

Sweet Love 2271

Chapter 2271: Do not abandon me.

“Get a hold of yourself, Xiaoya.”

The man lightly stroked her head, his voice getting calmer. “You told me right from the start that this is nothing but a game. It’s now time for the game to end.”

Lin Xueya was struck dumb by that statement.

That was right.

Back then, after their night of lovemaking, she had told him to play a game with her.

A game of lust with no romance.

He was supposed to be a pet that she kept at her side.

However, she became too emotionally involved in the game.

What made her most indignant was that she, a haughty person by nature, had already put down her pride to beg him for his love, yet all she got in return was him calmly saying, ‘It’s now time for the game to end’!

Besides indignation, she felt heartache and despair more.

She stubbornly insisted, “You can’t do without me.”

After all, she was the one who had been managing his career.

Since his debut, she had made use of her connections and bestowed countless golden resources on him, allowing him to star in a major motion picture and many award-winning drama series. He gained overnight popularity in one of the drama series that he acted in and turned into an A-lister from a nobody.

Aside from his innate beauty, his rise to success had everything to do with her immense support.

He could not do without her.

Just like how he became an overnight sensation, without her, he could fall from grace in just an instant in showbiz which looked at power and influence.

Hua Jin laughed blandly at her and airily said, “Even without you by my side, I can still live my life well; I won’t die.”

That simple response from him completely crushed her pride.

“B-But... I can’t do without you...” She sobbed. “How am I to live without you?”

“No one can’t live without anyone. While you may not be used to it at first, after a while—”

“No, I don’t want that—I don’t want to leave you...”

Reluctance had her hugging him tightly. “Jin, please don’t abandon me, alright?”

Like a drowning person who was floating in the sea and grasping onto the last strand of hope, she forced a smile and, in her trembling voice, said, “I might’ve been kicked out of my family, but... we could work hard together to create our future! You can continue acting and be a superstar, while I find myself a job. Like any other couple, let’s work hard for a better tomorrow. One day, we can surely have a home of ours in this city with our capabilities! I’ll work hard—no, I’ll work very hard to make that dream come true. For your sake, I’m willing to face any challenges in life!”

He fell silent for a while before letting out a helpless chuckle. “Life is no child’s play; grow up!”

Yes.

She had indeed sacrificed a lot for him; she was willing to forsake fame and fortune, even as far as turning her back on her family and getting kicked out from her house.

Nonetheless, even if she was sincere about living an ordinary life now, how long could it last?

It was as good as her falling from a great height and getting herself crushed.

To him, she might be willing to learn how to live an ordinary life like any other girl, munching on a bun in the morning or eating some cheap breakfast, which was bought from a roadside stall, squeezing into a sardine-packed train for commute, and even working hard at a nine-to-five job that paid several thousand yuan a month.

However, she would be unable to stick to such a life for long.

There was no equality between men in the first place.

Chapter 2272: Let us give each other a way out.

There was no equality between men in the first place.

When wealth came too easy for someone, it could numb a person’s heart overnight. As the man gained his riches fast, he would also lose something fast.

This was why only men who were humble enough could shoulder greater responsibility.

What if a person lost all he had overnight, then?

The rite of passage would be even harder to overcome.

The missy might be impulsive enough to ditch her riches and status for him now, but she would succumb to reality sooner or later.

Did she say she’ll work hard for our tomorrows, just like any average folk?

What a joke.

He was about to reply when tiny bubbles could be observed on the water surface. Something seemed to be vibrating inside his pants’ pocket.

It was his cell phone.

He took out the phone from his pocket, but before he could see who the caller was, Lin Xueya snatched the item from his hand without warning. She gazed at the screen to see the name 'Shishi' flashing across.

Yun Shishi...

Is it her calling?

The missy bit her lower lip hard, then interrogated sullenly, "Where did you go last night?"

The man kept quiet.

"Speak!"

She threw the phone to the floor out of the blue, and the ringing stopped instantly.

Fury flashed across his eyes for a change. "Pick it up!"

"What?" She stared at him in wide-eyed disbelief.

Since she knew him, he had always been docile and calm around her, but today, he actually flared up at her like an antagonized lion just because of one willful action.

"Pick up the phone now!"

"Are you angry?" She did not let up her interrogation. "Who is she to you?! Why are you so upset with me for her sake?!"

"Pick it up!"

The man seemed to have truly been antagonized this time. He glared at her as his face turned livid with rage.

"Lin Xueya, you'd better know where to draw the line!"

This was the first time he had addressed this lady by her full name.

He had lost his patience with her finally. "How long more will you stay bull-headed?"

She did not know what to say.

He smirked. "Do you know how painful it is to be with you? I have to act loving with you all the time despite me not being in love with you at all. Not only that; I also have to face constant threats and violence from your family. Enough is enough."

He got up suddenly from the bathtub and took an elegant step out of the water.

His calm and composed mannerism only belied her shame and embarrassment.

She could not believe that he would stand up against her one day, but it was happening right before her eyes now.

"Lin Xueya, let's give each other a way out, alright?" As he spoke, he picked up his phone from the floor, wiped it gently, and left the bathroom without a second glance.

The woman was too stunned to move, and there was no reaction from her over his abrupt departure.

There was a long silence after the man walked out of the bathroom, and then she heard the sound of the main door opening and closing.

Her heart turned cold!

He left... without even a goodbye!

She had been ditched once again.

There's nothing left for me now...

She curled up on herself, burying her face in her arms as she hugged her knees despondently. Soon, she let out a wail.

...

After the man had changed into a fresh set of clothes, he left the apartment to find a secluded corner. There, he dialed a number on his phone.

A man's stern and deep voice boomed across the earpiece when the call went through. "Who is this!"

This father-daughter pair was of the same breed, indeed; both were equally arrogant.

During his momentary lapse, the older man on the other end of the line had gotten impatient. "Speak!"

Chapter 2272: Let us give each other a way out.

There was no equality between men in the first place.

When wealth came too easy for someone, it could numb a person's heart overnight. As the man gained his riches fast, he would also lose something fast.

This was why only men who were humble enough could shoulder greater responsibility.

What if a person lost all he had overnight, then?

The rite of passage would be even harder to overcome.

The missy might be impulsive enough to ditch her riches and status for him now, but she would succumb to reality sooner or later.

Did she say she'll work hard for our tomorrows, just like any average folk?

What a joke.

He was about to reply when tiny bubbles could be observed on the water surface. Something seemed to be vibrating inside his pants' pocket.

It was his cell phone.

He took out the phone from his pocket, but before he could see who the caller was, Lin Xueya snatched the item from his hand without warning. She gazed at the screen to see the name 'Shishi' flashing across.

Yun Shishi...

Is it her calling?

The missy bit her lower lip hard, then interrogated sullenly, "Where did you go last night?"

The man kept quiet.

"Speak!"

She threw the phone to the floor out of the blue, and the ringing stopped instantly.

Fury flashed across his eyes for a change. "Pick it up!"

"What?" She stared at him in wide-eyed disbelief.

Since she knew him, he had always been docile and calm around her, but today, he actually flared up at her like an antagonized lion just because of one willful action.

"Pick up the phone now!"

"Are you angry?" She did not let up her interrogation. "Who is she to you?! Why are you so upset with me for her sake?!"

"Pick it up!"

The man seemed to have truly been antagonized this time. He glared at her as his face turned livid with rage.

"Lin Xueya, you'd better know where to draw the line!"

This was the first time he had addressed this lady by her full name.

He had lost his patience with her finally. "How long more will you stay bull-headed?"

She did not know what to say.

He smirked. "Do you know how painful it is to be with you? I have to act loving with you all the time despite me not being in love with you at all. Not only that; I also have to face constant threats and violence from your family. Enough is enough."

He got up suddenly from the bathtub and took an elegant step out of the water.

His calm and composed mannerism only belied her shame and embarrassment.

She could not believe that he would stand up against her one day, but it was happening right before her eyes now.

"Lin Xueya, let's give each other a way out, alright?" As he spoke, he picked up his phone from the floor, wiped it gently, and left the bathroom without a second glance.

The woman was too stunned to move, and there was no reaction from her over his abrupt departure.

There was a long silence after the man walked out of the bathroom, and then she heard the sound of the main door opening and closing.

Her heart turned cold!

He left... without even a goodbye!

She had been ditched once again.

There's nothing left for me now...

She curled up on herself, burying her face in her arms as she hugged her knees despondently. Soon, she let out a wail.

...

After the man had changed into a fresh set of clothes, he left the apartment to find a secluded corner. There, he dialed a number on his phone.

A man's stern and deep voice boomed across the earpiece when the call went through. "Who is this!"

This father-daughter pair was of the same breed, indeed; both were equally arrogant.

During his momentary lapse, the older man on the other end of the line had gotten impatient. "Speak!"

: Let us give each other a way out.

There was no equality between men in the first place.

When wealth came too easy for someone, it could numb a person's heart overnight. As the man gained his riches fast, he would also lose something fast.

This was why only men who were humble enough could shoulder greater responsibility.

What if a person lost all he had overnight, then?

The rite of passage would be even harder to overcome.

The missy might be impulsive enough to ditch her riches and status for him now, but she would succumb to reality sooner or later.

Did she say she'll work hard for our tomorrows, just like any average folk?

What a joke.

He was about to reply when tiny bubbles could be observed on the water surface. Something seemed to be vibrating inside his pants' pocket.

It was his cell phone.

He took out the phone from his pocket, but before he could see who the caller was, Lin Xueya snatched the item from his hand without warning. She gazed at the screen to see the name 'Shishi' flashing across.

Yun Shishi...

Is it her calling?

The missy bit her lower lip hard, then interrogated sullenly, "Where did you go last night?"

The man kept quiet.

"Speak!"

She threw the phone to the floor out of the blue, and the ringing stopped instantly.

Fury flashed across his eyes for a change. "Pick it up!"

"What?" She stared at him in wide-eyed disbelief.

Since she knew him, he had always been docile and calm around her, but today, he actually flared up at her like an antagonized lion just because of one willful action.

"Pick up the phone now!"

"Are you angry?" She did not let up her interrogation. "Who is she to you?! Why are you so upset with me for her sake?!"

"Pick it up!"

The man seemed to have truly been antagonized this time. He glared at her as his face turned livid with rage.

"Lin Xueya, you'd better know where to draw the line!"

This was the first time he had addressed this lady by her full name.

He had lost his patience with her finally. "How long more will you stay bull-headed?"

She did not know what to say.

He smirked. "Do you know how painful it is to be with you? I have to act loving with you all the time despite me not being in love with you at all. Not only that; I also have to face constant threats and violence from your family. Enough is enough."

He got up suddenly from the bathtub and took an elegant step out of the water.

His calm and composed mannerism only belied her shame and embarrassment.

She could not believe that he would stand up against her one day, but it was happening right before her eyes now.

"Lin Xueya, let's give each other a way out, alright?" As he spoke, he picked up his phone from the floor, wiped it gently, and left the bathroom without a second glance.

The woman was too stunned to move, and there was no reaction from her over his abrupt departure.

There was a long silence after the man walked out of the bathroom, and then she heard the sound of the main door opening and closing.

Her heart turned cold!

He left... without even a goodbye!

She had been ditched once again.

There's nothing left for me now...

She curled up on herself, burying her face in her arms as she hugged her knees despondently. Soon, she let out a wail.

...

After the man had changed into a fresh set of clothes, he left the apartment to find a secluded corner. There, he dialed a number on his phone.

A man's stern and deep voice boomed across the earpiece when the call went through. "Who is this!"

This father-daughter pair was of the same breed, indeed; both were equally arrogant.

During his momentary lapse, the older man on the other end of the line had gotten impatient. "Speak!"

Chapter 2273: A Clean Break

Hua Jin—

The moment the middle-aged man heard the name, he let out an expletive!

"Ba*st*rd! You had the cheek to call this number?!"

The young man put the phone a distance away from his face with a disgusted look, then he took a long, deep drag of his cigarette, which got him coughing unexpectedly.

"Cough cough cough!"

He covered his mouth as he tried to stop his violent coughing fit. He had inhaled too much, too fast just then.

From the earpiece, he could hear the older man lambasting him. "Who the hell gave birth to such a shameful chap like you!?! I don't know what despicable means you've used to make my daughter be smitten with you—"

He cut short the other's relentless scolding. "I called not to hear your lecture."

There was a pause on the other end, and before the older man could speak, he continued. "Your daughter is at my apartment now. I don't know what happened between you two, but you can bring her back after I send you the address."

"Hmph! What kind of game are you playing now?!"

That earned a snigger from him, but he still managed to give a polite reply. "Uncle, I promise to have a clean break with her, but on one condition: You'd better have a tight rein on her. Tell her not to bother me again, and I won't look for her ever, too. I've already made things clear to her. As for what she wants to do about it, I won't be able to answer. I'm just here to inform you that I'll break up with her for good. Whatever she's given me—the apartment, car, and any other things, I'll return all to her. I just hope that

you'll be kind enough to let me off. Stop disrupting my life; I have no intention of getting involved with your family's conflict. I ask that you leave me in peace."

"You!"

His words were so direct and explicit that they embarrassed his listener.

The older man had always thought that it was the young chap who had been harassing his daughter for her money. It was doubtful that the two were together because of love in the first place, and the father thought that this guy was the one who had relentlessly clung onto his daughter, refusing to let her go, but he found out today that the truth was the opposite, actually. His daughter had been the one who refused to end the relationship, and now, the chap had come to him directly to complain about her harassment!

What the hell?!

Could she have more self-love and chastity?!

'You'd better have a tight rein on her. Tell her not to bother me again.

'Stop disrupting my life.'

These few statements were enough to infuriate him indeterminably!

What shameless things had his unfilial daughter been doing outside all along?!

She had disgraced him and their family name with her wanton behavior!

It is good that this matter hasn't gained traction so far, or our good reputation will be ruined in her hands!

How could a girl harass a man to no end, and to think that she's still unwilling to give up?! What is she thinking of doing to our name?!

Has she been blinded by lust?!

On the other end, Hua Jin had the good sense to reassure the older man. "Uncle, don't worry; I'll keep mum about this."

"Send me the address!"

"Alright. I'll leave the key in the letterbox outside the apartment."

After putting down the phone, he drew a deep breath. He then sent his address to the older man via a text message.

Everything had ended finally.

No...

He was finally freed.

...

Lin Xueya had unknowingly cried herself to sleep inside the bathtub. She was exhausted after missing her sleep the prior night.

At dawn, she heard the sound of a key unlocking the door in her half-sleepy state and thought that her man had a change of mind and came back to look for her.

Chapter 2274: Do you still have the face to address me as your father?

The woman jumped up from the bathtub in agitation, then dashed out of the bathroom without second thoughts, leaving a wet trail behind her as her soaked clothes clung onto her body.

Alas, when the door opened, all she saw were men in black suits marching in.

She let out a scream even though these men were no strangers to her, for they were her family's bodyguards.

Don't tell me...

As she stood rooted to the spot, she saw her father emerging from behind the men, his face trying to conceal his anger. The moment he stepped through the door, he saw his daughter looking shabby and improper in her wet attire. As she had sat in the tub for a long period of time, her outfit thoroughly drenched, it clung onto her curvaceous figure and inadvertently made some of her private spots conspicuous.

Her heart sank the instant she saw her father. Thoughts swirled in her head.

"Dad... why are you here?"

It would have been better for her if she had not opened her mouth, but the moment she did, the older man could no longer contain his suppressed anger especially after catching her in such an embarrassing state.

He signaled his men with a glare.

The bodyguards standing behind him caught his meaning and retreated from the room straightaway.

"Wait for me outside the door!"

"Understood!"

The men piled out, closing the door behind them.

He was left alone with his daughter in the spacious hallway.

"Dad, w-why are y-you here..." she stammered with none of her pride intact.

Honestly, she would have tried to hold her head high to speak to him if he had not caught her in such a compromising state. Now, all she wanted to do was hide in a corner, so he would not see her looking like this!

His sudden, unexplained appearance had disrupted her thoughts completely!

How did he get the key to the apartment? Only Hua Jin and I have access to this place, right?

Could it be...

The possibility that Hua Jin had led her father to this place set her head spinning; it was a big blow to her.

On the other hand, Lin Boxiong's face sank following his daughter's muttering. With greenish veins looking visible on his temples, he took a wide step forward and swang his palm hard against her wet cheek!

SMACK!

The fierce slap was swift and sudden. The woman did not have a chance to avoid this slap, so her face turned to the side from the force. She stumbled backward, then stood in a daze for a while. After a long pause, she reached out to touch her burning cheek, looking pissed.

"Shameless! Do you still have the face to address me as your father?!"

The man's voice thundered so much that it reverberated through the narrow hallway.

With her head still buzzing noisily, the woman's vision flickered for a while. She wanted to cry, but no tears would come out!

"Look at you now! Tilt your head down and see for yourself how shameless your appearance currently is! What cheek do you have to call me 'dad'?!" The man stared at her with exasperation.

He would have reached for a baton to thrash her if not for the fact that she was a woman and had a weak constitution.

Isn't she done with shaming herself alone? Will she stop only after she has completely disgraced our Lin family?!

The woman bit her lower lip hard. Her pride prevented her from showing her embarrassment to the older man now. She lifted her head high to meet his eyes, forcing a smirk as she tried to suppress the grievances inside her.

Chapter 2275: Unfilial Daughter

"Oh, that's right. How could I forget that I was thrown out of the Lin clan yesterday? I don't have the right to address you as my father now!"

"You—"

The man was so antagonized by his obstinate daughter that his chest undulated heavily for a while. Finally, he gnashed his teeth. "Xueya, please; How long more are you going to trample on yourself? Can you be enlightened now?"

"How am I trampling on myself?!"

He wanted to rush up and give her another slap on the face, but he forcibly suppressed his anger this time, questioning with a snort, instead, "How do you think I found this place?!"

The man then continued as his daughter listened to him in shock and disbelief. "I only found this place because your gigolo gave me the address! He said that he wants to make a clean break with you! This was how I got to know that he wasn't willing in the first place! Do you know what else he said to me? He said that he hopes that you'll stop harassing him for good! He also said that he'll return everything you gave him—the apartment, the car, and everything else; he just wants to cut all ties with you! He even told me to hold a tight rein on you, so you'll stop irritating him! Tell me: How did you end up in such a sorry state to let a shameless person like him humiliate you this much?! Xueya, it's time for you to wake up!"

The woman cried in great exasperation, "It's impossible! He'd never say such a thing! Was it you? Was it you who forced him to say all that?!"

"I forced him?!"

The man laughed at her words as if he had heard a bad joke before he retorted coldly, "That man doesn't love you at all; it's only been your wistful thinking all along. How do you think I could find this place so easily without him?! He he! You've disgraced me completely! You'd better go back with me to apologize to your grandfather while things haven't blown up out of proportions yet. After that, you make a clean break with that b*st*rd and never get in touch with him again!"

The woman slumped to the ground with a vacuous stare. "It's impossible... impossible..."

"Hmph! Did you think the man was deeply in love with you?! He's only taking you as a plaything and you took him for real! Stop your nonsense now and return home with me!"

"No!"

"I'll repeat myself: Return home with me right now!"

The woman got up out of the blue and screamed, "I won't!"

"You!" He was agitated beyond words. "Unfilial daughter!"

Turning around, he opened the door and ordered sullenly, "Bring her back!"

The men outside the door nodded. Piling in, one man took hold of her arm on either side as another wrapped her in a suit. Ignoring her protest and struggles, he knocked her out with a swift, professional hit on her nape. They intended to bring her back home by force.

The woman's vision turned hazy instantly. In her groggy state, the heartless image of her former boyfriend flooded her mind.

'Lin Xueya, let's give each other a way out, alright?'

Rong Jin...

How can you be so heartless?

...

At the hospital, Song Yunxi finally woke up after being in a coma for two days.

He struggled to open his eyes and the images in front of him gradually solidified and stopped spinning. He then saw his mother and sister standing watch over him from his periphery.

Chapter 2276: I do not have a sister like you.

Song Enya stood guard over her brother the whole night. As she lay her head on the bed, she noticed the slight movement next to her and looked up abruptly.

“You woke up!” she exclaimed excitedly.

He was about to say something when he saw her, but the pain from the corner of his lips made him draw a deep breath.

“Be careful with your movements, brother. Your injuries are serious.”

As she spoke, she held his hand tightly. She was guilt-stricken toward her brother. If not for her, he would not have lost his good sense to seek the Gus.

The next day after he was admitted to the hospital, the Gus called their family and sent an invoice detailing the expenses Song Yunxi had spent at the club that night. The bill also included the damage he had caused that day.

While Song Zhengguo was scrambling to find the culprit for his son’s condition, Gu Jinglian had already taken the lead by getting one of his henchmen to give him a call.

The caller narrated the event that had transpired to the father and, toward the end, told him mockingly, “Your son was insolent to ask the Gu family to stand up for the Songs. What a laughable request!”

The latter was so angry that he coughed up blood.

That was how his wife and daughter came to know what the young man had done. Indignant over what his sister had suffered, he sought the Gu family in hopes that this mafia clan would avenge his family’s loss. In the end, he offended their honcho and ended up getting badly beaten, instead.

Song Enya was especially apologetic after hearing the truth. Her mistake had cost her father and brother dearly.

Jiang Qimeng was cooking porridge when she heard her daughter’s exclamation. Turning around, she saw her son with his eyes open at last and quickly took a seat next to the bed.

“Yunxi, you finally woke up! Thanks, heaven!”

The young man did not say a word.

As his hazy consciousness finally cleared, he realized where he was with a start.

The mother signaled to her daughter with a worried glance when she saw her son not talking, and Song Enya understood her intention immediately. Holding her brother’s hand, she inquired gently, “How are you feeling? Do you want some water or, perhaps, an apple? Let me peel some for you...”

Her voice trailed off as the man did not show a desire to acknowledge her at all.

He looked at her expressionlessly before his eyes turned cold without warning, then he withdrew his hand lightly from hers in stony silence.

His sister was taken aback by this action.

Her brother would never do this to her in the past. She had been the apple of his eye all this while, but his response toward her now was too impassive to be real.

“What’s wrong...”

“Don’t touch me.” He turned away from her in resentment.

Even though every action was an ordeal to him in his current condition, he really did not want to see her at all, much less talk to her.

The lady’s heart ached at his rejection, and she retracted her hand with sullen reluctance.

Looking at his back facing her, her eyes turned red as she sobbed. “Are you angry with me—”

“I don’t want to hear your voice,” he cut her off coldly. “Our family is about to be ruined by you! I don’t have a sister like you, nor can I manage one like you!”

Chapter 2277: A Rude Awakening

“Yunxi!” Appalled, Jiang Qimeng hastily rushed forward to her son’s bedside and covered his mouth. “You’re in a bad shape now, so don’t move around anymore! Just lie in bed and tell me what you need, okay? Watch your words, too!”

In a bid to keep his anger in check, he clenched his teeth hard and inhaled deeply; only then did he finally regain his calm composure.

Standing at one side was Song Enya, who had her head hanging low in guilt, with eyes moist from tears.

It hurt the lady to hear her brother speaking so harshly toward her, but she did not blame him in the slightest.

After all, everything happened because she had been so blinded by love; it was all her fault in the first place.

She knew her mistake now, though, and she swore not to commit such foolish mistakes again!

With eyes rimming red, she opened and closed her mouth several times but was hesitant to speak.

Does big brother hate me now? Is that why he refuses to talk to me?

He must be disappointed with me.

...

With his back facing his sister, Song Yunxi told his mother in a heavy voice, “I don’t feel comfortable lying down; I want to sit up straight.”

“Yunxi...” Quietly and hesitantly, Jiang Qimeng looked at her son for a good while before she finally coaxed him. “Just lie back down! You’re seriously wounded right now. It’s inconvenient for you to sit up.”

That was when he finally realized that something was off about himself.

He, somehow, could feel a weird, numbing sensation at many parts of his body. An excruciating pain shot through his body and left him gasping for breath when he tried to sit upright. He then lifted a quaking hand to soothe his chest, but the lifting motion alone sent him experiencing another bout of pain.

“Mom...”

She immediately said, “Son... you shouldn’t be moving around when you’ve just had surgery... You’ll be the one suffering if the wound tears!”

“Surgery?!” Color drained from his face. He then hesitantly asked, “H-How’s my condition?”

Seeing that she could not hide it from her son any longer, she repeated what the doctor had said about his condition to him.

Multiple fractures, moderate concussion, and bleeding in his ribs, shoulders as well as inside the cranium...

The young chap’s eyes dimmed upon hearing the diagnosis.

If I’m suffering from such serious injuries... won’t this mark the end of my military career?!

His father had paid quite a price to send him into the military unit he was currently assigned to. If he could stay in it for a couple more years, he would surely be able to achieve success in his career and have a bright future.

However, should he be discharged from military service at such a critical juncture, the years of effort and price they had paid would all turn to naught!

H-How did things turn out this way?!

The young man bit his bottom lip hard, his eyes red from fury and indignation.

Song Enya suddenly made her way over to him and kneeled beside the bed, crying. “It’s all my fault, brother... I was too insensible for my good. I shouldn’t have done such a ridiculous thing and ended up implicating you and our family! I know my mistakes now! I know I was wrong... I won’t do it again...”

“Enya...” Her mother rushed over to her side and helped her up.

“What’s the use of apologizing?!”

The more he heard her wailing, the more conspicuous the veins on his forehead became. He frowned as he lashed out at her, lambasting, “Does saying sorry help?! Song Enya, are you satisfied now?! You’ve ruined our family! You not only ruined dad but also my career prospects! Are you satisfied now?! Are you happy now?! Why are you crying then?! Since your wish has come true, shouldn’t you be laughing out loud now?!”

Her cries only got louder and louder, however...

Chapter 2278: Hatred is proportionate to love.

With tears in her eyes, Jiang Qimeng held her son's wrist tightly. She warned her son in hopes of him getting a hold of himself. "Yunxi, stop talking nonsense!"

"How was that nonsense?!"

In an act of fury and defiance, he broke free from his mother's hold and disregarded his injuries no matter how painful they were or how they were at risk of tearing as though he was immune to it all. "Was what I said untrue?!"

She was horrified to hear her son's ranting and felt choked with emotions.

The young man went sneering. "You're still defending her even at this point! I don't pity her at all! Look; she still has the cheek to cry now! What about me? She must be happy to see me in this state! Everyone in the family has doted on and cared for her since her birth, yet our love was treated like garbage by her—it could not even compare to that heartless man! For him, she disregarded our family's interests and threw herself at him like a moth attracted to a deadly flame, but in the end?! We're the ones cleaning after her mess! How naïve must a girl be to disregard everything else and insist on carrying the child of a man who doesn't love her?! She even resorted to using such a vile method! I-I... I'm ashamed to acknowledge her as my sister! Are you both satisfied now?! To preserve her reputation, dad is giving that piece of land in Xin Cheng to uncle! Have you any idea what that means?!"

Song Enya, who could no longer keep her tears at bay, covered her face as she bawled. "Don't say anymore, brother! I already know my mistake! It's my fault for implicating you, dad, and the rest of our family! I'll make it up to all of you! I'll make it up..."

Her brother let out a despairing laugh at that. "How on earth do you want to make up to us and on what methods?! Given how things have turned out, do you think you can make up for our losses?"

Like a helpless yet crying little child, she extended her hand out in hopes of holding her big brother's hand.

"Get lost!" he bellowed. "Get out of my sight! I don't want to see you!"

"Brother—"

"Get lost!"

Jiang Qimeng hugged her son tightly in heartache before sending an eye-signal to her daughter, who bore with all her aggrieved feelings and quietly turned to leave the ward.

Once Song Enya was out of the ward, she sat listlessly on the bench along the corridor, hugging her shoulders helplessly while hanging her head low.

After coaxing her brother to sleep, her mother left the ward, sat beside her, and passed her a cup of hot tea.

“Daughter, your brother was just being emotional earlier and didn’t mean what he said. Don’t take his words to heart! Your brother... still loves you dearly!”

The young missy nodded. “I know...”

“Don’t dwell on negative thoughts anymore. Now that you’re pregnant, you shouldn’t be agitated. Try to curb those feelings, or you’ll be at risk of a miscarriage! From tomorrow onward, I’ll stay at the hospital to look after your brother, while you just need to stay at home and recuperate.” Her mother patted her lightly on the shoulder as she gave her some advice.

She balled up her fists tightly; all of a sudden, because of the chain of events that had happened, all feelings of fondness for her uncle turned into hatred, which ran deep to the core.

Her immense love for him equated to the amount of hatred she had for him.

Loving him was the most demeaning thing she had ever done in her life.

The two of them had been inseparable throughout her entire life, and the man was akin to the most vibrant stroke of color in her youthful memories.

She thought that he liked her, too!

Chapter 2279: Too shy to speak her mind...

She thought that he had romantic feelings for her, too, and only kept his distance from her because of societal norms.

All this while, she had been quietly trying to get close to him and worm her way into his heart. She had put in so much effort, only to see her beloved man standing next to another woman.

Yun Shishi!

What’s so good about her?!

Even after pondering on that question for a long time, the young missy could just not understand in what way she had lost to that woman.

In terms of background, she came from a prestigious family while that woman was merely a commoner without any power or influence.

In terms of appearance, she reckoned that she was not inferior to the actress in any way. Plus, beauty would fade over time; what was the use of having a pretty face now?

In terms of characters, she was equally gentle and considerate toward the man; the one who knew him the best, in fact, was likely to be her, too!

She had hoped for him to have a change of heart; alas, never in her wildest dreams did she expect to see him getting closer and closer to another woman.

It was out of indignation that she strayed on the unconventional path.

She could not figure it out!

She just simply could not figure it out!

*Why could that b*tch receive his acknowledgment and become his wife because of those two kids, but I couldn't?!*

This missy had to admit that she was just following in that woman's footsteps when she took things to the extreme!

Back then, it was all due to that surrogacy and that woman giving birth to his children that the two got the chance to get closer to each other.

Why could she not do the same, then?!

She had spent a lot of effort and paid a hefty price, just so that she could take a gamble to conceive his child in her stomach. Aside from misappropriating her father's funds, which were placed in her brother's bank account, she also underwent much suffering during the IVF process. Every night, she would pray hard to receive heaven's blessing so that the procedure would be a success.

Heaven did not disappoint her in the end!

She finally got pregnant with a child!

Alas, her hopes were all but crushed when he nonchalantly revealed that he had swapped the sperm specimen right before the surgery. Like a fool, she had never once realized that each of her actions had been under his watch. She was truly naïve to think that she could carry out her scheme without his knowledge when, in fact, she was the one dancing in the palm of his hand!

It was already far too late by the time she regained her senses!

Reflecting on her past actions now, she found herself to be hopelessly stupid!

Oh, how she hated him now!

Her hatred for him ran deep!

She clenched her fists tightly in anger with tears dripping and splashing onto her body.

Feelings of remorse and agony seized her.

She could not help but feel reproachful!

After all, she bore a portion of the responsibility for what had happened to her brother!

If it had not been for her, things would not have turned out this way!

"Get a grip of yourself!" Out of worry, Jiang Qimeng hugged her daughter coaxingly. "Since you have straightened out your thoughts and seen through Mu Yazhe's true nature, you ought to give up on him now! Why would you still think about him when he turned his back on you?! All you need to do right now is rest well and recuperate your health, then grab your chance once the time is ripe. What happened to you is actually a blessing in disguise! Now that you have this child, we have, at the very least, this one last bargaining chip left."

“What do you mean by that?”

“Mu Yancheng, the father of your child, might very well be the next leader of the Mu family, so your position will be cemented with the birth of your child! Don’t think of the useless whatnots and just focus on your health and the child in your stomach! This is the correct course of action and the most important thing you should be doing now!”

“Mom, I...”

Chapter 2280: What am I supposed to say?

The young missy hemmed and hawed, feeling too shy to speak her mind.

“What’s wrong?” Jiang Qimeng looked at her in shock. “Have you not straightened out your thoughts at all or are you reluctant to do so?!”

Her daughter remained mum, though.

She patiently coaxed, “Look at how that woman bullied you and trampled you under her feet! She’s obviously waiting to see you become a laughingstock! Do you want to become the butt of jokes?!”

She paused for a beat before continuing. “As your mother, I have your best interests at heart and hope to see you lead a good life! Marrying Mu Yancheng is a wise choice. Even though he hasn’t become the family head yet, his uncle has the intention to support him in succeeding in that position! Do you know that his uncle is currently trying to matchmake him? You should know that Mu Linfeng is one of the leading members of that family! What do you think it means if someone like him is personally playing matchmaker for his nephew? It means that he holds his nephew in high regard and wishes to groom him to become the successor; that’s why he’s going all out to support him! If you can end up with Mu Yancheng, our family will lend him a helping hand, then that chap becoming the family head will only be a matter of time! You’ll become the glorious Young Madam Mu then! Who will dare to look down on you? Yun Shishi, on the other hand, can only blame herself for betting on the wrong person as her husband abdicated his position and became penniless because of her! What good life can she possibly have with him? It’ll be her turn to look up enviously at you when you marry into the Mu family! You can trample her any way you want by then!”

Song Enya’s heart stirred upon hearing those words.

Indeed.

Love was something of the past to her now in any case. She no longer thought or yearned for it, so she might as well take her chances and cling tightly onto Mu Yancheng, instead.

Her mother let out another heavy sigh. “Now that you’ve grown up, let me give you a piece of advice: We, females, should take ourselves as top priorities and find men who love us! My cousin is a stubborn man who has always acted according to his wishes once his mind is set on what he wants! I admit that he’s indeed outstanding, but what have you gotten from chasing after him? Men don’t value women who throw themselves at them no matter how good they are! It’s fine even if you and Yancheng didn’t start with love, for you two can still nurture your relationship in the days to come! Love is nothing but a

pastime. Now that you've let go of your feelings for your uncle, you should start to plan for your future! After all, what if you were with him now? Your besties from the upper society will only look down on you for being with a powerless man! Things will be different with Mu Yancheng, though! Others will only be envious and jealous of you once you become his wife! Think for yourself; do you want to be the one who gets looked down upon or the one being envied? It's all up to you! No need to feel indignant, for there's no reason you should feel that way! In fact, you should consider yourself lucky for coming to your senses in the nick of time and no longer obsessing over Mu Yazhe! You shouldn't harbor any lingering feelings for him now that you've seen through his true nature!"

"But..." she said with difficulty, "what should I say?"

"Say what?"

Biting her lower lip, she cried, "You can't possibly expect me to throw myself at him and tell him that I'm expecting his child!"