

Sweet Love 871

Chapter 871: Excessive Attention

Yun Shishi found it strangely awkward at first, but Qin Zhou said, "You have only a little fame now, but once the movie is out, you'll surely rise to fame. By then, if the media publish candid photos of yours, people will think that I, as your manager, am mistreating you by letting you dress so poorly and without class!"

She could no longer refuse when he put it that way.

Therefore, now, her wardrobe was filled with fashionable clothes.

The truth was that she was the type to let nature take its course and was never fussy about clothes; hence, she was often ridiculed at by her manager.

Xiao Xue was relieved deep down.

Because her friend had been a hot topic on Weibo recently, she developed the habit of scrolling through the site despite not using it much before.

She sincerely felt happy for her friend.

"Shishi?" she tentatively called out.

Yun Shishi opened her eyes at once and smiled at the sight of her friend's ever warm smile. "Xiao Xue, you're here!"

"Yes! I got stuck in the traffic for half an hour due to a road accident! Shishi, you must've waited long for me!"

"It's fine..."

She left her words hanging in midair.

From her periphery, she spotted an unfamiliar man standing next to her friend and was startled.

Xiao Xue followed her gaze to the man beside her and quickly hooked her arm through his as she rested her head on him. She then graciously introduced, "Shishi, introductions first. This is my boyfriend. We've been dating for a month now! Today is also our one-month anniversary. He he! I hope you don't mind me bringing him along for our date!"

She was in a daze for a moment but quickly smiled. "Why would I mind? It's just that it's too sudden."

The man stepped forward and proffered his hand to her as he politely introduced himself. "Hello, I'm Gao Nan, Xiao Xue's colleague and boyfriend. She often talks about you!"

Somehow, his gaze made her especially uncomfortable.

She did not know if it was her illusion, but she found his gaze to be unsettling.

It was so unnerving she felt disturbed.

Very quickly, he retracted his gaze.

“Hello.” She took his hand.

Just as she moved to withdraw her hand, the man’s hand tightened around hers.

Feeling awkward for a moment, she jerked her hand back.

What’s wrong with this man?

He’s so strange; why did he grip my hand tightly and wouldn’t release it?

Her impression of this man soured at once.

She kept feeling that his gaze on her was abnormal; it was like being pricked by countless needles.

The couple sat together opposite of hers. The server handed the menu to them, and her friend ordered two cups of coffee and some snacks.

“Shall I order a cup of coffee for Shishi, too?” he asked.

Not waiting for her to answer, her friend shook her head. “My friend never likes drinking coffee.”

“Why?” His attention seemed to focus on her more than necessary as he gave a courteous smile.

“Although coffee has a bitter taste, it is especially fragrant once you add creamer.”

“I don’t like coffee; thank you,” she politely declined.

He did not know what to say in response to her curt refusal.

Glancing at him, his girlfriend snorted. “Hmph. I told you, yet you don’t believe me. Shishi doesn’t like drinking coffee. I once forced her to drink a mouthful, but she found it so bitter she shed tears! It’s so amusing. She even asked me what’s so nice about coffee!”

Chapter 872: Ulterior Motive

“Since you know that your friend dislike coffee, why did you invite her to meet at a cafe?” He laughed wryly.

His girlfriend laughing. “That’s because I like coffee! Besides, this cafe doesn’t just serve coffee; there’s Mocha Frappuccino, which she likes, too. Each time we came here, I’d order Blue Mountain while she’d have her Mocha Frap. That’s how we spend our afternoons.”

“Let’s order another Mocha Frappuccino for Shishi, then!” He suggested when he saw her half-empty glass of mocha drink.

She quickly shook her head. “No, thanks. It’s no good to have too much sweet drinks.”

“Eh, eh! You’ll get sick of it if you drink too much. Besides, she’s a star now, so she needs to maintain her figure.”

He, thus, said, “Shishi, please order what you like. Don’t be reserved.”

His girlfriend chided sweetly without delay, "Of course, that goes without saying! We've been friends for so long."

Yun Shishi eked out a smile, feeling extremely awkward.

She somehow felt that her friend's boyfriend was unusually sticky to her since their arrival.

Isn't he worried that my friend will get jealous?

Gals dislike their partners being overly caring toward other gals, right?

Xiao Xue, who had not seen her for over a month, had so much to update her about. Some of which were her piling stress at her new job and relationship with Gao Nan. In any case, there were many things she wanted to tell her.

However, soon after the two started talking, her boyfriend interrupted. "I heard from Xiao Xue that you're filming now."

His abrupt interruption startled even his girlfriend. Still, she did not think much of it as she elaborated, "Yes, Shishi's currently filming 'The Green Apple' as the female lead! Guess what; Gu Xingze is the male lead in that show! She'll become an instant superstar once this movie hits the theater!"

Her friend blushed shyly. "What do you mean by 'instant hit'? You're exaggerating."

"That's true. In fact, she's already famous. She's even featured in all the movie teasers on Weibo. You can see how much the company wants to promote her from that."

Surprised, his girlfriend curiously asked, "Huh? You're on Weibo? Didn't you tell me that you don't use that site?"

He replied, "I created an account just recently."

"Oh, then why didn't you tell me? We can follow each other," his girlfriend said. "By the way, Shishi, I didn't expect you to follow me, and I'm actually the first you follow after you opened your account; I'm so touched!"

"This is nothing to be excited about..."

"You're a star now, you know! My friends are so envious of me when I'm followed by a star." She had an idea all of a sudden. "Now, I'm only wishing for a day when Gu Xingze follows me. If that ever happens, I'll die a blissful death."

"Are you a fan of him?" Yun Shishi was astonished to hear that.

"Yes, I am! I've collected many of his posters since his debut! I'm his fan for a decade now. I have all his albums, and I can watch his every movie a dozen times!"

When it came to the superstar, her friend quickly turned into a typical fangirl, which caught her by surprise.

Her friend's boyfriend interrupted again. "Shishi, is filming tough?"

Chapter 873: Class Gathering (1)

He directed the attention back to her with this one statement.

Feeling startled, she could only give a perfunctory reply. "It's all right, I guess. Filming is a job, and all jobs are tough."

"That's true. I used to think that those who complain about work stress are suffering from self-pity, but when I started working as well, I found out that work can be taxing," her best friend complained.

Yun Shishi knew her best friend well.

She was a typical rich missy from a well-to-do family. She had invited much jealousy when she had her first BMW in university.

As a lady who was used to a princess life, it would be difficult for her to adjust to a working environment.

When they were studying, her friend followed her to work part-time at a cafe, but she could not sustain more than a few days.

Her friend was unable to take well to stress, indeed.

Thus, she was really surprised to learn that she had persisted in this job for a month!

"Why didn't you find a job in your family's business?"

"Er, my dad told me to get some experience in other companies before committing myself to our family business," Xiao Xue explained, "but he's really surprised to see me hanging on till now."

"I didn't expect you to last this long, too."

"Do you know why?" Her friend blinked at her mysteriously and then gave a shy laugh.

This was because she was transferred to the administrative department as a secretary shortly after joining the company.

The head of the administrative department happened to be the man sitting next to her.

When it came to her boyfriend, her swooning friend was like a little girl who had just fallen in love – all eager to share their love story.

Gao Nan, this department head, was also the son of one of the foreign subsidiary's board directors. As a cultured gentleman from a wealthy family, his background was compatible with the Xiaos'.

This man was chivalrous, handsome, and smart-looking; hence, he was the man-god in the eyes of many gals, including Xiao Xue, in his company.

Her admiration for him was her motivation for persevering until now.

Xiao Xue disdained hiding her likes and dislikes; she was the type to fight for the things she liked, including men; hence, after working in the department for half a month, she confessed her feelings to him, and surprisingly, he actually reciprocated.

The two cultivated a relationship quickly.

In fact, being so madly in love now, she planned to bring him home to see her parents in the next six months. Yun Shishi just had to frown at the thought of her bringing the man to meet her parents, though.

Isn't this a little too fast?

"Shishi, I feel like I'm the happiest woman on Earth after being with Gao Nan!" her friend exclaimed, a blissful smile gracing her lips.

She smiled along, but despite her friend expressing her euphoria, she sensed the man's gaze on her.

Somehow, she felt discomfited.

An idea struck her friend suddenly. "Oh, yeah. Do you still remember Huang Lili?"

Huang Lili?

She mumbled the name under her breath, and of course, she remembered that woman.

That gal was the class beauty and the dream lover of many boys in university. Still, she did not have a good impression of her.

For reasons unknown, that woman picked on her all the time and treated her condescendingly, and this put her off immensely.

"What about her?"

"Oh, I asked you out today for something else."

Chapter 874: Class Gathering (2)

Xiao Xue then took out an invitation from her bag and passed it over.

Yun Shishi was surprised to receive an invitation for a class gathering.

"Yesterday, she informed us through our WeChat group chat that she'll be hosting a class gathering. I heard that it'll be held at Yongye private clubhouse. She couldn't reach you, so she had me inform you."

She asked, "Yongye private clubhouse? I heard that it's expensive there."

From her impression, given Huang Lili's family's financial situation, she could not afford to host a gathering at that private clubhouse.

Her friend mocked, "Her family is so poor, and she hasn't gotten a job since graduation, yet she still shows off her travel photos to her friends; you're asking me how can she afford to host it at such a luxurious place? She's such a materialistic person; I bet she hooked up with a rich guy and can't wait to show off to us."

She rested her chin on her hands. "Actually, I don't really wanna go."

“Same here; if we go, we’ll likely see certain pretentious people show off their boyfriends, bags, diamond necklaces, and so on. It’s super boring!”

She grew pensive at that.

Her friend continued. “Anyway, our class monitor said that he’s migrating soon, so this’ll be his last attendance to the class gathering before that. He hopes that everyone will be present. Since he said so, I couldn’t refuse him.”

“The class monitor is emigrating?”

She still had some impression of that class monitor.

Meng Qinghe had treated her quite well back then.

“When is the class gathering?”

“Tomorrow.”

She was surprised.

“Shishi, do you wanna go?” her friend tentatively asked.

She kept mum for a moment before replying, “I don’t wanna.”

“Let’s go!” Gao Nan immediately cut in. “I’ll be accompanying Xiao Xue tomorrow. Shishi, join us!”

Her friend did not detect his enthusiasm and expectation in the slightest bit, only saying enthusiastically, “Shishi, just go! You’re different now; who’ll dare make a mockery out of you? Besides, I’m around, too. You need not be afraid! Whoever dares to bully you, I’ll not let him or her off!”

He also piped in. “Let’s go together!”

This man was simply too sticky!

Yun Shishi now felt very awkward and intuitively sensed him paying too much attention on her!

She felt a little uneasy at this; hence, she slowly stood up and said, “I’ll go to the washroom for a bit.”

“Alright!”

Her friend smiled and nodded before drinking a mouthful of her coffee.

She then went to the washroom to rinse the sweet and greasy stains off her hand. She accidentally spilled some mocha on it while drinking earlier.

When she came out of the washroom, she was startled by a man standing outside.

At the doorway was Gao Nan. His back was leaning against the wall. She did not know how long he had been standing there. Dressed in a shirt and black pants, he was the picture of a handsome and suave business elite. However, when she composed herself and met his deep eyes, she got startled and stepped back for a bit, keeping her distance from him.

“Why... are you here?”

She eked out a smile.

The man did not speak a word and merely looked at her.

“Yun Shishi, what a nice name! Just like your name, you look pleasing to the eye!” he blurted out. She could not make heads or tails of it, though.

Frowning, she found this man to be very odd!

Chapter 875: Class Gathering (3)

He was clearly here to accompany his girlfriend, yet him steering the topic to her made her quite upset.

During the talk, he kept wanting to chat her up, but in fact, she was unwilling to have unnecessary dealing with him. After all, he was her friend’s lover.

Besides, given her nature, she never liked to associate with unacquainted opposite gender. Perhaps due to the happenings back in college, she now preferred to keep her distance from most of the male population to avoid being the target of gossip.

Seeing the faint displeasure on her face, Gao Nan smirked.

He could tell that she was avoiding him.

She was pretending to be noble and virtuous!

He thought nothing about it.

She was in the show business, after all, and given her looks, she was bound to become a star.

It was logical for her to put up an appearance and not make herself seem too cheap as a celebrity!

When his girlfriend said before that she would meet up with a friend and asked him to tag along, he was of course quite unwilling.

It was boring to him.

However, the woman’s next words about her best friend changed his mind.

‘Gao Nan, have you heard of Yun Shishi? She’s my best friend! Now that you’re my boyfriend, I want to introduce you formally to her.’

He then asked if her best friend was that recently rising star, and when she answered in the affirmative, only then did he agree to tag along. He wanted to see how Yun Shishi looked in real life – if she was as otherworldly as the rumors said.

When he entered the cafe with his girlfriend and saw her sleeping on the sofa, the moment he saw her face, he was completely blown away!

Simply stunning!

Never did he think that she would look better in real life than her behind-the-scenes photos on Weibo!

For a moment, he inevitably harbored thoughts about her.

He gave a smile, yet it differed from his courteous smile in front of his girlfriend.

She tensed up upon seeing his eerie smile and then forced a smile. "I'll return to the seat first! Xiao Xue... is still waiting for me!"

She turned to leave, only to have her arm grabbed by him.

She got pulled to where he was.

Startled, she raised her head and saw his wicked smile.

At 1.8-meter tall, standing right in front of him, she only reached just below his shoulders.

She frowned at the contact, not liking it one bit.

"You—"

"You must be worth a fortune given your beauty!" He suddenly said something inane to her.

Right now, she was unable to grasp his underlying meaning.

He continued. "I heard that women who make it far in showbiz all have investors behind them. You just made your debut, yet your name is everywhere. You must've someone supporting you, too!"

She got what he meant at this point. Her face turned sullen and she grew livid.

"Angry?"

He laughed. "You don't have to show this face. Even if your friend doesn't know, will I not know it, too? My mom is Chengguang Entertainment's creative director, so I know all about the show business!"

Chapter 876: Class Gathering (4)

"Just what do you know?!" Managing to have a glimpse of his true colors, she shook off his hand and turned to leave.

The man, however, saw her as prey. Since he had his eyes on this prey, how could he let her escape?

Hence, he put his hand around her waist. Her face changed instantly. He forcibly tugged her back and pinned her against the wall. Leaning close to her, he blocked off her escape route; she was trapped between him and the wall.

"You asked what I know?! What I know is that women like you always have a price tag for everything! You have a price tag for accompanying a man to a dinner party, for spending a night together, and other such things! Since you're such a materialistic woman, you clearly know about this. Don't bother pretending in front of me; I've seen plenty and found it nauseating!"

Not only was his mother Chengguang Entertainment's creative director, she was also a shareholder in it. He had often followed his mother to dinner parties since he was young.

Some female celebs acted all dignified, elegant, and ethereal on screen, as if they were so beautiful that they could not be stained, but in private?

With just a call, did they not all obediently come to sit in for dinner parties?

Be it dinner parties or sleeping together, these were all clearly priced from as little as hundreds of thousands to as big as tens of millions; as long as one had the money, there was no celebrity in showbiz that was off limits.

After seeing so many of such cases and watching those female celebs' pretentious acts in front of their fans, he inevitably felt disgusted with them. They led the life of wh*res but still wanted to maintain their good reputation!

"I don't get what you mean!" She flushed in anger and glared at him in frustration. "I gave you face on account of your relationship with Xiao Xue! Don't act like a mad dog and bite at people!"

Her words infuriated him, yet he still smiled meaningfully!

"Did you just call me a mad dog? How interesting! Are you a fiery little thing or just playing hard to get? Is this your way of attracting investors?"

This man was truly shameless!

Although he looked dignified on the surface, his very core was nothing but a clothed beast!

Bowing his head, he leaned in to her neck and breathed in her scent. He then grinned and said frivolously, "You smell good! I wonder how you taste in bed!"

"I'm warning you: let me go!" Finding him absolutely vile, she strongly resisted him.

Alas, with his habit of working out, he was in possession of a strong build, so her resistance did not bother him.

"Let's be direct with each other! State your price for a night in bed with me; I don't like playing pretense; it's utterly boring!"

"Get lost!" she warned, feeling repulsed.

"How much will it be?"

As if not hearing her, he ignored the disgust in her eyes. "Five hundred thousand? A million? Given your beauty, it's understandable to quote a ten-million price tag!"

His arrogant words, in no way, obscured his insult for her.

She stared at him incredulously. Unexpectedly, under his neat appearance was such a person!

Chapter 877: Class Gathering (5)

How could this man go so overboard?

Thinking of her friend snuggling in his shoulder shyly and reliantly and then looking at his nauseating face now, her heart suddenly ached for her!

She was so angry she was at a loss for words. The indignation she felt was written all over her face, but the more vexed she appeared, the more beguiled he became of her!

All along, the women around him were mostly eager to hook up with him, but either she was playing hard to get or up to some other tricks, she was not keen on him.

He must admit that his interest was piqued by her!

Dipping his head, he showed an unbridled appreciation for her scowl as she glared at him. Her eyes, which were filled with forbearance and stubbornness, were like the mist on a faraway mountain – dense and ethereal. She was very beautiful, indeed.

Including a face brimming with otherworldly pureness and tenderness, she seemed so fragile.

Anger colored her face like a rosy blush; it was utterly charming and alluring.

Growing obsessed, his eyes glinted with unbridled desires. He bowed his head to plant a kiss on her seductive, little mouth, yet she unexpectedly dodged this and raised her hand to give him a tight slap!

SMACK! She indignantly pushed him away, feeling that looking at him further would only cheapen her!

“I’ve never seen such a shameless man before!” she lashed out through clenched her teeth. If she did not rein in herself, she would likely tremble in fury. “Given your dignified appearance, I didn’t expect you to be such a disgusting pig underneath!”

He subconsciously touched his cheek. It was scalding and stinging with pain. The force of her slap was not little!

He laughed despite the sting. Touching the corner of his mouth, he gave it a lick and tasted a hint of metallic sweetness.

He spat out the blood and laughed.

“Why? Are you mad?”

He looked at her with contempt, as if that slap did not faze him. Clearly, he assumed that it was also one of her tricks in playing hard to get.

“What’s there to be mad at a guy like you?!”

She only found him nauseating!

She felt indignant for Xiao Xue! This man was obviously a lecher and not at all worthy of her friend.

“I’m warning you; please conduct yourself with dignity. Do you know that you’re betraying Xiao Xue with your base behavior?”

“Xiao Xue? I’m merely playing with her. Once I’m sick of her, I’ll throw her away.” The indifference in his face frightened her.

Livid, she fumed, "She's my friend; I forbid you from treating her this way!"

He merely snorted. "What right do you have to negotiate with me? This is between me and her; you don't have a say in it!"

She was a little stumped for words at this!

It seemed... that she was in no position to talk about this matter!

Still, she just could not let it go!

Thus, clenching her fists, she asked, "Are you like this in front of her, too?"

He cocked a brow, apparently unable to grasp her meaning.

She continued. "Perhaps, you act like a dignified gentleman in front of her, but behind her back, you behave in such a disgusting manner?"

"Ha! Her?"

"..."

"Who isn't pretending? Isn't she playing pretense with me, too?"

Chapter 878: Class Gathering (6)

As if hearing a great joke, he coldly spat, "She can pretend in front of me, but I can't do the same in front of her?"

"What do you mean?"

"Isn't it?!" He scoffed. "Stop putting on airs to accuse me! What makes you so c*cky? Why bother acting noble and virtuous in front of me?"

She was dumbfounded.

He continued. "Your friend is rather interesting! After dating her for so long, she only ever let me hold her hands and kiss her; she doesn't even permit me touch the other places for a bit. We're all adults now, so why bother acting demure? That pure 'white lotus' look; who's she acting for?! What era is this now, yet she's still so conservative and chaste! Does she really think she's Du Shiniang ¹? Is she so noble that she can't even be touched? Is she made of gold?"

His words shocked her immensely. When she realized the vile words he had used to slander her friend, she boiled in rage.

"You should know what society this is now. Are we still boyfriend and girlfriend if we only ever kiss and hold hands? Is she perhaps not treating me as her boyfriend? I would've long dumped her if not for her family background!"

Pausing, he added. "Truth be told, if we weren't well-matched in terms of social status, I'd never agree to dating her. Beside her family background and passable looks, what other attractive features does she have?"

"Shameless." She was too furious to comment further.

"Shameless?" He stepped closer and eyed her condescendingly; his tone was deriding.

"To me, women only have two roles: One is a well-matched woman for marriage to expand our family's power, and two is a woman like you to fulfill my physical needs!"

She was offended into raising her hand, but it was tightly caught by him.

He grabbed her jaw and smiled in disdain. "Behave while I'm still nice to you! I think highly of you when I said that I wanna buy you! You should know that not any woman can climb into my bed; I must be interested in a woman first! I like women who know how to appreciate kindness."

She paled then laughed in anger, carefully articulating, "Gao Nan, you're not fit for my attention."

"What?"

"To be honest, what's the difference between men like you and worms in a gutter?" Pausing, she slowly spat out. "Dirty, disgusting, and nauseating."

With that, regardless of the livid look on his face, she shook off his hold and left.

He stood rooted to the spot in anger and fell into a daze for a long time.

Back at the table, Xiao Xue was looking at the scenery outside the window.

When Yun Shishi returned, she turned to smile at her, but then she spotted the grimness on her face. It was weird that she kept silent since her return from the washroom.

"Shishi, what's the matter?"

Yun Shishi gave her friend a complicated look.

She opened her mouth but was unable to utter even a syllable.

In fact, she would love to repeat the words Gao Nan had told her.

However, seeing that her friend... clearly loved that man so much, would she believe her?

Chapter 879: We need to talk!

Her friend was clearly blinded by love; she could see how much she liked the man.

One thing about her friend was that she was picky in men. After all, she came from a well-to-do family, so an average man could hardly catch her attention.

When she was in university, she had many boyfriends, but she liked to say that there would be no good outcome to a school relationship, so she did not waste her time on them.

Her impression of Xiao Xue was always a daring and open-hearted lady, yet for the first time, she saw how meek and dependent she was on a man. There was no hiding her friend's overt admiration for the man when she was with him. From here, she could tell her friend's love for him.

She must love him a lot, right?

In the off chance that her friend believed her words, would finding the truth about him be too big of a blow to her self-esteem?

Moreover, as what Gao Nan had said, she truly had no right to interfere in their relationship, right?

Still... she could not bear to see her friend be taken for a ride by a despicable man.

She wanted to raise the topic to her friend a few times but did not know how to begin. When her friend saw the look on her face, she probed, "What happened? You look terrible; are you sick?"

"... No." She shook her head.

Her friend was known for being quick-tempered, and her hesitant answer only agitated her more. "Is there someone bullying you? Tell me who dares to bully my Shishi?"

As she looked at her friend, she made up her mind to tell her the truth, but just as she opened her mouth, she saw the man walk toward them, and she was forced to swallow her words again.

Back at his seat at the table, the man looked perfectly at ease as he reached out his hand to hug Xiao Xue shoulders. It was totally different from the frivolous persona she had witnessed earlier.

"You must've waited long!"

"Why did you take so long to make a call?" his girlfriend grumbled.

"It's a business call." The man brushed it off tersely and gave Yun Shishi a penetrating look.

This made her expression uglier. Right now, she seemed to be sitting on needles.

The couple chatted for a while and then looked at her. "Shishi, you look terrible; what happened?"

She glanced at the man and then tried to calm herself down. "The aircon may be too cold for me; I'm feeling a little uncomfortable."

"Why didn't you say so earlier? I'm feeling rather cold, too."

Her friend then asked the waiter to turn up the heat.

Following which, the lady narrated the interesting stuff she encountered in the office.

After her unhappy encounter with her friend's boyfriend earlier, she lost all her enthusiasm.

Toward the end, her friend took his arm and moved to leave, but she said suddenly, "Xiao Xue, can you send me home? I'm afraid that I can't get a taxi now."

She wanted to have a good chat with her privately.

Xiao Xue was her best friend, and she would not watch idly as her future got destroyed!

"I didn't drive today. How about I have Gao Nan send you back, instead?"

"That's not nice, I think!"

"Shishi, why are so polite with me now?"

"How about I ask my assistant to fetch me? I have moved. You can visit my new place." She told her friend.

"You've moved to a new place?"

"Eh! Since we hardly meet, be my guest at my place for today."

Chapter 880: If he loves you, he will not force you.

Suddenly, she added, "Can we have a private talk? Just the two of us? There's some stuff I want to tell you!"

She then turned to the man and said, "I hope you won't mind!"

"Why should I?!" He smiled pretentiously.

After giving her a pensive look, he dipped his head and kissed his girlfriend's cheek. "Give me a call when you reach home!"

He then walked away.

Yun Shishi called Mu Xi, who happened to be free, and told her to pick them up in fifteen minutes' time.

After that, it was just the two of them.

She asked out of the blue, "Xiao Xue, how long have you been in a relationship with Gao Nan?"

"About half a month!" Her lips curled into a smile unknowingly as she spoke. "Time flies! Do you know that it feels like a dream still? I didn't expect him to agree when I expressed my liking for him, yet in fact, we've been together for half a month now. It's so incredible!"

"Do you really like him this much?"

"Of course! You know very well that I'm picky when it comes to choosing my partner! He fulfills all my fantasies for an ideal boyfriend."

She then told her, again, how she much she loved the man. It was love at first sight for her.

"He's tall, handsome, and talented; more importantly, he's very capable. I didn't believe in love at first sight in the past, but it happened to me. There's really such a thing, huh!"

"Well..." she probed tentatively, "how much of him do you know?"

Her friend was baffled and then seemed to be crushed by her question.

"If I understand him deeply, will I still feel so insecure?"

“Huh?”

“Do you know that many girls in the office fancy him because he’s so outstanding? That is so irritating! I have to face so much competition in the office every day. This is also why I can hang on in my workplace for so long.”

She looked forlorn as she continued. “I like his capability at times, but most of the time, I hope that he isn’t so exceptional! Do you know? I accidentally saw a message from a girl confessing her like for him despite knowing that he has a partner!”

“...”

“Shishi, I’m really feeling insecure. I’m afraid that I’ll lose him one day.”

She did not know whether to laugh or cry at her friend’s words. “If your relationship isn’t stable, then isn’t it too soon for him to meet your parents?”

“That’s because I really like him!” her friend sheepishly admitted. “By the way, I have something to ask you.”

“Okay.”

“Do you think that one should unreservedly give all to her partner when she’s in love? Er... I mean... that kinda stuff.”

Xiao Xue’s face turned beet red as she hinted, “He asked me several times to do it with him...”

Her friend’s question took her by surprise, but she quickly got what she was driving at.

“Xiao Xue, I remember you telling me before that you don’t believe in premarital sex.”

Back in university, her friend resolutely declared that she would preserve her chastity for the wedding night.

“Eh! Still, Gao Nan said that... there’s no need to be dogmatic in this era,” she explained, looking troubled.

“Actually, times are different now, and there’s no need to uphold past ideals, but there’s a prerequisite to that: The man must worth it! Besides, if he really loves you, he won’t force you to do anything you don’t want; he shouldn’t question your feelings for him because of this, too. Do you understand?”