

Sweet Love 811

Chapter 811: Mu Yazhe is my man.

An unwed mother!

As soon as Song Enya spoke, there was an uproar on set.

The crowd's gazes shifted from her to Yun Shishi and found it to be unbelievable!

Yun Shishi had illegitimate children and was a third party?!

Such shocking news, surely it was untrue?!

She did not seem to be such a vile woman.

Still, the woman did not seem to be speaking nonsense, too. Her words held credibility and sense, not at all sounding nonsensical.

Could Yun Shishi really have such dirty secrets?

It was not impossible.

For a newbie, she was blessed with resources from day one and received much support even before the movie was released that her limelight had long overshadowed the superstar's heavenly halo. It was a little incredible, indeed.

Was it really what this woman had said? Did she get between a marriage and hook up with a mysterious investor?

After working in this industry for so long, it was clear that everything was not baseless.

For a moment, the crowd buzzed fervently as countless skeptical gazes fell on her.

With a nonchalant face, she merely looked at the woman calmly.

Jun Mo, however, could not take it and fumed, "Song Enya, don't slander people! You say that Shishi is a third party and an unwed mother, but do you have any proof?"

The other answered with disdain, "What's your name? Am I talking to you? An actress still dares to be so pretentious with me; don't know where your courage comes from, then step aside!"

Jun Mo's handsome face turned sullen. She stepped forward and moved to speak, but Yun Shishi stopped her again.

She did not wish to see her stepping into muddy waters for her.

Hence, she raised her head and said, "Jun Mo, thank you for defending me, but this is a private matter between me and her. It's better if you stay out of it."

She looked at her with heartache, displeasure evident on her face. "I just can't ignore it, Shishi. What gives her the right to slander you like this? This is baseless; she's starting a rumor, and it's too much!"

“Am I starting a rumor? Is it truly baseless?!”

Song Enya laughed coldly and mockingly. “Yun Shishi, your acting is really superb! Oh, how your pure and innocent face fooled so many people. They are willing to defend you, but do you dare to admit the truth to them? Am I all talks and have no proof? Am I just starting a rumor and smearing your name without evidence? Not only is your acting superb in the show, even your acting outside it is matchless. In front of Brother Mu, do you fool him, too, with your white lotus act?”

Yun Shishi, however, maintained a calm face. Her eyes were full of pity as she looked at Song Enya; it was as if the latter was a pathetic being.

Hurt by her gaze, the other exclaimed, “What’s with your look?!”

She raised a brow. “I only feel that you’re truly pitiful.”

Song Enya was tongue-tied for a moment, unable to get the gist of her words. “What do you mean?!”

She took a step forward and slowly said to her ear, “No matter how you rage, you can’t change the fact that Mu Yazhe is my man. You’re the one unqualified, understand?”

Song Enya’s eyes blazed in anger, and she raised her palm at once. “B*tch, you’re shameless!”

Jun Mo swiftly reached out and pushed Yun Shishi to her back protectively.

The slap to her face, however, was slow to fall.

Song Enya furiously looked over her shoulder, only to find Gu Xingze, who somehow appeared behind her, tightly holding her wrist.

A pair of frosty yet handsome eyes landed on her in an incredibly indifferent manner.

“You...” Upon seeing him, her face paled for a moment.

Chapter 812: Gu Xingze’s Rage

Gu Xingze?

What was the meaning of this?

Why did he stop her?

“Gu Xingze, what are you doing?!”

“Are you done making a scene?”

His lips curled impatiently as his handsome face turned frosty. “This is a set – not your playground!”

He held her wrist so hard it seemed he wanted to snap it apart. His grip was so vice-like her wrist abruptly turned white from blood deficiency. No matter how much she struggled, it was to no avail.

Struggling for a while and not managing to break free, she angrily demanded, “Unhand me!”

He obediently let go of her wrist at once. Caught off guard, she fell to the ground inelegantly.

She wore seven-centimeter high heels today, so after this fall, pain shot through her ankle; it seemed to have gotten twisted.

Feeling aggrieved and resentful for a moment, she looked up at him with dissatisfaction.

The man merely bowed his head to meet her eyes; his face was frosty and his eyes were piercingly indifferent.

She was cowed by his gaze and was tongue-tied for a moment.

Amid her shock, Lu Jingtian rushed forward to help her up.

“Gu Xingze, why are you even helping her?!”

Song Enya was so incensed she forgot her image and hollered at him.

He emotionlessly replied, “I have no patience for you, so don’t be stubborn in front of me; it’s very vexing.”

Daunted by his cold gaze, she kept her mum.

Lu Jingtian opened her mouth to speak, but he swept a glance on her and coldly ordered, “Shut up!”

“...” Even she dared not say a word anymore.

“Gu Xingze, you... you’re too much...” Song Enya’s eyes were flushed. It was obvious that she was about to cry from anger.

“Have you had enough? Didn’t you hear me asking you to shut up?”

All of a sudden, he raised his voice. “Who let this outsider in?!”

Outsider?!

She was startled and wanted to rebuke him, but with a tug at her arm, Lu Jingtian sensibly dissuaded her from doing so.

The security personnel rushed over and, upon seeing Song Enya, eyed the superstar with apprehension, mumbling “It-It’s me...”

“From tomorrow on, you don’t have to come anymore,” said the superstar with a cold face.

The security was stunned but nodded helplessly.

Gu Xingze continued. “Throw her out! In the future, outsiders are not allowed to enter.”

She stared at him in disbelief. Before she could say anything, she was thrown out of the set by the security personnel who had heard the commotion.

Jun Mo protected Yun Shishi from the front up until Song Enya was chased out of the set. Only at this point did she turn to face her with concern. “Shishi, are you all right?”

“I’m fine; what can be wrong?” She raised a brow but was unbothered.

“Aren’t you mad? She said such things to you!”

“Crazy people with crazy words; why stoop to their level?”

Lu Jingtian shot her a glance and snorted. She then returned to her seat.

Gu Xingze suddenly walked over and tightly held her arm.

Surprised, she raised her eyes and saw that his face was strangely sullen.

“Xingze, you...”

He dragged her with him.

She was baffled by what he was after. Only until he pulled her to a secluded corner did he release her hand.

“Xingze, what... what’s wrong with you?” she carefully asked. Stepping closer to him, she suddenly found herself confined at a corner by the man’s outstretched arms.

Chapter 813: Will you choose me, instead?

Startled by his abrupt action, she lifted her head to peer at him in bewilderment. He was brooding sullenly with his penetrating stare on her.

“Xingze, you...”

“Moments ago, that woman accused you of being a third party and an unwed mother.”

His thin lips parted slightly, and words tumbled from them chillingly. “How did you feel when you were being humiliated like that?”

She was taken aback by his question and could not respond for a time.

“Why so quiet? Is this your final answer?”

He glared at her, antagonized. “Yun Shishi, is this your final decision? Why do you want to cheapen yourself in this way?”

“What do you mean?”

“What can he give you? Wealth, splendor, status, or fame?! And then, what else? Endless slander, humiliation, abuse, and contempt, do you really want all that?!”

His words shocked her immensely.

Despite his frigid look and icy tone, she could nimbly catch a fleeting pain in his eyes.

Was his heart... aching for her?

She did not know what to say next.

The superstar continued. “Whatever he can give you – wealth, splendor, status, and fame – I can give you, too, but if I’m your man, I’ll never let anyone slander, humiliate, abuse, or look down on you!”

She was tongue-tied by his retort.

He softened his tone and inched his handsome face closer to hers. The anger in his eyes was replaced by a tinge of tenderness and vulnerability. He looked at her with so much pain and indulgence, wishing with all his heart that he could walk up and tightly wrap this woman standing in front of him in his arms.

Alas, he could not do that.

He closed his eyes pensively and asked hoarsely, “Shishi, if you had known me before him, would you have been with me, instead?”

If she had met him before Mu Yazhe, would she have chosen him?

She was dumbfounded by this question.

“Xingze, I’ve always treated you as my great senior—”

He cut her off. “Can I not be your senior?”

She was stunned.

“Shishi, am I just your senior in your eyes?”

He slowly opened his eyes. By now, calmness had returned in his voice and eyes. “I’ve always seen myself as someone with no worldly desires, but that has changed the moment I met you; for the first time in my life, there is something I want to fight for.”

He also did not expect his heart to be moved by a woman again; he was even prepared to stay single for the rest of his life.

It was as if he were possessed after he got to know her; his heart practically beat for her. Her every glance, every move, and every smile warmed his hardened heart.

“You haven’t given me a reply yet. Without him, would you choose me?”

He persisted with her, not wanting to give up just like that.

If she would say the word ‘yes’, he would fight for her with all his might!

She maintained her silence for a long time before she slowly reached out her hand and pushed him aside.

“Sorry, Xingze...”

Her rejection was absolute.

He looked at her emotionlessly. All of a sudden, his lips retracted at the corner as something in his eyes flickered to life and then got extinguished mercilessly.

By the time she regained her composure and looked up, he was long gone.

She took a deep breath and tried to lift her spirit as she emerged from the shadows. Meanwhile, her assistant, who had been looking all over for her, finally spotted her.

“Shishi, where did you go? I couldn’t find you anywhere.”

She looked out of sorts and did not seem to hear her assistant.

Mu Xi looked at her perplexedly. “What happened to you...”

Chapter 814: Yun Shishi, what are you thinking about?

“Shishi, where did you go? I couldn’t find you anywhere.”

She looked out of sorts and did not seem to hear her assistant.

“Shishi?”

“Huh?”

“What happened to you? Why are you looking so lifeless like Xingze?” Mu Xi retorted helplessly.

“Nothing much. I was just thinking of something.”

Her assistant pursed her lips, took out a thermos flask from her bag, and passed it to her. “Here; take it.”

She was surprised as she took the flask from her hand. “What is this?”

“Ginger tea. I’ve prepared this for you.” Her assistant then added. “Later at seven, you’ll have a rain-soaked scene. Hopefully, you can complete it in one take. Anyway, after that, remember to take a warm shower quickly and then drink ginger tea. This will help prevent you from catching a cold.”

Knowing that her artiste would have a scene in the rain today, she hastened to prepare this ginger tea for her.

Yun Shishi was full of gratitude. “Thank you.”

“Aiya! There’s nothing to thank me for. I’m your assistant, remember? My job is to ensure that everything, big and small, is nicely prepared for you!” she replied smilingly.

At seven in the evening, exactly on the dot, the truck with the water hose reached the production site, which was at the hotel’s carpark.

Lin Fengtian got everyone on standby. Finally, the log-keeper hurried to the center of the scene and got all the artistes at their respective positions.

In this scene, Yin Dongyu missed his engagement ceremony with Lin Hena to look after his sister whom he learned had gotten pneumonia. Inside the hospital ward, he thought that she was sleeping and finally revealed the feelings he had hidden from her all these years.

Yin Xiachun was not sleeping, actually, and opened her eyes out of the blue to question her brother for avoiding her when she heard his confession.

He panicked and hastily left the room, wanting to flee in his car when his sister gave chase.

This scene in the rain was the emotional climax of the show.

Ding Ning opted for a nude look to express her sickliness. After much effort, the makeup was finally completed. The stylist could not help being mesmerized by the beauty before her.

Her wan face and pale lips, under this frail and sickly look, accentuated her pair of sparkling and ethereal-looking eyes. Her presence exuded a sense of poignancy and vicissitude.

How beautiful.

The production assistant rushed to remind her, and she quickly got up to leave.

The lights and recorders were all in place at the production scene.

When she reached the spot, she saw Gu Xingze already at his seat, while the makeup artist busied herself applying last-minute touch up on his face.

His heart contracted in pain when he saw her sickly appearance; however, he soon realized that this was due to the makeup, and that assured him considerably.

“‘The Green Apple’, Scene 28, First Act, and... Action!”

She took one glance at the superstar and lost her thoughts momentarily before she hastily dashed forward in an umbrella. Lin Fengtian cut off the scene after her first few steps.

“Yun Shishi, what are you thinking about?”

She was stunned.

“Have you read the script yet? This is an important scene, so can you put in your hundred and one percent? Please, Yin Xiachun is supposed to chase after him anxiously. Where is the anxiety on your face?”

“I’m so sorry. I’ll pace myself again,” she apologized at once.

It was true that she had lost her thoughts earlier, which resulted in the fumble at the first instance.

The director told her seriously. “Shishi, you have potential and a fast learner. I hope that you won’t disappoint me again!”

Although he held her in high regard, he would not spare her if she made mistakes in her work.

To him, acting was work, and he drew the line very well between it and pleasure. It must be executed flawlessly, and no one, even this promising newcomer, was allowed to betray his

Chapter 815: You like Yun Shishi, do you not?

Mu Xi watched fearfully at the side, only hoping that this rain scene could end quickly.

“‘The Green Apple’, Scene 28, Take 2; Action!”

...

The filming went on with hiccups.

The main problem was that Gu Xingze could not get in the proper condition.

As for Yun Shishi, her eye expression somewhat lacked the emotion.

Sitting in front of the monitor, Lin Fengtian found this to be strange. He kept feeling that the two were not in the right conditions and seemed to be distracted.

The eyes of the superstar, in particular, were either wondering or too deep. The intense emotional struggle in Yin Dongyu's eyes was not properly expressed at all.

On the other hand, while she got the right eye expression and her lines were properly read, her demeanor had an awkward feel to it.

It was the ineffable sort of awkwardness.

He 'cut' the filming and announced, "Mid-break for 15 minutes."

Mu Xi took a blanket and quickly covered her charge's body as she helped her back to her seat.

The superstar sat by her side, too, but did not spare her a glance; it was as if she were air.

There was no interaction at all.

Being observant, the director was vaguely aware that there was something fishy between the two. Hence, he walked over to Yun Shishi, pushed the actor away, and occupied his seat.

"Shishi, you're not fully in condition today. What are you thinking about?"

"I... I got distracted. Sorry."

He waved his hand. "I don't want to hear this. Say; have you ever been in love?"

"I guess... I'm kind of?"

"Think of him as the man you love, and then bring it into the role. Envision this; the man you love clearly loves you back, but he's afraid to love..."

He tried to bring out her emotions. "In the next take, you must portray the anguish and hysteria in Yin Xiachun."

Having high comprehension level, she soon got what he wanted from her. "Director Lin, thank you; I understand now!"

"Okay! Try to pass it in one take!"

With that, he went to the superstar's side.

His face turned somber instantly.

"Xingze, for this scene, you just need to follow your inner struggles."

The actor was dumbfounded.

He drummed his fingers on the table and snorted. "Do you really think that I can't tell? You like Yun Shishi, don't you?"

The superstar raised his eyes, his face pale and his eyes abnormally empty.

“Your present emotional state fits this plot very well. Carefully give some thoughts about Yin Dongyu’s emotional state and then just express your inner struggle out; that’s it!”

He narrowed his eyes; how could he not tell how this actor felt for her?

Gu Xingze liked Yun Shishi.

Unfortunately, this feeling could only be buried deep in his heart.

The actor frowned slightly in contemplation.

Standing up, he patted his shoulder. “Give it some thought, and then try to pass it in one take!”

With that, he left.

Gu Xingze raised his head, but he accidentally met Yun Shishi’s eyes. She was sitting somewhere not far from him. Seeing that he was also looking at her, she immediately averted her gaze.

The break of fifteen minutes was soon over.

The two went back to the scene.

The staff raised the water hose and sprayed it in the air, creating an artificial rain scene in no time.

“‘The Green Apple’, Scene 28, Take 7; Action!”

“Yin Dongyu!”

Yun Shishi cried out in hysteria. From the start, she was exactly in condition, and the power of this shout almost made her voice hoarse.

Lin Fengtian smiled satisfactorily.

Chapter 816: The Elevator Scare (1)

Gu Xingze stood in the rain with his back facing her.

Yun Shishi rushed into the rain and slowly walked up to him upon seeing his footsteps stopped. She attempted to pull his hand, but the moment her trembling fingers was about to touch his, his hand retracted, as if he had gotten electrocuted.

Her eyes exuded a hurt gaze.

“Brother...”

Her helpless yet weak cry hit the most tender part of his heart.

With a hoarse voice, she asked, “Why are you always avoiding me? You clearly love me, too, so why are you always escaping? What exactly are you escaping from?”

He trembled for a bit, but very quickly, he constrained the roaring sea in his heart and feigned calmness.

“I’m not... escaping.”

“You are! You clearly are!” she yelled in exasperation. “You’re always avoiding me! Always!”

With that, she reached out to hook his hand.

He did not shun her touch this time.

Gazing at his back, she carefully asked, “Didn’t we make a promise in the past that we’d be together for life – together forever? You promised me; have you forgotten this?”

Her lips constantly trembled as her broken yet pleading voice left their confines. “Brother, love me, alright?”

There was a pregnant silence.

Lin Fengtian immediately zoomed in on the image, giving Yun Shishi a close-up shot.

The fragility in her eyes was full of tension.

He applauded in his heart!

The dead silence continued for some more, and it seemed as if a century had passed before Gu Xingze sighed. “How can I love you?”

He turned around, and the camera zoomed in on his face.

He frowned slightly. Hesitation and fragility were evident in his eyes.

Even her heart trembled upon seeing that gaze.

“Xiachun, what can I take to love you?”

...

This scene was finally done.

The director stood up and clapped thunderously.

Out of the role, Yun Shishi’s face revealed a smile of relief.

Gu Xingze, however, seemed to have gone too deep into his role; his face was despondent.

From her periphery, she saw his face, and her smile stiffened in place.

“Clear the set! Make preparations; we’ll end here today!”

Almost at once, the actor turned around and headed to the building.

She stood rooted to the spot. Her assistant rushed over with the blanket, urging, “Shishi, quickly go take a bath!”

Coming back to herself, she nodded. “Alright.”

“Do you need me to accompany you?”

“No, I’ll go on my own.”

“Alright! Remember to drink that ginger soup after you bathe!”

The production team had especially booked the entire floor of a hotel, which was beside a hospital, for the staff’s use.

At this time, the sky had already darkened.

It was already 10 PM.

The front desk staff was feeling sleepy.

Clenching the room card in her hand, Yun Shishi carried the thermos flask and entered the hotel. However, by coincidence, she met Gu Xingze at the elevator entrance.

The startled her could not help feeling a little awkward.

In the rain scene earlier, she got fully drenched, whereas the man, who was holding an umbrella the entire time, only got drenched at some corners.

“Do remember to take a bath, too, or else you’ll catch a cold.”

“Mhm,” he blandly answered. His gaze, however, was at the elevator doors.

The floor of the elevator kept on jumping.

Ding dong!

A message alert sounded.

She took out her phone; it was a message from Youyou. [Dearest mommy, what time are you coming home tonight? (heart)(heart)]

Chapter 817: The Elevator Scare (2)

The elevator doors opened, and Gu Xingze stepped inside.

After replying to the message, Yun Shishi followed him into the elevator.

However, as soon as one of her feet stepped inside, she felt a sudden turbulence under her. The lights inside flickered a few times, and then the lift actually uncontrollably lurched downward!

At this point, she was halfway into the elevator. Seeing the elevator lurch down uncontrollably and her about to get caught... he hurriedly grabbed her arm and jerked her inside.

Losing her center of gravity, she fell into his arms.

The phone dropped to the ground with a *smack!*

Because of the elevator’s intermittent shaking, both fell to the ground together.

Immediately afterward, they felt a strange centrifugal force. The elevator, which was still falling, seemed to crash to the ground with a *bang!*

He subconsciously covered her in his embrace. The moment his spine collided with the stiff floor, he had the illusion that his bones had shattered from the impact.

The lift rocked for a bit thereafter, and the lights overhead flickered; everything returned to serenity.

Only then did the elevator slowly close.

Yun Shishi could not react. She was even unaware of what exactly had happened. Once it turned quiet, she scanned her surroundings and saw the elevator's floor panel was black.

From the elevator, she could hear the rope saws swaying, and in this quiet and narrow space, these noises only gave way for uneasiness and anxiety.

"Elevator malfunction?!"

This was her first reaction.

Turning to look at the man, she saw his pale face. It was as if he had lingering fear. Clearly, he was still a little shocked by the earlier accident.

Imagine; were it not for his fast actions, he probably could only watch her get caught in the opening.

He did not dare think of the consequences.

She, too, carefully recollected that, just as she stepped into the lift, she felt it abruptly lurch downward.

Gu Xingze had tugged her into the elevator. Thinking about it carefully now, she felt a chill spread from her feet all the way to her spine.

If he had not reacted fast enough, or if he had chosen to push her out, instead, she would have been fraught with grim possibilities.

That was because, in that situation, it would be too late to push her out, too.

She was nearly caught by the elevator opening.

...

The fear in her heart seemed to devour her from within.

She actually had a brush with death earlier.

"Xingze..."

Her heart raced and her palms turned clammy, yet she calmed herself at once and expressed her gratitude. "Thank you."

He closed his eyes and quickly quelled his fears. Slowly, he stood up and pressed the floor button.

The floor indicator was no longer glowing.

The lights overhead flickered unstably, while the exhaust fan continued spinning.

He turned to look at her and his thin lips parted. "Shishi, don't be afraid. I'm here with you."

Humming her assent, she felt an explicable calmness and lose her apprehension.

Gu Xingze speculated that the elevator had likely malfunctioned and fell. Fortunately, it only fell a short distance from the first floor to basement three. If it had been from a higher floor, the consequences were unthinkable.

Chapter 818: The Elevator Scare (3)

Gu Xingze had a slight headache.

How did this happen to them?

Being over a decade in the entertainment industry, he often flew across the world and encountered his fair share of elevator malfunctions, but this was truly the first time it had happened to himself.

Experiencing it for himself now, he felt uneasy and panicky from being trapped inside an elevator.

He reached out to press the alarm bell for emergency, but even after pressing it for so long, there was no response at all.

"What's wrong?" He was puzzled. "Is it out of order?"

She stood up and tried pressing the floor buttons, too, but the lights did not light up at all.

She then pressed the alarm bell; it rang for a bit, but no one responded.

"What's going on? Why is there no response after pressing it?"

"Do you think it's out of order?"

"It doesn't seem like it! That's weird. There should be people manning the elevator maintenance for twenty-four hours." She brooded. "Why is this hotel like this? The safety measures are simply terrible."

"This is a small hotel. Many are like this, too," explained the man.

She asked, "Have you ever met this kind of mishap?"

"Yes, I have, and I've even seen it on the news."

"Oh, I've seen it on the news, too. There's an elevator malfunction in a university then, and a student passed away from being stuck in the cabin for long."

He answered, "I've seen that one, too."

"I didn't think that it would ever happen to me. It's too precarious earlier."

She caught sight of her fallen phone and hurriedly picked it up. The phone died from the impact. She hurriedly turned it on, wanting to call for help using the phone.

Seeing her actions, he said, "It's futile. Phone signals are blocked in elevators, and there's no mobile network coverage inside. Besides, we're in the basement now."

Sure enough, after she turned on the phone, there was no signal on its display, and she was unable to make a call.

“What to do? The phone really has no signal at all.”

With no Internet and signal, it was impossible to communicate their plight to the outside world.

She started panicking, feeling very helpless.

No one responded to the alarm bell, and the phone had no signal; it was as if they were lost in the wild, isolated from help and caught in a predicament like this.

He frowned as he patiently pressed the alarm bell repeatedly. It was unknown if the elevator lacked maintenance over the years or other reasons, but no one responded at all.

Were the people in the security room dozing off, or did they secretly leave their post to go play?

Half an hour later, no one still responded. Frustrated, he punched the metallic doors of the elevator and finally gave up.

She sighed.

“Are we now on basement three?”

“Mhm.”

She pressed on. “Then, will the elevator resume its braking?”

“It won’t.”

Turning around, he explained, “The elevator has an emergency device. In case of a malfunction, it will stop the lift’s braking.”

“So, now, we can only wait for the maintenance personnel to come, right?”

He pondered on this for a moment before he slowly answered, “Yes, that’s the only way.”

Suddenly, as if having lost her strength, she despaired, “When will they find out that there are people trapped in the elevator?”

He peered at her, suddenly walked up to her, and picked up a fallen blanket to cover her. “Don’t be scared. Someone will find out tomorrow morning at the latest, and that is just the worst-case scenario.”

The consolation on his face gave her a great deal of faith.

She calmed down as a corollary. “Mhm.”

Chapter 819: Cannot Find Yun Shishi

The moment she lowered her head, water droplets dripped from her hair to the elevator floor.

Gu Xingze frowned slightly as he urged, “Dry your hair first. You were drenched in the rain. Don’t catch a cold.”

Seeing that she was drenched all over, he recalled that she had been in the rain for three hours just because he was not in the right frame of mind.

He pursed his lips, feeling a little guilty and worried. "Are you cold?"

"A little." She smiled in embarrassment. Catching the undisguised worry in his eyes, Yun Shishi suddenly broke into laughter.

He was amused by this. "Why are you laughing?"

"You're no longer so indifferent now," she answered frankly.

If not for the elevator malfunctioning, who knew how much longer would he treat her indifferently?

He was startled for a moment, then helplessly laughed, and clutched a corner of the blanket to dry her hair.

Out of nowhere, he blurted out, "I'm sorry."

She kept silent, though. Instead, she simply bowed her head and unlocked her phone. Opening the music application, she played a single from Gu Xingze's latest album.

The music dispelled the uneasy air caused by the silence in the elevator.

He sat down and leaned against her.

It seemed that, in this way, he could share his warmth to her.

...

A lot of the staff left once the production team finished packing the props.

Two hours passed, yet Mu Xi was still waiting for her artiste. She raised her hand to look at the time; it was already 12 AM.

Why was she not here yet?

She phoned her, but a robotic female voice indicated that, temporarily, the call could not get through.

She rushed to the hotel and saw the front desk clerk dozing off. Hence, she walked to the elevator and pressed a button, only to see a black display on one of the elevators, which had no reaction.

"Did the elevator break down?" she mumbled depressingly. "What a lousy hotel."

This hotel did not have any star rating, nor was it of a certain class, but because of its proximity to the shooting venue and its moderate scale – the others being either four stars or lousier – taking the budget into consideration, Lin Fengtian booked the whole second and tenth floor.

Of the two, all the rooms on the second floor were arranged for the staff's lodging, and the two rooms on the tenth floor were arranged for several main cast's use.

Of course, the main cast would certainly not stay in the hotel, but it was convenient when they were filming night scenes. Artistes like Yang Mi and Gu Xingze were usually transported by nanny vans, and most of the time, those rooms only served as resting areas for them.

Frankly speaking, this hotel was truly lousy. The reception clerks did not have the slightest professionalism, dozing off even during working hours. Now, despite one of the elevators not working properly, no one came to repair it right away.

Perhaps, it was a little late, and the maintenance staff had gone off duty?

Mu Xi did not give it much thought as she went up to the tenth floor and rushed to the room. However, upon opening the door, it was pitch-black inside.

It was as if no one had ever been there at all.

Surprised, she mustered up her courage to knock on the superstar's door, but no one responded.

No one was there, too.

When she returned to the first floor and passed the reception area, she moved to ask if any of the clerks had seen Yun Shishi. Alas, when she went over, the one working the night shift was dozing off.

Forget it. It's useless to ask, anyway.

They were all dozing off; what could they see?

She intended to inform them kindly that the elevator had broken down, so that someone could go there to repair it, but after seeing their working attitude, she felt angry and disinclined.

Chapter 820: Lost Contact

What kind of attitude is this! Wait till I expose your poor hotel service on the Internet!

She was unconcerned over the lift breakdown and certainly did not think that the person she was most worried about was currently trapped in it.

This was not something that most people would consider under normal circumstances; thus, she could not be blamed for not being meticulous.

After all, she only came across a breakdown like this in newspapers. To her, there was no immediate connection between the breakdown and Yun Shishi.

She walked out of the hotel and called her artiste one more time. It, again, went unanswered.

She called a few more times, and each time, it was only the automated voice repeating the notice to her.

She wanted to call Gu Xingze when she discovered, there and then, that she did not have his number.

Oh, dear... What's wrong with me?

She tousled her hair in frustration. *Where have those two gone off to? Why is everyone disappearing on me?*

By the time she returned to the production set, the props were already pretty much packed.

The director was still busy, though.

Mu Xi approached him cautiously. "Director Lin, have you seen Shishi?"

"Shishi?"

He turned around. "Why would I see her? Aren't you her assistant?"

"I..."

She was dumbstruck with his remark.

He laughed. "You are her assistant, and you don't know where she is; how would I know, then?"

"She was drenched after the shoot, so I told her to have a hot shower in her room, but I am unable to contact her since!" she mourned.

"Have you tried looking for her at the hotel?"

"There's no one in the room."

This was when he looked at her in the eyes. "There's nobody in the room?"

"Eh."

"Then, where can she be?"

He found this weird, too. "Have you called her handphone?"

"I couldn't get through the line."

"Couldn't get through!" He frowned.

Her face had already turned red from anxiety. "I called a few times, but it always went to the automated machine. I really don't know what's wrong."

From her periphery, she caught sight of Ruo Bing picking her backpack, immediately disregarded the director as she rushed to get the woman's attention. "Ruo Bing, Ruo Bing!"

The woman halted her steps with a dazed look on her face. "Er? You are..."

"I'm Yun Shishi's assistant."

"Oh, oh! That's right!" She laughed. "I'm sorry I failed to recognize you right away."

"No problem; no problem..." Mu Xi worriedly asked, "Oh, yes. Have you seen my Shishi?"

"No..." The other assistant was lost and bewildered by her question.

This assistant is funny; why is she asking me about the artiste she's in charge?

I'm not Yun Shishi's assistant in the first place.

"Then, have you seen Xingze?"

"He's probably gone back."

She continued resignedly. "I may be his assistant, but his personality is... Eh, he dislikes others interfering with his personal life, so he disallows anyone from following him after he wraps up his shoots."

"Er, if it's convenient, can you give me Xingze's number?" The other carefully raised the question.

She was stunned and then shook her head. "I'm sorry I can't. His number can't be divulged to anyone."

"I'm asking because I have no other way to find her, except to see if he's seen her." The younger assistant pleaded with her. "Perhaps, you can give him a call. This way, you need not give me his number. This is an emergency, and I really need your help, please!"

Lin Fengtian had gone over by then and, seeing Ruo Bing's reluctance, told her straight in the face. "You call Xingze now and find out where he is!"

The assistant could not reject this famous director's instruction and nodded in acquiescence. "All right."

She took out her phone and called Gu Xingze's number.