she was certain that her revenge was

successful, she couldn't just stay still and do nothing, waiting for Lu Qingfeng to do the dirty work for her.

'Just take me with you, please. I promise I will listen to you.' She added with a pleading voice.

Lu Qingfeng scolded himself inwardly because he knew perfectly well that he couldn't deny her wishes if she begged him like this.

'Fine, but promise me you will never leave my side no matter what happens.' He conceded.

Su Xiaofei nodded her head, and they hurriedly alighted from the car, with some of Lu Qingfeng's bodyguards following after them.

There was a light shower of rain, but Su Xiaofei knew that the rain was about to fall hard at any moment. She hoped that they would be able to save Mo Yuan in time before the rain drenched them like a rat in some unknown alley in Qiyang City.

Lu Qingfeng was following the path to where Zhang Lan was being located, his right hand holding Su Xiaofei's hand. They turned to several alleys and streets in hope that they could catch up with Zhang Lan and Mo Yuan soon.

'I hope Zhang Lan is safe.' Su Xiaofei thought. Something must have happened because she wasn't moving from her last known position for over five minutes now.

As she ran behind Lu Qingfeng, Su Xiaofei was also glad that she'd been working out in her free time lately and that she was able to keep up with Lu Qingfeng's pace without catching her breath.

Suddenly, Lu Qingfeng stopped, forcing Su Xiaofei to a halt as well.

When Su Xiaofei was about to open her mouth to ask why he suddenly stopped, she heard a few footsteps coming their way.

‘Get him! He’s here! Don’t let him escape!’ Someone shouted from afar.

Lu Qingfeng pulled Su Xiaofei to his side as Mo Yuan came rushing towards them with a

bloody shirt as he held onto his sides.

Su Xiaofei’s widened at the severity of his injury and if Mo Yuan didn’t receive a first aid treatment anytime soon, he would lose his life from blood loss.

As they heard the other men’s voices becoming louder, Lu Qingfeng suddenly pulled Mo Yuan’s collar and dragged him behind a raft of bamboo and woods that were kept next to an ongoing construction site near them.

‘W-what—’ Mo Yuan exclaimed as fear gripped his heart. He didn’t expect that someone would be waiting for him in this area. He hissed in pain and clutched as his gunshot wound, his sight starting to become blurry as his energy dissipated from his body.

‘Save your breath, Second Master Mo, if you still want to live. But you should know I’m not doing this for you.’ Lu Qingfeng said, as

he forced Mo Yuan underneath the raft. ‘Don’t let your blood seep out, or we will be dead.’

Mo Yuan grunted, but didn’t say more. He didn’t have time to ponder who these people were as his injury was getting worse. His body shook as the pattering rain shower made the night colder than usual.

‘They are getting closer.’ Su Xiaofei said in panic. If they ran now, they would surely be found out by Old Madam’s people. Mo Yuan was already injured and his condition would only worsen if they moved him hastily.

‘What do we do now, Xiao Feng?’ She asked in a low voice, making sure Mo Yuan wouldn’t be able to hear them.

‘Feifei, you trust me, right?’ Lu Qingfeng’s face remained unchanged as he looked at her face.

Of course, he wanted to leave with Su Xiaofei right now and abandon the young lad under the raft, but Lu Qingfeng was aware of how important it was for Su Xiaofei to preserve Mo Yuan’s life this time. Still, he didn’t like that she couldn’t avoid the danger and consequences of her choices, as there was always a risk waiting for her in every scheme.

‘Of course. Why would I ask for your help and be here with me if I didn’t?’ Su Xiaofei scowled in return. Why was Lu Qingfeng asking her this question anyway?

‘Then please cooperate with me.’ Lu Qingfeng responded.

Before Su Xiaofei could understand what Lu Qingfeng was up to, she found herself pressed against the wall, next to the raft where Mo Yuan was hiding and was kissed hard by Lu Qingfeng. Her eyes widened in shock as his strong body firmly trapped her between him and the wall.

Soon, the group of men came to the dark alley where the three were, shining their flashlights. It was only then Su Xiaofei realized that Lu Qingfeng wanted to stick to their role play as lovers.

With a brunette wig and false beauty mark on her cheek, Su Xiaofei looked nothing like her usual self. Even her choice of clothes tonight was more mature while Lu Qingfeng didn't change much of his appearance other than a pair of light brown contact lenses and was dressed up as a matured man in his thirties.

Su Xiaofei was kissed hard by him. She could feel his tongue swept inside her mouth and she couldn't stop herself from moaning. Her heart thundered in her chest. She wanted to remind herself that Lu Qingfeng was technically still a minor, and she would be in big trouble if someone found out.

'This is reckless.' She thought. 'I'm doomed.'

Alas, she found that she too wasn't willing to part from his lips as her hands unconsciously reached to his hair and pulled him closer. Their kiss was different from the ones they shared a few weeks ago, as this was hot, passionate and dangerous at the same time.

When they heard the men arrive, Lu Qingfeng reluctantly parted from her and glared hard at them.

Chapter 214 – Saving Mo Yuan (2)

The atmosphere became awkward as the man immediately looked away when they spotted a couple making out in a deserted alley. The man was glaring at them as if they had just ruined a good time with his girlfriend, while the brunette woman buried her face on his chest as if she was ashamed of being caught by them.

They never suspected that Mo Yuan was with these two and turned their flashlights away from the couple and resumed their running, leaving the couple behind.

Su Xiaofei gasped for breath as she hadn't anticipated that she would be kissed like this by Lu Qingfeng. Even when Mo Yuchen pursued her, he had never been as passionate towards her as Lu Qingfeng was.

'Damn it! He escaped!' Someone shouted furiously.

'Brother! There's a hint of blood on the ground! He must have been here earlier!' Another one said in response.

'Go and chase after him! We're doomed if we fail tonight!' The leader exclaimed.

A minute later, Lu Qingfeng's other bodyguard found them.

'Go and take him to the pharmacy at Qiying City public market. Don't let anyone see that he is with you.' Lu Qingfeng said as he pointed at the raft of bamboo and wood.

‘Yes, Boss!’ The four bodyguards replied at the same time as they dragged the unconscious Mo Yuan under the raft and covered him with another coat.

‘We should probably go too, Feifei. The rain is getting heavier.’ Lu Qingfeng said with a gentle tone towards the woman in his embrace.

Su Xiaofei pulled away and nodded. Thankfully, the lighting in this area was a little bad, so Lu Qingfeng would probably fail to see her beet red face after the passionate kiss that they shared.

As they sat in the backseat of the car, Su Xiaofei removed the wig from her head and gently removed the thick makeup on her face. She had no idea how to talk with Lu Qingfeng after what had just happened between them earlier.

Lu Qingfeng kept his silence and chose to turn his attention outside the window, watching as

people hurriedly ran for shelter and protection from the rain that poured harder this time. He could still taste their kiss as he sat next to her.

He was now convinced that kissing her during the banquet at the Yun Estate had been a mistake. She was like a drug to him now, and the more he got to taste her, the more he became addicted.

It had been hard for him to avoid seeing her these past days, as the desire to engulf her into his embrace and kiss her senseless was quite tempting for Lu Qingfeng. Lu Qingfeng was certainly

enjoying their time together, but he didn't want to make her uncomfortable because of him.

It had been eleven o'clock when they reached the pharmacy. When they entered, Su Xiaofei was surprised to see that Zhang Lan was being treated by a nurse.

'What happened to her?' Su Xiaofei asked the younger Zhang, whose outfit was as bad as Mo Yuan's now.

Wait. Wouldn't this mean that it was Zhang Ling who lured those men away to prevent them from finding Mo Yuan earlier?

'She was shot when she tried to protect Mo Yuan from being shot and got injured instead.' Zhang Ling frowned, the corner of her lips turned down as she narrowed her eyes on her older sister.

'I didn't mean to get shot, Ling.' Zhang Lan said with a nonchalant look as her chest and her shoulder was bandaged by one of Han Zijun's nurses.

'Aiya, what happened?' Han Zijun came back with a tray of medicinal herbs and ointments.

'I received a call from one of your people that said that there is an emergency. I didn't expect that it was the second young master of the Mo family that is in need of help.' He told Lu Qingfeng.

'Sorry for the trouble, Brother Han. It's short notice, but I couldn't think of anyone else that could help us and save his life except you. I heard you are one of the best in your field.' Lu Qingfeng replied.

As Han Zijun heard the younger man's praise, Su Xiaofei raised a slender brow, seeing his reaction. It seemed like this miracle doctor was also a conceited man as he liked to receive such praises from others.

'Right. Right. I'm one of the best and, perhaps, the best in our generation!' Han Zijun turned his nose up and smiled confidently.

Su Xiaofei bit her inner cheek, stopping herself from laughing. She didn't know why, but seeing Han Zijun like this reminded her of those comedians one would often see on television.

'Brother Han, how's Mo Yuan? Would he survive?' She asked instead, trying to remind herself why they were here in the first place.

Han Zijun sighed at that and passed the tray he was holding to another nurse that came to him.

'You brought him just in time. He was losing so much blood that if we didn't manage to treat him in time, he would have gone into a hypovolemic shock. I don't know who did this to him, but it was obvious that they weren't planning on keeping him alive.' He said with all seriousness this time.

Su Xiaofei released a breath she didn't know she was holding. That was one problem solved. However, she also knew that Old Madam Mo wouldn't stop. They needed to keep Mo Yuan alive first before she could make a deal with Lan Xiaoju.

'What actually happened to him? Who wants him dead?' Han Zijun asked. He then glanced at the other injured person Lu

Qingfeng's team brought a little earlier than Mo Yuan. He noticed earlier that this woman didn't even flinch when his assistant disinfected her gunshot wound.

'In public, the Mo family seems to get along with each other. Brother Han should know that familial ties are nothing when you have greedy relatives waiting for your demise..' Lu Qingfeng explained.

Chapter 215 – Striking A Deal With A Demon (1)

Han Zijun hummed in understanding. Peace could rarely be found in wealthy and prestigious families. Even his Han family wasn't safe from internal conflicts. He wasn't really surprised to hear that someone from the Mo family wanted Mo Yuan dead.

'Then, when can we bring Mo Yuan out?' Lu Qingfeng asked curiously. Keeping Mo Yuan here at Han Zijun's pharmacy would be too dangerous for them.

'Let's keep him here for at least three days.' Han Zijun replied.

'We need to keep him under observation for the meantime.'

'Okay. That's enough time for us to prepare then.' Lu Qingfeng's mind was already thinking of the precautionary methods they could use later. Surely, Old Madam Mo was trying hard to locate Mo Yuan now.

Since today's target was achieved, Lu Qingfeng and Su Xiaofei bid goodbye and thanked Han Zijun for his help again.

As Lu Qingfeng took Su Xiaofei back home, she was already dozing off next to him. He wasn't surprised that she was already knocked out, but he wasn't sure why she wasn't saying anything about what transpired earlier.

'Xiaofei, wake up. We're here.' Lu Qingfeng gently nudged her shoulder to wake her up.

Su Xiaofei woke up and looked outside the window and saw that they were at her home.

She grabbed her purse and let Zhang Ling open the door for her. Since the elder Zhang was injured, Lu Qingfeng had given her a week off for the meantime, leaving Zhang Ling to tend to Su Xiaofei's needs.

Lu Qingfeng walked her to the front door and passed her a bag of snacks they bought earlier.

'Don't worry too much about Mo Yuan. Once he is stable, I'll move him to a safe place where the old woman wouldn't be able to locate him.' He said, but an awkward silence followed.

Su Xiaofei stopped at the closed doors and regarded him, sensing that he wanted to say something.

'What is it?' She asked. It was rare for her to see Lu Qingfeng like this.

'Xiaofei, I'm sorry.' Lu Qingfeng murmured, but was loud enough for Su Xiaofei to

hear.

‘Why are you apologizing to me?’

‘Because of what I did earlier. I didn’t want to make you uncomfortable and force myself on you.’

For the first time since Su Xiaofei met him, there was a hint of embarrassment on Lu Qingfeng’s face. It amused Su Xiaofei a little to see him like this.

‘I should be the one to apologize, Xiao Feng. I dragged you into this problem.’

Su Xiaofei understood that he only did it because they were out of choices at that time, and she didn’t hold it against him. What she didn’t expect was the burning passion that was ignited the moment their lips touched, making them unwilling to part from each other.

Lu Qingfeng remained silent for a moment. While it’s true that he didn’t want to waste his opportunity this time, he didn’t want to make Su Xiaofei wary of him. The last thing she wanted to happen was for her to come to hate him again.

He didn’t want to see her look at him with disgust and hate ever again. The farthest distance in the world wasn’t the end of the earth, but it was when two people were together but didn’t know what’s in each other’s mind.

‘You aren’t mad at me?’ Lu Qingfeng asked, worried that she wouldn’t want him anymore.

‘No, but I would rather not have this happen again in the future.’ She bit her lip as she tried to suppress the blush on her face.

‘Okay. I’ll be more careful in the future.’ Lu Qingfeng promised, although it would be a challenge for him not to kiss her now that he’d known the taste and feel of her lips against his.

The door opened and Auntie Liu found them standing outside the door.

‘Feifei, you’re home. Why are you two still standing here and not getting inside? It’s quite cold tonight.’ She said as she looked at them.

‘I’m about to leave, Auntie Liu. I just dropped Xiaofei here. Is Auntie Qing home?’ Lu Qingfeng asked in return. He wanted to pay his respect to Su Xiaofei’s mother before leaving.

‘She isn’t here yet. Madam called earlier that she would be home a little late tonight, but it seems like she lost track of time again.’ Auntie Liu chuckled. This wasn’t the first time that happened anyway.

Yun Qingrong would probably come when the sun was up, only for her to freshen up and start a new day at work. Since Su Haoran had been fired from her company, she had been busier than usual and barely had time to stay at home these days.

‘I see. Thanks, Auntie. I’ll go home now.’

‘Ay, won’t you stay for the night? It’s already too late for you to travel at this hour.’

‘Thanks, Aunty. But Grandpa would be worried if I don’t return tonight.’ He turned down the old woman’s invitation. Since he was now pursuing Su Xiaofei, regardless if they knew it or not, it wasn’t appropriate for him to stay at their place.

‘Be careful on your way, Xiao Feng. I’ll see you tomorrow.’ Su Xiaofei smiled and bid him good night, before following Aunty Liu inside to retire for the night.

‘What took you so long to return, Feifei? You’re lucky that Madam isn’t home yet.’ Aunty Liu started interrogating her young miss. She wasn’t blind to see that something had changed between Su Xiaofei and Lu Qingfeng.

‘Are you and Xiao Feng...’

‘No.’ Su Xiaofei was quick to deny the older woman’s assumptions. Realizing her mistake, she looked away, feeling bashful.

‘I just lost track of time, Aunty. But Mama knows I’m with Xiao Feng tonight anyway.’

Aunty Liu only chuckled as she watched Su Xiaofei take the stairs, avoiding any more questions from her.

After she finished washing her face and changing her clothes, she fell asleep the moment her head touched her pillows.

Three days later, while Lu Qingfeng was busy moving Mo Yuan from Han Zijun's pharmacy, Su Xiaofei took her chance to visit Qin Muyao's place together with Zhang Ling and Zhang Lan's substitute for the meantime.

Su Xiaofei could feel that Zhang Ling didn't like working with Liu Tan, but she had no other choice but to work with him until her elder sister recovered from her injury.

As the three walked into the lobby of the condominium building where Qin Muyao lived with his mother, Su Xiaofei was receiving curious stares from other guests and homeowners. She specifically dressed up today, looking like a true rich socialite.

When she reached the reception desk, she removed her trendy sunglasses and smiled at the person attending.

'Hi. I'm a friend of the unit owner 362. He's expecting me today.' She said with confidence.

'May I have your name, please? The owner of unit 362 didn't notify us of your visit, Miss.'

'It's Manager Su of Bluemedia Entertainment. You can clarify this with him if you want.'

The receptionist did what she was told and notified Qin Muyao, leaving Su Xiaofei and her two bodyguards to wait.

Su Xiaofei had to thank Zhang Ling for this, as she was able to gather the information where Qin Muyao was living. She had to admit that her bodyguards now were way more capable and useful than the previous ones she had.

Anyway, she was confident that Qin Muyao and his mother wouldn't be able to deny meeting her today. Since Qin Muyao was practically being canceled not only by the public, but also by his agency and his endorsements, his options were already limited.

As expected, Su Xiaofei was given a go signal to go up with her bodyguards by the receptionist. After thanking the woman, Su Xiaofei didn't waste her time and took the elevator to meet them.

Zhang Ling took the chance to knock on Qin Muyao's door, while Liu Tan looked around to make sure no one was keeping an eye on them.

The door opened, revealing a woman in her

early forties. There was a slight darkening under her eyes and her skin a little too pale. It was obvious that she had been under a lot of stress lately.

'You are Manager Su?' Qin Muyao's mother asked Zhang Ling as she gave the latter a good look.

'No.' Zhang Ling stepped aside and revealed the young woman behind her. 'My miss here is Manager Su.'

'Good afternoon, Miss Huo. May I have a word with you?' Su Xiaofei asked with a smile.

Miss Huo was slightly taken aback as she didn't expect that this Manager Su who wanted to meet them was quite young.

‘E-en. Please come in.’ She said, opening the door wider for Su Xiaofei.

Once the three entered the unit, Miss Huo looked out the hallway, making sure that there were no paparazzi following them.

‘Manager Su, is there a reason you want to meet us?’ Qin Muyao, who had now lost his glory and fame in public, was seated on the couch looking as if the whole world was against him.

‘I apologize for his manners, Manager Su. It’s just... it’s just that it’s been so hard for us.’ Miss Huo rubbed her arm, looking at her son. Her expression filled with worry. ‘Please take a seat.’

‘I won’t waste your time then.’ Su Xiaofei took a seat on a vacant armchair and regarded the young actor. ‘I came here to make a deal with you.’

‘What could I possibly offer you, Manager Su? Don’t you know that I’ve already lost everything?’ Qin Muyao said with sarcasm.

‘Really? Did you mean to say that your mother here doesn’t mean anything to you?’ Su Xiaofei retorted.

Qin Muyao opened his mouth in shock, not expecting that Su Xiaofei would say something like that. He then turned his head to look at his mother, realizing that he wasn’t the only one who was suffering because of the recent scandal.

A flash of guilt passed through his eyes and he lowered his head.

‘Then what do you want?’

Su Xiaofei extended her hand and Liu Tan immediately handed him the documents they prepared earlier.

‘I’ll clear your name in public, but in return, you’ll be repaying me with your service for twenty years.’ Su Xiaofei then presented a contract to Qin Muyao.

‘Twenty years!’ Miss Huo exclaimed.

His mother took it from her, then read the contents together with her son. Their eyes widened upon seeing the terms and conditions before giving Su Xiaofei a confused look.

‘You say you can clear Xiao Yao’s name?’ Miss Huo asked, wanting to know if Su Xiaofei could really help her son this time.

So many people had already turned their backs on them, refusing to help them with the scandal Qin Muyao was facing. His ex-girlfriend came from an affluent family and had a lot of connections compared to them.

Qin Muyao’s career had just started flourishing, but this scandal had effectively ruined his chances to continue any further. His career suffered greatly from it.

‘En. I can do that, but you have to know that you will be indebted to me for a long time.’ Su Xiaofei said, not bothering to hide the wicked glint in her eyes.

Qin Muyao gave her a good look and could sense that she didn’t come here out of goodwill. She was like a demoness who came to trick him to seal a deal with her. The contract was heavily

favoring Su Xiaofei, and it was indicated that he would be bound to work specifically under her supervision and not under Bluemedia.

His hold on the contract tightened as he repeatedly read the terms written on it. However, he knew that if he didn't take this chance, it would never appear in front of him for a second time.

But would he dare? Would he sell himself to a demoness to save his future?

Chapter 217 – Hitting The Rock Bottom (1)

Qin Muyao knew that he had just hit rock bottom, and everyone couldn't wait for their turn to hit him with their nasty words and comments, as if they knew the truth.

A week after the scandal erupted, he had lost not only his friends but also his career overnight. Those people who had fawned over him in the past were the first ones to condemn him for abandoning his ex-girlfriend.

When he was still basking in glory, so many of them sucked up to him, asking for favors one after another. He'd been a fool to believe that by showing kindness to others, they would also treat him a little better in the future.

What's worse was, there wasn't a single person in the industry, except for his mother, who believed his words.

Even the media and reporters were fanning the flames to make sure he would be blacklisted from the industry for good. They were only interested in spreading Jiang Li's claims against Qin Muyao and painted him as a shameless person who refused to take responsibility when the raw rice was cooked overnight.

As for his loyal fans, they had been mum, not knowing what to say to defend him since they would also receive a harsh backlash whenever they tried to defend him. They were immediately branded as brainless, and anyone who tried to stand up for Qin Muyao was attacked viciously on the internet by these so-called righteous people who wanted him out of the entertainment industry.

'Xiao Yao.' His mother called him out, reminding him not to be impulsive this time. They couldn't afford to make another enemy this time.

Her eyes were rimmed red from crying. Miss Huo had been in a lot of stress lately, not knowing what to do to console her son.

Qin Muyao dropped the contract on the coffee table in front of him and held his head with both his hands. He was fuming with rage, but what else could he do to save himself from this controversy? He was already cornered!

'You really can do that?'

He asked again. 'You do know what kind of family you'll be facing because of me, right?'

They had tried to reason things out, but no one was willing to hear their explanation, as everyone was eager to persecute him, calling him names beyond imagination.

Su Xiaofei crossed her legs and rested her chin on one hand as she regarded the young actor. A small smile crossed on her lips. Qin Muyao really didn't have any options left this time.

'Mr. Qin. I suppose I need to introduce myself again. I'm Su Xiaofei, a talent manager from Bluemedia, daughter of the owner and the granddaughter of the respected Yun family. Would the Jiang family be bold enough to harm and bully someone like me without facing repercussions?'

The mother and son looked at her in surprise. No wonder this young woman was brave enough to step forward. It's because the esteemed Yun family wasn't one that anyone was willing to offend.

'Our Yun family upholds moral standards. We cannot just turn a blind eye when someone is suffering from injustice.' She added.

'You believe that I'm not the one who fathered Jiang Li's child?' Qin Muyao asked her. He and Jiang Li had been in an on and off relationship for the past two years. He had never thought that their relationship would take this horrible turn.

'I do.' Su Xiaofei nodded. 'It's idiotic to think that only men are capable of cheating, right?'

Jiang Li wasn't truly the victim in this case anyway. Women like her were the kind of people Su Xiaofei despised the most. They

were crying foul over the media when she was the one who had put a green hat on Qin Muyao's head.

Qin Muyao fell silent on that. Indeed, it was his fault for still accepting and forgiving Jiang Li the first time he caught her lying and cheating on him. Because of his busy schedule for the past three months, they barely saw each other and only met each other a month ago.

Jiang Li claimed that she was twelve weeks pregnant with his child, but how could she possibly get pregnant by him when they hadn't seen each other lately? She even went as far as accusing him of terminating her pregnancy.

She had been seeing other men behind his back whenever he wasn't around and their close acquaintances made him aware of it. At first, Qin Muyao didn't want to believe it, but as photos and videos of her started appearing with some random men, the feelings he had for her started to cool down.

Jiang Li had repeatedly begged him to give her another chance, that she would treat him better in the future. However, Qin Muyao should have known that a leopard never changes its spots and Jiang Li would need to take responsibility for her own actions.

Things had become complicated and spiraled to the cancellation of his projects and his endorsements, one after another. The biggest blow was that his agency decided to cancel his contract without giving him a chance to explain himself.

Jiang Li was clever and sly. She misled people into believing that she was the victim and Qin Muyao was the cold-hearted person

who abandoned her after learning that she was pregnant. However, these were merely verbal accusations, and she hadn't shown any evidence to back up her claims.

Still, Qin Muyao's reputation had taken a hit by this controversy. Regardless if Jiang Li presented evidence or not, her mere acting in front of the camera was able to move people to take her side.

'This wouldn't be easy to fix, Manager Su.' He said after a long silence between them.

'At the moment, everyone is taking Jiang Li's side, mudslinging your name. Your previous agency couldn't handle the heat and the pressure they were getting from the public.. However, if you accept my condition, I promise that you will get so much more in the future.'

Chapter 218 - Hitting The Rock Bottom (2)

Those were very strong claims that came from this young woman in front of them, and Qin Muyao could see the confidence Su Xiaofei had. If Bluemedia was truly willing to take the risk to protect him, then they would surely receive a lot of ire from the public.

However, Qin Muyao wasn't stupid not to know that if this scandal continued to drag on for a long time, it would be the same as sentencing his career to a slow, painful death. He had just reached the peak of his stardom, but this false accusation towards him had essentially sent him to doom.

What kind of agency and brand would be willing to work with him after his reputation was tarnished by Jiang Li?

He had been naive not to acknowledge the red flags that had been so clear during the time they were together. Like any other couple, they frequently argued with each other, but it was also clear that they both had different goals in their lives. However, Qin Muyao was willing to compromise because he loved her.

Unlike her, who was born from a family with money, Qin Muyao was strict with his expenditures, but that didn't mean he was stingy when it came to her. Whenever he had free time from work, he would always take her out for a date and buy her expensive things that could make him wince whenever he used his card to pay for them.

However, Jiang Li thought that he was too tight with money despite the fact that he was earning more from his projects and endorsements over the past months, while Qin Muyao thought that she was being unrealistic and unreasonable about the things he could afford.

'Is there something else we could do?' His mother asked. 'Why don't we wait for the issue to die on its own? Perhaps people would eventually forget about it if we keep silent about it.' She added.

Su Xiaofei shook her head. What Miss Huo just said was just wishful thinking on her part. It would

never be that simple when it comes to the entertainment industry.

‘I’m sorry, Miss Huo, but an issue like this might take two to three years to be forgotten. When that time comes, I have no doubt that your son would be as good as nothing and this issue would forever mar his reputation.’ She disagreed with the older woman. ? There were just things that the public wasn’t aware about how the entertainment industry works.

Qin Muyao nodded in agreement. Even if he waited for the people to forget about this controversy, with a lot of talented newcomers, it would be hard for him to make a comeback and compete with them. Even a senior would be ashamed to compete with his juniors under the same stage and criteria.

‘Do we have other options, Manager Su ?’ Miss Huo asked again. Her anxiety had shot over the roof since the controversy started.

‘Well, your son has several options, but I’m not sure which one he is willing to take.’ Su Xiaofei started. ‘First, he could suggest settling the matter privately with Jiang Li and financially support her child, but it would be the same as admitting that he was the one who impregnated her. Second, Qin Muyao could release their intimate conversations, throwing dirty water on Jiang Li, but this might also backfire on him. You would want to protect his name as much as possible. The third one is my way.’

She then paused and glanced at Qin Muyao, knowing that he was racking his brain to think and consider her offer.

Su Xiaofei wasn’t planning to play a heroine or someone’s savior, but in her past life, the Jiang family had offended her mother greatly, and she was merely trying to get even with them. Also,

she intended to make Qin Muyao her money tree, so she couldn't bear to waste this chance.

'I promise you that at the end of this controversy, Jiang Li and her family would be the ones losing their face and not you. But Qin Muyao... are you willing to pay the price for it? You once loved Jiang Li. If it wasn't for that, you wouldn't have given her multiple chances and forgiven her. But look where that got you.'

Qin Muyao couldn't refute her words at all and knew what she just said was right. Choosing the first option would be the same as admitting responsibility for a child that wasn't his in the first place, while the second would still pose some disadvantages towards his character and his career.

Right now, everyone was pushing him to his own death, and he didn't know how long his mother would be able to endure hearing such demeaning words about him. If the child was his, of course he was willing to take responsibility for it and marry Jiang Li despite her lies and deception, but Qin Muyao wasn't willing to be trapped in her hideous web.

'I will make Jiang Li eat her words and beg for your forgiveness.'

These words from Su Xiaofei's mouth made Qin Muyao lift his head and look at her with wide eyes. He wasn't hurt by what people say to him, but he was greatly offended by Jiang Li's false accusations and actions.

'Can you really do it?' He looked at her sternly.

Qin Muyao felt severely wronged by Jiang Li and everyone. He wanted some vindication from it.

‘I can.’ Su Xiaofei said calmly, her lips curling into a smile, making her appearance more stunning.

Qin Muyao was accustomed to seeing beauties, but looking at Su Xiaofei, he was still stunned by her face. Her smile was apathetic, which he never would’ve thought possible from a young woman like her.

She had been clear from the very beginning that she wasn’t helping him out of pity, but because she wanted to make him her money tree.

‘Manager Su, I don’t care about your intentions.. I only care about the results.’

Chapter 219 – No Rest For The Wicked (1)

Although it’s true that Su Xiaofei had come here with vested interest, Qin Muyao didn’t care about it anymore. As long as she was capable of helping him clear up his name and reputation in public, he was willing to serve twenty years of servitude to repay this debt.

He didn’t care if she had come here to take advantage of his weaknesses anymore, because truth to be told, Qin Muyao was willing to grab any chance he could get to save his dying career and clear his name.

‘Xiao Yao!’ His mother exclaimed, confusion apparent on her expression.

Miss Huo had been a witness to how her son had suffered from the controversy. Qin Muyao didn’t want to face his father and his younger siblings because of this, but he was left with no choice but to accept this young woman’s proposition.

Everyone had already abandoned him, but now this unknown talent manager had suddenly shown up, willing to prove his innocence. It was understandable that Qin Muyao was willing to take the risk in order to survive.

‘No matter what your intentions are, I wish we could collaborate well in the future. Thank you for believing me.’ Qin Muyao told Su Xiaofei.

‘Then please study and discuss the contract with your mother, Mr. Qin. I’ll give you three days to make a decision and to sign it. Any more would only delay our preparations this following weekend, so I suggest for Mr. Qin not to waste any more time and energy. You aren’t allowed to make a statement unless I tell you to do so.’ Su Xiaofei made a motion to stand up from her seat to leave.

‘That’s all? We just leave everything to you after Xiao Yao signs this contract?’ Miss Huo hurriedly asked Su Xiaofei.

‘Miss Huo, do you know why your son lost so many of his brand endorsements?’ The young woman asked in return.

Miss Huo shook her head. She surmised that it was because of the scandal. Would there be another reason aside from that?

‘It’s because your son and his agency remained

silent at that critical time when the scandal erupted over the news. These brands weren’t unreasonable companies, but they expected professionalism from Qin Muyao and his agency. However, since they weren’t able to get in touch with them, leaving them at a loss, they had no other choice but to pull out the s featuring Qin Muyao in order to avoid getting the backlash from the public.’

The damage on Qin Muyao’s career could have been lessened if his agency had done their part to protect their talent. However, since Jiang Li’s family was not only rich, but also influential, it was understandable that the top management didn’t want to offend her family by defending Qin Muyao.

‘Timing is a vital factor of damage control. There’s still a chance for us to regain those endorsements, but you have to cooperate with us and listen to me.’

‘Mom, it’s alright.’ Qin Muyao held his mother’s hand and smiled bitterly. ‘Let’s leave it to Manager Su.’

‘I hope that you’ve learned your lessons now, Mr. Qin. In the future, you have to be careful not to get blinded by love. There’s a reason why our brain is higher than our heart. My assistant will give you a contact number. Call us when you decide to sign the contract,’ was Su Xiaofei’s parting words before leaving Qin Muyao’s unit with her bodyguards.

Nighttime came and Su Xiaofei arrived just in time to see her mother waiting for her return.

Yun Qingrong immediately stood up and looked at her daughter. When Su Xiaofei came to her, informing her of her intention to help Qin Muyao by recruiting for Bluemedia, Yun Qingrong wasn't sure what her young daughter was thinking.

She didn't think that her Feifei personally knew Qin Muyao and wondered why she was eager to help the young actor. Who hadn't heard about the explosive scandal about him and Jiang Li? He was like a time bomb waiting to detonate at any moment.

No one was willing to take a risk to save his career now and Su Xiaofei was taking a gamble by saving him.

'Mama.' Su Xiaofei greeted her mother.

'How did it go?' Yun Qingrong replied, allowing her daughter to take a seat next to her. 'Did Qin Muyao agree?'

'Yes he did. But as we agreed, I gave him three days to think about it, Mama. We will continue our plan while we wait.' Su Xiaofei replied, giving her mother a reassuring smile.

'Feifei, are you sure about this? You don't need to rush and take in talents for now. It's enough that you study how the company works.'

Yun Qingrong didn't want anyone to demean her daughter by helping Qin Muyao, but what Su Xiaofei told her earlier had made sense to her. It would be a pity if a talented young actor like Qin Muyai would be canceled for good.

Still, the controversy like this wasn't easy to resolve, even for more experienced PR managers than her daughter. The fall of a once bright star like Qin Muyao was really a pitiful one.

'Mama, if I don't start this early and only rely on you and Uncle Fang's help, how would I grow? And I believe that Mr. Qin is the victim this time.' Su Xiaofei said with confidence.

Zhang Lan was making some phone calls and investigations for her while recovering. It had been hard for Su Xiaofei to ask her bodyguard to stay at home and rest, because the Zhang siblings were too dedicated with their work and had nothing else to do aside from it.

Zhang Lan had been happy to be assigned to a menial job that won't put too much stress on her injury.

'Leave this to me, Mama. I will fix this without revealing my identity in public.' Su Xiaofei was aware why her mother was worried about her.. Yun Qingrong feared that her name would be sullied even before she could join Bluemedia by helping Qin Muyao.

Chapter 220 - No Rest For The Wicked (2)

Meanwhile, it was the first time Qin Muyao had turned on the television in his home since the scandal, making sure to keep the volume low, so he wouldn't disturb his mother's sleep. At this moment, all the lights in the house were turned off and only the light from the television illuminated the living room.

The words Su Xiaofei said earlier were repeatedly playing in his mind while the contract laid open on the table, waiting to be signed in front of him.

The entertainment news was on and the presenter was once again mentioning the backlash Qin Muyao had been receiving from the netizens and how his previous agency had decided to let him go.

‘He’s so disgusting! Did he think that because he was popular and rich now, he could play with a woman’s heart?’

‘Is he even a human? How could he deny the paternity of his very own child?’

‘I used to admire Qin Muyao for his talent. Now, I feel like I’ve been deceived by him!’

‘I already knew that the entertainment industry has a lot of secrets and disgusting scandals, but I never thought Qin Muyao would be part of it!’

‘I think Jiang Li should sue him in court for negligence and financial support. Qin Muyao, be a man and take responsibility for your actions!’

‘There’s no issue with him being young, but it’s not an excuse to turn back on your girlfriend when she gets pregnant.’

These malicious comments went on and Qin Muyao tuned out all of it as they were all the same things. Most of them scolded him in public, giving Jiang Li their sympathy, then they called him despicable things and cursed him for abandoning Jiang Li without knowing the truth.

‘Xiao Yao, what did I tell you? You shouldn’t watch this nonsense. Don’t listen to them.’

Qin Muyao didn’t notice that his mother had woken up and had come out of her room to get a glass of water.

‘Sorry. Did I wake you up, Mom?’ He snapped from his daze and answered his mother.

Miss Huo took

a seat and switched off the television. Her son didn’t need to hear more of those nasty words.

‘Can’t sleep. I’m just wondering if you should accept Manager Su’s offer, even though you would be bound by her contract for twenty years.’ She replied. ‘Xiao Yao, twenty years is a long time. I don’t know why she’s confident that you would be able to recover from this, but I think twenty years is too long.’

Qin Muyao smiled and patted his mother’s hand. From the moment he was scouted by a talent manager, to his trainee days up to his debut, his mother worked hard alongside him. She had accompanied him to go to the city and worked as his personal assistant.

It broke his heart to know that she was also being attacked and criticized by standing up for him. It would have been fine if he was the only one being targeted with slander, but his mother couldn’t also avoid the hate and had been attacked the last time she went out.

As for Su Xiaofei's offer, indeed, twenty years was a long time. There was no assurance that a star like him could persevere and stay under the spotlight for a long time. Not many were able to stay in the industry for the rest of their lives.

So why did Su Xiaofei want to bind him for twenty years as her talent?

'Mom, do you think twenty years is too much if she's able to fix the problem and restore my reputation in public? These are priceless. If she truly could manage such a feat, I don't mind working with her for twenty years to repay this favor.'

Qin Muyao couldn't afford to lose a job right now, as his other siblings were still studying, and he still needed to provide for them. His father's earnings from his tire shop wasn't enough to support the family, hence, he had worked several part-time jobs until he was discovered by a talent scout.

As for Jiang Li, he met her through a mutual friend. He had no idea that she was a girl born with a silver spoon, and only found out about it when his friend mentioned it to him after months of dating.

He had truly loved Jiang Li when they were together, yet because of her lies and infidelity, that love had now turned into deep-seated hatred in his heart. Just as Su Xiaofei had said earlier, he shouldn't have allowed himself to be blinded by his feelings towards Jiang Li. Had he broken up with her the first time he discovered her deceit, he could have avoided all this mess now.

Ever since the scandal spread over the news, not only was his career affected, even Qin Muyao's mental health had also been deteriorating, and his mother couldn't stop worrying about his health. If this continued, she wasn't sure how this would end for her eldest son.

Finally, Qin Muyao picked up the pen next to the contract and signed it. There's no need to waste another three days of his life wondering about what-ifs if Su Xiaofei could accomplish her part of their deal.

Because of this scandal, he realized and learned a lot of things from it and swore to never commit the same mistakes again. So what if he needed to spend twenty years repaying Su Xiaofei? In the future, he would just need to work harder and focus on his projects to repay her. Besides, didn't that mean she would ensure that he had work for the next twenty years?

As for Jiang Li, earlier, he wasn't willing to release the screenshots and recordings of their last conversation that could prove her deceit, but now that he realized how she wanted to ruin him badly because he left her, his only option was to fight back!

Qin Muyao couldn't forget the one sentence Su Xiaofei had said earlier to him before leaving.

'There's no rest for the wicked.'