

Chapter 631: Please Die Later Than I Do

"I've drunk it already." Yan Huan felt queasy when she thought of the taste of that soup, but she still had to drink it tomorrow.

"Bear with it," Lu Yi placed his hand on her forehead and caressed it gently. "Just drink it for a few more days. You won't need to drink it anymore when you're not in pain."

"Okay." Yan Huan relented.

Lu Yi raised his face and his gaze fell on the television. He had been so busy with the flood issue recently that he had barely spent any time with her. After everything settles down, he planned to take a leave of absence from work for a period of time.

"Huanhuan..."

He suddenly murmured her name.

"Mm?" Yan Huan responded as she curled up comfortably next to him.

"Let's go on a vacation after the flood is over. We can go wherever you want to."

"Okay." Yan Huan's eyelashes trembled as the corner of her eyes grew misty. Yet, she did not even know why she was crying.

"Mr. Lu, Miss Yan, it's dinner time."

The housemaid outside was calling for them.

"Alright," Lu Yi answered as he took the pillow from Yan Huan's arms.

"Huanhuan, get up, it's time to eat."

Yan Huan sat up and allowed Lu Yi to put on her slippers for her, after which he proceeded to take her hand and lead her to the living room where the housemaid had already left dinner on the dining table. They had a simple and light dinner but it was all Yan Huan's favorite dishes.

After dinner, the housemaid brought out a delicate clay pot and placed it on the table.

Almost immediately, Yan Huan felt queasy with nausea once she smelled its contents. She twisted her face away as she really could not bear the smell of it.

She did not want to drink it and neither did Lu Yi want to force her to. However, he could not bear watching her being in such pain that she could not even move for every month to come. Both him and Yan Huan had heard about this natural remedy from the housemaid. He had never thought of making her drink it until she could get pregnant, because he had stopped thinking of children. In fact, he would rather not have children rather than risk her life.

She had to drink the soup, no matter how disgusting it was.

He placed the bowl of soup in front of Yan Huan, "Drink."

Holding the small bowl with her hands, Yan Huan raised it to her lips and lowered her head to sip it bit by bit. Its spice and strong flavor nauseated her so much that she wanted to cry. Nevertheless, she returned an empty bowl to Lu Yi, showing that she had obediently drunk all the soup. She was not being perfunctory nor was she duping him, she really did drink it.

As if he were dealing with a child, Lu Yi petted her head and took her out for a short walk, so that she could digest it properly. There were not many people still walking around the suburb at this hour, and there were only a few lights that were still on. It was no wonder that Yan Huan would think that only the two of them, Lu Yi and her, lived here.

Lu Yi had once told her that this community was different from others where only people with special identities lived here. Naturally, ever since it was built, only about ten or more residents had moved in. Moreover, a few of those residents lived with different schedules from them. That was basically why Yan Huan did not encounter any of their neighbours when she left the house.

The flowers in the community garden were already starting to wither. Time flew by quickly and September was nearing. To Sea City, the days in September were still warm. However, when it came to October, the so-called golden autumn, Sea City would experience a kind of rainy season.

It happened every year without exception.

“Let’s go back.” After walking for some time, Lu Yi stopped to tuck Yan Huan’s stray hair behind her ear, noticing that her hair had grown longer. He stroked her hair gently. It was soft and silky.

All along, she had always taken extra care of her hair. Although curling and dyeing their hair was common for people nowadays, she had maintained the habit of not styling her hair unless required and had also been receiving monthly hair treatments. Hence, her hair felt as smooth as silk in his hands.

“Okay,” Yan Huan replied, reaching out to hug Lu Yi’s waist and burying her face in his chest as she listened to his steady, strong heartbeats.

“Will you leave me, Lu Yi?”

“No,” Lu Yi’s firm voice echoed in her ears. His hand had not left her hair.

“Then, can you please die later than I do?”

Yan Huan did not want to live a day without him, so she wanted him to die later than she did. Humans were destined to die eventually, from the moment they were born. She was afraid of going to the underworld alone, but she also did not want Lu Yi to be alone, especially if they did not have children.

“Okay,” Lu Yi answered her. “When we’re old and about to die, I’ll let you go off by yourself, then I’ll keep you company at a place with scenic hills and clear water. Maybe not long after, we’ll finally reunite and be together.”

“Then, we won’t be apart for all of eternity.”

A refreshing breeze blew across them, bringing with it the humid sensation that was unique to Sea City. Sea City had seas and rivers and was a well developed city, but it had too many heavy industries that caused much damage to the environment.

Although people had started to pay attention to environmentalism and recycling these few years, whatever that was damaged was already lost and it would be hard to recover. Effort was being put in but there was very little impact. Nonetheless, it was in such a place of steel and cement that a patch of green land was planted.

Lu Yi sat up gingerly only after Yan Huan had fallen asleep, pulling away the sheets and then tucking her in to kiss her forehead. He suddenly realized that he did not want to leave her.

“If I weren’t here for you and you were bullied, what to do then?”

His fingers glided lightly across her pale face. The menstrual cycle of women was not a sickness, but it was still a time where their immunity levels were very low.

“Please promise me, even if I’m not by your side, you’ll still take good care of yourself. I believe that you can do it, can’t you? No matter what disaster is to come, I’ll bear it for you; whatever misery is to fall, I’ll endure it for you.”

He sighed softly, pulling the covers up to Yan Huan’s chin and walked out. He turned on the laptop on the desk to check the recent information, hoping to have an extra security safeguard when that day came, so that less people would die.

However, he did not know how bad the flood was going to be. He was not Yan Huan and had not experienced it before, but he could deduce an overall picture from Yan Huan’s words.

Almost all the sea fortifications and river dams gave away. How bad would that have to be?

He had reinforced both sides of the dams and piled up a lot of flood-prevention sandbags. Sandbags were necessary when it came to flood-prevention, but they had to be placed anyway even in places without the risk of flooding as a basic safety precaution.

Chapter 632: Relaxed Appearance

Throughout history, there had only been three instances of large-scale flooding that occurred in Sea City, which were all well-documented. Once was during the reign of the Qianlong Emperor, once was during the resistance movement in the Second World War, while the most recent one took place around the time when the nation-state was established. Based on the city records, these three times had devastated large swathes of fertile lands, caused a distressing number of casualties, almost destroying Sea City at that time.

However, it was not the same situation now, as more advanced anti-flood measures were being constructed all the time. Furthermore, due to the landscape of Sea City, a reinforced riverbank was built to defend against the centennial flood. Therefore, he believed that the imminent flood this time would not bring on consequences as severe as before, and the death toll should also be kept to a minimum.

By the time he shut down his laptop, it was already 3:25 a.m. Recently, due to his worries about the impending danger that was looming over Sea City, he did not feel sleepy even when he stayed up to the wee hours of the morning, which was a rare occurrence for him.

He walked into the bedroom. Fortunately, Yan Huan did not wake up, but it seemed like she found the room hot and stuffy as she had kicked the blanket away.

Lu Yi bent down and tried to tuck her beneath the blanket again, but this woke Yan Huan up.

Yan Huan rubbed her sleep-swollen eyes, then opened them to see Lu Yi sitting next to her on the bed, fully awake.

“What’s wrong?” She sat up and nestled herself in his arms. “You’re not sleeping. What’s the time now?”

“It’s a quarter to four. I can’t sleep, but you should go back to sleep.”

Lu Yi laid her down on the bed and patted her shoulder.

“But it’s just three o’clock,” said Yan Huan as she yawned. She wanted to force herself to remain awake several times, but she was too tired and could not fight the sleepiness that came over her, so she fell asleep again. Lu Yi hugged her and remained motionless after that, afraid that any stray movements would wake her up again.

When Yan Huan opened her eyes again, the sky outside was already bright. The sunshine shone into the room gently through the window, and the cool river breeze could already be felt, although it was still a hot September month.

She tugged the quilt toward her and covered up her head. She wanted to sleep in for a little longer, yet the strong sunlight seemed to penetrate everything. It was rather annoying when it shone on her body.

It was annoying, the hot kind of annoying.

She pushed the quilt aside and went to the washroom. When she came out, she felt relieved that at last, there was no need to drink those bland soups anymore as her period had finally ended.

However, when the housekeeper placed another bowl of soup in front of her, she wanted to cry in despair.

“Ma’am, why do I still need to drink this soup?”

The housekeeper chuckled and said, “This is the one that should be taken during normal days. The taste is not that weird, you don’t have to worry about it.”

Don’t have to worry about it? Yan Huan held the bowl in her hands. She wanted to kneel down in front of the housekeeper and beg her to stop it. She would definitely not forget the taste of dark chicken herbal soup for the rest of her life.

That kind of spiciness, that kind of sour taste, it was the ‘king’ of all the soups that she had ever drunk in both her lifetimes.

It was really strong-tasting.

For a while, she really wanted to throw away the whole bowl of soup. Would today’s soup taste the same as the previous one, or would it be even worse?

She held the soup close to her nose and took a whiff of it. It did not seem that terrible, but the dark chicken soup that she had taken previously did smell good at the start. However, the taste was a whole different thing which rendered her speechless.

She closed her eyes and felt as if she was about to slaughter a pig. After all, no matter how much she rebelled, eventually she would still need to finish it. Hence, she took a tentative mouthful of it. It turned out that the housekeeper was absolutely right.

The soup was not that bad. Even though it had a slight bitterness to it, but it was not that painful to drink. The soup tasted of the sweetness of red dates, yet she could not see any red dates present at the bottom of the bowl.

Now, she felt assured and was willing to drink the soup. Fortunately, the soup did not taste bad, or else she would have felt like dying if she had to drink it every day.

“Ma’am, can you buy some large prawns back in the afternoon?” requested Yan Huan of the housekeeper, who was currently busy in the kitchen while Yan Huan was in the midst of drinking the soup.

“Alright,” the housekeeper agreed as she made a mental note to do so later. “Miss Yan, since you want prawns, are you going to make dumplings?”

“Yes,” replied Yan Huan as she put down the bowl. All the soup had gone into her stomach. Then, she continued, “Lu Yi has not eaten my handmade dumplings in a long time. It’s a coincidence that I’m free today, so I’ll deliver it to him when they’re done.”

After saying that, she felt the call of a hearty appetite grip her body, which made her pick up her chopsticks and devour the breakfast that was prepared by the housekeeper.

Soya pudding and Youtiao were indeed the best combination, made better by a glass of milk to wash everything down.

In the afternoon, the housekeeper came back with the freshly bought prawns. All of the prawns were large. Yan Huan then shelled the prawns professionally, minced them and mixed them with the mushrooms and lean pork that had already been prepared. Afterwards, she rolled up her sleeves and wrapped the dumplings with her own hands.

When the dumplings were done and out of the pot, she tossed the dumplings in onion oil, so that they would not stick together when cooled. When it was time for Lu Yi to eat them, the dumplings would still be warm.

She packed up two big containers of dumplings and placed them in her car, ready to drive over to meet Lu Yi.

The weather outside was very good. One could feel that the whole city was full of life and excitement. The huge signboards outside the mall buildings displayed various kinds of advertisements. One could also hear the upbeat music and hollers from all sorts of merchants along the street. Although it was not a festival today, it seemed very festive.

But how long would the hustle and bustle of the city and the carefree days last?

She was the only one who knew what would happen half a month later. Although Sea City itself was not too affected, but the exterior of Sea City would turn into hell, instead of its current heaven.

She gripped the steering wheel tightly and drove the car faster, until she reached the procuratorate. The guard at the gate allowed her access after checking her entrance permit.

Yan Huan parked her car, and exited the car while carrying her dumplings. Of course, she was not a stranger here. It was not because she was a celebrity, but rather due to her relationship with Lu Yi as his wife. The famous Prosecutor Lu's lover, and also a totally low profile celebrity.

"Miss Yan, you're here!"

When Lu Yi's subordinates ran into her, they would greet her familiarly.

"Hi, Shen Ling. It's been a while!" Yan Huan greeted as she smiled kindly at him, without any haughtiness. She had remembered all the names of the people around here in just a short time. This was evidence that she had always been attentive and caring of them.

Chapter 633: Is It A Bowl or A Washbasin

Remembering another person's name would most certainly leave a good impression on them, and Yan Huan was apparently doing a good job at it. In fact, she was doing more than good.

"Oh right." Yan Huan presented the dumplings in her hand and asked, "I made dumplings, do you want some?"

"No, no." Shen Ling shook his head hurriedly. How could they eat any of Prosecutor Lu's food? If they did, they would probably lose their lives.

Sob, how could a creature like Lu Yi exist? Just one look from him was enough to scare anyone to death.

"I'll go in first then," Yan Huan said as she put down her dumplings. She honestly thought that her dumplings were really delicious. Why didn't anyone like it? Lu Yi was still the best since he was the only one who did not bruise her pride.

She came to the front of Lu Yi's office and peered inside to see that Lu Yi was still sitting behind the table. He had probably been so busy from morning until now that he had not even moved an inch. Lately, he had slimmed down so conspicuously that even Yan Huan who saw him every day had realised this, let alone other people. Indeed, he was too tired. Not only did he have to deal with the flood, but he also had to handle the matters of the procuratorate. In the first place, settling the matters of the procuratorate was not an easy task and with so many cases to manage and analyze one by one, any other person aside from Lu Yi would have ended up becoming crazy or have a meltdown. Yan Huan could already imagine it happening in her head.

Thus, this was why it was said that it was hard to be a prosecutor in Sea City. The title had a nice dignified ring to it, but in all honesty, no one could understand what he had sacrificed for that position.

Yan Huan pushed the door open and walked in. Upon hearing the door, Lu Yi looked up. Upon seeing her, his tense posture from work finally relaxed.

In fact, this was the first time he realized that Yan Huan's presence had the ability to soothe him. She only had to come up to him, without even doing anything, and all his stress would evaporate in an instant.

Yan Huan cleared the table, then set down her dumplings and took a glass from the table to get some water from the water dispenser. The fact that the glass was placed here and that it was so clean was enough to tell her that Lu Yi had been so busy to the point that he had only drunk a few gulps of water.

When she brought the glass of water around, Lu Yi was already sitting there and picking up a dumpling with his chopsticks. At his first bite, he knew instantly that it was hand-made by Yan Huan and that it was his favourite kind of dumplings – prawn dumplings. Regardless of what else Yan Huan could do, it sufficed to say that nobody else could make dumplings as tasty as Yan Huan did.

“Tell me, why are your dumplings so delicious?” Lu Yi ate another one as he asked Yan Huan.

“Um...” Yan Huan sneaked a dumpling into her mouth too. The prawn almost melted in her mouth when she bit into it. It was that explosion of flavour that brought the perfect enjoyment to her taste buds.

“It’s my mom’s secret recipe and much like your mom’s recipe for dumplings, it was passed down by my ancestors. No one else could possibly learn it.”

Yan Huan ate another one. It was indeed delicious, but she did not eat much. Moreover, she was already full from drinking an entire bowl of soup made by the housemaid this morning, along with a huge amount of rice, therefore she was not hungry at all now. She only ate because she wanted to accompany Lu Yi, so that he did not get bored eating all on his own.

She complained about the housemaid as she ate with him, telling him of the suffering the housemaid had imposed on her life.

“You don’t even know, but she gave me such a huge bowl to drink! Is she treating me like a pig?”

She put down her chopsticks and gestured the size of the bowl.

Lu Yi took a dumpling and put it in front of her, motioning for her to eat.

Yan Huan bit into it. It’s really tasty.

“Are you sure that’s a bowl and not a washbasin?”

Yan Huan suddenly coughed, almost choking herself. Lu Yi then picked up his glass and placed it in front of her before patting her back, wondering how a person of her age could still choke.

Yan Huan drank the water and took off her shoe to kick Lu Yi lightly. If it weren’t for you, how would I end up choking?

Lu Yi let her kick him since it was not much of a forceful kick anyway. Thus, after kicking him a few times, Yan Huan lost interest when he did not react, making her feel as if she was doing it for self-entertainment. In the end, she simply took off both her heels and put her feet on Lu Yi’s lap before continuing to eat the dumplings. She could not eat any more after devouring just a few more.

She pushed the bowl forward.

“You’re not eating anymore? You only ate five,” Lu Yi chided as he touched her stomach. She ate so little today. The contents of these dumplings were quite meagre and just one of them did not amount to

much. In fact, he could eat up to twenty or thirty of them himself. When did her appetite shrink so much that she only ate five?

"I haven't finished digesting that whole washbasin of soup," Yan Huan complained as she rubbed her own stomach. She felt so full now that if she ate a few more, she was afraid that her stomach might burst.

Lu Yi took his phone and passed it to her for her to play with as he continued to eat the dumplings. With both of the lunch boxes for him, he might not even need to eat after this meal.

"Can we please eat more dumplings tomorrow?" Yan Huan propped herself up on her hands as she asked Lu Yi, who was still eating with pleasure. His good appetite was infectious and even induced her to eat a few more than she originally intended.

"Sure," Lu Yi nodded. "But it has to be at night. I have to go to the riverside to check on the progress of the engineering there in the afternoon."

Yan Huan lowered her head, her fingers poking hard on Lu Yi's phone screen, putting a lot of stress on it as if she wanted to break the screen.

"I'll come back for dinner at night," Lu Yi could only cajole her like he was talking to a child that was throwing a tantrum.

"After these few days, I promise you, I won't come to work, I'll stay with you every day, okay?"

"Are you sure you won't lie to me?" Yan Huan leaned forward. She wanted to be sure, because he had never been the best at keeping such promises in the past. Sometimes, as soon as someone from the procuratorate called him up, he would be back again, breaking the numerous promises he had made to her.

"Mhmm, don't worry, this time I won't."

Lu Yi had already made arrangements for a month-long holiday to accompany her properly for a month, knowing that they had not gone out just for fun in a long time. However, he did not know that for all the surety he had promised, despite the month-long holiday he had planned and the zero complications he had expected, he would still end up breaking his promise as problems would eventually crop up.

After finishing their meal, Yan Huan washed the containers, sat down and accompanied Lu Yi quietly. Since Lu Yi was busy, she would sit here with him and then they would go home together.

Chapter 634: Because Of Love

Advertisement modelling requests could be declined, and her social media updates could be paused, as Linlang had already earned enough money for her. Now, she did not need to be too hardworking. Lu Yi was not Lu Qin, therefore even if she did not contribute anything, she believed that he would still not treat her like how Lu Qin did.

In this lifetime, she was still able to believe in a man, a man named Lu Yi, which was also a man of the 'Lu' family.

“The movie queen Yan is different from what the rumors say,” a woman remarked as she tilted her chin and mused to herself.

“How is it different? Isn’t she just human like all of us?” A man jibed as he sat down. These words were tinged with envy, no matter how it was conveyed. Some people were just arrogant, due to their family background, career, or looks; even when marrying a bride, they would be the cream of the crop. However, what was so good about being an actor? One would be so busy everyday that they would neglect their household affairs.

“Yes, she is still human,” said the woman as she raised her eyelids lazily. “With the level of her beauty, do you stand a chance of marrying her?”

“Beautiful, but uncontrollable. The possibility of her having an affair is very high,” the man argued distastefully.

“That’s because you’re incompetent,” retorted the woman as she curled her lips. “Our world has become so dull and full of negativity because of people like you, who claim that all grapes are sour just because you can’t reach the vine that bears them.”

“Her beauty is her own business, her virtue is still her own business. Her ability to earn billions through films is still her own business. She had donated thousands of millions to disaster-stricken areas once. Can you do that? His wife is willing to give up her job, just to accompany her busy husband. Do you think the one in your house can do the same?”

These words really put the man to shame. Exactly, he was unwilling to accept it. He felt that it was unfair! How was it possible for a man like Lu Yi, who was not a ladies’ man and should be someone that would get dumped by everyone, to marry a wife that was so beautiful and virtuous, knew how to earn money, and was so well known?

This simply was a slap in the face for all men.

Inside, Lu Yi stood up and grabbed his coat to drape it over Yan Huan’s body. Currently, Yan Huan had curled up on the couch and fell asleep.

She had always been petite, therefore sleeping on the couch would not strain her body. She had lost quite a bit of weight when she broke her arm some time before. Now, after such a long recovery period, she had gained back some weight, but she was still pitifully thin.

He bent down and stretched out his hand to caress Yan Huan’s face softly. Through his fingertips, he could feel that her skin was cool and smooth. Due to the fact that she had not seen the sun for almost a month, he could see the blue veins that stood out visibly on her skin, and a layer of soft and fine hair.

Sometimes, Lu Yi did not dare to touch her with excessive force. It felt like if he used a little more force, he would actually break her.

He gazed at her for a long time, just like this. He wished that this moment would imprint itself upon his soul. He wanted to get lost in time, to forget about his work and everything else.

When he stood up again, he lifted his wrist to check the time on his watch. Lu Yi decided that he would leave earlier than his usual time today, so he had only two more hours of work to go. As for the

workload that he did not get to settle, he would attend to them later at night if his insomnia struck again.

He went to sit in front of his computer, followed by his fingers flying all over the keyboard. The laptop that was gifted by Yan Huan was indeed quite useful. Once he got used to the impeccable performance and the feel of the keyboard, it would feel awkward and unsuitable if he were to change to another laptop.

At half past five in the evening, even the guards started to leave work one after another. Not many of them stayed back to work overtime, as most of them did not have as much work as Lu Yi did.

His sensitivity toward numbers and his meticulous attitude were not common traits to have, so not everyone was able to handle this kind of work. It was exactly because this fact that he was so busy with work. In that previous lifetime, he had become a very unapproachable person because of this. Even after getting married, his relationship with his wife was courteous but distanced, lacking any intimacy to speak of. Therefore, they never had any kids.

If he had not met Yan Huan in this lifetime, he would have followed his previous path and remained the same in this life, unable to change.

He tucked his laptop into his bag. Then, he walked toward Yan Huan and crouched down to pat her face.

“Huanhuan, wake up, let’s go home.”

Yan Huan rubbed her eyes as she woke up, wondering where she was. She turned and hugged Lu Yi’s waist, burying her face into his arms, reluctant to wake up as she had slept for too long. The more she slept, the more tired she felt.

After getting home, Lu Yi caressed her head as he made a mental note to not to let her sleep for too long again. However, he was often reluctant to wake her up when she fell asleep, therefore she usually slept until she woke up naturally. The consequences of waking up naturally was just like how she was right now, feeling sleepier the more she slept. Fortunately, she could still sleep well at night. No matter how long she slept during the day, she would still have a good night’s sleep, slumbering uninterrupted until daybreak. Or else, he would never have allowed her to continue napping throughout the day.

Yan Huan yawned and sat up properly, allowing Lu Yi to take her shoes and help her slip them on.

At that exact moment, there were people walking past Lu Yi’s office, who peeked at them through the window. After seeing what was happening, they finally understood the reason behind the tight-knit relationship between the couple.

It was not because of anything else.

It was only because of love.

In the spectator’s mind, he was pondering. What was he supposed to do? He was starting to believe in love again. He did not want to settle for just anything, he did not want to put up with just a tolerable relationship anymore. He wanted to find a woman whom he would also be willing to put on her shoes for her.

After Lu Yi slipped her shoes on securely, Yan Huan stood up. However, she was hesitant to leave him.

She was still hugging Lu Yi's waist.

"My dear Lu Yi..."

"Yes?" Lu Yi smiled, which was a rare thing. The corner of his lips formed a perfect but subtle curve, and his eyes were filled with warmth. This was in contrast to the current weather, as his smile felt like the warmth of the autumn sun.

When she saw his smile, that springlike warmth in it warmed her from the inside out.

Yan Huan then again nestled herself in his arms, with an ear pressing on his heart.

"Darling, I love you. I will love you for as long as I live, forever and always. If you're not here with me, I would rather not live too."

"Don't speak nonsense," Lu Yi hushed as he grabbed her shoulders. "I will not die, and you will not too. Well, at least in a couple of decades to come, neither of us will not."

"If there was ever a day where both of us are not here anymore, then it must be after we are covered with silvery hair."

Yan Huan touched her face and said, "I must be ugly by then."

"Not at all. In my heart, you are the most beautiful of all," murmured Lu Yi tenderly as he leaned his forehead against hers. She was truly the most beautiful and delicate woman he had ever met.

Chapter 635: Can't Waste A Single Drop

It was wrong to say that Lu Yi was not a smooth-talker as he was speaking so well right now. Besides, his words were completely genuine and came from the bottom of his heart. Albeit unrefined and awkward, his sincere speech was cherished.

"My husband has such sweet tongue," Yan Huan pulled Lu Yi closer and pecked him on his cheek, "Here's a reward for you."

Lu Yi raised his brows. Am I being sweet? I don't think so. Lu Yi was never good with words. He was merely being honest with his thoughts.

"Come on. Let's go home."

With his notebook in one hand, Lu Yi tightly clasped Yan Huan's delicate hand with his other hand, as though he refused to ever let go of her.

We will walk hand in hand.

Till death do us part.

Lu Yi opened the car door and placed his notebook into the car. Yan Huan followed right behind him and hauled herself into the passenger seat. She grabbed the bag of snacks that was kept inside the car and was about to put the food into her mouth when Lu Yi stopped her by pulling her hand.

"You haven't washed your hands yet."

“Yup,” Yan Huan winked, “Your baby girl forgot to wash her hands.”

Expressionlessly, Lu Yi produced a bag of antibacterial wipes and pulled out a sheet. “Come here, baby. It’s time to wipe your hands.”

Apparently, he was joking. Unfortunately, he was born with a sombre face, making his joke a complete failure.

Lu Yi was not born with good humor. He could turn an extremely funny joke into a boring tale. Normally, people would put on a lively performance as they made comical statements. However, he would always jest monotonously. Worse, he never bothered to put on a smile.

With his straight face, everyone was swamped by pure awkwardness. None of them was able to laugh at his so-called jokes.

With the napkin, he carefully wiped Yan Huan’s fingers. “Done. you can eat now.”

Yan Huan picked up the snack as she was finally allowed to eat. “Oh, yeah,” she suddenly recalled, “Aunty is not around today and we have to cook for ourselves. What do you want to eat? We have all the ingredients.”

“Do we still have dumplings at home?”

Lu Yi’s mind still lingered on the dumplings he had for lunch. It was so delicious that he would never get sick of them.

“Yes, I’ve made a lot of dumplings and kept them in the freezer.” It was not an easy task to make the dumplings. She had to put in a lot of effort just to peel the prawns. Naturally, she prepared extra dumplings and stored them so that they could easily reheat the dumplings whenever they got hungry.

“Let’s have dumplings then.”

Lu Yi was not specifically craving for any other food at this moment. He only wanted to eat Yan Huan’s homemade dumplings. He was more than willing to have it again tomorrow and would even happily eat it for 10 consecutive days.

“Sure.”

Yan Huan munched on another mouthful of snacks. She was feeling energetic after her nap. With her current condition, she reckoned that she could easily stay awake till midnight.

Before long, they were home. The night was still early. It was barely six o’clock in the evening.

Lu Yi made a beeline for the shower. Sea City’s weather was rather humid during the summer. Most of the time, he was either covered in sweat or grease and he had to bathe more than once on some days.

Yan Huan put on her apron and removed the frozen dumplings from the refrigerator. She wanted to heat them up now so that Lu Yi could enjoy them immediately after his shower.

However, she thought that it would be too plain and bland to just boil the dumplings. Although they were not fussy about food, they should be able to indulge in delicious food as they were at home.

She started by cooking some of the dumplings in spicy and sour soup. Then, she made some potstickers and then fried the remaining dumplings. She made a total of three different dishes with the dumplings.

The same dumplings now carried three distinctive tastes. For her, she preferred the one that was cooked in spicy and sour soup. However, she was unsure about Lu Yi's preference. She planned to observe Lu Yi as he ate, find out his favorite dish and cook it again tomorrow. If he had no preference and was happy with all three varieties, then she would cook all three again tomorrow as she did not find cooking troublesome at all.

Alright, that's my plan.

When Lu Yi came out of the shower and saw the three different types of dumplings on the table, he was reminded of how thoughtful and lovely Huanhuan was. He was very grateful to have married her. He refused to imagine Yan Huan being someone else's wife. If that happened, he had no idea how his life was going to be, but he was sure that he would be a very jealous man.

He took a seat by the table while Yan Huan walked toward him with a clean towel to dry his hair.

Lu Yi tried all three dishes on the table. Finally, he decided that the fried dumpling was his favorite. The skin of the dumpling was crispy yet the prawns underneath was fresh and sweet. It tasted superior compared to the plain boiled dumplings.

"Come eat with me," Lu Yi pulled her over, trying to tempt her into eating some so that she would not be hungry.

Yan Huan ruffled his hair. Great, it's clean and dry now.

Finally, she sat down to enjoy the piping hot soup and the dumplings. Meanwhile, Lu Yi still preferred the fried dumplings. However, he did enjoy the potstickers as well. Yan Huan did not eat much. Most of the dumplings were finished off by Lu Yi.

"I've had my fill," Yan Huan chirped in satisfaction as rubbed her belly. Yes, I've had enough.

"You didn't eat much," Lu Yi was able to count the number of dumplings she had on his hands, as she ate merely five or six pieces.

"I can't eat anymore," Yan Huan said as she stood up and entered the kitchen. When she reappeared, she was carrying a big bowl of soup with her. Then, she placed the bowl on the table.

She heaved a faint sigh.

She had her reason which she had not mentioned explicitly yet.

"Your baby girl has to finish this," she lifted the bowl expressionlessly. She appeared to be so pitiful when she drowned herself with the bowl of soup. Although the taste was acceptable, no one could take in so much liquid in one sitting.

"Good girl. You can't waste a single drop. If you leave anything behind, you'll have to drink two bowls tomorrow."

Lu Yi pushed the bowl toward Yan Huan. He would not usually force her to eat, but she had to finish this bowl of soup as it was essential for her recuperation. He only hoped that she could suffer less during her menstruation every month. It was not good for her body to be in pain so often.

Yan Huan lifted the big bowl and gulped it down. Lu Yi reached out to stroke her hair, saying softly, "I'll bring you out later, alright?"

"Okay!" Yan Huan instantly felt better when she heard his words. Even though she could go out everyday, but she was not able to travel far. Before this, she was restricted by her arm. Then, she was tortured by her excruciating menstrual cramps.

Now that her menstruation was over and her arm had healed, they could go out and have fun again.

Thinking about that, she felt elated and the bowl of soup instantly became tastier.

Chapter 636: Perhaps Since Then

Meanwhile, Lu Yi continued to polish off the contents of his plate, wolfing down all of the dumplings in it. Although Yan Huan had made three types of dumplings, but the portion of each dumpling was not too large. Lu Yi could finish off the entire batch alone, not to mention that Yan Huan had taken some for herself.

Yan Huan set the big bowl down on the table forcefully, all done, down to the last drop.

She tapped the bowl as she said, "That was delicious, another serving please."

Lu Yi had finished eating the last dumpling as well. "Um," he stuttered as he raised his eyes. "Since you like it, I will ask Mom to make you another bowl tomorrow."

Yan Huan pointed at her tummy.

"Prosecutor Lu, aren't you the top scholar of the Mathematics faculty? You must be more sensitive to numbers compared to others, so have you properly derived the volume of my tummy, to know whether I could fit two bowls of soup in it?"

Lu Yi reached out to touch Yan Huan's tummy. "Isn't this too bloated?" He would not have noticed if he had not touched it, but once he did, he realized that her tummy was bulging like a ripe watermelon. If more food went into it, then it might just explode with a 'boom'.

Yan Huan never knew that she could have such a good appetite, as she had always taken small portions of food in both her lifetimes. First, it was to maintain her body shape, a habit; and second, she has a small appetite to begin with. But now, it turned out that she could still frisk around and ask for another bowl even after having five dumplings, followed by a big bowl of soup.

"There should be some left." Lu Yi stood up and walked away, coming back with a set of things that belonged to Yan Huan, which included a peaked cap and a pair of glasses that covered almost half of her face.

"Let's go." Lu Yi helped Yan Huan with the cap, then put on the glasses for her.

He tilted his head to the right, then to the left, his eyes staring unblinkingly at her. This seems fine.

“Am I pretty?”

Yan Huan stuck her hands behind her back and raised her face. “Am I a gorgeous beauty?”

“Pretty, and a gorgeous beauty too,” Lu Yi praised as he pinched her little face. He never hesitated when it came to complimenting her.

In this lifetime, the thing that made Yan Huan take the most pride in was not her pretty little face, but rather the knowledge that Lu Yi adored the beauty in her.

A woman would doll herself up for the man who loves her, it was just a principle like this.

“Then kiss me,” Yan Huan demanded as she pointed at her face.

Lu Yi coughed once.

But Yan Huan was still keeping her little face high, adamant on flirting with Prosecutor Lu.

He did not move, so Yan Huan took the initiative to move first.

Yan Huan stood on her tiptoes and kissed Lu Yi’s cheek. However, a hand suddenly cupped the back of her head, and her lips were covered by another pair of warm lips, a foreign tongue prodding tentatively into her mouth. Both their body temperatures started to rise.

“Let’s not head out first...” Lu Yi gasped beside her ear. Yan Huan’s body trembled lightly at the breath of hot air, the skin behind her ear seemed to shiver as well.

“Hm...” Yan Huan grabbed Lu Yi’s clothes tightly, then loosely. Well, it did seem like they would not be able to go out.

It was said that when one is fed and warm, the mind would then wander around lust.

They had just eaten, so of course their minds would like to wander for a while.

By the time they left home, it was already an hour later.

Chapter 637: She Might Never Get Married

Regarding Lu Qin, he was still hiding from the public and his whereabouts remained unknown. However, that did not matter as it was impossible for a selfish and egocentric person like him to show empathy. The best he could do was to post a few pretentious quotes on Weibo as he wept his crocodile tears.

“Hang in there, Sea City.”

Yan Huan stared forward, looking at the serene riverscape before her. The river carried a uniquely pungent smell, yet it was barely unpleasant. Nevertheless, the water in the river flowed steadily and continuously.

Many loving and affectionate couples walked past her while holding hands. Although she could not see their faces clearly, she could feel the budding endearments between the young lovers.

Their feelings toward each other were pure, gentle, sweet and unrefined.

This was how love was supposed to be.

Her gaze landed on the back of a woman's head. She was standing not far away. Her hair was neatly combed, making it a rather uncommon hairstyle in today's society. Regardless of the length of the hair, every strand was flawlessly smoothed to the back of her head. Complementing her perfect hairstyle was a sleek black outfit.

In both her lifetimes, this was the sole woman Yan Huan had encountered whose appearance was eternally unchanging.

Is this really her?

"I'm tired." She did not want to stand any longer and intended to find a seat.

Lu Yi checked his surroundings before he guided Yan Huan to an empty chair. He took a seat and scooped Yan Huan onto his lap, out of consideration as the chair was cool due to the weather and she was wearing a skirt.

The wind that blew along the river was considerably chilly. Usually, the coolness was not very pronounced. However, when one stopped by the riverside for some time, he or she could feel the slight chilliness start to seep through their bones.

Lu Yi removed his coat and draped it around Yan Huan's shoulders. Yan Huan would never catch a cold as long as he was around. She was no longer herself from the past life, the Yan Huan who had her blood completely drained and her stomach slit open.

Indeed, as long as Lu Yi was by Yan Huan's side, he would keep her away from all hardships and misery. As long as he was around, Yan Huan could rely on him unreservedly. She believed that he could even shield her from any misfortune and would protect her to the end of his days.

Yan Huan trusted him and would always do.

"Are you cold?" Lu Yi asked. As the wind blew on his face, it certainly felt a little chilly. The riverside breeze had always been like this. That was how the people of Sea City saved a significant amount of their electricity bill by reducing the usage of their air-conditioner and coming out at night to enjoy the cool breeze.

"I'm good," Yan Huan swung her legs in the air and buried her face in Lu Yi's chest. Lu Yi's body was warm. She felt very comfortable and not cold at all.

At this moment, a couple occupied a nearby seat. Yan Huan did not pay much attention to them as this was, after all, a public area. Everyone around them was publicly displaying their affection and it had become a common sight. In fact, it was more unusual to see a single person walking around by their lonesome.

Yan Huan was feeling slightly drowsy, yet she remained awake, trying to eavesdrop on the conversations that were going on beside her. However, the couple merely sat there silently for a long time, not uttering a word. She had never seen anyone going on a date like that.

She opened her eyes. The sand gently whirled along the sea breeze, almost touching her eyes. Her soft and dangling eyelashes seemed to conceal the indescribable emotions in her eyes.

The gentle street light shone on and lit up the couple. Surprisingly, the most eye-catching feature on the couple was none other than the gleaming bald forehead.

Indeed, it was the bald forehead that had caught her attention. A smooth and glowing forehead that resembled the head of a nun.

From the side, the nun's visage appeared to be rather stiff. Her side profile was not a perfect one as her jaw was slightly squarish and her temple was sunken. Overall, she looked like a mean woman.

Yan Huan lifted her chin, as if she had met an acquaintance.

The person had noticed Yan Huan's attention on her and she abruptly turned to look at Yan Huan. In the next second, she was staring right into Yan Huan's eyes that were obscured by her sunglasses. Yan Huan intended to put on a smile, but she failed completely.

The enemies finally met.

This was the encounter of the love rivals.

There was no jealousy.

There was only pure awkwardness.

What are you looking at? The man beside Fang Zhu noticed the tense atmosphere. His gaze followed Fang Zhu's line of sight and landed on a stunning face.

A woman's appearance would always leave the most impactful first impression for men.

According to the common belief, a man would first look at a woman's assets, then her face, followed by the entire body.

On the other hand, a woman would pay attention to a man's shoes, then his hairstyle and lastly his face.

Under the dim light, Yan Huan's features seemed to be exceptionally delicate, as though she was an elaborately drawn character in a painting. She was dainty like the morning dew, yet she also exuded an affable neighbourly aura.

When he wanted to take a closer look at Yan Huan, a hand blocked his sight. He had to suppress his urge to yell out loud, Let go of that woman. She's mine!

Lu Yi placed his large hand on Yan Huan's shoulder and said, "It's getting late now. Let's go home."

"Sure," Yan Huan replied succinctly, but she could not stop thinking about Fang Zhu. If she continues to act like this, it'll be very difficult for her to meet a suitable man.

No man is looking for a nagging housewife, a boss or a teacher.

They are all looking for a gentle woman and a wife whom they could spend the rest of their lives with, not an emotionless partner.

She heaved a quiet sigh. It was as though she was destined to be Fang Zhu's rival. Something bad would happen every time they met. More precisely, she was always attracting unnecessary attention from men. Therefore, she thought it would be better for her to not meet Fang Zhu again in the future.

“I stole Fang Zhu’s man from her. What do you think? Will she still be able to get married in the future?”

Yan Huan gently swung Lu Yi’s hand. However, Lu Yi was apparently not in a good mood at this moment. He felt as though someone had stolen his wife from him, but in fact, it was the complete opposite. His wife was the one who snatched him away from another woman. She had intercepted a relationship that originally belonged to another woman.

“All women will eventually get married. Only men will ever be left single and alone,” Lu Yi clasped Yan Huan’s hand. Fortunately, he was good at restraining himself. Otherwise, he would have already gouged out the man’s eyes.

All of a sudden, he stopped in his tracks and covered Yan Huan’s eyes with one hand. After a while, he removed his hand from her face and it was still the beautiful face that he could never stop adoring.

Yan Huan blinked her eyes.

“I think most people won’t have the courage to marry Fang Zhu, unlike you.”

She was speaking the truth as not many people would dare to entrust the rest of their lives to a woman like Fang Zhu. Yan Huan did not believe in true love and fate. Despite her faith in love, she refused to believe that an Abbess Mieju like Fang Zhu would ever be involved in a romantic relationship. If Fang Zhu insisted to be like an Abbess Mieju forever, then she would never find the love of her life.

“Hmm. Does her love life have anything to do with me?” Lu Yi asked as he resisted the urge to pinch her cheek. “Also, I wish that you’d be uglier.”

“You want me to be uglier?” Yan Huan touched her face. “No woman wants to be ugly. You would not have fallen for me if I wasn’t pretty,” she rebutted as she pointed at her own face. “Don’t you dare tell me that you were not attracted by my face when you saw me for the first time.”

Chapter 638: Because They Had Not Gone Through This

“Ahem...” Lu Yi coughed.

He had to admit it that this point was certainly true, and there was no way for him to refute it. Yes, Yan Huan was yet to be famous when he first met her, but the only thing that he remembered precisely was her appearance, because she was beautiful.

Oh men, such shallow creatures.

They said that they were not looking for a beautiful wife, because they were worried that others would not stop thinking about their wives. But the truth is, others would just gossip about it. Look, this person’s wife is so pretty, that person’s wife is so good looking. Who would not be pleased with that?

Alright, let’s stop discussing this issue. He could not win this argument against Yan Huan.

That was why he gave up.

“Let’s go home.” Lu Yi held Yan Huan’s hand tightly again, ready to bring her back. However, at this moment, he did not notice the look on Fang Zhu’s face, which looked like how Mieju looked when killing Ji Xiaofu. She was glaring fiercely at her new boyfriend.

“Could it be that all men are sensory animals, so you guys can be attracted to women with only looks but no brains? Why can’t you all just grow a brain, why can’t you all just be a little more mature?”

The man was shocked by her domineering tone. It was not that he was awed by her action, but rather frightened by it. Just when Fang Zhu was going to continue her tirade, the man could not help but interrupt her.

“A beauty and an ugly betty stand together, even a fool would know which one to choose! Teacher Fang...” Again, he sized Fang Zhu up. She was as dark as a crow, which would bring bad luck to anyone who married her. “I really wanted to get along with you, but now, I’ve realized that a person so perfect, noble and educated like you would be unfit for a common person like me. I think you can find a better guy for yourself.”

He was sick of the same straight and unamused face that she wore everyday. Granted, she could have the best family background, the best knowledge, or the best job, but they would all be useless as he wanted to marry someone who could be his wife, not his teacher.

Therefore, they were not suited for each other, definitely not suited at all.

Besides, which man would not like a beauty? Which woman would not like for herself to be a beauty?

Fang Zhu must have come from another dimension. He really could not bring himself to accept her personality, and even if he tried, it would be too tough on him to tolerate it for the rest of his life.

Fang Zhu had lost count of the number of her relationships had died off without a known cause.

This must be the fifth one in this month. She did not feel like meeting anyone anymore, and she did not feel like getting married anymore. If she was first married to Lu Yi in her early years, all of this would not have happened. However, she did not take that opportunity when it arose, instead, she let someone take him away.

Lu Yi was already married for more than two years, but what about her? She did not even have a serious boyfriend right now. For those simple men, any woman who had the slightest charm in them would be enough to move their hearts.

What good would this kind of men be to her?

She pushed her glasses, grabbed her bag and left. However, when she saw the few couples who were kissing intimately under the trees not far away, her heart clenched.

All of their studies must be in vain. At this young age, they were acting in a way that was offensive to decency and modesty, such a disgrace! She could not understand how modern men and women could be so shameless, just like how others could not understand the diamond underneath her shell.

Yan Huan got into the car, took out a bag of snacks and started to munch on them right away.

Lu Yi did not stop her from eating. The snacks that he had bought for her were all healthier snacks with not as much food additives, and since she was not substituting them for proper meals, it would not matter if she took another pack of snacks.

This was one of Yan Huan's guilty pleasures, and also the only personality trait she had that resembled a woman her age. Other times, she would have a lot on her mind and her brain was occupied with all kinds of thoughts. It was far from how she was like now, kind of silly, kind of innocent.

To Lu Yi, he thought that there was one expression that might be used in regards to her current child-like behavior.

Great wisdom takes the looks of folly.

It was she who allowed herself to be silly, it was also she who allowed herself to be innocent.

Time passed by so quickly when they were together. In the blink of an eye, it seemed like days and days had already gone by. Yan Huan grew more and more impatient, and less and less talkative.

Lu Yi walked out of the kitchen with a bowl in his hands, which he set down in front of her.

Yan Huan then picked up the bowl and started to drink the soup, which neither tasted bad, nor good.

"Remember, don't run around." Lu Yi placed his hand on her shoulder, then grasped it tightly. I will be back very soon.

"Don't run around? You will be back very soon, right?" Yan Huan raised her eyes and looked at him, a layer of hazy, dense mist crystallizing over them.

"Hm, drink the soup, eat well, and stay home. I will be back soon." Lu Yi curled his fingers slightly, lowered his body and gave her a kiss on her forehead.

Yan Huan smiled at him. "Then, I will wait for you to come back."

"Okay." Lu Yi picked up the notebook that he had placed aside and stored it in a drawer.

The rain had started to pour outside. It was a heavy rain. Over a few days, the streets in Sea City had been flooded several times. The heavy rain had constantly impeded people from setting out on their daily commutes, and at the same time, caused a lot of inconvenience in work and daily living.

The most terrifying thing was the fact that the water from each main drainage outlet in Sea City was wildly rushing into the Sea River, causing the water level outside of Sea City to rise tremendously. Although it was still below warning level, but it was not the sea that was rising in Sea City, but the Sea River, which had always remained calm.

The water level of Sea River continued to rise. Although the river embankment had been reinforced beforehand, and the flood-prevention sandbags were sufficiently prepared, but it was unsure whether these would be of much help against the rapidly rising flood water.

Well, no one would know this more objectively than Yan Huan, and no one would understand it better and clearer than Yan Huan.

Because they had not reincarnated.

Because they had not gone through this.

However, Yan Huan had reincarnated. Yan Huan had gone through it, and therefore, she understood, and she was afraid.

After the sound of door closing had faded away, Yan Huan picked up the bowl again and drained the nutritious soup prepared by the housekeeper. The housekeeper had told her to drink this every day. As for how long she would need to drink it, it must be done until her body had recovered, until the time when she no longer felt like drinking it anymore.

Her tears rolled down her chin and dripped into the bowl, splashing the liquids on the table.

What are you crying for? She wiped off her tears hurriedly. Lu Yi was not heading out to die. He had lived for a long time in her past life, so everything would be fine. Therefore, what was she crying for? Yes, what was she crying for, what exactly made her cry? She kept asking herself that, and at the same time asking the surrounding air. But what can she do if she just wanted to cry? What if she just could not stop her tears?

She put down the bowl and walked to the television. The television was on, and as she flipped through the channels, she found out that every channel in Sea City was broadcasting the news on the thunderstorm.

Chapter 639: Three Bold Women

The reporter donned a raincoat in the pouring rain. As he was showered by the downpour, he continued to grip his microphone tightly, risking his life to deliver the most up-to-date news that the public was dying to know. Even though reporters were irritating sometimes, they could be rather admirable when they were judged from a different perspective.

As of now, there was no sign of the rain ceasing. It had been raining for the past few days, but it was not heavy enough to call for people's attention yet. However, following the increase of the volume of rainwater, the water level at Sea River had risen noticeably. In fact, not only the Sea River was affected, but the areas surrounding the river banks were also flooded as the water level had surpassed the warning line in many places.

As a result, the head of the National Security Department of Sea City released a notice, ordering for the closure of all schools for the day. No one was allowed to go near Sea River, and people who worked around that region were all evacuated.

Yan Huan rested on the sofa, focusing on her breathing. Then, she raised her hand to feel the chill that ran along her fingers.

I hope that the outcome of this will be better than my previous life.

In her past life, many people disregarded their safety to witness the rare centennial event, the raging Sea River. The students had attended classes as usual and the residents at the downstream area, which had a lower sea level, were not evacuated. Therefore, the citizens were put into a very dangerous situation.

All of a sudden, her mobile phone began to ring. She hurriedly picked up the call.

The first thing that traveled through the speakers was the sound of gushing water.

It was raining.

Is it raining? Yan Huan turned to watch the rain through the window. The faint background noise from the television, coupled with the pitter-patter of rain, drifted through the air.

“Huanhuan! Both of our mother-in-laws and I are at Sea River right now. I bet you don’t know how beautiful the river is as the water level has risen so much. We’ve been here since yesterday and Lei Qingyi will not stop calling me. However, we didn’t pick up his calls. We only want to watch Sea River in peace. Huanhuan, you should come over. The view is so magnificent...”

Yan Huan’s fingers quivered.

“Yiyi, where...are you?”

She could no longer think straight, unsure of her own words as she spoke.

“We’re by the Sea River, where we used to always bring Little Bean! You even said that we should buy a mansion here when we are rich in the future so we’ll be able to hang out by the beautiful riverside everyday.”

The excitement in Yi Ling’s voice was evident. On top of that, Yan Huan could hear Ye Shuyun and Madam Lei in the background, exclaiming with wonder.

“Leave...” Yan Huan gently brought her cold fingertips to her red lips. As of this moment, her lips had already begun to turn pale.

“What did you say?” Yiyi held the phone closer to her ear. However, the wind was too strong and the rain was too heavy. She failed to catch Yan Huan’s words.

“Hello, hello... Huanhuan?” she covered her other ear with her hand, “Huanhuan, what did you just say?” She tried to search for a place where the wind did not reach to return the call. Just as she was about to make the call, the phone slipped through her fingers and fell on the ground.

Within a fraction of a second, the screen shattered.

How can it break just like that? This phone is so flimsy.

Yi Ling was distressed, reasonably so as that was a newly bought phone. However, that should not be a big deal. With her current status, she could easily afford 10 phones. Therefore, she decided to not be too upset by the broken phone.

However, she was perturbed by the fact that she could not get Yan Huan to come over to the riverside. Ye Shuyun and Madam Lei had left their phones at home intentionally. That was their plan since the day they orchestrated this trip, so that the controlling men at home could not disturb their trip and mess up their itinerary.

“Quick! Look!” Ye Shuyun pointed at the intense waves. The three fearless women were never bothered about the news. They were not aware of the public warning that was issued regarding this terrifying natural phenomenon. Yet, they were enjoying the view as the water level rose.

They either had zero common sense or were full of courage.

Yan Huan closed her eyes. She forcefully suppressed her fear and trepidation when she opened her eyes. However, her heart continued to pound as large beads of cold sweat trickled down her forehead.

She raised her phone again, but her eyes misted over with anxiety and she could not see the numbers on the phone clearly.

She dialed Yi Ling's number but it did not go through. Then, she tried to call Ye Shuyun and Madam Lei as well, but both of their phones were turned off.

That was her final attempt.

She knew clearly that her call would not make any difference as she understood Yi Ling very well. She had two high-spirited old ladies with her and she chose to bring them to the Sea River instead of many other destinations. Not only that, they had decided to play with the swamping water. Apparently, they had no idea that an unexpected flash flood or a raging fire could happen at any time.

Maybe they had had too much faith in Sea River, which was the place where they grew up.

Indeed, for the past hundreds of years, Sea River had been a peaceful place. However, behind that serenity was a history of flash floods that had occurred during the early days of the country. Had they all forgotten about the calamity?

They were either too confident in themselves, or they trusted Sea River too much.

Yan Huan tried to dial Lu Yi's number. The call did not go through as his line was busy as well. Then, she rang Lei Qingyi and encountered the same fate. She understood that they were more preoccupied than anyone else at this moment.

However, unbeknownst to them was that the safety of their loved ones – both of their mothers and Lei Qingyi's wife – was compromised. They did not know that the women were digging their own graves.

The casualties of the flash flood would be reported as missing people and eventually considered dead. They would be as good as dead.

She dropped her phone into her pocket and made a dash for the door. She hurriedly grabbed her car keys, put on her shoes and ran out of her house.

She only realized how heavy the rain was when she was driving. However, she failed to comprehend what the three women, a young one and two elder ones, were doing. What was so fascinating about the rain?

She stepped on the accelerator, driving at a very high speed. Due to the rain, there were very few vehicles and pedestrians on the road. Many roads were closed because of the deep puddles of water.

Yan Huan stopped her car in front of a blocked junction. At that moment, a huge drop of cold sweat fell off her forehead.

I need to find an alternative route.

To recompose herself, she bit down hard on her lower lip. She needed to feel the jarring pain in order to bring back her senses and calm herself down.

She was sweating profusely and her limbs were freezing. She almost could not feel her own temperature, her mind turning blank.

I have to act quicker.

Otherwise, it'll be too late. Everything will be too late...

Chapter 640: Found It

If the flood came, there would be nothing left. Everything would be over.

If Lu Yi lost his mother, and Lei Qingyi lost his mother and wife, then Little Lei, who was still young, would be a child without his mother and grandmother too.

She pressed her pale lips tightly together while biting her inner lips. The force of her biting caused the coppery tang of blood to wash over her taste buds, drilling straight into her nerves.

"Yiyi, I have said it before, no matter what, I'll ensure your safety in this life. I thought that I could do it, but I forgot to inform you. I am such a damn fellow!"

"Sorry Mom, we were wrong. Lu Yi and I have been busy recently, and neglected you. So please give me one more chance, please give us another chance."

"Please be far from there, they must be far from there."

"Please, I beg you all..."

She floored the gas pedal. The car cut through the thick curtain of rain with flying speed, causing puddles to splash everywhere in the process.

The water fell flat on the ground, but it was splashed again immediately.

A few ripples, a deep hole, and some mudwater.

No one knew whose legs had stepped over it. In the next moment, their shoes became wet. As they hurried along, the rain continued to fall.

Another roadblock, and Yan Huan found yet another route. Her heart almost stopped at that moment. After reaching this far, when she saw the Sea River rolling from time to time in front of her, she seemed to be relieved, but beads of cold sweat were still rolling down on her forehead.

With a screech, the car stopped suddenly. The road in front was off limits. The cars behind were blocking her retreat. Even if they wanted to turn around, it would not be an easy matter.

She opened the car door, and got out without an umbrella. As she exited the car, the rain fell on her body heavily. Within seconds, her clothes were already soaked. Even her hair was sticking on her face, as rainwater continued to drip from them.

Suddenly, she tripped over a stone, and lost her balance. Her body lurched forward, and fell on the ground. Mud and soil got onto her clothing, making her seem like someone who crawled out from the mud. Her palms were also burning with pain. She clenched her hands tightly, then crawled up from the ground and continued to run forward.

She kept running as the rain pelted her continuously. She was fully soaked, the rainwater on her face rolling down her chin and down to her neck.

Sometimes, the rain blurred what was in front of her. The wind and the rain filled her mouth from time to time. As she breathed, she tasted the bitterness of the rain, which carried with it the taste of mud, and the salt of seawater, as well as the taste of sand.

She was tired, her hands and legs were in pain. She was also feeling cold, but she could not stop, and she was too afraid to stop.

For now, she only wished that they were still there, and that they had not run somewhere else. Otherwise, even deities would not be able to save them.

She lifted up her arm with great effort and rubbed her face. The water of the Sea River was before her eyes. Lu Yi and her came here not long ago, when the Sea River was still tranquil and beautiful. But in a few days, it had already become like this. It was now mad, out of control, and cruel.

Every second and every minute, the river seemed to be smashing away on the railings along the river bank, and toward the city. On the railings were obvious indicators that signalled that they had been reinforced. Yan Huan knew that Lu Yi was the one behind it. In order to reinforce those railings once again, he had to go through a lot of paperwork and research without rest and sleep. Finally, he discovered that back when railings were manufactured, one of the companies were suspected to have cut corners when they made the railings. After multiple investigations and extensive gathering of evidence, the railings were finally allowed to be reinforced.

This time, if not for the reinforced railing, then the water might have broken through long ago. It could not have sustained for this long.

Yan Huan still remembered that in her past life, when the flood had risen insanely, the place was a total mess.

Maybe this was fate, maybe there was an almighty being who controlled all. Lei Qingyi, Lu Yi, and herself did everything they could to stop the flood. They evacuated the citizens and helped others. But in the end, they were actually saving their families.

If this was true, then they truly deserved what they paid for. No matter how difficult and tiring it was, there was nothing that could compare with seeing your family safe and sound. It would make you feel gratified, relieved, excited and touched.

She rubbed her face with her sleeves, but she still could not see the way in front of her clearly. The rain was dripping down from her hair, trickling down her cheek to her chin, and then to her neck. As she ran forward, the wind rushed into her clothing, carrying with it the chill of the rain, and fear. Her heart seemed to be cold too, so cold that her limbs were numb, painful and aching.

Please be safe, please be safe.

In fact, she did not know where they were. She was just following her own feelings as she walked, ran and searched. Yi Ling did not tell her where she was, or where she might be.

At a distance, she saw three mad women in front. They were wearing colorful raincoats, holding hands, and shouting insanely.

But Yan Huan was crying.

“Hey, that’s...”

Yi Ling squinted her eyes, and wiped away the rainwater in her eyes. The moment when she saw the features of the approaching woman, who looked like a drowned rat, she was startled.

She looked like Yan Huan.

Yan Huan looked really ugly now. But even then, she was able to identify her. They were sisters who grew up together, the closest sisters with the strongest of bonds. So, even though she became a little uglier, and messier, Yi Ling could still identify her. Well, other than that, when Yan Huan took on stunt double roles formerly, she did many jobs where she had to jump into pools, lakes, or seas. This was exactly what she looked like whenever she climbed out of the water.

“Huanhuan, Huanhuan...” Yi Ling waved at her happily. She thought that Yan Huan was too excited and forgot to wear a raincoat. How marvelous was this, some may never experience this in their entire life.

Yan Huan touched her trembling lips gently, and suddenly, she smiled. Surprisingly, at this moment, tears rolled down from her eyes.

She found them, she had finally found them.