

### **Chapter 451: Having News About Them**

Yan Huan wiped her face again, smiling. She did not look pretty but rather in a mess. Before the sight of a catastrophe, there is no film celebrity, no woman, only a female soldier, although I have already been discharged from the military.

Yan Huan cracked a smile, but at this moment, her eyes were fogged up. The feeling of experiencing life and death, regardless of whether it was herself or others could not be put into words with a touching response anymore.

She turned around again, and joined the rescue team. At this juncture, a middle-aged man in front of her looked over his shoulder, and was instructing others to lift the floor slabs which were blocking the bottom.

“Start from here and focus on this part.” He said as he was holding one side of the floor slabs. At this point in time, only his regularly straight back could be seen.

Moreover, the continuous echoes of his voice across the atmosphere made him sound like a backbone of the team, allowing these people without families to gather together as a team and brought them hope and expectation.

“Listen to my command.”

“One, two, three, up.”

He continued to speak even when his voice was hoarse until it was almost completely gone.

Yan Huan ran over, squatting down on the ground and started to move the rocks with others. A little girl was successfully rescued, and later another one. All these were children. They were all crying with their eyes opened up widely for being frightened.

“Be quick, these are all children.”

Lu Jin hurriedly said to make sure others dig faster. It was not known whether it was a collapsed school or the school was organizing an event for the children as there were mostly children around the age of eight to nine years old. How could they stand this? How could they bear it?

The medical staff rushed over. Yan Huan carried a child and ran forward. At this moment, it began raining again. The rainwater fell from her hair like a stream of water droplets and flowed down to her chin, not sure if it was tears or rainwater. But regardless of whether it was tears or rainwater, she would still wipe them dry, stood up and rushed to the most dangerous spot to save others.

At this time, this precious scene was finally spread across the television. From the start of the earthquake, for exactly 24 hours, the condition of Serene City was first shown to the public.

Those people with the faces of survival, those elders who were sobbing and those innocent and crying children being scared silly gathered at the tarp. They were all casualties with different injuries.

“Oh my god!” Once Luo Lin saw the woman who was carrying a child, she did not say a word for half a day. She hastily fetched out her cell phone to call Lu Yi.

“It’s me, Lu Yi! You faster watch the news on Five Sets. Right now.”

Lu Yi was accompanying Ye Shuyun who did not eat or drink for the whole day. Her fingers were cold, refusing to let others feel her body temperature.

Lu Yi put down his cell phone, and then grabbed the remote control to turn on the television while Ye Shuyun was constantly staring at the walky-talky in her arms.

Upon turning on the television, his heart was as though the rain, suppressing himself as he felt ill and hard to breath.

The camera shot showed the mess and ruins. Everywhere was full of debris with soldiers in uniform, medical staff in uniform as well as civilians running around.

The camera focused on a woman with one hand holding a cup of instant noodles, and another hand grabbing a bottle of water. She was eating and swallowing with all her might. She seemed to have choked herself, thus, she hurriedly took a sip of water.

At this time, a hand stretched out and tapped her shoulder.

Lu Yi’s pupils dilated abruptly as he placed his hand on Ye Shuyun’s shoulder.

“Mom...” He cried out to Ye Shuyun, but she was still not moving with the walky-talky in her arms, not willing to say a word as though she had lost her soul with a stupefied expression on her pale face.

“Mom, Dad is still alive, he’s still alive.”

Lu Yi’s fingers tightened up, causing the flesh on Ye Shuyun’s shoulder to feel the pain.

Ye Shuyun suddenly lifted her face, “What did you say? Your dad is still alive? He is still alive?”

“Yes, Mom. Look here.” Lu Yi pointed to the television. His father was still alive and had saved many people. Huan Huan was there as well. As he was saying that, he felt as if his heart had a hole, even between breathing in and out, he could feel the sudden excruciating pain.

Ye Shuyun kept her eyes wide open, fixing her gaze at the television. The camera was constantly focusing on that person. He calmly instructed the people on the scene to carry out the rescue plan. Although he was in a big mess, his face was full of mud, and his hair tangled up, Ye Shuyun could still recognize him at first glance since he was her other half whom she had lived and get along with all her life.

Lu Jin’s back was regularly straight because he was a soldier. He started to join the army since he was 18 years old, and now he was already 50 years old, but still a soldier.

His sitting and standing posture were always dignified and down-to-earth. He was a soldier, a real soldier.

“Lu Jin, the old man...” The walky-talky on Ye Shuyun’s hand fell to the ground. If Lu Jin heard the phrase, ‘the old man’ he would probably start to cry. He was still very young and in his prime life. He might be aged but still vigorous, so, all in all, he was not considered old.

Ye Shuyun covered her face and began crying again. The only thing Lu Yi could do was to pat on his mother’s shoulder, comforting her silently.

He bent his body to take the walky-talky, and then placed it on the side of the table.

His eyes were fixed on the television, and once in a while, the camera would display his lady. She was like a man for she would join a group of men to save others. She would eat a few bites of the instant noodles when she was hungry and drink a mouthful of water when she felt thirsty, but sometimes, she did not even have time for a drink.

She could carry a man who was a lot taller than her. Her clothes were drenched and her face was dirty, even her hair was full of all sorts of ashes. She was not a film celebrity now, not Yan Huan, but a soldier, a female soldier.

At this moment, his cell phone rang again, but now Lu Yi’s heart was already at a peace of mind and stable because they were still alive. His family was not separated, they all would reunite for sure.

He fished out his phone, and realized the call was from the Ye family.

He accepted the phone call, and the first thing he realized was Ye Chuji’s heartbroken voice.

“Lu Yi, Xinyu that boy is also at Serene City. I still dare not tell your grandfather about it. Can you help to search and locate this boy?”

Lu Yi nearly dropped his phone. What is this little brat doing at Serene City? After letting go of his worries a while ago, his heart became tense again.

“Rest assured, Uncle! I will look into this right away.”

#### **Chapter 452: Still Hell Here**

“What’s wrong?” asked Ye Shuyun when she saw the look on Lu Yi’s face. Heart tightening, she asked, “Don’t tell me it’s about your Dad and Huanhuan...”

“Relax, Mom,” assured Lu Yi, pointing at the television. “This is a live broadcast, so what we are seeing is happening there right now. Dad’s fine, but Ye Xinyu’s in danger.”

“Xinyu? What happened to him?” asked Ye Shuyun, turning around. What could have happened to that kid?

Lu Yi didn’t know how to tell her. At least Lu Jin was confirmed to be well and alive, or the news about Ye Xinyu would have been too much for her to bear. Ye Xinyu was like Ye Shuyun’s other son— she had brought him up from a young age.

He’s in Serene City too. Lu Yu shut his eyes. That was the only way to repress the stress in his heart. What was Ye Xinyu doing there? They already have enough to worry about.

He took out his phone and gave Lei Qingyi a call.

“It’s me, Qingyi. Help me check Ye Xinyu’s travel records. The kid might be in Serene City.”

“What?” Lei Qingyi’s eyes widened. “What’s he doing there? Is he out of his mind?!”

Lei Qingyi shot up from the chair. What was he doing there? Isn’t there enough trouble already? They had at last heard about Lu Jin and Yan Huan, but what about that kid?

“Oh, right, I was gonna tell you that your Dad and Yan Huan has been confirmed safe. They seem to be doing fine.”

“I know. I watched the news,” said Lu Yi. His low voice wasn’t as stressed as before now that he knew they were fine, but that place still worried him.

Lei Qingyi sighed. He had been very nervous about the Lu Family too. He didn’t dare think what might happen to Ye Shuyun and Lu Yi had something happened to Yan Huan and Lu Jin.

She will lose her husband and daughter-in-law, and him his father and his wife. The pain would be devastating.

Thank god they are fine.

Until now, Yi Ling didn’t know a thing about what happened to Yan Huan. Yi Ling was pregnant—out of consideration for the child, they forbid her from even watching the television, afraid that she might find out about Yan Huan.

Yi Ling was beyond a sister to Yan Huan, and he feared that she wouldn’t be able to handle the news. Ever since she was with child, Lei Qingyi would get worried at even a sneeze from her, afraid that it would harm the baby. If she were to know about Yan Huan...

He dared not imagine.

Like he said, thank goodness they are fine.

Still, he slammed the table hard. What was that brat Ye Xinyu doing at Serene City?

Maybe he had already left Serene City and was now enjoying his time elsewhere.

He returned to his office desk and sat down. Picking up the speaker on the table, he began on the task of inquiring about Ye Xinyu’s travel records himself.

An hour later, he sat staring at the computer still-faced and unmoving.

Ye Xinyu’s name had last appeared in an ATM record in Serene City. And the hotel he checked into was not far from Lu Yi. He was caught in the epicenter, and if that was the case, he’s most likely...

He facepalmed himself. It’s over. The kid’s most likely gone.

Lu Jin and Yan Huan’s survival was a surprise, or rather, a miracle to them, and miracles rarely come twice in a row.

He picked up the phone and hesitated for a good deal of time before calling.

"I have got news, but... it's not the best news. Ye Xinyu is currently in Serene City, and he had been staying in a hotel close to your Dad's," Lei Qingyu broke off. He knew he had already gotten his point across.

It had been nearly 36 hours since the earthquake at Serene City. Normally, the first 48 hours after a quake would be the best time for rescue missions, but the heavy rain, obstructed roads, and disrupted traffic had cut off most routes to Serene City, not to mention the rain had triggered a flash flood. Worst still, the large bridge that led to Serene City had a river beneath it, and the river level always rose during this season. Now that the bridge was broken, it had cut off one of the main entrances to Serene City.

The other roads were also badly damaged, adding even more difficulty to rescue efforts.

Most of the people that got to the disaster zone had done so by helicopter, including the local rescue army, rushing to fix the roads and making sure that the supplies get over.

Yan Huan wiped her face with the back of her hand and looked up. There was another helicopter. She wondered what kind of supplies were in this one. This wasn't a mirthful place; no matter how many they saved, the crying will drown out the laughter.

Some relished in their luck of surviving the disaster, but for others, living was all they had left. Living alone.

In the humming of the helicopter, people kept getting moved around in stretchers. Two days had passed, and it was still hell.

She marched on, joining others in the rescue effort. She wasn't a soldier before a woman.

Her hand had suffered countless scrapes. She bled and felt pain, but none of that can compared to the pain in her heart. She knew this would happen, but there was nothing she could have done. What was she doing here? Redemption? Mitigating the damage?

But how much can she mitigate?

No matter how powerful she was, she couldn't have saved every victim of this earthquake.

She suddenly huddled up and wept, overwhelmed by sadness and pain.

"Are you alright?" asked the reporter as he approached her again. Recently, his camera had almost solely been focusing on Yan Huan and Lu Jin. The actress, Yan Huan, had made him see the world with new eyes. Her positivity radiated and moved hearts.

"I'm fine," said Yan Huan, looking up with red eyes from crying. She was covered in wounds big and small, wearing dirt-stained clothes that haven't been washed in days. Yet her eyes shone bright like the surface of a clear, blue lake.

### **Chapter 453: Gaining Fame**

Indeed, she was extremely dirty. She even carried an offensive odor with her. But at this point, no one would complain about it.

She was clean and her eyes were exceptionally pure. The purity and cleanliness came from the bottom of her heart and soul.

“Can I borrow your mobile phone for a short while?” At first, her mobile phone was out of signal. But now, even the battery of her phone was drained. On the other hand, Lu Jin’s mobile phone was left in the hotel as it had been broken into bits. She was not able to even find the remnants of the phone.

“Sure, sure.” The journalist promptly handed his mobile phone to Yan Huan.

Yan Huan received the phone and immediately dialed Lu Yi’s phone number. She was anxious; she felt terrible; she missed Lu Yi abundantly too.

“Hello...” the man’s voice came from the other side of the phone. The inexpressible weariness could be clearly sensed from his tone.

“Lu Yi, it’s me ”

Yan Huan snuffled and then began to sob. She could no longer speak clearly, not able to continue her sentence.

“Huanhuan, is that you?”

“Yes,” Yan Huan whimpered, “Yes, it’s me.”

Lu Yi’s grip around his phone tightened. “Are you alright?” Lu Yi asked as the sweat in his palms overflowed.

“Yes, I’m alright,” Yan Huan wheezed, “Dad is fine. Dad is incredible. He’s our pride. Do you know? He saved more than 20 people. With his guide, we’ve saved a total of some 200 people.”

“I’m praiseworthy too,” She was weeping with a grin, and smiling through her tears. “I saved five of them. I dug them out from the ruins with my bare hands.”

“Yes. Our Huanhuan is a great soldier. You’re amazing,” Lu Yi’s eyes were misted by tears. He, man, failed to suppress his emotions. His tears fell down his cheeks. Only a real heart-wrenching event could make a man cry. At this moment, Lu Yi was truly touched. He was moved by Yan Huan, and at the same time, he was extremely grateful that Yan Huan was alive.

Yan Huan wiped away her tears and said, “I have to continue my task to save the others. This is not my mobile phone. It belongs to a journalist. By the way, can you do me a favour by contacting Sister Luo? Tell her to donate 50 million yuan under my name.”

“Sure,” Lu Yi agreed. But, the following words died in his throat.

Yan Huan hung up the call and returned the mobile phone to the journalist. She put on an earnest smile despite the tears pooling in her eyes, “Thanks.”

“You’re welcome.” The journalist quickly kept his mobile phone as he discreetly wiped his tears that he failed to contain.

Yan Huan stood up and ran off.

“Did you capture this?” the journalist turned to ask the cameraman behind him.

“Yes, I did.”

“Great. We have to air this clip that’s overwhelming with positivity. This might even bring in a prodigious amount of donation. Everything else is miniscule in front of a heroine who puts the people before her.”

“Sure,” the cameraman answered. Besides, he would make sure to broadcast this clip as soon as possible. He was eager to spread this positivity to blanket this cruel catastrophe with the people’s kindness and sympathy.

All the television screens were showing news of the earthquake in Serene City. The tragedy deeply saddened every person of the country. All the entertainment shows were put to a halt and all eyes were glued to the television. Even the youngest baby could feel the distressing atmosphere surrounding the adults and remained unusually quiet and obedient.

The broadcasting stations were constantly updating about the situation at the affected areas although it had been a total 48 hours since the earthquake of the Serene City.

At this moment, the screens showed a thin and purportedly weak woman who was standing far away from the camera. Her face was powdered with dust and her clothes were torn. Her two hands were full of wounds and cuts. All of a sudden, she buried her face in her hands and began to weep as her shoulder shuddered. Her sobbing was soundless yet heart-rending. Almost all audiences were able to feel her sorrow and anguish.

Yan Huan raised her head. Her face was so dirty to the extent that she had become unrecognizable. However, her beauty was not dimmed. People were still able to tell that she was a pretty girl. But, that beautiful face was not at all helpful during this critical time.

She borrowed a mobile phone from the journalist to ring her family. Completed with both smile and tears, she comforted her family.

“I’m fine. Dad is fine too.”

“Dad has led the group and saved some 200 people.”

“I am praiseworthy too. I saved five people. I dug them out with my bare hands.”

“Please send my message to Sister Luo and tell her to donate 50 million yuan to the people who need them.”

She was not putting on a show, neither did she know that she was being filmed. She was merely speaking her genuine intention, what she thought she ought to do. There was no pretense. She was only trying to put her loved ones at ease.

Don’t worry. I’m fine.

Don’t worry. I’ve saved a number of people.

Don’t worry. I want to make you proud.

And I hope the 50 million yuan I donated will make you proud too.

Almost overnight, the entire nation knew about Yan Huan, a beautiful and delicate woman who was now dressed like a beggar. She, alongside the men, was moving the bricks and rocks, trying to save the victims. She ate the dry instant noodles that injured her throat. She drank the rainwater when she ran out of drinking water. There were times when she lost her appetite and refused to eat too. She disregarded her images and continued to burrow possible spots, trying to search for more trapped victims. She could even carry a man who was double her height on her back.

On this day, innumerable audiences were moved and influenced by this woman. Besides, the father-in-law she mentioned during the phone call caught the attention of the public.

Her father-in-law was none other than Lu Jin, General Lu.

The people began to become familiar with the name Lu Jin, also known as General Lu.

Meanwhile, the military base was shocked at the absence of Lu Jin. Despite the fact that he had yet to return to the military base, he was promoted once again. He was now an admiral, no longer a general. Lu Jin's career had been stagnant as he had been a general now for more than 10 years. He had always desired for a higher rank, but it was tougher than anything. He was now unexpectedly promoted by merely doing his job. His dream came true because of a few words from his daughter-in-law.

However, he was not informed of this yet. He was still occupied by his task, trying to save the victims.

Yan Huan's 50 million yuan was instantly transferred to the responsible party. Afraid of losing, the other artists and celebrities were avid in donating as well. To show their sincerity, the amount of their donations were rather significant.

Luo Lin posted a few photos on Yan Huan's weibo. All the pictures were taken by a second person. From the photos, Yan Huan was not very beautiful. In her torn clothes, her face and body were covered in dust and sand. She no longer appeared like a decent lady. Instead, she was pictured when she sat on the ground full of dust and gobbled down the instant noodles; when she carried a grown man on her back; when she cuddled a child with her wounded hands and sang for the child. She was a true heroine, the woman of the hour and the best actress.

#### **Chapter 454: They Found Him**

In the past, people might have only liked Yan Huan for her appearance, but this time they had all fallen for her. The ones who disliked her began noticing her, the ones who knew of her turned fans, and fans became fanatics.

Yan Huan's Weibo post was reposted like crazy. No one could badmouth her at this point.

The roads were opened up 56 hours after the Serene City earthquake, and supplies began being transported over by bulk, along with search parties, medical staff, rescue dogs, and high-tech medical supplies.

Rows of prefabs were rapidly set up, and casualties finally had a place to rest and avoid the rain. Troops were also rushing over, but no matter how much resources they had, it never seemed enough.

The more they saved, the more that died.

The golden period for rescue was almost over, and they were racing against time to save every potential survivor from death himself.

Yan Huan took a bottle of water and gulped it down, leaning against the wall with inexplicable weariness at her drooping eyelashes.

That was when someone who smelled like summer grass stopped before her. A familiar smell. Yan Huan's hand tightened around the bottle as she looked up and found Lu Yi standing before her. His strong, determined, and serious face was like always. Nothing had changed about him.

Lu Yi stepped forward, wiping Yan Huan's face with his sleeves and combing her hair with his fingers. Yan Huan smiled, but tears rolled down by themselves.

"Aren't you a hero now? Heroes shouldn't cry so easily," said Lu Yi, wiping away her tears with his thumb. The more he wiped, the dirtier her face became. Soon, she was looking like a silly cat with large whiskers. Yan Huan used her own sleeves to carefully clean his face, but she couldn't wipe off the dirt no matter how hard she tried.

"Why are you here?" asked Yan Huan, repressing the sadness from being unable to clean her face properly. Wasn't this place off-limits to volunteers? It's dangerous here in the epicenter after all.

"Why not? You and Dad are both here."

People of the Lu Family never feared death. Not like they were the type to die easily.

Yan Huan tugged at her clothes. "I'm dirty."

"My Huanhuan is the cleanest," said Lu Yi as he pulled his frail and miserable-looking woman into his chest. At that moment, he felt as though he had regained his missing piece.

His life was complete again.

"We'll be home again soon," said Lu Yi, patting her shoulders gently. He could care less about how dirty she was, or how many days she had gone by without showering or freshening up.

"Mhm," whimpered Yan Huan. The lump in her throat was formed by inexpressible sorrow.

Lu Jin was busy overseeing and commanding a rescue group, the original group that had survived. After a few days of Lu Jin's training, they were no less efficient at what they were doing than trained troops.

The potential of humans are limitless—you'll never know what you can do and how far you can push yourself until you find yourself in desperate straits.

"Dad!" Lu Yi called out to Lu Jin who was standing beside a pile of debris.

Lu Yi's fierce eyes reddened at the sight of his son.

"What are you standing around for? Get in here."

"Coming," answered Lu Yi, rolling his sleeves up and throwing himself into the rescue effort.

The roads were now open, the emergency supplies had arrived, and prefabs were still being propped up. It began raining, heavy rain, again these days, but no matter since the roofed houses provided adequate

shelter for the casualties. The ones with slight injuries all helped with whatever they could, and the heavily-wounded were successively being sent to local hospitals via helicopter.

Lu Yi put his phone to his ear. "Rest assured, Uncle, we have found the brat. Dad was the one who dug him out from the debris. He broke a leg, but other than that is fine. Nothing had happened to his pretty face either."

Ye Chuji was fuming at the other end, his voice like crackling thunder. Anyone standing near him could have gotten zapped.

"Why didn't he die? He should die! Good that he broke a leg! Saves me the effort from doing it myself! Skipping lessons to go on vacations and almost getting himself killed. When he comes back, I'm going to break his other leg as well."

Lu Yi moved the phone away and placed it before Ye Xinyu.

He had found out about Ye Xinyu from Yan Huan. His objective for coming, apart from finding Yan Huan and Lu Jin, was to find the troublemaker Ye Xinyu.

Thank goodness he was alive. Thank goodness he only broke one leg.

One leg for now.

Lu Jin gave Ye Xinyu a long face, as he had been doing for the past few days. Poor Ye Xinyu had to suffer his uncle's wrath for the past few days, beaten almost to a pulp, and what awaited him at home was his father who vowed to break his leg.

Ye Xinyu felt like crying when he thought about the legless fate that awaited him. It was too much.

What he didn't hear was the sigh of relief Ye Chuji heaved when he hung up. Of course, he was cracking his knuckles at the same time.

"Did they find him?" asked Ye Sr. who was standing behind him without his knowledge.

Taken aback, Ye Chuji turned over. "When did you come here, Dad? Found who?" he feigned ignorance. It had never been part of his plan to let the Ye Sr. know about this.

Ye Sr. was an old man, and old people couldn't handle shocks well. Previously, when trouble came to the Ye Family, Ye Sr. almost died from the shock-induced illness. If something happened to Ye Xinyu this time, Ye Sr. might really kick the bucket.

Ye Xinyu was his only heir, the next-in-line successor for the Ye Family after him. Remembering his troublemaker of a son, he had the sudden impulse of flying over and breaking his other leg.

"Drop the act. I know it all," said Ye Jianguo as he sat down in a chair. "The brat went to Serene City, huh?"

"Who told you that, Dad?" asked Ye Chuji. Who told the old man? Didn't they agree on keeping him in the dark?

Ye Jianguo looked up lazily. "Don't bother, I won't tell. I'm not an old fool yet."

## Chapter 455: He Is Here

“You have been acting so anxious. How could I not find out about it?”

“How is the boy?” The old man was considerably calm as he thought that they were being blessed. Not long after he was informed that Ye Xinyu was lost, someone else had notified him otherwise, telling him that Ye Xinyu was found and safe. At least he did not lose a limb or punctured an organ.

Undeniably, he was only briefly startled. He was not worried and terrified like Ye Chuji. Naturally, he would not be as furious as Ye Chuji. However, Ye Xinyu was certainly getting punished once he came home.

“He’s alright,” Ye Chuji heaved a sigh of relief, “When he was saved by Lu Jin, his femur was fractured. I reckon that he has been treated. They might send him to another hospital for surgery.”

“Surgery?” Ye Jianguo raised one of his eyebrows as he slammed his palm on the table, “He deserves no surgery. Cut off both of his legs and he’ll never run away again.”

“That’s right,” Ye Chuji said as he gritted his teeth. This brat is getting more and more audacious. He almost lost his life this time. If anything happens to him, Ye Family’s legacy will end here!

He has to be punished.

His legs shall be broken so he will not roam around heedlessly anymore.

Fortunately, Ye Xinyu currently had no idea about his grandfather and his father’s keenness to amputate his two legs. They would rather keep him at home for the rest of his life as he could possibly put his family and himself in jeopardy every time he created trouble outside the house.

In fact, it was only normal for the father and son from the Ye family to have this cruel thought. Ye Xinyu had created too many issues for them. When he was young, Lu Yi was always there to save him from trouble. This time was no exception even though Ye Xinyu had grown to be a man, as he was apparently a disappointing one.

There were limited seats on the helicopter. Hence, it was only used to transport some severely injured patients. Despite his fractured bone, Ye Xinyu had been roughly treated and his condition was not critical. Latest by tomorrow night he would be brought away for the surgery to treat his injury. After the surgery, he would be housebound for approximately six months and would have to move around in a wheelchair.

“I wish I can beat you to death,” Lu Jin reached out to smack Ye Xinyu’s head. You almost lost your life. If your sister-in-law didn’t find you, you would have either starved to death or been buried alive.

Ye Xinyu appeared rather upset. It was never his own intention to encounter the catastrophe. He did not expect to be trapped by the earthquake. He was fortunate to have escaped with merely a fractured bone. His friends were not as lucky. He had not seen any of them since the occurrence of the earthquake. He reckoned that they were now all in great danger.

“This is so irritating,” Lu Jin walked to the side and took a seat on a random spot. The extremely weary Lu Jin needed to rest. He had to take a nap.

Lu Yi grabbed Yan Huan's shoulder as he stared coldly at Ye Xinyu, making Ye Xinyu feel remorseful as though he had committed an unforgivable sin. He had certainly made a mistake, not to mention a big one. It was indeed reprehensible as he almost lost his life.

Lu Yi exited the room and came back with some medication in his hands.

"Brother, let me do it. It's not right to trouble you."

Dragging his injured foot, Ye Xinyu immediately staggered forward to receive the medications. He was now a sinner and he had no rights to trouble Lu Yi to apply the ointment for him. He could definitely do it by himself because his cuts and wounds were not the big ones and certainly not life-threatening. Lu Yi sending him the medications was already an honour too great for him to accept.

Apparently, his brother was only mean on the outside. Deep inside, Lu Yi still cared about him abundantly.

At this moment, Lu Yi threw a nonchalant glimpse at Ye Xinyu as though he was a moron.

Then, Lu Yi reached out to hold Yan Huan's hand and led her to a corner. Carefully, he pulled Yan Huan's hands toward himself and applied ointment on the wounds. However, it was not an easy task as her hands were covered with wounds, including the new ones, old ones, lacerations, abrasions and the old ones that had yet to heal.

"Does it hurt?"

Lu Yi asked Yan Huan.

Yan Huan shook her head, "No, it doesn't." She was not lying. She had either forgotten how pain felt like or got used to enduring it.

Lu Yi grabbed her finger. He lowered his head, gently applied the medication on her finger and bandaged it.

"You are not longer needed. What you ought to do now is to stay here obediently," Lu Yi fixed her clothes, "Don't follow."

Yan Huan agreed with Lu Yi. They were not capable for the rest of the operation anymore. Only the big machineries and the professionals could help save the remaining casualties. She was only able to take care of the patients and do some miscellaneous tasks.

Lu Yi removed his clothes and blanketed Yan Huan, "Get some rest."

"Sure," Yan Huan huddled up. She had been resisting the urge to sleep since the beginning. She feared even shutting her eyes, afraid that she would fall asleep and delay their process of saving the people. Every single second was crucial in this situation. They could not afford to gamble it by taking a nap.

Could she really take a good rest now?

Yes, I'll take a short nap. Just a short one, I swear. Lu Yi tugged her in, thinking that this was the worst place for a good nap. However, all their comrades were taking shelter here with no exception. He surely

intended to send Yan Huan away from this place. But he knew clearly that Yan Huan would refuse unless she was sure that she was no longer helpful.

He stood up and walked toward Lu Jin. He squatted down and placed the medication beside Lu Jin. Lu Jin did not wake up as Lu Yi removed Lu Jin's shoes.

The moment he took off the shoes, Lu Yi felt an urge to cry. He turned around, trying his best to contain his tears.

Lu Jin continued to sleep soundly, probably from the extreme fatigue. Even an earthquake would not wake him up now.

His feet were mangled. There were cuts, blisters that had turned white, and gangrenous wounds. Yet, he never whined.

In fact, Lu Yi had noticed that Lu Jin was wearing someone else's shoes in the news. Lu Jin never wore shoes that did not belong to him. That scene implied that Lu Jin escaped barefooted. Moreover, his footsteps seemed awkward. Lu Yi reckoned that he had injured his feet and Lu Yi was absolutely right.

Lu Yi carefully dressed the wounds on Lu Jin's feet as he stared at his father who was close to his fifties. Despite his old age, Lu Yi always remembered him as a young father who was stern yet caring to his one and only son.

He was the kind of father who would regret instantly after punishing Lu Yi. At night, he would visit his son in secret. He was the kind of father that Lu Yi always looked up to, an unyielding role model.

#### **Chapter 456: To Love This Home**

His father had taught him how to be a better person.

Everything he owned now he owed it to his father. Perhaps he'll never know what it feels like to be a father, but the word "father" meant too much to him. Lu Jin meant too much to him.

He grabbed his bag and from inside took out a pair of socks and shoes. These were his own shoes, packed by Ye Shuyun.

He slipped his shoes on and tied the laces. He felt a warm sensation at his back.

He turned around and saw Yan Huan, wide awake.

"Did I wake you?" asked Lu Yi, clutching her bandaged fingers.

"No. I couldn't sleep," said Yan Huan, wrapping her arms around him and pressing her chin against his shoulder.

56 hours had passed. It was almost 3 days.

The scenic Serene City was no more. This was the same Serene City she had seen in her past life—the cold, lifeless city was here to stay.

In her previous life, she didn't know much about the earthquake apart from a lot of people dying, and among those Lu Jin.

At this time in her previous life, Lu Yi was still her archnemesis. She had done everything she could to help Lu Qin acquire the Lu Family. However, even without Lu Jin, Lu Yi was at a place where they could not reach or harm.

In this world, as long as there is Lu Yi, there will be Lu Qin. Lu Yi was Lu Qin's greatest obstacle, and now along with Yan Huan too.

"What are you thinking about?" asked Lu Yi, squeezing her fingers gently. Why did a look of taunt and contempt creep up her face?

"I was thinking..." Yan Huan found a place to sit down. Lu Yi followed suit, waiting for her to go on.

"Lu Qin and his mother must be awfully smug right now?" Yan Huan cupped her face with her hands. "Wouldn't you agree?"

Lu Yi sneered. "Indeed. They were probably grinning in their own rooms when they heard about Dad being caught in the disaster. A lazy scheming piece of shit, that's who Lu Qin is."

"What can he do other than scheming?" said Yan Huan. She felt sick when she recalled Lu Qin's greed and callousness.

"What can he do indeed?" asked Lu Yi. He felt a strange feeling. Yan Huan's hate towards Lu Qin was different from normal hatred.

Her hatred for him was bone-deep. She might not have realized it herself, but a baleful flame of hatred burned in her eyes at every mention of his name, a flame that's nearly consuming her.

And this wasn't the first time either.

"What's wrong? Why are you looking at me like that?" Yan Huan touched her own face. "Do I look ugly?" She was aware that she wasn't her most glamorous self, and was emitting a smell that would put over-pickled vegetables to shame.

Everyone wants to show their best part to their soulmates, and her? She didn't try moving away or changing into new clothes. Instead, she took a whiff of her sleeves.

It smelled good.

"Does it smell good?" asked Lu Yi, amused. His eyes were warm with affection.

"Of course!" said Yan Huan. She would never admit to being smelly. That was who she was. In her previous life, Lu Yi had seen her in her most miserable state anyway, skinny like a ghost, covered in wrinkles, with her belly sliced open like a pig awaiting slaughter. A skinny pig at that.

That's why she considered her current image as passable. She stroked her face—it was smooth and silky despite not having been washed. She should still look pretty.

Of course, she wouldn't find herself smelly either. The smell was simply...unique.

Lu Yi reached out and embraced her. My wife always smells good. That goes without saying.

Yan Huan grabbed his buttons by force of habit. In that instant, the flame of hatred she bred for Lu Qin from her previous life died down a little.

Some things were more important than revenge.

Like loving the man before her and the home he gave her.

Lu Yi looked down at Yan Huan's face. It was much thinner than before. She was originally skinny, and all that weight he had painstakingly helped her put on was lost. He would have to start from scratch when they get back.

Her chin was so sharp he worried it might pierce someone to death.

Of course, he dared not say that out loud. Yan Huan's face shape was the modern definition of beauty—sharp chin, small face, large eyes. With those combined, she was insanely beautiful.

It was the beauty everyone loved, but he didn't want her to be too skinny. He wanted her to be plump and well. Yan Huan was the type that had trouble putting on weight too. He had nearly been "force-feeding" her, but the effect hasn't been great. Why was it so hard for her to gain weight and so easy for her to lose weight?

He stroked her hair gently as she slept on his lap. Near them, rescue teams were still racing against time to save as many lives as possible.

The number of people being saved by the day was decreasing. He knew the reason behind that—the optimal period for search and rescue was about to be over soon.

Countless lives lost, just like in every other disaster or major accident.

He sighed. The night proved sleepless.

Lu Jin woke up when the first light broke out. When he stood up, he realized that the pain at his feet had diminished. He looked down. When he saw the shoes on his feet, he had to fight back tears.

It had all been too shocking, really.

Until now, he dared not imagine what would happen to Ye Shuyun had he died. He couldn't bear the thought of leaving her alone. They were husband and wife for a lifetime, and it wouldn't do if any of them died. If that happened, can the other still live?

He turned around and peered at the sun that had made its way through the clouds.

At that moment, he felt his eyes heating up, and when he realized, tears were rolling down his cheeks in streaks.

Lu Yi walked over and handed him his phone.

"Go on. Give Mom a call."

Lu Jin quickly turned around and smeared a hand across his face clandestinely. With quivering hands, he picked up the phone. Of course, Lu Yi wouldn't have laughed at him in the first place. They both had someone whom they loved dearly. They understood.

Holding the phone, Lu Jin's fingers seemed to have forgotten how to dial numbers.

### **Chapter 457: Amputation**

In fact, Lu Yi should have made the call immediately. Yet, he realized that he did not have the courage to do so. He was too overwhelmed, and at the same time, he was too scared to dial the number.

He held the mobile phone before him. With his trembling fingers, he dialed Ye Shuyun's number before he placed the phone beside his ear.

The call was picked up almost instantly.

"Lu Yi, Li Yi, have you seen your dad? Is he alright? Is he injured?"

Lu Jin's felt faint discomfort at his throat. It felt slightly painful, itchy and burning simultaneously.

"Shuyun, it's me." It was as if he had spent all his energy to just speak these few words.

"Old Lu..."

On the other end of the line, Ye Shuyun had burst into tears.

"Yes, it's me. It's me." Likewise, Lu Jin could not stop the tears from falling down his cheeks. Although he was facing away from everyone else, but Lu Yi could tell that his father was crying.

A man would always present only his smile and strength to others, and saved the sorrow and pain for himself.

Tears were meant to be kept to himself too.

Meanwhile, Yan Huan was taking care of the casualties outside the room. The supplies were constantly sent to the affected areas batch after batch. Yet, they hoped that the supplies would continue to come.

She poked Ye Xinyu's leg.

"Doctor said that something's wrong with your leg?"

"What?" Ye Xinyu yelled as he intended to sit. He consequently felt a sharp pain in his leg. Immediately, he curled up, held his leg and cried in agony. Huge droplets of tears fell onto the ground.

The pain was excruciating and tormenting. It was as though someone stabbed him in his heart, so painful to the extent that he thought he was dying.

Yan Huan's expression was painted with sympathy.

"Sister, what's wrong with my leg?"

He no longer addressed Yan Huan as sister-in-law. Instead, he called her sister, which made their relationship sounded closer. With that, he hoped that Yan Huan would be nicer to him.

"Your leg is not doing so great." Again, Yan Huan poked his leg.

Her eyes that were filled with compassion, and together with her expression that explained how powerless she was, it seemed to have sentence Ye Xinyu to death.

Why? What exactly went wrong?

Ye Xinyu was crying, looking even more like a lady with his pretty face. As tears rolled down those refined cheeks, it made Yan Huan really, really want to...

Choke him.

"Your leg..." Yan Huan spoke as she pointed at Ye Xinyu's leg, "I actually haven't told you about it. They might need to amputate your leg." She made a gesture of cutting, "Amputation. You understand the meaning of it, right?"

"Huh!"

Ye Xinyu hugged his leg and began to wail like a baby.

When the helicopter landed and they were ready to send the injured victims to the nearby hospital for subsequent treatment, Ye Xinyu appeared to be lethargic and spiritless.

"Brother, brother. Please save me. I don't want them to cut off my leg. I don't want to be a cripple for the rest of my life. I promise I'll be obedient in the future and listen to your words. I'll attend school and never play truant anymore. I won't run away heedlessly..."

He pulled Lu Yi's sleeve as he begged. Yet, Lu Yi was completely expressionless.

"Sister, sister..."

Seeing that he had failed to convince Lu Yi, Ye Xinyu tried to seek help from Yan Huan.

"Sister, please. Save me. Save my leg. Don't let them amputate it!"

His tears burst forth like water from a dam. His face was drenched with tears and snot, appearing extremely pitiful.

How can a man wail and whine like this? He's embarrassing the Ye family. Lu Jin quickly walked away, pretending to be a stranger to this moron.

Lu Yi pulled his sleeve away from Ye Xinyu's grip.

"Brother, you can't leave me to die."

Ye Xinyu followed behind Lu Yi on his four limbs, almost crawling.

Yan Huan turned to look at him and heaved a discreet sigh.

She did not understand how Ye Xinyu, a boy from the Ye family, could be so foolish. Amputating a leg was nothing like cutting hair or nails. It was irreversible. It was compulsory to acquire a kin's signature before one went through the surgery to amputate a leg. He was not using his brain to think but merely cried like an idiot, believing that he was getting his leg cut off.

"Brother, brother..."

Ye Xinyu intended to grab Lu Yi's sleeve again. But, as Lu Yi threw him a cold menacing gaze, Ye Xinyu had no choice but to keep his hand. He wept, thinking that he was being treated wrongfully, as though he was being punished to death.

On the other hand, the doctors at the side were as foolish as Ye Xinyu.

Before Ye Xinyu boarded the plane, all the doctors thought he was going to get his leg amputated.

"Is it alright to fool him? Look at how pitiful he is," Yan Huan asked Lu Yi. The entire drama required her proficient acting skill, only to cheat a kid. Nonetheless, the kid was only four years younger than her.

"He deserves it." This was to teach him a lesson.

Fine. There was nothing Yan Huan could do if his biological cousin said so. His uncle, father and grandfather could not be bothered too. Being only a sister-in-law, she would certainly take her husband's side and listen to her husband.

Her husband's words were the law. If her husband said that the leg needed to be amputated, then it was more than just a fractured femur.

Hmm. Forgive me for not staying true to my principles.

Meanwhile, lying in front of their eyes, was still the same havoc.

72 hours later, their help was no longer needed. They had saved those they could. To be able to save the remaining lives now was a complete miracle as the chance was the slimmest.

However, what they needed now was the miracle to guide them through this ordeal.

They got on the vehicle. Yan Huan leaned against the side of the car and stared out of the window. As the car drove away, the shoddy house gradually disappeared into the distance. However, their departure did not mark the end of the catastrophe. This was merely the beginning. The survivors had to continue to strive on this ruined land, accompanied only by their grief for their lost kin and their wrath toward the tragedy.

They had to persevere until the day they grew old, died and became one with the earth.

This was the life everyone had to go through.

From the day we were born, we were destined to die, either sooner or later. Before we pass on, we have to go through a journey that would eventually lead us to the end of our lives. To be frank, humans were a pathetic being.

All through their journey, none of them spoke a word. They did not know what to talk about. The atmosphere was exceptionally distressing, close to suffocating.

Only one who lived through this tragedy could understand the value of life. Not only because they survived, but also the blessings they had received.

Nonetheless, one should treasure his or her life.

On their way, the buildings and roads had all collapsed. It was as though only yesterday that they witnessed the beautiful and peaceful city. Yet, now, the scene had turned calamitous.

Yan Huan could not bear to take another look at the scene. She rested on Lu Yi's shoulder as she hugged his arm as though that was her lifeboat when she was drowning in the vast ocean.

She was scared and horrified.

She was guilty and remorseful.

### **Chapter 458: Back Home**

Lu Yi took off his jacket and put it over her. "Sleep. We'll be home by the time you wake up. Back to Sea City. Back home."

"Liar," pouted Yan Huan. "I'm not stupid and don't have a poor sense of direction. It won't be that fast."

"I can knock you out if you want," said Lu Yi, putting her hand on her neck and massaging her stiff muscles. Yes, if he did that, she would really be at home by the time she wakes up.

Yan Huan closed her eyes and pulled his jacket closer to his chin.

The jacket smelled like Lu Yi, though mixed with a strange odor, which was to be expected after going through a few days without washing. However, that smell put Yan Huan at ease and made her feel safe.

Yan Huan's breathing gradually became balanced as she fell asleep before long. Lu Yi put her to a sitting position so that she was comfortable enough to continue sleeping.

"It's all thanks to her this time," sighed Lu Jin. These few days had been like a dream, a dream he could still scarcely believe. He was that close to death.

Lu Yi pondered over what he meant by that. He had considered many possibilities, and the one he found most likely was Yan Huan inviting Lu Jin to have dinner with her, which corresponds with what Yan Huan said. She was most likely paying Dad a visit, and they both happened to be outside, perhaps close to the entrance. That would explain why they were the lucky survivors of the earthquake and how they got out almost unscathed.

"Sigh..." The mention of it made Lu Jin realize how lucky the Lu Family had been to have such a good daughter-in-law.

"Huanhuan saved my life."

Even now, remembering the situation sent chills down his spine. Even at his age and after all those close encounters with death, this was the first time where he nearly faced off against death. He was merely 5 seconds away from death.

"I was showering at that time, with no intention to go out. I had just arrived after all, so I wanted to get some rest. That was when I heard someone rapping at the door, and I thought to myself, 'Who could that be?'"

"And when I opened it, Huanhuan was right there. The next moment she was dragging me along the corridor, and by the time we reached the hall, she told me that she felt a tremor in the ground and that

it might be an earthquake. She then turned around and shouted at the interior of the hotel. When we went out of the hotel, there were some others who followed us. And by Jove! The quake struck only a few seconds after we were out, collapsing the hotel to rubbles.”

Lu Jin made a mental calculation. If Huanhuan had not dragged him out, he would have been dead by now. Recently, he had been occupied with saving others so the math didn't cross his mind. Now that he thought about it, given the position and level he was staying at, as well as what he was doing at that time, he would one hundred-percent be dead after the first quake. He would have been squashed before he could react.

Therefore, he owed his life to Yan Huan, as well as the people he saved. He could not remember how many lives they saved, but he did remember pulling out one person after the others with the group of healthy survivors. Some were alive, some dead, and those who were alive added to their efforts. Even though they were at the epicenter of the quake and suffered the worst impact, they had saved the most people too.

“Still...” wondered Lu Jin. “I have asked many people whether they felt the quake coming, but most of them said no. I myself felt nothing too.”

“Perhaps Huanhuan saved me due to some kind of luck.”

“This kid, she's tough,” Lu Jin looked down at Yan Huan, sleeping soundly on Lu Yi's legs. “Your mother and I will treat her like our own daughter. You have married the best wife in the world. She single-handedly saved our entire family.”

Lu Yi put his hand on Yan Huan's hair and brushed it gently. His fingers moved briskly and lightly, afraid to wake her up even though he knew that wouldn't be easy. She was exhausted beyond words.

The scenery outside was receding, and what was reflected in the car window glass was his thoughtful eyes.

Yan Huan was very mysterious.

He had realized that way back.

It was as though she knew many things that could not be explained easily, and that was reflected through her actions as well.

She seemed to know him well, but she pretended that he was a stranger.

She donated blood to him, but how did she know that he needed a blood transfusion, or that he was Rh-negative AB blood?

She also knew about the troubles that would descend upon the Ye Family, which was why she invested all that money she earned from acting into the Ye Family's business. The exact amount they needed. And this time, she even saved Lu Jin's life. It's as though she knew what was going to happen in the future.

These thoughts have always rested in the back of his mind, but he never told anyone about it.

He took out his phone, but found it black-screened and drained of battery. It seemed like it would be necessary for him to do more research. He hoped that her predictions were wrong—he didn't want any potential danger to come to Yan Huan, and he had to find out more about those lurking threats she talked about.

The car zoomed past the blockades, meaning that they had finally left the most dangerous spot in Serene City.

Many cars belonging to volunteers and reporters were parked not far away. For every car that parked there, there was a flashing camera and people who wanted to know what was happening there. Were they alright now? Was the rescue mission still ongoing? Was everyone safe? Until now, all they captured were cars racing past them, and that included Lu Jin's vehicle.

No one knew that Yan Huan was actually in that car.

The car was at full speed, and had soon left everything else in its dust.

Yan Huan rubbed her eyes. Lu Yi was bluffing her after all. There was no way for her to be home after waking up. The distance between Serene City and Sea City could not be covered by the mileage of a tour bus. They had to take the plane.

Which they, of course, did not take in the end.

They took a military plane.

This was the first time Yan Huan had been on a military plane. Yes, a military plane that was only for the use of the army, awash with policemen.

Upon arrival, Lu Jin heard of his promotion to Supreme Commander, a great leap from his initial rank of vice-supreme commander.

#### **Chapter 459: It'll Be Fine Once You Get Used to It**

As it was the first time for Yan Huan to see so many Special Forces soldiers, she was most certainly stunned.

"Welcome, Admiral Lu."

"Hello." Lu Jin held on to this old comrade's hand tightly. It was true that whenever comrades meet, tears welled up in their eyes; something which was really difficult to explain with just a few words.

"I saw everything. You did well, and we are all proud of you. You are a good soldier." This middle-aged man who was dressed in his military uniform stood with his back straight as he saluted Lu Jin.

Lu Jin did the same. Then, the soldiers who were standing around him started to greet him with words such as hello, senior official and you've worked hard, senior official. That kind of feeling was enough to leave one in awe. Although Yan Huan was once a soldier as well, she had never seen such an array. Is this a bigger military exercise? There's so many people.

“Hello, Uncle Fang.” It was evident that Lu Jin knew this man, but what he didn’t expect was that it was actually him who had come to greet them. The status of this Chief Fang was anything but low. He was a rear admiral and also a general.

Lu Jin used to be a rear admiral as well, though now he had become a lieutenant general.

“So young and yet so promising, you are truly a good young man. Our future finally has a successor.” Rear Admiral Fang gave a pat on Lu Yi’s shoulder before turning his gaze to look at Yan Huan.

“Hello, Uncle Fang.” Yan Huan greeted with a sweet tone.

“I know you, you’re Yan Huan.” Rear Admiral Fang smiled, “Everyday, my daughter would tell me that she is your fan. Yes, good child, you have done well. You did not embarrass the military, women are indeed not inferior to men.”

“Thank you for your praise, Chief.” Yan Huan also stood with her back straight and saluted him. Let’s not forget that she was also a soldier, and what a soldier would always do first would be to make a salute. Although she had left the military and was not wearing her military uniform, she will never forget the fact that she was a soldier.

Rear Admiral Fang maintained his smile, then turned to Lu Jin to whisper, “The daughter-in-law that your son has married is not bad. She is very similar to the members of the Lu family, level-headed and responsible. Oh right,” He turned to Yan Huan once again, “Do leave some autographs for your uncle. The little kid in your uncle’s home really likes you.”

“Alright,” Yan Huan replied with a smile. She stood beside Lu Yi, and as the two were the ideal couple, it was easy on the eyes when one was to look at them.

As they got on the plane, it was clear that there were not many people on it. After all, it was a private plane, so it was impossible for it to fit so many people anyways. Of course, it was impossible for there to be people like the paparazzi. Or else, with Yan Huan’s appearance, she didn’t know how many layers she would have to wrap around herself in order to safely enter the airport.

She could imagine that she was famous to a certain extent now. And this sort of fame was not something which she has experienced before, nor had she reached before.

The Yan Huan from the previous life was famous, but she had done bad things, causing gossip to dampen her fame. This life’s Yan Huan did things which were right on her moral compass, as well other’s conscience. Of course, she did the same for her enemies, allowing them to grow up fully.

In the plane, Yan Huan kept her promise by signing quite a number of autographs for Rear Admiral Fang. Of course, everyone who came along received one as well.

When they arrived at Sea City, the moment the private plane stopped, an army had already formed a path. Nonetheless, even with such actions, there was still quite a big crowd surrounding the area not far from here. They were all holding Yan Huan’s photos as they yelled out Yan Huan’s name non-stop.

They were calling Yan Huan a hero. This was the first time Yan Huan had become a hero, and that kind of feeling was perhaps something that she would never forget.

She lowered her head and followed behind Lu Yi, and all this while, Lu Yi was holding on to her hand tightly with no signs of loosening his grip.

The paparazzi and everyone else had been separated, but even so, they still tried their best to squeeze themselves to the front. Even when Yan Huan had got in the car, there were still some people chasing after them from behind.

Lu Jin shook his head. When he saw this scene, his body broke out in cold sweat.

“Now I finally understand that it’s not easy being famous. Although I have seen people who admire me while I was in the military, but I have never seen people with such craze. No matter what they do, it would be impossible for them to chase after my car. It’s as if only when they have bit off a chunk of meat from my body will they be satisfied.”

“It’ll be fine once you get used to it.” Yan Huan squeezed the fingers which were on her thigh. She had already gotten used to it for two lives. The more fans you have will show how much capabilities you have. But of course, as a star, one would have to get used to this kind of life whereby there would be no freedom, so even when she wants to leave home, she would have to do it sneakily sometimes.

This was a kind of grandeur, but at the same time, it was also a sort of pitiful life.

When she heard the sound of doors outside, the cups in Ye Shuyun’s hands fell on the floor with a clang.

Have they returned?

Have they... returned?

“Mom, we’re home.”

Lu Yi walked in, and behind him were Yan Huan and Lu Jin.

When Ye Shuyun saw how Lu Jin looked so skinny, tanned and as if he had gone through many hardships in life, she covered her own mouth, and the tears in her eyes fell one after another. She was close to having lived through her whole life, and it was only these few days that she had cried the most.

It was as if she was about to dry out all her tears.

Lu Jin had never made her cry, but this was the one time she had cried so seriously, helplessly and even painfully.

“I’m home.” Lu Jin gave a wide smile. He had always kept a strict and cold front in front of others, but all his guards would fall in front of his wife, even Lu Yi had experienced this before.

Lu Yi squeezed Yan Huan’s hand. “Let’s go home.”

“Okay.” Yan Huan nodded. They left this scene of reunion to this couple who had lived together for a majority of their lives. They had gone through many hardships together and stood by each other all this time. This time, they were almost separated by death.

For Yan Huan, this scene was something that would never appear in her past life. Yan Huan was very relieved that she made this possible, and that this was also the one thing she felt most proud of having done right.

Once they reached their home, Lu Yi took out the medical kit and called for Yan Huan to sit down. Then, he helped her put on the medicine. At this moment, she was covered in injuries, and it was as if there was not one spot on her body that was perfectly fine.

“Look, Luo Lin will scold me to death.” Yan Huan raised both her hands. Injuries were spread all over them, and they were swollen as well. None of her fingers were without injuries, and her arms, which were already thin and white, had now finally turned into two pig feet.

“It hurts, Lu Yi. Do it lighter, it hurts so much.” Yan Huan retracted her hands in pain.

“So you do know that it hurts?” Lu Yi pulled her hands over to him again and put on the medicine. He would not stop putting medicine on her and helping her care for her injuries just because she said it was painful. Even if she cries, he would just make her faint before continuing to apply the medicine and wrapping them up.

“Of course I know it hurts. I’m not a blockhead?” Yan Huan was in so much pain that she had to kick the sofa. What else was she to kick, Lu Yi?

“Lighter.” But Yan Huan could not hold it anymore, so she kicked Lu Yi’s leg.

“Do you want to kill me?”

#### **Chapter 460: What Can They Do**

Lu Yi raised an eyebrow.

“No, but are you sure you aren’t trying to kill yourself?” he asked, looking askance at her while narrowing his eyes. Yan Huan froze. At that moment, Lu Yi’s eyes were too piercing, as though he was trying to peel away her disguise and reveal everything about her in her two lives.

She hummed and kept quiet, occasionally kicking at Lu Yi’s leg. She was trying to kill herself? Bullshit. She was saving others, and herself too.

Lu Yi pursed up his lips and said nothing as he gently applied the ointment onto her fingers before bandaging it up.

“Ow...” said Yan Huan as she kicked Lu Yi again. The pain stung sharply.

“Of course it’s painful, but bear with it.”

Lu Yi laid her hand down and propped her legs onto his own. Even though her feet weren’t hurt as badly as Lu Jin, it wasn’t a pretty sight either, covered in wounds of various depth.

It’s rare to see an actress with so little regard for her own body.

Which actress doesn’t fuss over face masks and facial cream and their diet, or worry over the scars left by beauty injections?

And her, on the other hand, rushed headlong to get herself black and bruised. Did that make her feel proud?

“Help me take a picture,” said Yan Huan as she extended her foot. All those wounds were good PR material. It would be a waste not to use them.

“I didn’t think you were going to use them,” said Lu Yi sarcastically. He took the phone over and began doing as he was bid.

“Too bad. These are all quality PR materials. Nothing wrong with me boosting my popularity a little. Plus...” she pouted. “I don’t want to hear Sister Luo’s naggings.”

“Oh, one more thing,” she added, pointing to her cheeks. “I never said I wasn’t unscrupulous.”

Lu Yi snapped another picture of Yan Huan.

“Not the face,” she protested, covering her face. “It’s not pretty.”

“To be fair, it isn’t that bad. It’s quite pretty,” said Lu Yi, returning her phone and reaching for the cotton swabs. Now she had something to distract her while he applied the ointment.

Yan Huan hadn’t been feeling ugly herself, but now that she saw the pictures taken by Lu Yi, she realized she wasn’t exactly a pretty sight. The wounds on her hands weren’t visible due to the bandages, but the thick layers of bandage spoke for itself. And the wounds, both old and new, crisscrossing across her legs and thighs were scary to look at. Plus, her skin was naturally white, which made the wounds look even scarier.

It must have been hard for Lu Yi to apply ointment for her with a calm face; anyone else would have been scared to death.

Yan Huan opened her Weibo, which had been buzzing with activity lately. There were many comments under her posts, and her fans had been skyrocketing lately. Everyone cared and worried about her.

She suddenly felt a burning sensation at her nose. She was touched.

She hesitated, but still posted a picture in the end.

A no-makeup picture of her, wounds all across.

“Thanks, everyone! I have returned safely.”

She sent the other pictures to Luo Lin, hoping to seek her compassion and permission to go on leave. The more the days of her leave the merrier—look at how pitiful she was! She was a patient!

Yan Huan’s pale, wounded face had no makeup on, dotted with wounds of various sizes. To an actress, appearance was everything. And there she was, disregarding it completely and posting an unglamorous picture spontaneously.

Yet the ordinary picture carried the weight of many lives. She was a hero, a feat that no other actors had accomplished. Yet she succeeded. Each of her wounds spoke of her kindness and compassion. She had used her wounds to prove what a woman can do during the time of crisis.

She could do it after all. She could, and she did.

72 hours in Serene City, 48 hours without rest, digging up a dozen people with her bare hands, and saving more than a hundred people with the other men.

How could fans not love an actress like this one?

If they didn't, just what kind of actress would they like?

It's worth mentioning that Yan Huan had good people skills. All the friends she knew, in and out of the acting industry, were all reposting her post.

At this point, she didn't know the extent of her rising fame and what impact it would bring.

Soon, Luo Lin updated her Weibo too. They were the pictures Yan Huan had sent to her, in which her wounds were staggeringly severe.

Luo Lin's whiny caption was brilliant.

"What can I do with an artiste like this? What can Prosecutor Lu do with a wife like this?"

This post was also reposted many times. Yan Huan wasn't trying to gain sympathy—her image as depicted in the news was pitiable enough.

"TwT... How can my goddess be hurt so badly? Her hands are looking like pig trotters."

"Yes, it's so pitiful... But my goddess is a true hero! I will support you for the rest of my life."

"This is the kind of actress we truly need. I love your positivity. Thank you for teaching us such a valuable lesson."

"Thank you, Yan Huan. Thank you for what you have done for my hometown. Thank you for your donations. And thank you for risking your own life to save the people of my hometown."

In a mere hour, tens of thousands of comments were posted. Yan Huan's name, like this post, was spreading like wildfire. She hadn't shot any dramas in a year's time, yet her fame and popularity had increased.

She was even named "Most Beautiful Actress of the Year."

The picture that made it was the one of her smiling brightly taken by Lu Yi. She was skinny and sorry-looking, but that moment of radiance was eternal. She might not be able to freeze time, but she managed to freeze her most beautiful moment into that frame.