

Chapter 931: Ideological Education

The shopkeeper took over the card with both hands and proceeded to swipe the card. Only after that and getting a signature from Yan Huan that the shopkeeper felt relieved. By exchanging money with goods, both sides were settled.

This watch was finally sold.

Hold on, why did she suddenly feel that the woman in front of her looked very familiar? Although she had a pair of sunglasses on, most of her face was revealed. Inevitably, the shape of her face was really striking, she had a small face and a nice curve on her lips. With her flawless and obviously no-makeup skin, she appeared very young.

That person was a beautiful woman, just that she had seen her before somewhere. Yet, she could not recall at that moment. Who does she look like, oh wait, who on earth does she look like?

“Here you go.” The shopkeeper handed the packaged watch to Yan Huan.

“Thank you.” Yan Huan took the watch and turned around to leave.

“Uhm...” The shopkeeper suddenly thought of something, “May I ask, are you Yan Huan, Miss Yan?”

Yan Huan turned around and took off her sunglasses, then squinted her eyes at the shopkeeper and left after putting her sunglasses back on. On the other hand, the shopkeeper stood there speechless and was stupefied for a very long time.

Oh my, she just had close contact with the best actress, Yan Huan. She even got to touch the best actress Yan’s hand.

After Yan Huan got home, Lu Yi was not back yet as he still had work to do. He seemed to be working overtime today, so he would only be back about an hour later.

Yan Huan opened the drawer and placed the watch inside.

Wait, this is not a good spot. He always uses this drawer, so no can do. Then, she tried a few other places, but in the end, none of them felt right. If it was too hidden, it would mean nothing because he would never find it.

If it was too obvious, he would see it immediately, and it would be boring.

Finally, she walked to her bedside and grabbed Lu Yi’s pillow. Later, she retrieved the watch from its box and placed the watch inside the pillow.

Yeah, that would be enough.

She put the pillow back to its original spot and tried resting on it. It feels alright, not much feeling of the watch. There she was, eager to know whether Prosecutor Lu could find the little surprise or when he would learn about it.

She was really looking forward to it.

That night, Lu Yi did not sense anything as expected. He even got up from bed a few times, mainly to check on the little ones. Their three little children were now grown up and would sleep soundly throughout the night, but Lu Yi would still be worried. Therefore, he would wake up and check on them regularly every night.

As for Yan Huan, she seldom got up at night these days.

Lu Yi walked toward her, pulled the blanket up for her, and laid down himself.

“Are they asleep?” Yan Huan opened her eyes before closing them up again. She was exhausted.

“Yeah, they’re good and sound asleep.” Lu Yi reached out his hand and pulled Yan Huan closer into his arms. At the same time, her head rested on his arm. “You be good too, sleep now.”

Yan Huan wanted to answer him, but she was dead beat. She had no time to rest since the beginning of the day. She even went to Linlang and completed the large-scale shooting for an advertisement.

She felt like she could sleep until about 10 o’clock the next morning.

Feeling drowsy, she had no idea when she fell asleep again, until the next day when she opened her eyes. It was already daylight. She reached under the pillow to look for her cell phone and lifted it up to her face when she found it.

It was really past 10 o’clock.

She sat up immediately and patted her face with her hands. How could it be so late already? Why did Lu Yi not wake her when he left? Like a piglet, she had dozed off until after 10 o’clock. The most wonderful time of the day had been wasted on her sleep, what a lazy bum she was.

Quickly, she ran into the washroom, and came out all washed up. The woman reflected on the mirror had clear skin, bright eyes, and a slight smile on her lips. Without any make-up, she actually looked like a college student.

No wonder everybody always said that she was growing the other way round.

Without her realizing, she started thinking of the days in her past lifetime. She seemed to be about the same age when she died then. As thin as a rake, she looked like an old woman in her forties. White hair covered most of her head and the wrinkles on her face were punishments from the frosting wind. She thought she must have looked really ugly at the time, even when she passed away.

Nonetheless, looking at herself now, she patted her face again, feeling weird for remembering these things.

Alright, she smiled at herself in the mirror. The woman in the mirror looked gorgeous and it was unimaginable that she was already a mother to three children.

She then opened the door and went out. At first, she thought that she would be welcomed with Xunxun’s childish ‘Mama’, or get bumped into Xiao Qi and Xiao Guang’s tiny bodies, but it was totally quiet. Instead, she could only see Ye Shuyun fidgeting with the remote control boringly.

“Huanhuan, why didn’t you get some more sleep?”

Ye Shuyun tossed the remote control to the side weakly, "Ever since you stopped acting in dramas, there's nothing interesting to watch on the television. You should go back to bed. I wanted to get some more rest, but couldn't fall asleep anymore. It's good to be young like you, having no problems eating and sleeping."

"Mother..." Yan Huan was a little dazed, "Where are the kids?" Ye Shuyun would never have time to watch the television because she would not take her eyes off her three grandchildren now. It had been quite some time since she last saw Ye Shuyun turning on the television or even touching the remote control.

"Your father and Old Master had brought them into the squad to get an ideological education."

Ye Shuyun sighed, "That's not a place for women, so you and me, we're left out."

In her heart, she scolded Lu Jin. What did he mean by women were not allowed? He was obviously jealous that she could be with the three children all day, and now he wanted to spend time with his grandchildren all by himself. What a useless ideological education for three toddlers who could not even speak properly yet. He was clearly trying to show off the three children as if no one knew that he now had three grandchildren.

Yan Huan touched her face. Okay, she better stop thinking about the three kiddoes for today. Without the three children, Ye Shuyun was feeling bored. Likewise, she had the same feeling too.

Never mind, she could visit Linlang again later to see if there were things left undone. Otherwise, she could only sit with Ye Shuyun the entire day without doing anything.

Chapter 932: The One Who Was Abducted

After packing up her things, she left with her bag in hand. It felt good to have some time for herself once in a while, although she still preferred to stay at home with her three little children.

Soon after, she drove to the underground carpark of Linlang. Suddenly, someone came from the back unexpectedly and strangled her neck, as she was closing her car door. Before she could yell for help, her nose was instantly covered with a piece of cloth. Furthermore, she was suffocated by a pungent smell from the cloth, before she could consciously react. Slowly, her eyelids started to droop and she eventually lost all consciousness.

With a heavy thud, a female handbag fell to the ground and a big foot stepped on it ruthlessly. This was the latest Louis Vuitton bag that Lu Yi had gifted to Yan Huan. As it was a gift from Lu Yi, Yan Huan used it frequently and treasured it tremendously. Usually, she would not even let anyone touch it, let alone step on it.

A few men stuffed her into a car before speeding away.

Not long after, someone walked by. When she saw the handbag on the floor, she picked it up hurriedly.

It was a woman in a cleaner's uniform. Then, she picked up the bag and rummaged through the contents. Inside, she found a wallet and saw that it contained a huge sum of money. She quickly closed the wallet again. Nowadays, only very few people could carry that much cash on them. Yan Huan usually

did not like carrying so much money either. However, she had them today and could not spend any of it yet.

The female cleaner hugged the bag and surveyed her surroundings. Then, she raised her head and stared at the CCTV cameras nearby. Today, Linlang had turned off all the cameras to perform a circuit inspection and repair.

Could today be her lucky day?

However, she clenched her teeth tightly, wondering if she should hand over the bag or not. It's such a luxurious bag, who could have lost it? Those who frequent Linlang are famous celebrities, directors, or those of that kind. Could they have dropped their bag by accident?

She hesitated for a while, but she eventually could not overcome her impulsive greed. She wanted the bag or more precisely, she wanted the cash in it desperately. There were tens of thousands in there, which was equivalent to her salary in a year. With this money and her savings, she could buy herself a small house. She no longer had to rent a place and worry about being kicked out by her landlord. Once they had a house of their own, there would be hope for her family's future. She looked through the bag again and found a very expensive phone. She knew the model, it was very popular among young people and cost about ten thousand dollars.

The owner was obviously a wealthy person. As for the cards in the wallet, she obviously had no use for it and she could not use it anyway.

She hardened her heart and switched off the phone. Then, she retrieved the SIM card inside and threw it into a dustbin nearby, before hiding the bag in her uniform and rode her garbage cart to a secure location to hide it. After that, she returned to work as if nothing had happened. The circuit inspection was completed and the CCTV cameras were switched on again in the late afternoon. Nothing else was unusual that day, cars went in and out of the underground carpark repeatedly like a regular day.

When the skies turned dark, the female cleaner finally changed out of her uniform. She joked with her colleagues as usual and chatted about what to have for dinner, before heading back home as usual. However, when she walked by a park, she went to a secluded spot and fished out the item that was wrapped in her clothes.

She could finally heave a sigh of relief, as she was so worried that the item might have been picked up by someone else. Thankfully, it was still here...

She patted herself on the chest. She did not steal it, but she could not help feeling guilty. Hugging the item wrapped in her clothes, she went home sneakily.

At the same time, Ye Shuyun kept stealing glances at the clock on the wall. Why had everyone abandoned her for the day? If her three grandchildren were around, she would not care about their whereabouts. However, Lu Jin had taken all three of her grandchildren out. He should be done showing them off by now, was it not time for him to return them to her? The weather was so cold outside, what if the kids caught a cold? It might be fine for the two boys, since they were tough as a calf and rarely fell sick. However, it was different for Xunxun, as she was too delicate. With a change of the weather or if they were careless, she could have the flu or fever easily. Xunxun's immune system was so weak, she

could become terribly ill if she fell sick. Every time she was unwell, her small face would shrink, causing her family a lot of heartache.

The doorbell rang suddenly. Ye Shuyun stood up quickly and walked toward the door speedily. However, only after a few steps, the door swung open and a group of people walked in.

The heat from the room warmed everyone's face, but they also brought in the chill from the outside.

Lu Jin was holding one child in his arms, while the nanny held another. Where's the third one? Ye Shuyun looked at Old Master Lu askingly.

Old Master Lu unzipped his coat, revealing their fair little girl inside. She was already fast asleep and judging from her rosy cheeks, she was kept warm from the cold. Her breathing was slow and steady, she seemed healthy.

Ye Shuyun walked over swiftly and took the child in Lu Jin's arms. She caressed her grandson's cheeks and they were warm, fortunately.

The nanny wanted to take the little girl from Old Master Lu's embrace, but a stern glare from Old Master Lu made everyone stay away.

Ye Shuyun exchanged a glance with Lu Jin. If she could, she would have carried the little girl. It had been a few days since she last held her granddaughter, but the Lu family only had one little girl. As long as Old Master Lu was around, no one would be able to hold her.

The three kids were placed carefully onto their little beds. They slept soundly, with Little Xunxun between her two older brothers. She was obviously a size smaller than the two boys, and she looked nothing like them. They looked alike when they were younger, but their differences had begun to show as they grew older. The two boys were tougher and had tanner skin, but Little Xunxun was smaller and fairer. She increasingly resembled her mother, and it was obvious that she would grow up beautifully. With the best actress as their mother, the three Lu children were guaranteed to be good-looking.

Chapter 933: Nowhere To Be Found

The three children in the Lu family were well-known in their industry for it was rare to have someone be able to give birth to triplets, not to mention triplets with exquisite facial features.

Old Master Lu had nothing much to do even if he stayed because Xunxun did not need his company at night. Whenever he thought of this, it made him upset. However, he had no other option as his great-granddaughter was still a young baby who fed on milk.

Ye Shuyun finally heaved a sigh of relief after he made a move.

She covered Xunxun with a small blanket, then caressed her granddaughter's tiny face as she asked, "Did they throw a tantrum today?"

"Nope." Lu Jin lifted his chin, appearing to be satisfied with the performance of these three children. "All three of them were so obedient, especially Xunxun. She did not even cry once. She has definitely lived up to the name of the Lu family."

Upon further deliberation, all his comrades who used to sympathize with him revealed a sense of admiration and jealousy on their faces. It was such a great way to vent out one's anger but more importantly, these three children were the future generations of the Lu family.

These three children would eventually become the hope and, of course, the future of the Lu family.

"Oh well, where are Lu Yi and Huanhuan? Aren't they around?"

Lu Jin just came to a realization that he had not seen both his son and daughter-in-law since he came back. "Are they not coming back tonight? Awesome! Then, I can have our granddaughter to myself."

"Dream on." Ye Shuyun rolled her eyes at him. "Xunxun will only want her mother at night, not grandpa. You should be able to cuddle Xiao Guang and Xiao Qi, but once they have fallen asleep, you will need to leave them alone."

Ye Shuyun was warning Lu Jin, "What if you press your body on my grandchildren when you move your body in the middle of the night?"

"How is it possible?" Lu Jin turned around, shooting a glance at Ye Shuyun. "Do I look like someone as such?"

"No?" Ye Shuyun seemingly gritted her teeth. "Who almost pressed Little Bean to death by accident the other day?"

Lu Jin placed his hand by the tip of his mouth as he let out a few faint coughs. This was rather awkward because there was once that he almost killed Little Bean unknowingly. However, he did not do it on purpose. He returned home, exhausted after a long ride so he was unwary of it. He swore, he assured for real that he would never press himself on his grandchildren.

Regardless of how he tried to explain himself or give his word, Ye Shuyun would still reject to keep her grandchildren by the side of this risky figure.

"Mommy..." Xunxun woke up from her sleep, pouting... She was looking for her mother, wanting to let her mother cuddle her and feed her milk.

Ye Shuyun quickly carried Little Xunxun in her arms. Little Xunxun's cheeks were blushing as she awakened from the sleep, looking extremely adorable. However, this little girl pursed her lips at the moment as she searched for her mother.

"Why is she not back yet?" As Ye Shuyun comforted her granddaughter, she asked Lu Jin to bring the other two children to another room. If not, the other two would cry along with their younger sister if they saw her crying.

"I know right." The nanny checked the time. Lady Yan cared for her three children the most. It was almost 8 p.m. but she was still not back yet. Moreover, Lady Yan mentioned that she would return by 7 o'clock earlier today. This was because Little Xunxun would usually sleep at around 7 o'clock at night. Xunxun was very obedient in the daytime but once it was approaching nighttime, she would throw a tantrum, wanting to look for her mother. This child usually lacked a sense of security so she would only feel secure when her mother was by her side.

If she could not find her mother, she would cry her heart out.

Ye Shuyun hastily ordered the nanny to hand over the milk bottle. She then made a bottle of milk for Xunxun.

Xunxun hugged the milk bottle with discontentment. She was probably hungry. Her eyelashes were drenched with tears as she shed huge teardrops while drinking her milk.

Ye Shuyun swiftly called for the nanny to make a phone call to Yan Huan to ask about her whereabouts. She wanted to know if something came up unexpectedly or she was already on her way back

The nanny grabbed the cell phone and called Yan Huan immediately. However, after several attempts, it was proven futile because the call could not get through.

She tried a few more times but it was the same result.

“Lady Yan turned off her phone.”

“What? Turned off?”

Ye Shuyun carried Xunxun while strolling around. How come the phone is switched off? It seems like something is amiss – don’t tell me she is in trouble. She felt uneasy in her heart, just like today. She had an inexplicable sense of anxiety all this while, perhaps something had really happened to Yan Huan.

She passed Xunxun to the nanny. Unconvinced, she took over the phone and made a phone call to Yan Huan herself. However, it was the same result as mentioned by the nanny. Regardless of how many times she dialed, the call could not get through as the phone was shut down.

She held the phone in her hand tightly, her fingers trembled a little. Her head was covered with beads of cold sweat.

Even after she placed another call and it got through, her palm which was holding the phone was filled with cold sweat.

“Alright, I’ll be right back.” Lu Yi rose to his feet, putting on his coat instantly. He could not be bothered to close his notebook. He fetched out his phone while he was walking. The first phone number he saw once he unlocked his phone was obviously Yan Huan’s phone number as it was the most frequent phone number he dialed on a regular basis.

However, not long after that, the sound that spread to his ear was not the successful phone connection or Yan Huan’s voice but it was merely a robotic-like and cold voice.

“Hello, the person you called is unavailable.”

He then called Luo Lin. Yan Huan went to Linlang so he was uncertain if something bad had happened to her or she was still in Linlang.

“Yan Huan?” Luo Lin felt slightly puzzled. “She didn’t turn up today. She has obviously broken her promise. She said she would come today but I waited for her the whole day, yet she did not show her face at all.”

Before she could finish her words, Lu Yi hung up the phone. The only sound she could hear was the beeping sound of phone disconnection. She felt a bit frustrated, causing her to have a slight headache.

“What are you up to, Yan Huan?”

Luo Lin had a strong urge to break her phone. You have the nerve to let so many people wait for you. Luckily, I don't have a baby. If not, I will definitely starve my baby to death if I were to return so late.

Once she finished packing her stuff, she planned to go home. I have just wasted the whole day waiting for the best actress, Yan Huan. Let's see how I am going to teach you a lesson tomorrow.

She walked to the basement parking and tossed her bag into the car. Then, she started the car engine, preparing to drive home. However, as she drove for a certain distance, her car suddenly came to a halt along with a screeching sound.

She opened her car door and rushed out immediately.

A black sports car which was parked not far away came into sight. This car was not special as it had a simple car model but the car plate number was exceptional.

The car belonged to Yan Huan.

She ran to the front of the car and knocked on the car window.

Chapter 934: Mother Was Missing

There was no one inside, so she ran to the front of the car in disbelief. She wanted to check the car plate and see if she was mistaken.

This should not be Yan Huan's car.

However, the car plate number was hers, so was the car model. There was no mistake, this was indeed Yan Huan's car.

Yan Huan's car was here, but she was nowhere to be seen. There was no reason that she would leave her car here and go shopping alone. Furthermore, it was impossible that she would shop until so late without returning home. This was unlike Yan Huan, and not something she would do. She was not a kid; she was a woman with principles.

She quickly retrieved her phone and called Lu Yi, but his line remained busy even after several tries. Perhaps he was on the phone with Yan Huan.

She knocked on the window again, thinking that Yan Huan might have fallen asleep or passed out in the car. She even leaned on the car window and peered in for a long time, but there was no sign of Yan Huan.

She took her phone out again and dialed Lu Yi's number. This time, the call went through. When she heard a solemn hello from the other side of the call, she felt relieved.

“Lu Yi, is Yan Huan home now?”

“No.” Lu Yi's expression was grave. It was almost ten at night, but Yan Huan was still nowhere to be seen. He had looked everywhere, places she frequented, and even places she rarely visited. However, so much time had passed and he had not located her yet. She would not stray or play hide and seek with

him. She was also an adult, so she would not be out having fun like this. Furthermore, she was not a playful person by nature.

She knew that she had three children at home, and that her kids could not be without their mother. There was only one explanation left, something had truly happened to her.

“Lu Yi, I found Yan Huan’s car.” Luo Lin leaned her body onto the car behind her and continued, “It’s in Linlang’s underground car park, but I don’t see her around. Besides, Yan Huan did not come into Linlang.”

“I’ll come over right now.” Lu Yi kept his phone and rushed to Linlang immediately, while Luo Lin waited for him at the underground car park.

She had no idea why the garage felt so chilly, as if she was surrounded by ice and snow.

Soon, Lu Yi arrived. He strode towards Yan Huan’s car and stood in front of it, noticing that the car was locked and there was no one inside.

He produced a bunch of keys and pressed on one of them, unlocking the car. Everything looked normal and untouched inside, just the way its owner had left it.

He turned on the car’s dashboard camera and found that the last recording was at ten-thirty in the morning, which was around the time Yan Huan left the house. The journey would be around twenty minutes from her place to Linlang, so she would arrive at Linlang at ten-thirty. Hence, this meant that she did not stand Luo Lin up. She was always punctual, and would certainly show up if she promised so. She would only be late if something beyond her control occurred, such as traffic congestion or a broken car. Otherwise, she would never miss an appointment. It was unprecedented that she had made a promise, but did not show up and vanished for an entire day.

“I’ll check the CCTV footage.” Lu Yi closed the car door, turned, and strode away.

Luo Lin hugged herself tightly and huffed, as white mist escaped between her lips. In her eyes, the mist was an unspeakable sorrow. Yes, she was worried, anxious, and very distressed.

When they retrieved the CCTV records, Lu Yi’s expression was unprecedentedly somber. It dawned on Luo Lin that they were doomed.

Indeed, that was it. They were really doomed.

Unfortunately, Linlang carried out their routine circuit checks today. When their CCTVs finally came back online, it was already four in the afternoon. From the time the car was parked at ten-thirty in the morning, until four in the afternoon when the system became online, the recordings were completely blank. No one had any idea where Yan Huan had gone and what had happened during that period of time.

The first clip on the CCTV showed Yan Huan’s car at the exact parking spot, it was already there untouched.

Suddenly, Lu Yi slammed his palm on the table with a loud bang, startling everyone around. No one knew what had happened so far.

“Lu...”

Just as Luo Lin opened her mouth, Lu Yi turned to leave. The wind from the edge of his shirt as he turned felt dreary and icy, it made Luo Lin shiver unconsciously.

It was truly freezing.

She did not disclose the news of Yan Huan’s disappearance to anyone. If it got out, it would be highly problematic, as many rumors and gossip would emerge from it.

No one could be loved by everyone like a priceless gold ingot. Yan Huan’s reputation was quite decent, yet she had been abducted. She did not even have any enemies, but if someone used this as tabloid fodder, Yan Huan’s career would be utterly ruined. Even with the Lu family’s backing, Yan Huan’s reputation would surely not remain unscathed.

Furthermore, they were not certain that something had happened to Yan Huan yet. Perhaps, there were other explanations. Luo Lin sincerely hoped it was the latter.

Lu Yi went to Lei Qingyi’s house first, but he returned empty-handed. Yan Huan had gone missing for only twelve hours, and no one knew where to start searching. Lei Qingyi could not come up with other viable solutions either, so they could only wait for now. Maybe, Yan Huan would come home at dawn.

They were all hoping that maybe Yan Huan would come home eventually. It was a probability, but would it come true? Would this really be the case for Yan Huan?

No one knew.

When Lu Yi got home, Ye Shuyun was still carrying Xunxun around in the living room.

“How was it? Did you find her?” Ye Shuyun hurried over to Lu Yi, asking, “What happened? Where is she?”

Lu Yi extended his arms and took his daughter from Ye Shuyun. He did not speak and merely kept his silence, but his eyes were bloodshot. Xunxun’s eyes were swollen from crying, her long eyelashes were still damp with tears. Her wet lashes were so heavy it was pressing on her eyes and keeping them closed. The little girl was still sniffing occasionally.

Because she wanted her mother.

Because she could no longer find her mother.

Lu Yi pressed his face against his daughter’s petite face, having no idea what to do now. Even though he seemed composed and calm, he was actually out of his wits. Even the blue veins on the back of his hand would pop up involuntarily in distress.

Chapter 935: Fate In Previous Life

If it was really Yan Huan, he could not imagine what he was going to do next! How was he going to deal with the three children at home?

They could finally lead a peaceful life and have three children. They were still babies who fed on milk and they needed their mother at this moment. How could this happen?

“Mommy...”

Xunxun opened her eyes. She had started to recognize people and she would bawl if she could not find her mother. When she saw her father, she pouted and began to cry again. Tears were still rolling down her cheek but she could only whimper.

She had already cried for half a day. Ye Shuyun was distressed to look at her granddaughter sobbing. However, she did not know what to do. Is Xunxun trying to cry herself to death?

“Mommy.” Xunxun reached out her small fingers, grabbing her father’s clothes. She had a pair of eyes identical to Yan Huan, looking at her eyes made Lu Yi feel aching and unbearable.

“Xunxun, tell daddy, tell me how I can bring back mommy. How can I bring mommy back to you?”

Seeing that her father was not finding her mother for her, she choked from time to time. The husky voice resounded through her tiny throat, one sound after another pierced the heart of Ye Shuyun and Lu Yi excruciatingly.

“Don’t cry.” Lu Yi coaxed her daughter. “Mommy has fallen asleep. Is it okay for daddy to accompany Xunxun instead?”

Xunxun insisted on seeing her mother. However, she seemed to be lethargic as a result of crying. She fell asleep with tears welling up at the corner of her eyes but she did not seem to have a good sleep. She would wrinkle her tiny, light eyebrows once she heard some noise. Her small face was pale and her little hand was still grabbing on her father’s clothes. This made Lu Yi dare not move an inch.

Xunxun was the most pampered of all in the family, hence if she did not cry, the other two would be fine.

Ye Shuyun was taking care of the other two children, afraid that they would continue to cry after they woke up. As for Lu Yi, he was carrying Xunxun in his arms without sleeping at all, not to mention changing his posture.

In regard to Yan Huan, she did not return for the whole night.

In fact, Yan Huan was not aware of her whereabouts as she had yet to regain her consciousness. She felt like a wandering soul, drifting randomly. She was only awakened when she experienced a sense of pain surging from the arm. Truth be told, she woke up due to the excruciating pain.

She raised her elegant eyebrows every now and then. Her red lips were drained of blood. At this juncture, she was like a lamb, waiting to be slaughtered. Both her body and soul had been constrained.

A surging pain once again spread from her arm. She began crying. Tears flowed down from the corner of her eyes constantly with every droplet of her tears being concealed within her hair.

Lu Yi, I feel so painful...

She quivered the tip of her mouth unconsciously. She cried in pain and she could only cry as she suffered in agony.

Lu Yi lifted his head abruptly. He grasped his arm gently, feeling as though this part of his body could sense a tinge of soreness.

When he shifted his body, he almost woke Xunxun up with a shock. Xunxun moved her long eyelashes and sniffed. Her small figure looked extremely upset and sympathetic.

Lu Yi patted his daughter's body with care.

"Don't be afraid, daddy will surely bring mommy back to you."

He placed his enormous palm on Xunxun's tiny face. Xunxun's face was indeed small – it was even smaller than the size of his palm. It was disheartening to see such a young child being unable to sleep peacefully.

If Yan Huan was around at this moment, then it would not be as such because she would surely be extremely obedient.

Lu Yi raised his head, looking at the numerous stars gleaming in the dark sky. Unknowingly, a layer of clouds gradually enveloped the stars, causing the sky to turn pitch black.

The darkness before the rise of dawn was completely dark as though a cluster of dark clouds had already enshrouded the top of their heads. This had caused them to find it hard to breathe.

As the darkness outside was penetrated through by a ray of light, the bell of the break of dawn resounded in the air. Within the layers of mist, the sun had finally risen but it was still being blocked by the dark clouds. Probably not long after, it would become dark again according to the weather forecast.

It will rain today.

It was cold during the rainy season in Sea City.

Yan Huan opened her eyes. She had a serious headache and her whole body was aching. She could not even come to a realization of her condition and problem or her whereabouts.

At one point, she even forgot her real identity.

She was just staring blankly at the white ceiling, allowing her consciousness to drift away and later, regain it little by little.

Such a pale white color was not filled with any other colors while its whiteness pierced her heart. She disliked white, not to say red.

Red is the color of the blood.

She moved her arm a little, but it was too heavy for her to lift her arm up. She wanted to sit up straight, but her waist was sinking downward so she was unable to straighten her body. She felt the urge to scream but her throat seemed to contain a grain of sand.

She shut her eyes out of powerlessness. She remained in the same position for quite a bit of time until she could feel the pain coming from needle poking. Her body spasmed uncontrollably and her pair of eyes were immediately wide open.

At this moment in time, her vision was a little unclear, blurry with very few colors. Within the blurry view was the appearance of several white shadows.

Is she dead?

Is this a ghost?

She turned her face to the side, the vague vision lost focus. She could barely see or hear anything aside from the white shadows moving around before her eyes.

Her body was cold. She felt very cold, and she wanted to cry...

It appeared as though something was escaping from her body and such a withdrawal caused her to lose her hearing ability, vision, feeling, and of course her life...

Suddenly, her arm was in pain again.

Such a pain had resulted in the blurry sight before her to dissipate.

The colors of white and red appeared in front of her eyes.

Every individual was in a white robe, holding tubes of...blood.

She opened her mouth, but no sound escaped from her mouth. Her voice was stuck in the throat – she lost her voice. The situation and the scene resembled a strong sense of déjà vu.

She recalled the time when her limbs used to be tightly buckled, and then tubes of blood were drained out of her body.

She widened her mouth but could only bring herself to take a breath, not being able to speak just yet.

She lowered her head just to find her wrists and legs being tied up firmly with ropes. The thing that confined her was none other than these ropes and those invisible chains which had sealed her soul tightly.

“Extract a little bit more.” A lady walked in, sneaking a glance at her with eyes filled with disdain.

“Extract the blood from her body, my daughter needs it.”

Chapter 936: She Was In Pain

The doctor turned back just as he was about to leave, the daunting needle still in hand. With that, the thick injection pierced her bloodstream. The pain did not hit her immediately. It was the aftermath that she had to deal with.

She could not struggle or shout out. All she could do was to endure the agony in silence. Droplets of cold sweat dripped from her forehead, drop by drop.

There went another syringe of her blood. Now that the doctor had left, that woman showed up again.

All of a sudden, a hand reached out and grasped her chin tightly. The pupils of her eyes reflected the woman’s silhouette.

“It’s you?”

Her lips moved but no sound could be heard.

"It's me." The women looked at Yan Huan's face in recognition.

"Indeed, you really do look alike. Do you know which part of you is the most alike to her?"

Step by step, she caressed Yan Huan's face with her fingers. Every touch of her fingers felt like a bite from a venomous snake as if the venom was penetrating her skin with every contact delivered.

"Here," the woman pointed at Yan Huan's eyebrows then continued, "your eyebrows look like her the most, having the exact same shape. Pretty in the exact same way but similarly also pretty disgusting in the exact same way."

"It's good that you were born," the woman laughed maniacally. "It's good that you were born. You were born for my daughter's sake. You have the very same blood type, and also the very same bone marrow."

"My Ranran can finally live but you can die soon."

Yan Huan could not understand her rambles but at least she knew that she was trapped in another scheme. She had become Su Muran's blood cow, her living blood bank and this woman was not just any woman. She was Su Muran's mother which meant she was that woman who had bullied her alongside Su Muran in her previous life – the very Zhu Xianglan who was after her blood back then.

Her vision started to blur again, bit by bit her consciousness faded away. Once again, she fell into oblivion. What was pain? What was struggling? She had forgotten how to cry, even more so, she had forgotten about laughter.

When she opened her eyes again, she was not aware of the time. Perhaps, it did not even matter because after all, she had spent many of her days like this in her past life.

Instead of saying that she was used to it, a more accurate term would be numb.

She was numb to the pain, even her feelings were numb.

"Madam Su, we can't keep extracting blood like this," a doctor told Zhu Xianglan softly.

"Why not?" Zhu Xianglan turned around abruptly. "Why? Do you have feelings for that wretch? Don't tell me you are interested in her?"

The doctor choked, what is this Zhu Xianglan even rambling about? How can I possibly have indecent thoughts about the patient? I'm only trying to give her a gentle reminder.

"Madam Su, if this continues, her life is likely to be in jeopardy when the time comes to extract her bone marrow."

"That's her problem, what does that have to do with me?" Zhu Xianglan had never cared about Yan Huan's well-being. It did not matter if she died or survived, as long as her Ranran was staying alive.

The purpose of that woman giving birth to this woman was only for her daughter's treatment.

As for Yan Huan's biological mother, she knew who it was.

There was only one person in this whole world who had overshadowed her. Her whole life, she had lived in the shadows of her blinding light. This time she would take all that back and suppress them, which included the bright daughter of hers.

Ye Rong, never in your wildest dream did you expect that a fake would take away your daughter's identity. Besides, my Ranran will also take your daughter's life away. Won't you like to find out how I figured out that the woman is a fake?

Haha. Inside, Zhu Xianglan was dying of laughter. It's because I had gotten hold of her blood to match with my daughter's a long time ago. Too bad they didn't match. Ye Rong, the only ones whose blood matches with my daughter are your children.

It's a pity that no one would ever find out. Rest assured, I will take this secret to your daughter's grave. Soon, yes, soon, you will meet her again.

The doctor was mortified at the sinister look on Zhu Xianglan's face. In the end, he did not push matters any further. After all, they were paid to do as they were told. It did not matter if she was dead or alive. Their only duty was to save Su Muran, not Yan Huan.

Regardless of the identity of Yan Huan, at the end of the day, her fate relied on Zhu Xianglan's words.

Yan Huan's eyes widened. She was still stuck here. In fact, she was exactly like a patient, complete with a ureter. Everything here was an insult to her pitiful state, making her feel a strong sense of disdain and shame. All of this was just to extract the perfect bone marrow. For that, they had indeed tried all sorts of medications on her.

Her life did not matter, all they wanted was only her bone marrow. She heard that bone marrow extracted from the blood did not have the same quality. The type of bone marrow that they wanted had to be extracted directly from her bones itself. She was not dumb, she knew how painful that would be.

She thought of Lu Yi, thought of her three children. I wonder how Xunxun is doing now. Does she miss me? Did she cry?

Just then, her nose twitched and before she could control herself, grief washed over her with tears pouring down her cheeks.

There were more sounds of footsteps approaching her. She looked to the side with her eyes shut. She did not want anyone to see her weeping, hence she did not even let out a single sound in her outburst.

She was afraid but she would persevere as she was terrified that she would not stop crying after letting out the first one.

Someone took her hand. Another cold needle pierced her veins, that liquid that smelled like medicine dripped into her bloodstream. The coldness spread through her whole body along with her blood together with the pain.

The excruciating pain at the back of her hand grew stronger and more intense. She could not move a single muscle, all she could do was to bear with it.

She gaped with every heavy pant like a fish out of water, being forced to breathe, but desperate for water too. Beads of cold sweat forming from her forehead, flowed to the corner of her eyes, drop by

drop, streaming down alongside the tears. At this point in time, no one could tell if the droplets were sweat or tears.

She began to tremble. Veins popped up at the back of her hand. The excruciating pain she experienced made it feel like it was clenching her heart too.

Lu Yi, my dear hubby, Lu Yi, it hurts. It hurts so bad...

At this juncture, she let out a wail for she could not control herself any longer.

She hurt so much. What could she do? She felt as though she could not bear it any longer; she was at the brink of her limits.

However, no one sympathized with her here. It appeared as if these people wanted her to be in pain, desperately yearning for her to beg for mercy. They added in a heavy dosage again this time, her injected hand started to shudder, and started to go numb. Even so, she clenched the fingers that could still move into a fist. She then started to strike the headboard, again and again – sounds of banging reverberated through the atmosphere with every hit.

Chapter 937: Refusing To Drink Milk

Her hair was already drenched in her perspiration, even her eyelashes were positively soaked, each cilium glued together by the moisture. Her vision slowly began to blur and lose its focus, but she was unwilling to close her eyes yet.

She did not wish to die so soon, and she was also deathly afraid of dying.

After enduring the endless woes and suffering in her life, she finally found Lu Yi again and had three beautiful children with him. At that moment, all she could think about was that she must not let her children be motherless. She dearly missed them and her beloved husband, Lu Yi.

No matter how excruciating the pain was, she must grit her teeth and endure it. After all, she desperately needed to survive. She still wanted to see Lu Yi and meet her three precious children again. She could not let her young children live without a maternal figure, and she did not wish to leave Lu Yi's side forever.

It took a Herculean effort for them to be together again. From her past life to her current lifetime, they had been through countless ups and downs together. She thought that finally, everything would be fine now. However, it did not seem so. Could it be that she still could not escape from the destiny of her previous life, and would ultimately be defeated in the face of death?

No. She shook her head furiously in defiance. She did not want to, she could not, and she must not die so easily.

She knocked on the side of the bed again, filling the eerily silent room with her soft, thumping noises, as she desperately called for help.

Drops and drops of the drug entered her bloodstream and coursed through her veins as the clock ticked on, overpowering her entire body and siphoning the life out of her.

She pondered to herself, believing that she would not live for long, even if she made it out of there alive.

Meanwhile, Lu Yi was absolutely thunderstruck, as he fell to his knees. His eyes were completely bloodshot and he seemed to have become greatly emaciated from the shock, even his outfit hung loosely from his gaunt physique.

It was as if a chilling breeze had snuck in his sleeves and whisked away all the warmth and affection from his body.

“Mama... Mama...”

The sound of the wailing child brought him back to his senses. Ye Shuyun also hurriedly ran over, with a pitiful-looking child in her arms. She seemed so small and sickly, her little cheeks were almost sunken into her bones.

“Quickly come over and console your daughter.” Ye Shuyun handed the child in her embrace to Lu Yi, and added, “I’ll check on the other two. Once Xunxun starts crying, they will surely follow suit and begin bawling.”

Xunxun was very fragile and feeble now. Yan Huan had disappeared off the face of the earth for half a month now. Throughout that entire trying period, Lu Yi never had a night of good sleep. Even if he did fall asleep, he would be tormented and plagued by endless horrifying nightmares.

Once, he even believed that he would fall into an eternal slumber, never to wake up from the realm of harrowing dreams. However, every time, Xunxun’s cries would jolt him awake from his constant nightmares.

Both him and his children, especially Xunxun, had become severely gaunt and scrawny from the ordeal. Likewise, everyone in the household had lost a lot of weight and energy from stress.

Half a month had passed since Yan Huan vanished, but they still could not locate or hear any news about her, despite exhausting every effort and means possible. She seemed to have completely disappeared from the world, evaporating without a trace or a trail. It seemed so surreal, not even a breath from her could be detected in the wispy air.

He finally realized the pain and agony that Yan Huan had to go through when he was swept away by the gushing flood years ago. The grief of being separated by death was simply too unbearable and overwhelming to handle, even for him.

Yet, he let her endure the bitter pain and sufferings alone, for two years. Furthermore, Yan Huan had also lost everything she had at that time. What else could she do, other than accept his tragic demise and his stone-cold tombstone?

As for him, he could only silently lower his head to look at his daughter, and gently caressed her sickly little face. He still had these three children with him, who carried his and Yan Huan’s blood in them.

“Don’t be scared.” Lu Yi lovingly kissed his daughter’s little forehead and uttered, “Daddy will never give up on looking for mommy. It’s only been half a month, it’s just a short while. Do you know that I was gone for two years after being swept away by the currents in a flood? But, I’m still alive and well now. I believe that mommy will be the same, she is surely alive somewhere.”

“If we can’t find her in half a year’s time, we will look for her for a year. If not, we’ll look for her for another year, or five, as necessary. Surely, we will find her in the end, right?” As he muttered on, he squeezed his daughter tighter in his embrace, while tearing uncontrollably, obviously heartbroken.

He stifled his cries, but the intense grief and sorrow had long overtaken his cold, emotionless eyes. The feeling was so numbing and overbearing, it was as if the pain was wrenched from every fiber of his body.

“Mama...” Xunxun cried raspily, asking to see her missing mother. For the past two weeks, the word that Xunxun uttered the most was ‘Mama.’ She constantly and repeatedly called for her, searching and asking for her, until she was no longer willing to say or learn any other word. She would only stare at the others with her large, tearful eyes, asking them to look for her mother.

“Hmm, she’ll be back soon. I promise you.” Lu Yi placed his hand on his daughter’s cheek, but he felt something odd when he touched it again. She was still fine just a while ago; why is her temperature abnormal now?

He put his hand on his daughter’s forehead, and felt that it was scalding hot.

Alas, Xunxun seemed to have a fever.

With his daughter in one arm, he dressed himself with the other. Then, he carried Xunxun in her blanket, and hugged her close to his chest.

He opened the door and hastily exited with large strides, with steps bigger and more anxious than anyone else.

Lu Yi’s expression seemed to have darkened significantly and turned ghastly pale. Even through the blanket, he could sense that Xunxun’s temperature was worryingly high. She was burningly hot, almost like a little furnace. She was still fine just now; why did she become so warm suddenly?

Since Xunxun had grown up a little, she did not fall ill so easily anymore. Why did she suddenly become so feverish now?

He entered his car and swiftly called He Yibin, before rushing to the hospital. Since He Yibin saw her growing up, he would know her health better than anybody else.

Meanwhile, He Yibin was anxious like a cat on a hot tin roof in the hospital, as he was sincerely frightened that her fever would cause her some other health issues. After all, Xunxun’s physical state was never the best. She must have fallen ill from the stress of Yan Huan’s sudden disappearance.

She was merely less than a year old, yet she would cry for her mother daily. Everyone who saw this distressing sight simply could not contain their anguish.

When Lu Yi arrived, He Yibin had already made all the necessary preparations.

“Xunxun, come and let uncle examine you. Let’s see where are you unwell.” He Yibin carefully carried Xunxun in his arms, but was immensely flustered when he did so, exclaiming, “Why is she so thin? When she was here for a checkup last time, she was a fair and chubby little one. Even her cheeks were full and squishy. How did she turn so sickly in such a short time? Her little arms are so scraggy, it’s almost like a chicken foot.”

“She won’t drink her milk.” Lu Yi stood helplessly on the side, without being able to do anything. Immense misery and pain gripped his heart, as he pondered to himself. She’s still so young, what else can we do?

Chapter 938: Keep On Searching

Xunxun opened her eyes and stared at her father without blinking. She twitched her little nose, sniffing and reached out her little hands, signaling her father to hug her.

Lu Yi did not hug her daughter because He Yibin still had to do a check-up on her.

“It’s burning.” He Yibin took out a thermometer to take Xunxun’s body temperature. “It’s not looking good. Her body temperature is almost reaching 40-degree celsius.”

After awhile, that little child was put on a drip. At this moment, she was finally embraced by her father, but she was feeble. She sniffled and it seemed like the heat of her breath almost suffocated her. Her little mouth was dry just like a little newly born flower bud which withered even before it was able to bloom.

However, perhaps Xunxun was feeling slightly better after the injection but she did not talk or throw a tantrum. Instead, she rested quietly on her father’s arms. Her tiny figure made her look extremely pitiful.

He Yibin walked over and passed Lu Yi a milk bottle.

“How is it going? Have you received any news yet?”

He bent over and touched Xunxun’s little forehead, it was still slightly hot but it was so much better than her previous condition. Such a pitiful child. She has lost so much weight.

“No.” Lu Yi took the milk bottle carefully and fed his daughter with it.

Little Xunxun drank sip by sip, and after a while, she shook her head. She refused to drink it anymore, hence Lu Yi had no choice but to feed her at intervals until she finished half a bottle of the milk. By the time Lu Yi managed to let her finish half the bottle of the milk, little Xunxun had fallen asleep in her father’s arms.

Xunxun’s medical report was released after a while, indicating that it might be pneumonia.

He Yibin sighed, “Most likely, this kid may need to be hospitalized. I’m afraid in the end, we will need to separate her from the other two kids to avoid mutual infection.”

There were three children in the Lu family. If all of them were ill, it would be a hassle to take care of them.

“Understood.” Lu Yi put down the milk bottle, took a blanket and placed it carefully on his daughter’s little body. Xunxun’s pointed chin looked just like her mother and seeing this made Lu Yi feel even more upset.

This was because he did not know if Yan Huan was dead or alive up until today so he was helpless.

He Yibin made the right assumption; Xunxun was really infected by pneumonia. It was related to climate change and being tearful. She was already weaker than a premature baby and now her health had worsened.

She was already unable to see her mother, not to mention her two elder brothers too at this moment in time.

When Xunxun was being hospitalized, she did not behave like other kids—whining and crying. She did not cry but being listless all day long, she refused to drink her milk, being insecure and wanted someone to stay with her all the time. Other than that, when she was awake, she would look around the room with her huge eyes as if she was searching for something. However, after a while, she would sniffle and keep quiet. Lu Yi knew that Xunxun was looking for her mother but she was unable to find her.

Xunxun was staying in a children's ward so the decoration of the ward was different than the other wards in the hospital. It was adorned with a light green wall, pink curtains and a little bed loaded with Xunxun's toys. The whole ward was filled with varieties of joyous childhood, unlike other wards. After all, the pressure feeling was not gifted by someone but emanated by oneself.

"How's her condition now?" Lei Qingyi strode in, accompanied by a tinge of wind frost. It seemed like the cold breeze when he first walked in could still be felt.

Was it freezing outside or was he too indifferent?

"She's fine, just not chatty." Lu Yi stroked his daughter's little face gently. Meanwhile, Xunxun had just finished drinking her milk and fell asleep. She was no longer on her drip but one could hear her rattling respiratory sounds. This little girl furrowed her fair little eyebrows; her tender and tiny lips were slightly dry at the moment.

"She has become skinnier." Lei Qingyi rubbed his palms and put it on Xunxun's forehead with care. He heaved a sigh of relief upon finding out that her body temperature went back to normal.

Glad that she's fine.

Lu Yi covered his daughter with a blanket before rising to his feet. He then walked toward the window and drew the curtains. The scenery outside had become desolated, it lost its vibrant colors and started to turn into natural colors.

Natural colors of black, white and grey as well as coldness.

"Lu Yi, it has already been half a month now." Lei Qingyi paused and swallowed his words because he knew it would be too ruthless for him. Previously, it was Lu Yi's death and now Yan Huan was nowhere to be found. Why were there so many obstacles between this couple?

At last, they managed to overcome an obstacle and got back together as well as be able to witness the growth of little Xunxun day by day. However, now, Yan Huan was involved in a mishap.

A living person went missing all of a sudden and due to her identity, they were not allowed to make it public. Otherwise, it would harm Yan Huan and the three other children.

“I will keep on searching. Regardless of the consequences, I promise I will keep on searching for her.” He pulled the curtains, covering up the scenery outside. Lively versus despondency – it seemed like the man had cried his heart out at this moment.

He walked over, sat down and held his daughter’s tiny hand cautiously. The little child with tiny hands looked similar to chicken feet, appearing extremely pitiful.

“She’s still so young but she has never forgotten about her mother. The first thing she does once she opens her eyes every day is to look for her mother. How about us? We’re older than her and of course, more sensible than her.”

He let out a soft sigh, holding back the excruciating pain that gathered in his glabella.

“I will keep on searching, even if I turn old or die. We still have three of them. I will not give up on her. I believe our three children won’t give up as well. She is not some random person, but my wife, their mother and most importantly, the mother who granted them lives.

“I get it.” Lei Qing Yi sighed and inserted his hands into the pocket to warm himself up. It is freezing outside. Not sure how the woman is doing right now.

He tried to look for her again. However, based on his experience as a chief in the prosecutor’s office for so many years, he had seen ample cases like this. Those who had gone missing for such a long period would usually end up being...even after the person was found.

Nevertheless, he dared not express his thoughts about the estimated outcome. All in all, words that were not uttered did not mean that it would not occur or they would not understand it themselves.

A female janitor just finished changing to her working attire. As she was preparing to start her work, several individuals out of nowhere seized her arms instantly.

“What are you all trying to do?” She shrieked in shock, struggling hard to release herself. I am a legal citizen who has never done anything wrong. Why do they want to arrest me?

Chapter 939: Where Did The Handbag Come From

A man took out his badge and flashed it at the lady when he approached her.

“I’m a police officer. I’m afraid you’ll have to follow me to the station for investigation.”

The cleaning lady was so flustered that she became petrified, swallowing the words that hung upon her lips and her urge to scream. Her expression instantly blanched, while her body trembled slightly, evidently in fear.

She turned her head around to glance at the direction of a surveillance camera located nearby. A realization seemed to have dawned on her, as she simply obeyed without resistance and quietly allowed the two policemen to escort her away.

“Why did you guys bring me here?” Initially, the cleaning lady behaved brazenly and was unabashed by her crime at the police station, retorting, “What did I do wrong? Who gave you the right to detain me here?”

As she was detained in the room, she kicked up a noisy uproar, yelling and questioning incessantly. However, no matter how much she tried to scream, berate, or reason with the people around her, they simply stood unresponsively and silently like a barren wall.

Soon, she realized that these people would not respond to her, even if she slammed herself against the table to death.

Just as her patience and emotions had reached a tipping point, the door suddenly swung wide open.

A man clad in police uniform swiftly entered and approached her. Instantly, all oxygen seemed to have been sucked away from the air in the room, while a stifling sense of pressure tremendously intensified.

The man was tall and imposing, having a height that was intimidating to anyone who faced him. When he stepped in, he seemed to tower over everyone in the room like a behemoth, greatly highlighting the massive height difference between him and the others. As he walked toward her, he had an unrelenting and grave expression on his face.

He stepped in front of the cleaning lady and asked sternly, "Where is she?"

He voiced the question threateningly, slamming one hand on the table, as he forcefully pulled a chair back with the other. The resulting noise terrified the cleaning lady out of her wits.

The bang sounded ominously like the clashing of bones. Feeling an eerie chill, she unconsciously rubbed her neck, as it felt as though a cold breeze was blowing against it.

The question sent chills down her spine, as she shivered in fear. Just moments ago, she was loudly and angrily defending herself, exclaiming that she was wrongfully arrested and that she did not commit any crimes. However, under such duress, she began to doubt herself and wonder if she had really committed any unlawful deeds.

Lei Qingyi quietly sat down. Even though his towering presence had diminished, his imposing aura was as domineering and terrifying as ever.

"She? What?" The cleaning lady was indeed slightly befuddled at the vague question thrown at her.

"Are you still trying to feign innocence?" Lei Qingyi gripped his fingers in fury. If she was not a lady, his fist would have instantly landed on the person's face.

"I really have no idea what you're talking about? Who is she?" Stress and anxiety had driven the cleaning lady to tears, with snot and tears covering her face as she wailed miserably. At a glance, she did seem like an honest middle-aged lady with a small figure, it would be impossible for her to carry a person away. After all, Yan Huan was quite adept at self-defense. However, the cleaning lady was the only clue they had, after searching high and low for Yan Huan for half a month.

This was crucial, and their only lead. They would not dare miss it; they simply could not. Otherwise, all efforts would be rendered futile; the only hint they had would vanish, and they would have to restart the search in vain.

Lei Qingyi signaled to the policeman beside him with his gaze, who then swiftly left and returned with something in his hand. It was an exquisitely beautiful lady's handbag.

When the cleaning lady saw the handbag, she immediately shot up, her irises constricting in shock. She immediately snatched it away and hugged it tightly to her chest, asking, "What are you doing with my handbag?"

"Your handbag?" Lei Qingyi scoffed at her sarcastically as he scrutinized her with a scowl on his face.

"Are you sure this is your handbag?"

"Of course it's mine." Everyone who saw her handbag had marveled at its intricacy and incessantly inquired where she had purchased it from, even though she did not know the answer as well. No matter where it originated from, the handbag was now hers.

Lei Qingyi took the investigation documents and perused its content briefly. Then, he glared at the cleaning lady again.

"Ma Guijuan?"

"That's me."

She was still holding the handbag close to her, an unpleasant feeling arose in her heart as she uttered, "So, can I leave now? I really didn't do anything wrong." Even after racking her brains back and forth, she still could not figure out what crime she had committed that warranted her arrest.

"41 years old," Lei Qingyi merely added curtly.

Her age had always been something that she felt inferior about, so naturally, she felt quite displeased and embarrassed when he announced it in such a direct manner.

"Divorced." Lei Qingyi continued reading the document aloud.

"You have a son who is in the university now. As a cleaner in Linlang, your total salary including other allowances comes to about 2800, right?"

She merely nodded meekly in response. She usually earned about that much, and it would even reach 3000 if she was punctual and received extra bonuses. Linlang treated their employees exceptionally well, even a cleaner like her was paid reasonably well. Otherwise, how could someone so uneducated and unskilled like her earn so much as a mere cleaner? She even had a higher income than her ex-husband, and could afford to support her son financially to study in a university.

"Is that correct?"

Lei Qingyi asked again, he needed to be very sure about the facts.

The cleaning lady Ma Guijuan simply nodded again. The information was bonafide and had no errors. Furthermore, she would not dare lie in such a situation.

"Where did you get this handbag?"

Lei Qingyi pointed at the handbag in her arms.

"This is mine." She clutched it tighter against her chest.

“Oh, is it?” Lei Qingyi nonchalantly raised his eyebrow, but the grin on his face became more menacing and cold than ever.

“This is a limited edition LV handbag, and costs about 2 million. May I ask...” He placed his hand on the table and leaned forward slightly intimidatingly, before adding, “You earn about 2800 a month, how can you afford a handbag with such a price?”

Ma Guijuan’s countenance swiftly turned ghastly pale, her grasp tightened as her fingers sank deeper into the handbag.

“You...you must’ve made a mistake. This is a counterfeit handbag. It doesn’t cost much at all.” She would never admit that it was an extremely expensive handbag, although she clearly knew that it had an exorbitant price tag. She had guessed that it belonged to someone very rich, but she had never thought that it would cost 2 million. No wonder her son told her that he wanted to give one to his girlfriend as a present when he saw it.

Could it be that his girlfriend had known that it’s an LV handbag, but she did not inform me about it?

However, she remained adamant and refused to admit to any accusations or statements that were hurled at her. After all, they could not do anything to her if she bit her tongue and simply denied everything. Besides, even if the owner was involved in some mishap, it was completely unrelated to her. It was simply a handbag that she had picked up; it should not be illegal in any way. She had never heard that someone would have to be imprisoned or even punished for merely picking up something.

Chapter 940: She Found It

Lei Qingyi straightened his seating posture. After a while, a staff member came in with an item. It was a pink color phone with a big screen. It weighed quite a bit being held in the hand. Of course, the appearance of the phone startled Ma Guijuan.

Why is this phone here? Isn’t it the one I have found and was taken away by my son?

“Explain,” Lei Qingyi did not want to rumble on with this woman.

“What do you want me to explain?” Ma Guijuan’s shoulders collapsed. She did not seem to be that stubborn anymore.

“What’s up with this purse?” Lei Qingyi tapped the table lightly with his finger. “Don’t worry.” The corner of his lips cracked a little. “I’m not going to do anything to you, it’s just that I know the person who lost this purse, and now she’s having a little trouble. All I want to know is the location you found this purse. After you have told me everything, you can take both the phone and purse with you, including the items inside the purse, if you wish.”

Ma Guijuan thought for some time and finally lifted her face. Alright, let me be honest with him. After all, it’s not like I have committed crime or arson.

“I found it in the parking lot.”

“Continue,” Lei Qingyi knitted his eyebrows tightly. “Could you roughly remember when you found it?”

“Around...” Ma Guijuan tried her best to recall. “I remember it was before lunchtime, it should be around half-past ten. I purposely checked the watch before walking over. At that time, the purse was already on the ground. Moreover, on that day, video surveillance was under maintenance. If not, I would not dare to bring it back.”

“Did you see anyone else at that time?” Lei Qingyi tried to remember every detail as she confessed while connecting the dots.

Ma Guijuan shook her head. “No, there isn’t anyone else or else I wouldn’t dare to take the purse. I would definitely return the purse as soon as possible.” However, it struck Ma Guijuan odd about the person who lost the purse. There was a lot of valuables in the purse, aside from the money, there were also tons of credit cards. Would anyone really leave the purse somewhere without searching for it?

“Now I know,” Lei Qingyi felt as though there was no point carrying on with the interrogation. “Don’t tell anyone about this incident,” Lei Qingyi warned Ma Guijuan and then continued, “you can take the purse but you have to pretend as if nothing has happened.”

Ma Guijuan squeezed the purse in her arms tightly, she felt like she had offended someone whom she should not have offended, getting herself involved in something threatening. She quickly rushed off with the purse in her embrace. After living in fear for a few days, she was lucky that no one came for her. As such, she gradually returned to her original life as a janitor, but this time possessing an additional purse with 200,000 yuan in it.

“That’s the whole incident,” Lei Qingyi told Lu Yi. “I have been asking around, doing investigations. The purse was indeed found by her, and they have nothing to do with the incident. This can only further confirm that if anything happened to Yan Huan, it is planned or else the video surveillance wouldn’t be under maintenance so coincidentally when she was being kidnapped.”

However, Yan Huan was someone who liked to keep a low profile and she had not offended anyone. Hence, it was impossible for her to be kidnapped by someone. Even if she did offend someone, that person would also have to take into consideration the powerful background of the Lu family. In this regard, no one would dare to provoke the Lu family, not to mention that it happened in the underground parking lot at Linlang which was her territory. Having said that, this missing incident was really strange. This caused others to be puzzled even after further deliberation because Yan Huan did not seem to have a real opponent.

Lu Yi was feeding his daughter with milk. Little Xunxun used her little hands to hold the bottle. She was not talkative. No, to put it right, she was unwilling to voice out at all. Her long lashes quivered; her tiny face was as thin as a rake in an unhealthy way.

Lei Qingyi reached for Xunxun’s little forehead, luckily, she has recovered. It’s just that getting admitted to the hospital due to her sickness this time has brought great influence to her weight. This little girl is so much skinnier than before. She is now all skin and bones.

“Please help me to investigate the Su family,” Lu Yi spoke lightly. He had also lost quite a bit of weight. Both the father and daughter were competing to see who became thinner. Moreover, his eyes were full of blood vessels.

It was obvious that he had not been resting well this entire month.

“They...” Lei Qingyi did not inform him that he had done his investigation on them but he could not get anything out of it. Su Muran stayed in the house all the time, living her half-dead life without making any appearance. Since the kid in the Su family was gone, they had been keeping a low profile and they rarely stepped out of the house.

Xunxun’s little hands let go of the milk bottle. She opened up her big, watery eyes and fixed her gaze on her father. She then tugged her father’s shirt using both of her soft and tiny hands.

Lu Yi pinched his daughter’s tiny finger, then carried her to the window. He opened the curtains, allowing Xunxun to enjoy the scenery. Xunxun had been like this ever since Yan Huan was not around. She started to have a liking for looking at the scenery after she could not find her mother. In fact, she might have a greater desire to walk out but she was too small to leave the premise herself and it was freezing outside. Thus, she could only search for her mother through a layer of glass.

The surrounding air which was accompanied by a tinge of loneliness emanated from the pair of father and daughter had resulted in others to feel gloomy and unbearable.

Little Xunxun leaned on her father’s shoulders. Her watery eyes made others feel sorry for her. This kid was almost as skinny as a skeleton.

Lu Yi took out his phone and showed Little Xunxun a photo of Yan Huan.

“Mommy...” Little Xunxun hugged the phone; her eyes turned red. She did not know what happened and why everything had changed overnight. Her mother no longer embraced her or played with her.

She was still young so she might not understand, but after some time, she would forget her mother. If they could not find her mother, she would eventually forget what her mother looked like in the future.

Xunxun started crying, so did her father. Similarly, no one could come in contact with the sense of anguish at a place unknown to others.

That sadness, that anguish, no one could understand, no one could reach.

The child could cry out loud, but the man, her father had to restrain himself all the time.

Yan Huan opened her eyes again and she was completely numb. Hence, she could only let others apply all sorts of drugs on her, even more so like her previous life, taking away her blood so far as to drain out all the blood in her body.

The expression on her face remained emotionless. She still looked like a dead person even after those people had left. She was being caged in here, not knowing the location of this place. It was an enclosed space with no windows or sunlight. The only source of light that could brighten her eyes was the fluorescent lamps in the room. She could not feel the presence of sunlight, the rustling sound of wind or the fragrant scent of flowers.