

Chapter 391: Domineering

She lifted her hand and clenched her fist.

“Live up to my conscience, for myself, for the people and for the uniform I am wearing!”

All the female soldiers shouted in unison with their powerful and roaring voice. Yes. This was the female troop’s slogan. In here, they were not normal women but female soldiers. They were expected to be able to fight and kill in the battlefield like a man.

An indistinguishable figure was walking toward them from a place not far away. Maybe the weather was gloomy, maybe everyone’s eyes were fogged up. All they could see was a man with a heavy accent approaching them as the blurry silhouette gradually turned into a clear portrait of a man.

That was a man in his thirties or maybe younger. His features were distinctive and mysterious like an European man, in the meantime, modest and exotic like an Asian man. He was neither a pretty boy nor a mature man. In fact, he was more vibrant than a young pretty boy, but also adorably awkward like a middle-aged man.

He’s so handsome.

He’s so robust and masculine.

These might be the first impressions the female soldiers had on this patriotic man.

The man approached them with his hands rested behind his back. Appearing smart, he walked with his head held high and chest stuck out. One could easily deduce that he had served in the army before. Only a man who had trained in the military base had a manly physique like this; only a man who had been a soldier acted as graceful as this; only a man who had defended their country would carry a menacing aura like this.

Yan Huan threw a glimpse at the man. Coincidentally, the man turned to look at her, causing them to lock eyes.

She turned around. She would have left the place if she was not bound by discipline.

“My name is Lu Yi.” The man scanned the present female soldiers and his gaze briefly paused on Yan Huan. However, he quickly shifted his gaze away from Yan Huan before any of the female soldiers noticed the affair between Yan Huan and him. To be honest, the word “affair” could not do justice to their relationship. It was barely suitable to describe their relationship as a “phenomenon”.

“From today onwards, I’ll be your new instructor,” his voice was not loud as he spoke. Yet, it sounded as though it could penetrate one’s heart and soul, deep, sharp, and painful.

All the female soldiers stuck their chests out. They were not wearing many layers. Underneath their camouflage uniform was merely a thin sweater. But, each of them stood straight and still in the wind and snow, not showing a hint of weakness.

The weather seemed to have cleared up, but was then followed by an extreme coldness.

Snow fell in Sea City. When it was snowy, the entire city could possibly be frozen up.

In the meantime, at a place not far away, the water was frozen under the gray light, appearing rigid with minimal gentleness.

“Who is Yan Huan? Come forward,” he was asking for a lady by the name of Yan Huan.

Yan Huan lowered her gaze as she continued to stand still.

“Who is Yan Huan? Come forward,” he repeated.

Finally, Yan Huan lifted her head. With her chin up, her expression was filled with stubbornness and willfulness.

“Yes, sir.”

“Step aside.”

Lu Yi kept his hands rested behind his back. His voice was so deep, to the extent that he seemed to not need any intonation in his sentences.

Yan Huan paused her action. She pursed her lips tight, blanching the colour of her lips. Coupled with her exceptionally fair complexion, she looked like a white steamed bun that was standing among the yellowish cornbreads.

Lu Yi turned around and his gaze landed on the rest of the female soldiers once again, “At my command, five kilometers of field training starts now!”

Upon his command, each and every one of the female soldiers promptly turned and began their training. Yan Huan, on the other hand, was left standing alone, as if she was but a pillar.

She seized the brief chance when no one was paying attention to her. She extended her leg and her kick landed directly on Lu Yi’s back. Lu Yi turned around to look at her. For a moment, his face, that had always been wearing an unmoved expression, was painted with helplessness and speechlessness.

Yan Huan gave herself a clap as she lifted her chin with immense stubbornness written all over her face.

Lu Yi turned around as he continued to stand on the same spot. One of his hands was rested on his waist with his fist clenched and his veins bulging and palpitating.

Yan Huan seemed to be abruptly reminded of something. She lowered her head and continued to tighten her fists as she listened to the synchronised footsteps as they marched further away from them.

Her dangling eyelashes were coated by a layer of unexplainable tears.

What was it? The thing that moved her heart, made her tear up and blinded her perception.

Running, obstacles and crawling.

This male instructor was merciless. He did not treat them like women at all. Huang Mengmeng was drowning in exhaustion, wishing that she did not have to move an inch. She sneaked a peek at the male instructor. Initially, she thought that he was a Prince Charming. Now, she only thought of him as a sicko, a middle-aged male sicko.

By the time they finished their training, all of them were worn out.

“Why did he not allow you to run?” Huang Mengmeng leaned herself against Yan Huan’s back, “You’re our Third Madam. Third Madam, oh, Third Madam...”

“Yan Huan, how heartless are you to watch us suffer from aside?”

Yan Huan took out a piece of paper from her pocket, unfolded it and swayed it before Huang Mengmeng’s eyes.

However, she held it upside down, causing Huang Mengmeng to tilt her head, again and again.

She was diagnosed with severe anemia and was required to recuperate. According to the certificate, she was not fit to join any aggressive sports. The certificate even came with the signature of the military doctor, a valid certificate from the military hospital. There was no way she could bypass this certificate.

“That’s not surprising. Your face looks pale.” Huang Mengmeng pinched Yan Huan’s cheek, “Your fans’ hearts will be wrenched if they find out what has happened to you.”

“They only have to see the result, not the process.” The strong-willed Yan Huan kept the paper back into her pocket.

Huang Mengmeng gave Yan Huan a thumbs-up.

Yan Huan was so domineering. She was completely different from the other actresses who were pretentious and liked to fish for sympathy. Huang Mengmeng used to think of Yan Huan as just another average person. Now, she had become the top fan of Yan Huan.

She was planning to brag about her relationship with Yan Huan when she returned to her hometown during the new year, that Yan Huan was her comrade. They shared a bed and a bowl of rice; they jogged together, did silly things together and got punished together.

“Assemble,” a low voice resonated across the atmosphere. Shocked, Huang Mengmeng hurriedly ran out. It was the Demon Lu again. It was as though he swore to torture them to death. Huang Mengmeng thought she was born a good fighter. She was confident enough to defeat five to six men. Hence, she was not worried.

However, Demon Lu was way more terrifying than they expected. His skill was extraordinarily cruel during a fight. His way to train the troops was even more frightening. Huang Mengmeng would never... fall for him. When he first arrived, everyone saw him as a Prince Charming, an idol with a pretty look, masculine physique and charismatic aura.

But, now, that was all bullsh*t. He had turned into Demon Lu.

When everyone assembled on the field, they expected either a five kilometers field training or a 10 kilometers one. They were not seen as women at all. Despite being a female troop and stronger than the men out there, they were nonetheless ladies.

Chapter 392: You Are Too Pale

“10km jog starts now.”

Many grind their teeth in silent anger at his command, but no one uttered objections. The first rule to being a soldier is to obey with unconditional obedience.

A 10km jog was nothing to sneeze at, despite it being an hour's matter to the female recruits. The tough part was running with weights—rocks tied to their backs. By the end of it, they would likely be ready to drop.

And so the soldiers pushed off. Yan Huan was content enough with being able to rest. She pulled up the blanket and prepared to sleep.

Anyway, she wouldn't even last 3 km in her current state, much less ten. Snug in her blanket, she shut her eyes. Why not sleep, she thought, I earned it.

The break had come at the expense of her blood, so she might as well sleep.

While everyone else was sweating out there, she had the privilege of taking things easy. How great.

She snuggled up against the blanket and breathed in the smell of the sun. The blanket had been under the sun the day before, and the lingering heat felt comfortable. It was nothing compared to being at home, but she had not come to the army for comfort.

Soon, she dozed off. She was sound asleep when a man walked inside.

The female recruits' hostel was kept tidy, with standardized blankets folded like tofu cubes, the first thing they were taught in the army. There wasn't anything fancy in the hostel—pillows atop neatly-folded blankets, basins that came in all sizes, toothbrush and toothpaste facing one direction. Lu Jin had thrown Lu Yi into the military since he was little, so he essentially grew up in the army. The nostalgia at the familiar sight made him lose himself for a second.

In a single glance, he noticed Yan Huan sleeping. She slept on the lower level of the bunk bed. Sleeping on which level mattered little to a soldier, but he still arranged for her to be in the lower level, so that she could avoid the hassle of going up and down.

He went beside her and sat down, then adjusted her blanket.

"Still so headstrong, still the girl I know."

Lu Yi placed his hand on her forehead gently. Color had been returning to her face for the past few days, a fact that relieved him to no end. Who would take care of her if he's not here?

Therefore he came. He had to keep his stubborn girl in check.

It's not as if no one cared for her—they were worried—but Yan Huan had shut herself off. To her, the whole world has forsaken her.

He sighed, adjusted her blanket again, and left.

Yan Huan, still sound asleep, rolled over. She hasn't been doing that as often after coming to the army. The exhaustion from the day also made it easier for her to enter a deep slumber at night. She was still afraid of the dark, but not as bad as before.

The army is truly a good place, one that puts all hospitals to shame—it cures all illnesses, including the ones doctors could do nothing about.

Laziness, fear of the dark, or even fear itself. None of that exists here.

They were as much soldiers as they were women.

Lu Yi consulted his watch. The recruits won't be back so soon, so he made a trip to the military hospital.

"How is it?" Lu Yi asked the doctor. "Is she doing okay?"

"She's fine," answered the doctor, flipping through her records. He lifted his eyes. "You came all the way here for her, didn't you? I knew there was something strange about you volunteering to be an instructor. I mean, we have invited you dozens of times in the past, but you turned us down every single time."

Lu Yi said nothing and took the records from his hand, flipping through them page by page. He wasn't a doctor, so he found many technical terms difficult to understand.

Still, he could make out that there wasn't anything seriously wrong with her.

"Is there anything she should avoid doing?" Lu Yi asked the army doctor, who used to be his classmate in command school. He came to become an Inspector, while his friend remained in the army and became a doctor.

Of course, his lips were sealed tight.

They all knew what to ask or say. No one around there was foolish enough to ask the things that should not be asked.

"Nothing in particular," said the doctor, sprucing up his white coat. "One thing she should avoid is doing such a dangerous thing again. Her blood type is special, so she might lose her life if she drains herself of too much blood."

"Does she need a transfusion?" asked Lu Yi, clutching his elbow.

"No," answered the doctor. He knew the meaning behind his words. "I know you two have the same blood type, but it's only a matter of time before she recovers. You should be the one staying in the hospital. You haven't recovered fully yet."

"I'm fine," said Lu Yi. He wasn't worried about himself. He knew his own body better than anyone else. He had often been injured before this ordeal and managed to pull through every single time. More importantly, despite losing a good amount of blood, he didn't suffer from anything like ruptured organs, so his recovery would be faster than usual too.

And how could he be at ease with Yan Huan in her current state?

He could only rest easy when she recovers thoroughly. Otherwise, he wouldn't have set everything aside just to become a recruit instructor here. This wasn't something the past him would have done, but things were different now.

He did not know what length he would go to for his girl. For her, it felt as though there wasn't a limit at all. Once again, Yan Huan found herself in the military medical center. The instructor had ordered her to have another check-up. She had come once to get medical leave. Her life wasn't something she messed around with. She was headstrong, but she knew her limits. Crossing those limits would be an act of courting death, not determination.

The doctor handed her a slip after the inspection.

"Take another 2 weeks off."

Chapter 393: Lu Yi, You Jerk

"Half a month?" Yan Huan's eyes were filled with tears.

There were two more months until Yan Huan's dismissal from the military, causing her to not have much time left. Worse, she was going to waste another half of the month now. Her time was running out.

Grinning, the military doctor said, "That's not my fault. Did you sell your blood or donate it to someone else? Your anemia is so severe that you might pass out anytime."

Yan Huan lowered her head as she fell silent.

One's body requires some time to regenerate new blood cells after blood loss. I'm now responsible for your health and your life. You shall rest well as you still have a long way to go.

"Thanks," Yan Huan received the medical certificate and exited the consultation room. Little did she know that there was another agenda behind the military doctor's grin. The moment Yan Huan left the room, the military doctor took out his mobile phone and made a call.

"Lu Yi, it's me. I've given her a medical certificate, allowing her to rest for half a month. Is that enough?"

"Thanks." Lu Yi leaned against the wall. His eyes were constantly masked with a layer of indecipherable emotion. No one could ever read his mood that was hidden underneath those black eyes.

"Then..." The military doctor's nosy persona surfaced, "Can you tell me what's your relationship with Yan Huan? Don't worry. I'm good at keeping secrets. I swear that I'll keep it to myself and no one else will find out."

Lu Yi remained silent.

The military doctor scoffed, "Have you fallen for her? So, you've come all the way to the military base to woo a woman. Indeed, no one can deny her beauty. However, you shall be cautious. Beautiful women can be very dangerous."

"She is my wife," Lu Yi said in an emotionless and unvarying tone.

The military doctor raised his chin. He could feel the wind blowing through the window and almost hear the bright and clear chirping of the birds.

The pigeons and the wilted vines rest on the old tree.

The residents stay by the stream with a small bridge.

Yet, I'm merely a loner who stays in a small corner of the world.

This is unfair. Even an unromantic person like Lu Yi is able to get married to a beautiful girl. Meanwhile, I am single and all alone. This is not fair. How is this fair?

Yan Huan submitted her medical certificate. In fact, even without the medical certificate, the instructor would not allow her to train alongside her fellow soldiers as the doctor had given clear instructions for her to not commit into any aggressive sports. Therefore, she was only allowed to clean the dorm, refill the water bottles and cook for the rest of the team. At the very least, after their tough training, the soldiers were served with warm cooked meals and clean drinking water.

"You make such a good logistic." Starving, Huang Mengmeng continued to stuff herself with food. She was completely worn out. To be able to come home to a nicely prepared meal, it was like heaven to her.

Yan Huan responded with a bitter laugh. She never wanted to be the leader of the logistics team. All she wanted was to join the training.

At this moment, all the female soldiers gathered together. They were eating their meals as they shared gossip. Gossips were complementary to women's presence. The tittle-tattle was their only pastime in the military base.

"Do you think Instructor Lu is good-looking?"

"Good-looking? For me, he's only a demon."

"I can't disagree with you. But, he's a good-looking demon. Rumor says that he was born in a military family. However, he is a very private person and his background has always been a mystery. Nonetheless, he's not someone to be trifled with."

"But..." They were puzzled, "What is he doing here?"

No one could answer that question.

"Maybe he was too bored."

Yan Huan said nonchalantly.

The others turned to look at her who had abruptly interrupted their conversation, and gave her a thumbs up.

Yan Huan raised her head and she locked gaze with the man who was holding his food tray. His black eyes were glaring right at her. Upon seeing that scene, the rest of the group choked on their food, almost suffocating themselves. Can there be any coincidence that is more terrifying than this?

Their tattle talk was witnessed by the man of the story himself.

Yan Fuan carried her tray, intending to top up her portion as she was never one who would gain weight from overeating.

"Yan Huan," Lu Yi called out.

Yan Huan turned around, standing still.

“Yes, sir.”

It was a soldier’s responsibility to obey. At this moment, she remembered that she was a soldier and she obeyed her instructor’s order. She wondered if she was allowed to go and finish her meal now as she was not filled yet. She had lost a good amount of blood and she needed food to recuperate.

She willfully proceeded in her track and refilled her plate. Then, she picked a random spot, took a seat and continued her meal. On the other hand, the rest of the female soldiers who were involved in the chat just now were worried about the punishment that they were going to receive.

Indeed, the punishment came in the afternoon, which included 20 kilometers of field training and wilderness survival training.

“Knock knock...” Yan Huan knocked the door. She reckoned this nitpicking man must be really bored of his job as a prosecutor. Why did he leave his job and come to this shabby place to be an instructor? Why did he choose to face an army of female soldiers everyday?

“Come in,” answered the nitpicking man. Yan Huan had a sudden urge to leave this place immediately.

However, she glanced at her military uniform and reminded herself about her responsibility. She was a soldier, ergo she obeyed.

She entered the room and stood before Lu Yi with her chest out, chin up.

“Sir, I’m here. How can I help you, Instructor Lu?”

She was good at acting as a stranger. Lu Yi stood up and walked to Yan Huan’s side. He stared at Yan Huan’s fair face.

Why is she still looking so pale? Is she not getting any better?

With his finger, he gently knocked his temple. He had run out of ways to deal with this woman.

Yan Huan raised her head. With a straight face and pursed red lips, she refused to utter even a single word.

Her arrogance and pompous manner annoyed Lu Yi immensely, to the extent that he wished to punch her in her face. Yet, he could not bear to do it.

“Instructor, if there’s nothing else, I’ll take my leave.” Yan Huan turned her back at him. She had no intention to waste any more of her time here. However, before she managed to make her move, her feet parted from the ground. She was lifted up as a whole by Lu Yi.

“Lu Yi, you jerk!”

She cursed repeatedly. Yet, it was as though Lu Yi’s arms were made of metal rods. It was impossible for Yan Huan to loosen his grip, not even a little.

Followed by a thud, she was thrown on the bed. Before she could escape, her four limbs were forcefully pinned against the bed.

Yan Huan glared at him, “Lu Yi, you call yourself a man?”

All of a sudden, Lu Yi leaned closer. He squinted his menacing black eyes as he intimidated, “Miss Yan, do you not know if I’m a true man? Do you need proof?” his breath ran over her ear. Immediately, she felt as though a current had run from her ear all the way to her brain.

“Miss Yan, I think it’s better for me to prove my gender to you. Then, you can rest assured that I’m a real man.”

With one hand, Lu Yi unbuttoned his shirt. The buttons were unfastened, one after another, as Lu Yi held Yan Huan fast skillfully with his legs riding on top of her body. Yan Huan was unable to move at all.

Chapter 394: Always Chasing After You

After that, the two communicated with fists and legs. They might have been the most violent couple that has ever lived. Among the soldiers, Yan Huan was one of the better fighters, and she had maintained an 80% win rate so far. Still, Yan Huan had no chance of defeating him. After all, most of her moves had been taught by him. Right now, she wasn’t anywhere near surpassing her master.

The first few moves they exchanged was what Lu Yi had taught her, so he knew exactly what she was going to do. As they fought, he managed to strip her of her shoes and clothes.

“Lu Yi, you bastard!”

“I am a bastard.”

“Lu Yi, I’m gonna kill you!”

“Do it.”

“Lu Yi, you son of a...!”

“...”

When they were done with the duel and the deed, Yan Huan put her clothes back on and kicked Lu Yi with her white porcelain foot. Lu Yi caught her. “Hmm?” he raised an eyebrow. “You still want more?”

Yan Huan reclaimed her feet. She was no match against him and had nowhere to escape. Screw it, she’ll treat it as though she bought an escort.

She searched her pockets. There wasn’t any cash, but there was a pen and paper. She took them out and wrote down something before placing it on the table. Then, she walked out with her chin up and legs sore.

For the first time, she understood what it felt like to be thirsty. Once they went at it, there was no stopping.

Men and women are the same when it comes to lust.

She slammed the door shut, peevish.

Lu Yi suddenly smiled. His little woman had the same big temper. He took the piece of paper written by her from the table and read it.

Excellent service, a million RMB...

Lu Yi tore the paper to pieces and tossed them into the bin. Well, at least he was worth a million.

He sat up and burst into laughter. A pity no one saw it—Lu Yi's laugh was rare enough, not to mention a guffaw.

Yan Huan returned to her hostel. She tugged her blanket hard and laid down, her mind blank and her body sore.

Her heart thumped, as though a cat had been scratching at it.

She buried her face in her blanket. She felt like scratching the wall.

In her previous life, she had been married to Lu Qin for many years, but not once did she have a bed experience this memorable.

Lu Yi was the very definition of a geek in the streets and a beast in the sheets. The pleasure was too much to forget.

She lamented in silence.

"A call for you, Yan Huan," she heard the guard telling her the next day when everyone had gone for training.

She ran over and took the call.

"Meet me at the back hill. The usual spot."

Yan Huan wanted to smash the phone at the hearing of his voice, but she didn't since it was public property.

The back hill? For what?

Sex?

She turned and stalked off. Hmph. No way she would go. Did she look like the type that would be there at his beck and call?

Before long, another call came.

"A call for you, Yan Huan."

Yan Huan ran over and took the call once more. The guard was clearly getting a little impatient. Small wonder he felt that way, since the telephone was public property and she had no right to be hogging it with one call after the other. What if someone else needs it urgently?

"I got it," said Yan Huan tersely. She hung up with an icy expression.

She saw the black Hummer as soon as she reached the back hill. She walked over, pulled the door open, and got in.

"What the hell do you want?" she asked, exasperated. She wanted to bite and kill.

Lu Yi suddenly turned and embraced her.

“I missed you so badly.”

“Miss me, huh...” sneered Yan Huan. “Is that why you went out with another woman? Got into an accident together? Nearly killing yourself? Because you missed me?”

“Lu Yi, I would give you all my blood without a second thought, but you...you...”

She clawed at his clothes as though she had lost it.

Lu Yi patted her shoulders gently and slowly, as though pacifying a child.

“It’s alright, it’s alright. I’m fine now. When I was about to crash, I knew I was going to lose a lot of blood, but I didn’t see any chances of me dying. I’m sorry,” he ran his fingers through her hair gently. “My family has neglected you, and so have I...”

Yan Huan bit his sleeves. Unsatisfied, she sank her teeth into her arm. Lu Yi neither complained nor shifted.

It hurt, but he knew he had hurt her way more.

She was an orphan who had finally found a home, but the very people whom she thought were now her family had chased her away. She was as prideful but insecure at the same time.

Lu Yi kept patting her shoulders. Finally, Yan Huan loosened her teeth, the taste of his blood, or perhaps her own, lingering at the tip of her tongue.

In truth, their flesh and blood had been connected since their previous life.

How can anyone abandon their own flesh and blood?

Yan Huan was tired from the biting, just as she was tired of everything. She leaned her head against Lu Yi’s shoulders and sniffed. “What’s between you and that woman?” she demanded. What angered her the most was not the negligence of the Lu Family; she knew that she was a stranger to them at this point. The thing that pissed her off the most was the involvement of a woman. A woman that made Lu Yi risk his own life.

How different was this, to finding her husband dead on another wench’s bed?

She hated women like Su Muran the most. Any woman who approaches Lu Yi would be classified into that category.

Lu Yi gently stroked her hair, as though he was comforting a bristling chick.

“My grandpa was the one who brought that woman back. He never cared much about my personal life, but marriage is a different matter. He believed that nothing would go wrong with the daughter-in-law of his choice. Turns out he forgot about my opinion.”

Yan Huan narrowed her eyes tensely. “Did he hit you?”

It wasn’t a wild guess either. Sr. Lu had beaten every man in the Lu Family—Lu Jin, Lu Yi, and Lu Qin. When she married Lu Qin back then, Sr. Lu had looked down on her. At first, she thought that it was her

profession as an actor that caused that. It mattered little whether she was a small-time actor or the best actress—to him she was just an actor. Actors and bitches are equally heartless, that's what he believed.

Chapter 395: Yet Another New Instructor

This was Old Master Lu's certitude.

However, only later did she find out that it was not the truth. What Old Master Lu truly despised was not her occupation as an actress.

Lu Qin was an actor, but Old Master Lu had never condemned him; Su Muran was also an actress, but Old Master Lu was always courteous to her. Finally, Yan Huan understood. Old Master Lu abhorred her for her family background, for her being an orphan, for her not having parents.

When he battered Lu Qin, Yan Huan swore to stay forever faithful to Lu Qin.

When Old Master Lu was young, he had a wife and a mistress. Polygamy was not something unusual back in that time. Lu Qin's father was the son to the mistress. Hence, he was hardly respected in the family. On the other hand, Lu Yi's highly educated grandmother came from a noble family. After Lu Yi joined the military and was given a military title, his footing in the family had become unyielding.

However, after Lu Qin's father passed away in an accident, Lu Yi was ostensibly the lawful descendent of Lu Family, causing Lu Qin's standing in the family to become rather awkward. Therefore, if Old Master Lu could punish Lu Qin, there was no reason for Lu Yi to be excused.

Little wonder that she found a number of scars on Lu Yi's body.

"The old man gave you these scars, right?"

"He's my grandfather," Lu Yi gently stroke her hair as though he was combing her hair, "I triggered him when I married you. I was certain that he would intervene in my marriage by force. To prevent that from happening, I prepared everything before I was 30 years old. However, that provoked him as well."

"I deserve this."

Yan Huan gave a chilling and scornful smile. Other than the three of them from Lu Yi's instant family, none of the Lu Family, including the Old Master Lu, was a kind soul. Since the previous life, the Old Master Lu had always been a brute.

However, she had nothing to be afraid of if she had money and power.

Therefore, she wanted both money and power.

What wrong had she done in being an actress? An actress was not a thief, robber or murderer.

"I dislike your grandfather," Yan Huan said in a straightforward manner, "If I happen to fight with your grandfather, whose side will you take?"

As he tidied her hair, Lu Yi answered, "You're my wife. If that happens, I'll defend you."

Yes. He would defend her. He would protect her with his life.

Yan Huan opened the door and exited the car. Neither did she explicitly offer her forgiveness, nor did she exhibit her resentment. Nonetheless, a small damper in her heart had been solved although the major hindrance had yet to be removed as the time had not come. She needed more time.

Lu Yi leaned backward. For the first time in his life, he thought that strong-willed lady was adorable. His smile grew broader and broader.

Half a month later, she had almost recovered completely. She was able to carry out the basic training even though she could not train for a prolonged period of time. There was only a month left before Yan Huan's departure from the army.

The new year was around the corner.

White snowflakes fell from the sky. She reached out to catch one of the snowflakes. The moment the snow touched the tip of her finger, it began to melt, causing her to feel a chill down her spine.

Huang Mengmeng walked in her direction and took a seat beside her. She exhaled gently before she caught one of the snowflakes too.

"New year is coming."

"Yes..." Yan Huan raised her head, allowing the snow to fall on her skin. After the winter, her complexion had returned to being fair. Her initially pale face seemed to be even fairer, almost diaphanous. Despite exposing herself to the sun and the rain everyday, her skin remained perfect. Now, she appeared to be even healthier with her rosy cheeks.

"The weather has been good." Huang Mengmeng leaned on Yan Huan's shoulder as she stared at the woman before her. Yan Huan's lips were red and teeth were white. Standing under the strong winds and freezing weather, she continued to stay like a pure, soft and delicate tofu.

Yan Huan touched her face as she replied with a silent smile.

"Tell me what have you been eating to gain yourself these healthy rosy cheeks?"

Huang Mengmeng leaned closer to Yan Huan. Just like every other woman in this world, she constantly wanted to look prettier and was dying to know Yan Huan's secret to the perfect skin. Being a female soldier who worked under the scorching sun all day, their skin was rough like the men. However, Yan Huan's complexion remained fair, soft and smooth. It made Huang Mengmeng envious, wanting to kneel down before Yan Huan, the goddess, and worship her.

"I merely ate as usual." Another flake of snow landed on Yan Huan's hand. It was impossible for her to produce meals different from her comrades' in the military base. Their meals were all cooked by the kitchen. Three meals a day with meat, vegetables and soup. Even their meal times were fixed. These meal plans were more than sufficient to sustain one's health. Thus, she had never had extra meals or dietary supplements. Moreover, the man was in the military base with her now and could not smuggle food for her anymore. Despite the fact that she had once or twice snuck in some food, that was not enough for her to gain any fat or nutrients from it.

She had a long way to go before she could grow fat.

“Then...” Huang Mengmeng gently poked Yan Huan’s cheek, “Are you keeping any secrets to yourself or taking any dietary supplements?”

“No.” Yan Huan removed her hand. She exhaled, releasing a cloud of warm breath, as her lips slowly formed into a grin. If I have to list out something, then...

Maybe it is caused by the merging of two souls and bodies?

“Tell me. What happened?” Huang Mengmeng was still an innocent young girl.

Yan Huan smiled, not saying a word.

When Huang Mengmeng was about to throw another question at Yan Huan, she heard the command to assemble the soldiers.

“What is this?” Huang Mengmeng pouted, “I’ve barely sat down for a few minutes. Now they’re assembling us again. Do they not know that we’re supposed to rest after a meal?”

“Exercise is essential for our lives.” Yan Huan stood up, ready for the training.

“Nonsense!” Huang Mengmeng cursed furiously, “Rest is essential for our lives. Look at the tortoises that hardly move around. How long is their lifespan?”

Yan Huan could not argue with that.

Regardless of their reluctance, they had to gather.

Lu Yi stood by the side. His gaze paused on Yan Huan, as though he wanted to express something but his words were stuck in his throat. Yan Huan could not comprehend his gaze. She stood still as her hunch told her that something bad was going on.

It seemed like an important person was coming.

The instructor walked to the front and clapped her hands.

“I’m very honoured to introduce you all to a new instructor today. She will be in charge of your combat training in the future. She’s a female soldier, just like the rest of you. Yet, she is adept at combat and wrestling. Let’s give her a round of applause.”

The troops proceeded to applaud to welcome the new instructor.

Before long, a female soldier who was in her military uniform, walked to the front. She was decent looking and carried a distinctive aura. It was evident that she was a seasoned soldier with years of experience. Her chin was up and her nose was tall. The only thing that did not look good on her face was her rather big nostrils which compromised her appearance. Without the big nostrils, her look would be slightly above average. But, with the big nostrils, she barely looked average and would never stand out among the crowd.

Chapter 396: Couple Look

“Hello everyone, I’m Miao Xinyuan.”

Miao Xiaoyuan's eyes roved across the female soldiers as she introduced herself. They all wore the same uniform, and none of them leaped to the eye.

The same uniform, the same skin tone, and even similar faces at a quick glance.

All but one of them.

One of them, the one with white skin, stood out like a white bun in a lunch tray of cornbread. Her skin was white enough to make women's eyes green with envy. How could anyone have such skin after all those training under the blazing sun? Plus, she owned exceptional beauty, a familiar kind of beauty.

Some people, like Yan Huan, are born with fair skin.

Yan Huan too noticed that the new instructor's eyes had stopped on her for at least 5 seconds before moving away.

Miao Xinyuan walked to Lu Yi and stood beside him. Objectively speaking, they had a matching look. Both were wearing camouflage uniforms and stood at attention.

One was no-nonsense while the other smiled often.

Indeed, they had a couple look.

"How have you been?" she asked Lu Yi, smiling.

Lu Yi gave no replies. She didn't mind either, now that she knew that he was like that by nature. She had thought about it long and hard before coming to the decision of persevering. If she wanted something, she had to get it.

She would be an idiot if she gave up on a man who would risk his own life to save her.

"I'm here for you," she continued. "I think our lives would be intersecting from now on."

Her voice was soft, but her expression and lip language made it seem like there was something special between them.

Instructor Huang raised her eyes. The wind mussed up her short hair.

This was the army, not a place to woo a man.

Plus, relationships were forbidden here, not to mention a love triangle.

Had she known earlier that Miao Xinyuan was here for Lu Yi, she would have stopped her from coming even if it meant offending the entire Miao Family. The army is there to defend peace, not promote chaos.

A love triangle between one man and two women is a war without guns or smoke, but no less fierce.

At lunchtime, Yan Huan was late because she was on laundry duty. An extra lunch tray of food sat before Lu Yi.

Lu Yi raised his slightly-narrowed eyes.

When Yan Huan walked in, she immediately realized that the lunch tray of food belonged to her. Since there weren't many people in the canteen at the moment, no one would suspect anything between her and Instructor Lu.

However, someone arrived and plumped down before her.

"How did you know I haven't eaten yet? Thank goodness you reserved a lunch tray for me, or I shall not know what to eat," she said as she dug in before Lu Yi could say a thing. She never asked whether it was meant for her, but she had no doubts it was. Who else could it be meant for? Even if Lu Yi had a big appetite, he wouldn't be able to eat two people's share. Plus, he was known to have a modest appetite. If that's the case, then it had to be for her.

As she ate happily, Lu Yi remained still with his chopsticks in hand.

He suddenly rose.

"You don't have to get more rice for me, I have enough."

However, Lu Yi simply took his lunch tray and chopsticks and left.

Miao Xinyuan almost choked on her rice, and grains were stuck to her face by the time she was done coughing. There were snickers. It was no secret that Instructor Miao liked Lu Yi.

There's a saying that goes 'It's as hard as crossing a mountain for a man to woo a woman but as easy as seeing through a silk handkerchief for a woman to woo a man. Miao Xinyuan had been wearing her heart on her sleeve, but attaining his favor seemed as hard as crossing a desert.

Lunch tray in hand, Lu Yi walked passed Yan Huan. He made a covert sideways turn when he was beside her.

"Follow me."

His voice was a whisper only heard by Yan Huan, but Yan Huan could sense the hatred and envy coming from Miao Xinyuan's icy eyes. She seemed like she would have killed her in a heartbeat.

Yan Huan turned and followed after Lu Yi. In her previous life, she was afraid of everything. But in this life? Sorry, but she wasn't afraid of anything. What's a Miao Xinyuan to her?

Hmm, but who was Miao Xinyuan? She pondered about it but arrived at no answer. She didn't remember anyone with the name from her previous life. Perhaps she had been there, but she didn't notice. Or perhaps she was altering history too much. In this life, Fang Zhu and Lu Yi's relationship would not last until they were past thirty. Neither would Yan Huan get married to Lu Qin or use her hard-earned money to support him. Neither would Lu Qin be having the time of his life in the Lu Family. Su Muran was doing relatively well in the acting sphere, but Yan Huan did way better.

Outside the canteen, Lu Yi sat down, placed the lunch tray on his legs, and passed the chopsticks to Yan Huan.

Yan Huan took them and prodded at the rice, looking for something she liked.

“Stop being picky,” Lu Yi pinched her nose. “Look at how skinny you are. You best stop being picky before I punish you.”

Yan Huan, sitting on the ground with her legs crossed, picked up the chopsticks and began to eat. She was famished, and there was training later, so she had to eat. Lu Yi didn’t have to participate as an inspector, so it was best for her to mind her own tummy for now.

“Eat more meat,” Lu Yi patted her head. “Stop being picky.”

“Stop it, or I’ll stop eating,” said Yan Huan. She wanted to throw her chopsticks at him. She wasn’t a pig, and neither did she need to be fed like one, unless she wanted her actress career to end.

“Just one more piece,” said Lu Yi, as though he was convincing a child.

“It’s okay to eat more. You are exercising a lot these days, so you don’t have to worry about gaining weight. Look at how built your muscles are,” he said as he felt Yan Huan’s arm.

Yan Huan’s eyes welled up.

“What’s wrong?” asked Lu Yi, concerned. Was it the food? Was she feeling unwell? Was the food poisoned?

Yan Huan felt like bawling her eyes out.

“I’m an actress, Lu Yi, not an athlete! I don’t want muscles..”

“What’s so bad about having muscles?” smiled Lu Yi warmly. “I bet you can gain more fans if you post a picture of your firm abs.”

Chapter 397: Getting Beat

“Really?” Yan Huan caressed her own abdomen, “Do I have abs?”

“Yep, I see it,” Lu Yi’s voice was suddenly suppressed, as if he was hiding something.

Yan Huan noticed that, and she pinched Lu Yi’s waist. Lu Yi continued to feed her while braving the pain. He’d rather that than have her starve.

It was not easy for a picky eater like her to grow this big.

And they were completely oblivious that a woman not far away was staring at them. Her face was dyed with a tinge of jealousy. Even the air coming out from her two nostrils were slightly heavier.

After finishing the dishes, Yan Huan was still sitting on the floor.

“Who is Miao Xinyuan?” She started the interrogation.

Lu Yi wiped her face with his sleeves, “You saw her yourself, didn’t you?”

“The one who chased you across a few rivers?” Yan Huan tilted her head. Lu Yi locked eyes with her, his expression was like a warm spring, but he stayed silent.

“The one you saved?” Yan Huan guessed.

“You are smart.” Lu Yi put his lunchbox aside. He did intend to eat it as he wasn’t too hungry anyway.

“My IQ is on the low side.” Yan Huan pointed at her own head. She wasn’t too smart, or else she wouldn’t have been cheated like that in the previous life. It wasn’t too bad, she was just a little forgetful, so she has to be more careful in this life, thinking twice through in everything.

“It’s hard being a smart woman, you’re happier when you’re dumber.” Lu Yi gently rubbed her crown.

Yan Huan kept quiet.

Inspector Lu, you are so good at comforting others.

Miao Qingyuan suited up in a camouflage suit. She couldn’t really feel anything in the cold weather. The others were the same, they were going to undergo a combat training.

“Today, I want to see if you remember your basics.” Miao Qingyuan scanned through each and every trainee. Finally, her eyes stopped on a single person who was whiter than the rest. She was pretty, gorgeous, in fact.

“What’s your name?” Miao Qingyuan stopped in front of Yan Huan.

“My name is Yan Huan, Madam Instructor.”

“You are the one.” She took a few steps back, “I don’t care what were you doing, or your status. What you have to do now, is defeat me.”

Yan Huan frowned. She felt like she was being targeted by Miao Xinyuan.

But it didn’t matter if that was intentional or not, she had to fight.

She took a step forward, but Miao Xinyuan was already in her fighting stance.

Before Yan Huan could prepare herself, Miao Xinyuan’s kick was already flying over, smashing directly onto Yan Huan’s shoulder. Instinctively, she tried to deflect the kick with her hand, but it was too late.

Bang! And she was knocked to the floor. Although there was a layer of foam mat cushioning her fall, that sudden drop still hurt a lot.

“Stand up!” Miao Xinyuan clapped her hands a few times.

“How are you a soldier? If this is your limit, why is our country feeding a trash like you? Or are you going to seduce the enemies with your pretty face?”

“Stand up if you are a human!”

Her words were awfully harsh. Even the other soldiers around them could not stand it, not to mention Yan Huan herself.

Yan Huan stood up, but within a few minutes, she was thrown to the ground again. Miao Xinyuan’s movements were extremely quick. Yan Huan’s fighting skills weren’t too shabby. She was quite confident in herself, but she realized that her confidence was futile. Lu Yi did hold his punches when she fought him.

If they went at each other for real, she would be no match for Lu Yi. She could not surpass Miao Xinyuan, who has practiced martial arts since young. This was like a fight between a college student and an elementary school kid.

She was completely defeated.

Again and again, she was thrown onto the mat. Miao Xinyuan had better skills, so she was better at hitting her opponent. She would avoid the face but focus on the body. Yan Huan's face would not be harmed, but her body was bruised all over.

"Again." Miao Xinyuan rubbed her wrists, You are useless. Are you working with your body or your face? I can only think of one word to describe you, you are a b*tch.

Huang Mengmeng wanted to interfere, but she was held back by the others.

Yan Huan picked herself up from the ground again, but her legs wobbled unwillingly. It wasn't a training session, it was a revenge in disguise.

Yan Huan clearly understood what the vengeance was.

Miao Xinyuan sent another kick, landing squarely on Yan Huan's stomach.

Yan Huan quickly grabbed her own stomach. The pain even forced out some sweat from her forehead.

It was excruciating.

She rolled into a ball, both her hands hugging herself tightly, enduring waves after waves of pain.

And Miao Xinyuan had already taken off her gloves, walking away with an arrogant swing.

"Yan Huan, you alright?"

She shook her head, she could barely straighten her back.

How could she? Huang Mengmeng cursed under her breath. How could she hit her like this, this is just practice, not revenge.

Maybe it is, Yan Huan smiled bitterly, but could not utter a word.

She was in deep pain, a terrible pain, so painful that she could cry, but she wouldn't let her tears drop, only circling around her eyeballs.

Huang Mengmeng helped Yan Huan on their way back to the dorm.

"You okay? Do you wanna see the doctor?" Huang Mengmeng saw Yan Huan, who has always been pale, getting paler and paler. She was worried to the brink of tears. How can Miao Xinyuan be a trainer? She's out of her mind!

"I'm fine." Yan Huan shook her head, "I'll be fine. Even if she hurts me, she's an officer, a trainer. She wouldn't dare beat me to death, or even break me. Or else, she'll be sued in the military court, she doesn't have that kind of courage."

Yan Huan knew this clearly, Miao Xinyuan won't break her arms or legs, but will hurt her badly, so bad that she could scream.

But she held it in. She has to be patient, she has to persevere.

Lu Yi took out a piece of chocolate and gave it to Yan Huan.

Yan Huan stretched out her hand, but her fingers were trembling.

"You alright?" Lu Yi held her hand tightly.

"Yep." Yan Huan took of chocolate, and sat cross-legged on the floor. She tore away the wrapper, snapped a piece, and put it into her mouth. Then she snapped another piece for Lu Yi.

Chapter 398: Why

Lu Yi didn't have a sweet tooth himself, but he made sure to carry some chocolate at all times since Yan Huan liked them. She used to snack on them mid-set when she did not have enough time for a proper meal. The chocolate often melted in his pockets, as did his heart when he saw his little woman.

Lu Yi rubbed her head. "Has your hair gotten shorter again?"

"Yep," said Yan Huan, looking up and smiling at him. "It'll grow back."

He knew that. However, he also knew that Yan Huan normally took good care of her hair, and there must have been some unspoken reason behind her cutting them. However, he wasn't going to probe. She would explain it herself when the time comes.

He respected her privacy and her secrets.

"Get up," taunted Miao Xinyuan, kicking Yan Huan in the waist hard. She looked below at the sprawling Yan Huan from above, her red lips curved in a mocking smile.

She slammed Yan Huan to the ground. After Yan Huan got up, she beat her until she dropped. Then again.

Yan Huan barely had any chance of fighting back. She was in a sorry state, but she never uttered a single cry or complained to Lu Yi.

This was why Miao Xinyuan dared to hit her. She took the beatings without a word despite being covered in wounds. The beatings, the scoldings, she endured them all. They were nothing compared to the unbearable life she suffered in her previous life.

A heavy snowfall arrived a few days before the New Year, cladding the ground in a silvery-white coat.

Yan Huan, clad in a thin set of clothing, stood opposite Miao Xinyuan. She was a tad shorter but no less intimidating.

The door flung open. The shadow of a person nearly blocked off all the light from outside, behind him a picture of snow and storm.

Everyone shuddered. Perhaps it was the wind and snow, or perhaps it was because of the person.

Creeeeek, the door shut.

Bam! Miao Xinyuan sunk a kick into Yan Huan's body. Strengthless, Yan Huan struggled to defend herself, then fell to the ground on one knee. Her shoulders hurt like they were about to break.

Miao Xinyuan turned around and glanced at the man at the door. His face was icier than the snow and storm combined.

"Stand up!" he said flatly.

He looked at Yan Huan, his lips pursed into a line.

Yan Huan got up. Miao Xinyuan's eyes were still glued on Lu Yi.

"Hey..." she shouted.

Miao Xinyuan turned around and regarded her with contempt.

"Let's continue," said Yan Huan, rotating her wrists.

Miao Xinyuan sneered. "When I'm done with you, not even your mother can recognize you."

"My mother?" Yan Huan let out a sudden laugh, a cold snow storm brewing in her eyes.

"My mother will always recognize me, regardless of how I look like. Simply because she is my mother. There's nothing I hate more hearing the mention of my mother from someone else. Especially from the likes of you."

Miao Xinyuan threw a punch before she could finish her sentence. She was aiming right for her face. She wanted to smash that pretty face of hers into an ugly pulp.

However, Yan Huan dodged it this time using a method few could do. She dodged it by bending nearly 90 degrees backward and touching the ground with her hands, before bouncing back like a spring and delivering a quick kick to Miao Xinyuan's armpit. There was a pressure point there that causes excruciating pain when hit. This was something well-known among martial artists.

Miao Xinyuan screamed, an arm trembling from the numbness.

Yan Huan turned and kicked again, catching her on the shoulders this time. Miao Xinyuan took a step back. Just as she managed a stance, Yan Huan's foot was coming at her again. Yan Huan had a light and soft frame, but her kicks were powerful. She used her body as a spring, utilizing the technique of "hitting with borrowed strength". Every hit connected. Miao Xinyuan felt it.

It also came to Miao Xinyuan's realization that Yan Huan could dodge all of her moves, no matter what she tried to pull.

"Do you yield?" Yan Huan kicked again, then closed in and locked Miao Xinyuan's elbow before executing an over the shoulder throw on her. Just like how she used to throw her.

"Do you yield?" she asked again.

Miao Xinyuan stared at her with furious round eyes and said nothing.

“Do you yield?” Yan Huan threw her again. Her body was lithe, Miao Xinyuan could hardly fight back against her. Most importantly, Yan Huan had read all her moves.

Bam! Miao Xinyuan has slammed to the ground again, her face in a grimace. Yan Huan put a foot on her shoulder. To the prideful Miao Xinyuan, this humiliation was a first for her.

“Why?” hissed Miao Xinyuan, as though she wanted to rip Yan Huan apart.

“Why?” Yan Huan bent down, her foot still on Miao Xinyuan’s shoulders. “Did you think that no one can beat you because you are an instructor? Didn’t you always tell me that I couldn’t defeat you? Did it saying those things boost your ego?”

“Here you are, sprawling like a dog. Did you take me as a fool? I have been memorizing your moves for the past week. Tell me, what are you capable of apart from these stale moves?”

She released her feet and dusted her clothes. She then extended a helping hand towards Miao Xinyuan. Her being humble in victory and graceful in defeat was no doubt a slap on the face to Miao Xinyuan.

Oh, Yan Huan realized, she doesn’t want my helping hand. Suit yourself then.

She turned around and walked back towards her platoon. However, Miao Xinyuan suddenly sprung up, the hatred in her eyes getting to her head. She aimed at Yan Huan’s head. Crush it. Smash it. Spill its content.

Chapter 399: Sue Her

“Careful!” Before Huang Mengmeng’s voice could fall, Yan Huan stopped her movements. A sharp noise of wind swished by her ear, and there was a slam, and a woman’s scream.

She turned around, Miao Xinyuan was lying on her stomach, her buttocks were in the air, and she ate a mouthful of dirt. Lu Yi put down his leg and put his hand at his back.

“All of you,” she said to the other female soldiers, “Dismissed.”

Yan Huan took her own clothes and wore it, but she glimpsed at Huang Mengmeng, giving her a thumbs up. Yan Huan smiled at her, as if releasing all the hurt she had received in the past few days.

But the injuries were worth it.

Revenge is a dish best served cold, so one must persevere until the time is right.

Don’t underestimate any single opponent, even one that looks powerless.

The door was open, and the cold wind blew in along with the snow onto everybody. At that moment, everyone felt the cold biting into their skin, faces, their hearts, and even the memory of what happened just now.

Other than Huang Mengmeng, the rest of the female soldiers seemed to be afraid of Yan Huan.

Everyone but her left. She stood still, allowing the falling snow to land on her face, in her eyes, and on her neck. The cold was quite satisfying.

She inhaled big gulps of the outside air, as if allowing the snow to wash over the ashes on her body.

Buddha said, these temporary beauty can only cover the worldly eye, nothing is as beautiful as a pure heart. I have given it to every woman, but someone has dusted it with ashes.

Buddha said, you are not pitiful when you know you are lost, but when you do not.

Another snow fell into her eyes. She blinked her eyes, and suddenly, it was stuck onto her heart.

Creak. The door was opened. She could still feel the cold sting on her face. So the winter snow is this cold. But even if a lifetime has passed, or two, the air that caresses her skin will still be the chilly winter.

Someone put a shirt around her shoulder. A familiar warmth wrapped around her heart and body. She turned around and saw Miao Xinyuan still lying on her stomach. She could still hear her heart-wrenching cries.

Yan Huan had no pity for her.

Maybe Lady Mary or Lady Guanyin would.

But she wasn't them. She would be a fool to pity her enemy.

Forgiving your enemies means being cruel to yourself. If she had pitied her today, she might not be pitied in return another day.

"Let's go." Lu Yi held her hand tightly. It was still a big, dry, palm. No matter when, it would warm her heart.

In the hospital.

This was the second time Miao Xinyuan was hospitalized. She was hurt all over, and her shoulders were fractured a little. It was obvious how heavy the kick was.

"You did this?" a military leader asked.

"Yes," Lu Yi admitted.

"She's a woman."

"And a soldier," Lu Yi interjected the doctor, "I will sue her at court-martial," Lu Yi spoke calmly, but it almost made the people around him vomit out a litre of blood.

They have never seen someone as shameless as him.

His victim was still crying in pain, but the assailant declares he's going to sue her.

Miao Xinyuan was stupefied, the blood on her face was drained away quickly. Lu Yi was a prosecutor. He's an expert in suing someone.

In Miao Xinyuan's case, he has at least 10 ways to get rid of her military position.

Even still, she was a victim.

The leaders were still unclear about the events. All they saw was Miao Xinyuan on the hospital bed, while Lu Yi was healthy and unscathed. And if Miao Xinyuan weren't Elder Miao's granddaughter, she wouldn't have been able to enter the new camp. Now they have to be accountable for her lying on a

bed in the hospital. They have to investigate the truth of the whole matter and give Elder Miao an explanation.

But now, the victim became the plaintiff. This absurd change was, well, inconceivable.

“I’ll sue her on criminal charge.”

Lu Yi declared plainly while fishing out something from his pocket. It was a small USB thumb drive. “I will investigate the claims of Instructor Miao performing potentially life-threatening actions on her trainees during training sessions.”

Miao Xinyuan’s angle, strength, and methods were all aimed at Yan Huan’s head. If it weren’t for him blocking it, Yan Huan’s head would’ve been smacked to the ground. Even now, his whole body would tremble thinking of the probable consequences.

If anything happened to Yan Huan, he would definitely kill somebody.

And Miao Xinyuan would never be forgiven.

“Well...” The leader did not know what more to say. Lu Yi was a prosecutor of the Sea City, not a nameless nobody. And compared to the Miao family, the Lu family was stronger. Moreover, the Lus had the support of the Ye family and the Lei family. Even neglecting their background, they were powerless to stop Lu Yi’s prosecution of Miao Xinyuan.

This time, Miao Xinyuan was totally clueless of the deep trouble she was in. Not only did she cause herself to be hospitalized, she was also charged criminally. Ignoring her military position, she could not imagine the punishment she’d receive from court-martial.

Lu Yi walked outside with the several leaders.

The few following behind did not know what to say. What could they say?

They all looked at Instructor Huang, hoping for a statement. Miao Xinyuan would most likely say nothing, and don’t even dream about making Lu Yi talk.

Instructor Huang shrugged.

Okay, I’ll do it, but it was quite complicated.

She showed them the CCTV records of the past few days. Trusting all the leaders to understand the situation.

She turned off the computer. Everyone understood it. If they couldn’t read between the lines, they couldn’t have stayed here this long.

Some things were simple. One look was all it took to understand. The actions were plain as day.

Miao Xinyuan was obviously bullying a female soldier, but she was knocked down by the soldier instead. This was humiliating enough, but usually, she should reflect on this, and improve herself. But she did not. Her movement at the end obviously proved her intent to murder. Was it impulsive? Was it intentional? Regardless, her motives were no longer pure.

Chapter 400: A Secret

Lu Yi had a point. Given the presence of intention, Miao Xinyuan could be charged with first-degree murder if the footage were to be submitted as evidence. On the other hand, Lu Yi would take no blame at all, since he acted out of the intention to save someone.

This might have been resolvable had Miao Xinyuan been a civilian, but she was a soldier. She knew the law yet broke it.

“One more thing,” said Instructor Huang unwillingly. “The soldier who was nearly badly hurt by Miao Xinyuan is Yan Huan.”

Most people ought to have been familiar with the name. She was, after all, ubiquitous to the public’s eye. Her face was one that was hard to forget, as was her name. Many people might share the same time, but she was the Yan Huan.

“Yan Huan? That actress?” said someone remembering.

“Yes,” nodded Instructor Huang. That actress— the best actress of that year. Her training there as a normal soldier didn’t change the fact that she was a public figure. If she was harmed, more trouble would have followed.

In the information era, the age of the internet, every idol has diehard fans who would go to any length for their idols. There’s no guessing what they might do.

“Also...” said Instructor Huang. She hoped that they would take the news well.

“Yan Huan is Lu Yi’s registered spouse...”

“How is she?” Lu Yi asked the military doctor. “Is she okay?”

The military doctor pushed his spectacles up and gestured at Lu Yi.

“Follow me.”

Lu Yi’s face darkened at the prospect of bad news.

The military doctor laid a diagnostic report before Lu Yi.

“I have got bad news,” he began. He didn’t want to say the words. This wasn’t just any bad news to Lu Yi and Yan Huan. It was a disaster.

Lu Yi pressed his hand against his forehead. The tips of his fingers felt numb.

“What is it?”

His voice was calm, but no one knows what laid behind that calm facade. From his numb fingers, you can tell that he was afraid.

He rarely was afraid. Not many things or people scared him in his life. In fact, this was a first for him.

“She has a womb injury,” sighed the doctor. It wasn’t something that can be cured easily. “It might severely affect her fertility in the future. What’s wrong with this Miao Xinyuan? Hasn’t she went through

proper training? Kicking a woman on the tummy is no different than kicking on a man in the groin. It will cause problems.”

Lu Yi put his hand down slowly. He took the diagnostic report and flipped through. He didn't understand certain medical jargon, but that mattered little. The result was apparent to anyone who could read Chinese characters.

On it were the words: Womb injury, might result in infertility. Might. The doctor had minced his words in the report.

He took it and tore it into half, and again, and again, until he had shredded it to pieces. He threw it all into the bin.

“Rest assured,” the doctor was aware of the meaning behind Lu Yi's actions. “I saw no diagnostic reports, and will tell anyone she's in perfect health and merely sustained some ligament injuries.”

“Thanks,” Lu Yi turned around, his back stiff as a pole.

The doctor glanced at the pieces of paper in the bin and sighed softly. What's the point of tearing it? It wouldn't change anything.

“She might be infertile in the future, Lu Yi. What's your take on this? And what of your family?”

Tsk... He finally understood why there was a saying “women are the devils”. Miao Xinyuan had explained it to him.

Women were not just trouble, but venomous snakes that bite without any remorse. To him, Miao Xinyuan was the most venomous of them all.

Outside the room, Yan Huan was playing around with Lu Yi's phone in boredom. She found herself with absolutely nothing to do after checking the news and watching some short dramas. She was fine for the most part, except for some bruises that would heal in days.

She never would have expected Miao Xinyuan to actually harm her. She believed that she wasn't foolish enough to break the law while wearing her rank.

Lu Yi walked out and squatted down before her.

“What's wrong?” blinked Yan Huan. “Am I ill?” She sensed that something wasn't right. Was there some sort of complication?

“Nonsense. Why would you be ill?” Lu Yi stroked her short hair that had grown past her ears.

“Don't cut them again. Your long hair is pretty.”

“Alright,” Yan Huan brushed her hand through her hair too. She too felt that short hair didn't suit her. Still, she was getting used to it since it was easy to tend to. A woman with long hair will never be as agile as a woman with short hair. Conversely, the latter would never know how womanly a woman with long hair can be.

Yan Huan saw merit in both, but she preferred short hair for now. She was used to it after all. It would be troublesome to grow it out again.

But she would give it a go, since it would eventually grow longer anyway.

She rested her head on Lu Yi's shoulders. Lu Yi stroked her short hair gently. A look of sorrow flitted across his eyes.

Don't worry, everything's going to be okay. No matter what happens, I will never abandon you.

The snow fall grew heavier. The coldness had seemingly ushered in the festive mood of the New Year. Another year is about to pass, and a new one is about to begin. In the sparkling splendor of winter, ice was starting to melt, as did hearts.

Yan Huan was done packing up. "Are you really not coming back after the New Year?" asked Huang Mengmeng, pouty and teary-eyed. The friendship they had forged in the past year was the real deal.

Yan Huan wrote down a string of numbers on a piece of paper and stuffed it in Huang Mengmeng's hand. "Here's my private number. Pay me a visit if you come to Sea City."

Huang Mengmeng quickly kept the number and wiped her tears away. A smile finally broke out.

"I will. I will," she smiled. Suddenly, her smile seemed a little devious.

Yan Huan blinked nervously.

Did she walk right into that one?

When she had gone out of the camp, what awaited her was snow and ice. Snowflakes fell onto her, getting caught between her lashes. Winter was at full bloom.