

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 221

Cheng Yuxiu didn't hesitate to answer, "I want a girl."

Boys were too much to handle, while girls tend to be gentle and caring. Many people have said that girls bring warmth and joy to their parents, and Cheng Yuxiu could see why.

Boys were not as meticulous as girls.

She really wanted a girl.

Bai Hongfei had asked her the same question as well, and she had given him the same answer. "I'd better have a daughter this life," she told him.

However, reality turned out the opposite of what she wanted.

Wen Xian scooped some food into her bowl. "Me too, but I was hoping that your child will be a boy."

Wealthy families had always wanted sons over daughters. Even though time had changed and gender equality was the talk of the century, boys were still the preferred choice when it comes to inheriting large family businesses.

Cheng Yuxiu understood what she meant, yet she couldn't bring herself to say so. "I can't promise you that it will be a boy," she said with her head hung low.

"Are you dumb?" Wen Xian said, laughing. "I'm just saying. No need to feel pressured."

The days where the woman gets blamed for not producing children of a preferred gender were long gone.

Zong Qifeng put down his chopsticks and left the table. He wondered why Wen Xian acted more like the child's father than he did.

He felt like a sore thumb in this family.

During mealtimes, the two women chatted away, leaving him alone and lonely.

He was puzzled.

Both Wen Xian and Cheng Yuxiu looked at him.

"I think he's mad at something," Cheng Yuxiu said.

Wen Xian seemed to understand, but she didn't call him out. "Maybe it's some work-related issues."

Cheng Yuxiu nodded.

At night.

Zong Qifeng had trouble sleeping, and after a while of tossing and turning, he got up to go downstairs, where he saw Cheng Yuxiu getting something to drink. Looking at her slender silhouette beside the table, he wondered how she still didn't look pregnant at all despite being almost three months into her pregnancy.

Her belly looked as flat as ever.

Cheng Yuxiu didn't notice him standing there, her mind occupied with something else.

She was woken up by a call from Cheng Yuwen telling her that Bai Hongfei was fine, and that there's no need for her to worry.

Cheng Yuwen had brought Bai Hongfei home after nursing him back to health.

He was scared that Bai Hongfei would continue to harass Cheng Yuxiu.

She couldn't help but feel saddened as she walked over to the window with a cup of water in her hand. The dark night sky was as quiet as ever, and it was the perfect scene to brood over something.

For the first twenty years of her life, she had never thought that she would one day fall into destitution.

She would never have guessed that her twentieth birthday would bring the biggest twist to her life story.

Suddenly, she was in another unfamiliar city and staying in a house of strangers, even going as far as getting intimate with one of them.

She looked at the empty sky that was devoid of stars or even the moon. She smiled, though it was filled with bitterness. "Oh, God, you've made a massive joke out of me, haven't you?"

"Was it me that made you feel so horrible?"

The low voice of a man cut through the air like a sharp knife.

Cheng Yuxiu turned around, only to come face to face with the man standing behind her. A black silk robe hung loosely on his slender body, and she couldn't quite make out his facial expression due to the dim light.

"Why haven't you slept yet?" Cheng Yuxiu asked, slightly flustered by the fact that he was eavesdropping on her monologue.

Zong Qifeng walked over and stood beside her. "You are not asleep too."

Cheng Yuxiu looked out of the window. "I woke up because I was thirsty, not because I haven't slept yet."

"Looks like you could let things go pretty easily."

That was something Zong Qifeng had not expected.

Shouldn't she be bawling in sadness after breaking up with her beloved boyfriend?

Cheng Yuxiu glanced at him and replied, "I know what I'm getting myself into, and there's no way we could go back to what we were before. Getting involved in each other's lives from now on would only hurt us even more. I figured that nipping it at the bud would be much better than making empty promises."

Zong Qifeng was impressed by her determination. So many people out there were getting emotionally distressed or even tortured by love, but she was definitely not one of them.

How many people could be as carefree and decisive as she was?

Zong Qifeng looked at her. "Remember one thing from now on."

"What?" Cheng Yuxiu asked while looking at him with a confused look. He had been acting weird that night.

Something was odd but she couldn't quite tell.

"I'm the father of the child in your belly, so you shouldn't be ignoring me," he said, before turning around to go upstairs again.

Cheng Yuxiu went silent.

What did he mean by that?

The door of the bedroom on the east side of the house silently closed when Zong Qifeng went up the stairs.

That room belonged to Wen Xian.

She had sleep issues that made her a light sleeper. Cheng Yuxiu had unknowingly woken her up as well.

When she heard Zong Qifeng's footsteps, she got up as well.

A smile crept onto her lips when she saw them interact.

She could see Zong Qifeng's eyes focusing on Cheng Yuxiu.

Love almost always begins from attention.

Maybe he hadn't realized it yet, but he's already doing it subconsciously.

Before they knew it, Cheng Yuxiu was already eight months pregnant.

Wen Xian had to make herself look pregnant as well.

Besides the trusty maid they had in the house, no one else knew the truth. Even Aunt Yu, who came with Wen Xian when she got married, was kept in the dark. Wen Xian had dismissed her for the time being when she got pregnant.

Everything was going according to plan.

There was a pregnancy checkup scheduled for the day, but Wen Xian, being the fake pregnant lady, didn't have to go for it. Instead, she made her way to the shopping mall to buy some clothes for the unborn baby.

Cheng Yuxiu, being the real pregnant lady, had to go for the checkup. Zong Qifeng happened to be free that day, so Wen Xian excused herself to create an opportunity for them to be alone with each other.

When the doctor checked the baby's pulse, he could hear the steady beating of its heart through the apparatus.

That was the first time he heard it, and it made him jittery with excitement.

Cheng Yuxiu watched with a smile as he flailed around. "Don't you think it's amazing?"

Zong Qifeng nodded.

"When I first heard it, I was shocked. Isn't life something amazing? I could feel its first kick at around five months, and I couldn't sleep after that..."

Zong Qifeng blinked, his dark pupils filled with confusion. "You mean he moves inside your belly?"

Why didn't she tell him that?

He would have loved to witness it as well.

The nurse couldn't help but intervene. "You're being selfish here. Why didn't you let daddy interact with the baby?" she asked Cheng Yuxiu.

On the other hand, she hadn't met a single father-to-be that didn't know that babies could move inside their mothers' belly.

Cheng Yuxiu felt uncomfortable.

Zong Qifeng took the blame. "I've been really busy with work, so I might have overlooked things..."

“Wife first, work second! You’re the baby’s father after all, and the child would be yours when it’s born, not someone else’s.”

“Yes, yes, I agree,” Zong Qifeng said. For a man that had been terrorizing the business sector for years, he sounded like a child that was getting scolded at that very moment.

After the checkup was over, Zong Qifeng took her to the exit before saying, “I’ll get the car here.”

Cheng Yuxiu nodded.

Zong Qifeng walked over to his car and unlocked it. Just as he was about to get in and start the engine, his phone rang inside his pocket. When he took it out, the screen showed Wen Xian’s name, and his eyes shone for a second before he answered the call.

Her voice was low. “Are Y’all done with the checkup?”

“That’s right. We’re going back now.”

“Don’t.”

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Zong Qifeng furrowed his brows. "What's going on?"

"My brother is here. It's cold outside, so bring her to a hotel to rest for a while first. I'll call you again when my brother leaves," Wen Xian said as she hid in the bathroom of the house.

Wen Qin had already arrived at her doorstep when she came back from her shopping trip.

She almost froze from shock the moment she saw her. Luckily, Cheng Yuxiu wasn't around to expose her lies.

"I understand."

Wen Xian hung up after that. She gave a big sigh of relief and checked her tummy in the mirror, only opening the door after she confirmed that nothing seemed suspicious.

"Why didn't you tell me that you were coming?" She whined.

Wen Qing leaned back on the sofa. He was tall and well-built, and everything that came out of his mouth sounded dramatically domineering.

He looked at his sister. "What are you talking about? I'm pretty sure I don't have to report in advance if I wanted to come and visit my little sister. By the way, aren't you supposed to be at your pregnancy checkup now? Why did you go to the shopping mall?"

He eyed the shopping bags scattered on the sofa.



Wen Xian walked over and sat on the sofa, telling the maid to pour Wen Qing some water. "I went to buy some baby clothes on the way back from the checkup, since the baby's coming soon anyway. Why are you here today?"

Wen Qing told his driver to unload the goods from his car. "Mom told me to bring all this for you and the baby. Don't you know much attention this little one is getting even before it's born?"

Soon, his driver returned with his hands full of baby products, food, clothes, as well as nutritional supplements for Wen Xian. He had to go to the car the second time before he finally unloaded everything.

Wen Xian was slightly shocked. "That's a lot of stuff."

"All for your little one," Wen Qing said, reaching out to touch her belly.

Wen Xian slapped his hand away, breaking out in cold sweat. She hadn't expected him to want to touch her belly all of a sudden.

It was a fake one after all, so one touch would expose everything.

Luckily, she reacted fast enough to stop things from getting out of hand.

Wen Qing coughed lightly to hide his embarrassment. His sister was an adult, and a married one for that matter. He shouldn't be touching her without her permission.

"Did Qifeng not go for the checkup with you?"

Wen Qing was a little annoyed. His sister was pregnant and yet Qifeng didn't even bother spending more time with her. Furthermore, she's already approaching her due date, which meant that he shouldn't be leaving her alone for extended periods of time.

“He’s busy...”

“Is work or your child more important?”

Wen Xian didn’t manage to say another word before Wen Qing cut her off, “Can’t he tell which is more important?”

Wen Xian had wanted to explain further, but Wen Qing had already taken out his phone to call Zong Qifeng.

Soon, the call went through, but before he could start his interrogation, Wen Xian grabbed his phone and cut the line. “I don’t need you poking your nose into my matters.”

Wen Qing frowned, though it was a disappointed and worried frown. He had meant well and didn’t want Zong Qifeng to bully her, but she...

“Fine. I won’t meddle in your matters from now on,” Wen Qing said, standing up.

Wen Xian began to regret her words. That was her brother, and all he did was to show concern towards her.

She shouldn’t have snapped at him.

“I’m sorry, Big Brother. I didn’t mean it.”

Wen Qing took his hat over from his driver and froze for a second at the sound of that. Putting his hat back on, he said, “If he ever bullies you, just give me a call.”

After that, he strode out of the door.

She was his sister after all, and he wouldn’t just abandon her just because of a tiny disagreement.

Wen Xian ran after him and hugged him from behind. “Big Brother, my prenatal depression might be messing with my mood, so please don’t get mad...I didn’t mean to say that just now, and I know that you care about me...”

Wen Qing frowned and dislodged himself from her embrace. “Aren’t you pregnant? Why are you running?”

“I forgot for a second...”

“You forgot that you’re pregnant?” Wen Qing felt that he had just heard the biggest joke of his life. Who would forget that they’re pregnant? He reached out a finger and swiped it across her nose. “The child in your belly is the firstborn of both the Zongs and the Wens, so you’d better make sure it stays safe. If I see you acting so rashly once again, I’m going to beat you up.”

Wen Qing pretended to act fierce.

Wen Xian knew that he was just joking. He cares about her.

She threw herself into his embrace again. “Big Brother...”

Wen Qing pinched her cheeks with the strength of the soldier that he was. “It hurts!” Wen Xian squeaked in pain.

“I didn’t even put in any effort,” Wen Qing said.

“You did! My cheeks were going to get pinched off by you,” Wen Xian insisted as she rubbed her sore, red cheeks.

Wen Qing stroked her cheeks lovingly. “I wasn’t paying attention. I’ll be gentler next time,” he said, sighing. “You’re going to be a mom soon, and you’re still acting like such a spoiled brat?”

“Even when I become a mom or a grandma, I’m still your little sister forever!”

Wen Qing went speechless. That made a lot of sense, he thought.

No matter how old she gets, she would forever be his little sister.

Wen Xian sent her brother to his car and watched as he slid into the vehicle. He glanced at his sister again. "Go back and rest. It's getting colder, so you should wear more clothes. Take care of yourself. Just call me if there's anything."

Wen Xian nodded.

She watched as Wen Qing's car disappeared down the road before turning around to go in, but before she could step into the house...

"Wen Xian."

She could see Zhuang Ziyi standing at the other side of the road in casual wear, looking as handsome as ever.

The wind tousled his hair.

Wen Xian froze for a moment before looking around. She walked over quickly. "Why are you here?"

"I miss you," he said while giving her his usual beautiful grin.

Wen Xian glared at him. "Tell me in advance before you come next time."

Zhuang Ziyi reached over and pulled her into his embrace. "We're supposed to be lovers, so why are you making this so hard?"

Wen Xian patted her on the back. "Just wait a while more..."

She had to wait for Cheng Yuxiu to give birth and for Zong Qifeng to realize his true feelings.

Once that happens, she could elope with him and live their days however they want.

“How long more?” Zhuang Ziyi asked.

“A year at most.”

She didn't know if Zong Qifeng was lying or not when he said that he would let her go after Cheng Yuxiu gives birth, but she figured that one year should be more than enough.

Once that happens, she could leave without any regrets.

“Go home,” she told him.

“I want to look at you just a bit more,” Zhuang Ziyi said, holding on to her tightly.

Wen Xian put on a serious expression. “This is the Zong residence. If someone sees us like this, it won't do us any good.”

Zhuang Ziyi knew that as well, and he bent down to kiss her on the lips. “I'll wait for you, however long it takes.”

After that, he turned around and left.

Wen Xian stood by the door and waved at him. “Drive safely.”

Zhuang Ziyi rolled down his window and said, “Go in, it's cold outside.”

Wen Xian pulled her coat around her and turned around.

The temperature had been dropping, and by December the winds were even fiercer.

Just before the new year, on 20 December, the lights inside the Zong residence turned on all of a sudden.

Cheng Yuxiu was going into labor, and to prevent people from finding out the ugly truth, they took her to the hospital in the middle of the night without telling anyone.

They decided that Wen Xian would be the one carrying the child and announcing its birth afterwards.

That way, everything could be hidden from everyone

Zong Qifeng was on the wheel, while Wen Xian stayed with Cheng Yuxiu in the backseat. Cheng Yuxiu was drenched in cold sweat from the pain of labor. "Just hold on for a while longer, we're reaching the hospital soon," Wen Xian said in an attempt to comfort her.

This was Cheng Yuxiu's first child, and she didn't know how much pain was in store for her when she finally arrived at the hospital.

She was a strong woman, but the waves of pain that came tearing at her body with the contractions was too much to handle. "It hurts a lot!" she yelled.

Her slender fingers gripped onto the armrests of the chair she was sitting on tightly. "Am I going to die?" she asked, her lips trembling.

"Of course not," Wen Xian answered. She didn't know how much pain Cheng Yuxiu was going through, since she had never given birth before.

She could tell that Cheng Yuxiu was in a lot of pain, and it tugged at her heart painfully. "Don't worry, we're all here for you."

Zong Qifeng kept glancing backwards as well and his anxiety grew.

Soon, they arrived at the hospital and just as Wen Xian was about to help Cheng Yuxiu out from the car, Zong Qifeng pushed her aside.

She froze for a moment before moving to one side so that Zong Qifeng could pick Cheng Yuxiu up. "It really hurts, and it comes in waves..."

Zong Qifeng didn't know how to comfort her, and he could only hold on to her tightly and give her his silent support.

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Cheng Yuxiu was taken to the delivery room.

Zong Qifeng paced back and forth in front of the door and stole a few glances inside, but all he could hear were Cheng Yuxiu's painful cries.

Wen Xian walked over. "Don't worry too much."

Zong Qifeng turned around and looked at her, unable to speak for a long moment.

He longed for a good smoke to take his mind off things, but the posters on the wall telling him that smoking was prohibited forced him to suppress the urge.

The suffering continued for seven hours. Being a first-time mother, it took a much longer time for Cheng Yuxiu's cervix to dilate.

"Ahhh!"

Suddenly, a loud scream pierced through the air, followed by the cries of a newborn baby.

Zong Qifeng's eyes lit up. "Is she done?"

Wen Xian heaved a huge sigh of relief. "I guess so."

After a while, the door to the delivery room opened, and a nurse came out with a baby in her arms. "The child has been delivered successfully at 7.20 A.M. on 21st December. He's a boy weighing at 2.8kg."



Zong Qifeng had been looking forward to this moment, but when it came, he didn't know how to react. Instead, he stood rooted to the ground.

Wen Xian came forward to take the child from the nurse's arms. "Thank you."

"This is our duty. The mother will be coming out soon," the nurse said, before returning to the delivery room and closing the door behind her.

Wen Xian looked at the baby in her arms, her face filled with love. He was tiny, almost fragile-looking.

It was her first time holding a baby, hence she was very careful with it and it felt amazing. She walked over to Zong Qifeng. "Look, it's your baby."

It was still too early to tell who the child resembles, but he had a full head of bushy, black hair.

Zong Qifeng looked down, his face taut and his hands shaking from excitement. "Give him to me."

Wen Xian carefully passed him the baby. "Be careful. He's still very fragile."

This only made Zong Qifeng even more nervous.

He took the baby from her arms and felt his heart thump against his chest. He's a father now and this is his baby – it felt like a dream come true, yet it still seemed so surreal.

"He's my baby."

Wen Xian smiled. "That's right. He's your child, and your blood is running through his veins. You're father and son."

Zong Qifeng looked up. "I must thank you for making me a father so soon."

He wasn't making fun of her, neither was he being sarcastic – he was genuinely thankful for her.

Nothing could console the bitterness in him but this child.

At that moment, he could feel himself letting go of his past.

He continued to stare at the baby as he talked to Wen Xian, "I'll let you go. Let's get a divorce tomorrow."

Wen Xian figured that he finally knew what he wanted.

"Are you crazy?" Wen Xian rolled her eyes at him. "My brother would probably kill you if he found out that you divorced me the moment the child was born."

Zong Qifeng laughed too. Maybe he was really going crazy from happiness.

At that moment, the door to the delivery room opened, and Cheng Yuxiu was wheeled out of it. Her doctor came out as well with a smile. "Everything is fine. She needs to rest now, so let's get a room for her."

"We're going to another hospital now," Wen Xian said, taking the baby from Zong Qifeng's arms. "We don't have much time."

Zong Qifeng gave the baby to Wen Xian before bending down to pick up Cheng Yuxiu, who was still unconscious. She was too tired after being in pain for the whole night.

Her whole body was limp.

This hospital had been the one that Cheng Yuxiu had been going for checkups the whole time, as it was rather hidden from the public eye.

After giving birth, they would have to go to a hospital in the city. Wen Xian would definitely not give birth at such a secluded hospital.

The morning air was chilly, so Zong Qifeng took his coat and wrapped it around Cheng Yuxiu's body before putting her into the car. Wen Xian followed suit, the baby nestled in her arms.

They made their way back to the city hospital when the streets were still empty, and everything went smoothly. They had arranged everything beforehand to make it look like Wen Xian had just given birth.

Cheng Yuxiu moved into a nearby room. When everything was ready, Zong Qifeng made the call to his family and Wen Xian's family to announce the birth of their baby boy.

Both families were elated with the news, but when Madam Wen heard the news, she began to berate him on the spot, "Women go through hell and back just to give birth, and you're only telling me that she has given birth now?"

Zong Qifeng's hand on his phone clenched even tighter when he heard her words. Suddenly, Cheng Yuxiu's painful cries began to ring in his ears.

She had been so brave and strong, yet she couldn't bear the pain. It must have been excruciating.

He felt that he owed her something.

"Why aren't you talking?" Madam Wen asked.

"I forgot to tell you yesterday. I was too nervous," Zong Qifeng explained hurriedly.

Considering that he was a first-time father, it made sense that he forgot to tell the family about the birth in the midst of his anxiety. Madam Wen decided to drop the subject. "Don't let her catch a cold. We're going over now."

After an hour, the small hospital room was crowded with people, some of them looking at the newborn baby, and others fussing over Wen Xian.

“This child looks like Qifeng,” Madam Wen said, holding the child in her arms.

“Indeed,” Madam Zong added.

Wen Xian leaned against the bed, unable to imagine how it would feel like to be a new mother. She could only pretend to be exhausted.

“He’s only a baby! How could you even tell who he looks like?”

Madam Zong took Wen Xian’s hand. “You’re the hero of the Zong family,” she said, before taking out a property deed and a jewelry box from her bag.

“It isn’t worth much, but I prepared this sapphire ring just for you. This deed is for you too...”

Wen Xian felt apprehensive about accepting those gifts. “How could I take them...”

“You’re taking them,” Madam Zong insisted.

Madam Wen felt satisfied when she saw Madam Zong’s gifts.

She didn’t care about the value of the gifts; she just wanted to see the sincerity.

Their kids had gotten married as part of an agreement, even though they didn’t have any feelings for each other. Wen Xian had a boyfriend prior to this, but she couldn’t stand the pressure from both families and got married to Zong Qifeng. Madam Wen had been worried about their relationship, but looking at the current situation...

They had been married for barely two years, and the birth of their child would improve their relationship further. She felt happy about it.

“Don’t worry! This is her duty as a wife and as a daughter-in-law.”

Madam Zong laughed. “Wen Xian did us proud by having a son first!”

In contrast to everyone’s happiness and excitement, Zong Qifeng stayed silent throughout.

He stood by the window and thought about Cheng Yuxiu. She had just given birth, yet none of her love ones were there to support her.

She did not even get to share the liveliness and joy in this room.

A woman risked her life to give birth to a child, yet the child didn’t belong to her. How much more depressing would that be?

Wen Qing noticed Zong Qifeng spacing out, and he was unhappy about it. That man had just become the father of a beautiful baby boy, yet he didn’t look happy.

This didn’t make sense.

Wen Qing squinted...

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Wen Qing was highly suspicious about Zong Qifeng's actions, so he had been sending people to stalk him.

Within three days, his men managed to catch him hanging out with Cheng Yuxiu.

Wen Xian had all the company in the world whereas Cheng Yuxiu had no one and she didn't even get to see her baby yet. She had cried and told him to bring the baby to her at the first chance.

Zong Qifeng had promised to let her see the baby that day, but Madam Wen's arrival made it difficult. He had no choice but to excuse himself from the room and go to Cheng Yuxiu's room and tell her to wait.

He pushed open the door to the room and saw Cheng Yuxiu sitting upright in anticipation. "Where's my baby?" she asked.

Zong Qifeng walked over. "I can't get him over today. You'll have to wait."

The glint in Cheng Yuxiu's eyes disappeared as fast as it came. She lowered her eyelids in disappointment. All she wanted to do was to take a look at her baby, but why was it so hard?

Her chest hurt immensely.

Zong Qifeng couldn't relate to her pain, but he understood her emotions. After all, he was first-time father too.

He walked over to the bed and hugged her shoulders. "You just gave birth, so don't worry too much. I'll bring the baby over at the first chance."

“I don’t want to let go of him,” Cheng Yuxiu sobbed. The child had been growing in her belly for the past ten months, so she couldn’t just give the child to Wen Xian like that.

Zong Qifeng sighed. “It’s too late.”

Everyone thinks that Wen Xian gave birth to the baby. “Maybe it’s for the better. I’ll divorce Wen Xian in a while to get hold of the child’s custody, and then I’ll marry you. Once that happens, you can see our baby everyday.”

Cheng Yuxiu nodded. Even though she had no feelings for him, they’ve just had a baby, and it would be great for them to watch the child grow up together too.

“I heard that crying after giving birth isn’t good for your eyes,” Zong Qifeng said, and was about to wipe her tears off her face when suddenly...

Bam! The door to the room was kicked open roughly, and the two of them whirled around to face the door at the same time.

Wen Qing stood at the door, fuming. He couldn’t believe his ears when his subordinates told him that Zong Qifeng had been cheating on Wen Xian. How could he sneak off like that when Wen Xian had just given birth?

Even so, he had to make sure his subordinate hadn’t been lying. When he barged into the room, all he saw was Zong Qifeng holding that woman in his arms.

That confirmed his suspicions. How can he be messing around with this woman when Wen Xian was recovering from childbirth?

The more he thought about it, the angrier he got. He rushed up to Zong Qifeng and yanked him up by his collar. “Wen Xian is still in confinement, and you’re...”

He turned to look at Cheng Yuxiu, who still had tear stains on her face. To Wen Qing, that was just another tactic of mistresses to deceive men.

Wen Qing's chest heaved, his face twisted by anger. "Zong Qifeng, why are you doing this to Wen Xian?"

Zong Qifeng didn't budge. "I think there's a misunderstanding here. She's innocent..."

"You're protecting your side chick now?" Wen Qing bellowed. If the tiny wisp of logic left in his mind hadn't reminded him that Wen Xian would beat him up if he hurt Zong Qifeng, he might have done just that.

Considering that his sister was still recovering, he didn't want to drop this bombshell on her just yet.

The two families married for profit, and now that they had a child, that bond only gets closer. Even if Zong Qifeng cheats on Wen Xian, it would be difficult to get a divorce, since it wouldn't do any good to both the families and the child.

He forced himself to remain calm. "Leave this woman and stay with Wen Xian. If you dare to go back to her, I'll personally end you!"

Wen Qing dumped Zong Qifeng onto the bed after that.

Wen Qing then turned to Cheng Yuxiu and looked down upon her. "If you would still like to live, then do us a favor and leave him alone, you understand?"

Zong Qifeng smoothed out his creased collar. "If you're unhappy, take it out on me. Just leave her alone."

Wen Qing clenched his fists. Why was he still speaking up for her?

"I can't promise that I won't hurt you if I got mad..."



“I understand,” Zong Qifeng said, looking at Wen Qing. “Big Brother, you’re at the peak of your life right now, and you have everything you need at your fingertips. However, I’ll not allow you to touch her.”

“You!”

Wen Qing gave Zong Qifeng a death glare.

“Are you giving up on Wen Xian?” Wen Qing snarled. “This guys must be crazy! Where’s your brain when you need it?”

Wen Qing felt like he had just been struck by lightning. Was Zong Qifeng going to ditch his wife and newborn son for some random woman?

“Aren’t you being an irresponsible man? Did this woman drug you or something?” Wen Qing yelled.

He firmly believed that the woman had drugged Zong Qifeng into oblivion.

However, he had to remain calm for Wen Xian’s sake.

Restraining his temper, he said, “Let’s both take a few days to cool down. We’ll have a word on this in a couple of days. Also, don’t let Wen Xian know this, she’s very weak right now. You’d better think about this carefully for the sake of your son.”

After that, Wen Qing walked out of the room. He ordered someone to investigate Cheng Yuxiu’s background.

His only sister got cheated on when she was still recovering from childbirth, and he won’t let it go so easily.

That man was asking for a good round of beating for betraying his sister like that!

Cheng Yuxiu grasped the bedsheet tightly. She had managed to figure out Wen Qing's identity from their conversation. "What are we going to do?" She panicked.

Zong Qifeng was strangely calm about it. He looked at her straight in the eyes and said, "Isn't that great? I could use this chance to divorce Wen Xian."

He could also use this chance to marry Cheng Yuxiu.

"Won't that destroy the bond between the two families?"

Zong Qifeng's lips trembled. "Whatever. As long as the child's there, they won't hate me. They would probably be disappointed in me. That's for sure."

Cheng Yuxiu pursed her lips. Now that things have gotten out of hand, she didn't know what else to say.

"You're not safe here anymore. I'll find somewhere else to house you," Zong Qifeng said. He feared retribution from Wen Qing for this.

Cheng Yuxiu figured that since Wen Xian was such a nice person so her brother wouldn't be a ruthless person either. "He maybe powerful, but he probably won't hurt me for real."

"He's very close to Wen Xian and now that he thinks that I have cheated on her with you; he will definitely take his anger out on you," Zong Qifeng said. He knew how close the two siblings were.

He walked over to cover her with a blanket. "Get some rest first and don't catch a cold. He wouldn't be coming back anytime soon, so I'll go and find Wen Xian now to discuss the divorce. Don't worry about the child. You'll get to meet him soon."

Cheng Yuxiu nodded. "You should be careful too. He looks like he knows martial arts or something."

“He’s a soldier. That’s why he looks scary. Anyway, he won’t start beating people up for no reason and I know how to dodge his attacks too as I’m not that dumb,” Zong Qifeng patted her shoulder. “Go to sleep. I’ll be done before you know it.”

Cheng Yuxiu nodded.

Zong Qifeng closed the door behind him and returned to Wen Xian’s room. Madam Wen had left, and the only person left in the room was the maid assigned to take care of Wen Xian. The child slept soundly in his cot, only waking up occasionally to eat or cry about a soiled diaper.

Wen Xian noticed his troubled expression and asked, “What are you sulking about? Did something happen to Yuxiu?”

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 225

Zong Qifeng told the maid to leave the room before looking at Wen Xian. “Your brother found out about Cheng Yuxiu, and he thinks that I’m cheating on you with her. He’s very angry now.”

Wen Xian sat up immediately. “He didn’t hurt her, did he?”

She knew how irritable her brother could get as he loved her very much; so, he would definitely lash out against Cheng Yuxiu.

“He didn’t but we can’t keep her identity under wraps any longer.”

Cheng Yuxiu breathed a sigh of relief. If Wen Qing had attacked Cheng Yuxiu, she wouldn’t be able to forgive herself. Although she agreed to have this child for the money, she had lost her freedom for close to a year. Through their interactions in the past year, Wen Xian got to know her better, and she could tell that Cheng Yuxiu was a good woman.

“What do you think we should do?” Wen Xian asked.

“Let’s get divorced then.”

That was exactly what Wen Xian wanted, yet she still had her worries. “It’s not good for you.”

If they got a divorce at this juncture, he would become the common enemy since he was the one who cheated on her.

“We’ve come so far and there’s no turning back. As long as we have this child, I would be fine.”

No matter how mad the Wen family would get with Zong Qifeng, they wouldn't be able to hurt him because of this child.

Wen Xian pondered over it for a while before coming to the conclusion that there was no other way out. "Fine then. I'm sorry for the trouble."

"Don't say that," Zong Qifeng said calmly. He had been itching to end this loveless marriage anyway.

He wanted to divorce Wen Xian and marry Cheng Yuxiu instead, since the child belonged to him and the latter. They should be the one raising the child together.

"If you're sure about it, then go ahead," Wen Xian said, taking a deep breath and looking into the baby cot. "He will only be happy with his mother around."

To a baby, power and money meant nothing compared to the mother's love.

When she was about to give her family a call, the door to the room opened and Wen Qing walked in.

He pretended that nothing had happened, instead giving Zong Qifeng a questioning glance and asked, "You didn't tell her anything, did you?"

He didn't want Wen Xian to know that Zong Qifeng had been hooking up with another woman behind her back.

"Why are you here, Big Brother?"

Wen Xian began to panic and hugged the baby close to her, just in case he went berserk and hurt the baby by accident.

However, that move was simply a show of love to Wen Qing above everything else.

He looked at Zong Qifeng. "I have something to tell you. Follow me."

"Let's just talk here," Wen Xian said. She could tell that her brother was just acting calm for her sake, and Zong Qifeng might run into trouble if he followed her brother out.

"You shouldn't be listening to men's conversations," Wen Qing said, glancing at her. "Why? You won't let him come with me for even a second?"

"It's not that..."

"Hey, I just want to have a word with him. Stay here and rest," Wen Qing said, patting his sister's shoulder.

That did nothing to calm her down.

Zong Qifeng gave her a reassuring look. "It's fine. Big Brother just wants to have a chat with me and he doesn't want you to worry about it."

"But..."

"Enough," Wen Qing cut her off, his patience was wearing thin.

"I'll wait outside," he said before leaving the room.

"Don't worry," Zong Qifeng said before following Wen Qing out. He was curious as to what Wen Qing wanted to talk about.

They walked to the end of the corridor and into the stairwell where it was quiet. Wen Qing spoke up first. "You haven't told her anything, right?"

Zong Qifeng shook his head.

“That’s great. You’d better sort things out and stay with Wen Xian for the child’s sake,” Wen Qing said calmly, a huge change in attitude from the beast he was previously.

“I investigated that woman’s background,” Wen Qing said, leaning on the walls. “She’s from some Mengcheng County and not B City. She’s not worth your time, so you’d better stick with my sister.”

Zong Qifeng frowned. “You investigated her?” He asked coldly.

“She’s just a plain woman with a pretty face and a rather good family background. She ran into some problems so you gave her money some money and she became your mistress.”

The people who investigated her didn’t manage to find out who gave Cheng Yuxiu the money actually. The only thing they could confirm was that she came to B City after receiving a sum of money.

Wen Qing was convinced that Zong Qifeng was behind the money.

Considering their relationship now...

He didn’t think it was anything out of the ordinary, since a rich man had the means to get a mistress whenever he wanted. However, for the sake of the two families and his sister, he wouldn’t allow this woman to get between them.

Zong Qifeng squinted. Something didn’t seem right with Wen Qing’s calmness.

“What did you do to her?”

“I don’t know what you’re talking about. Just be nice to my sister...”

Before he could finish his sentence, Zong Qifeng had already pushed past him and barreled into Cheng Yuxiu room. It was empty.

He looked at Wen Qing again. “Did you do something to her?”

Wen Qing walked over and shrugged at the sight of the empty room. “You’re asking me?”

He gave Zong Qifeng a look. “Were you planning to frame me for kidnapping or something?”

Wen Qing would never admit to kidnapping Cheng Yuxiu.

Zong Qifeng yanked at Wen Qing’s collar. “What in the world did you do to her?!”

“What evidence do you even have, Zong Qifeng? Who knows if you hid her somewhere in an attempt to drag me down into this mess?”

Wen Qing pushed him aside. “Maybe she left on her own accord. I wouldn’t bother to kidnap her.”

Zong Qifeng gave him a look and walked into the room. The only place someone could hide in was that tiny bathroom, yet it was empty. There were no signs of struggle in the room or on the bed, so it seemed that Cheng Yuxiu wasn’t taken away by force.

If so, then where was she?

She didn’t have any friends or family living in B City.

“Is she really gone?” Wen Qing asked as he leaned against the doorframe with a smirk.

Zong Qifeng ignored him completely.



At that moment, his phone rang, and Cheng Yuxiu's name appeared on the screen. They had exchanged phone numbers before she gave birth for convenience's sake.

He picked up the phone quickly. "Where are you?"

"I have left. Don't come and find me."

Zong Qifeng's free hand balled into fists by his side. "What are you talking about?"

"I don't love you, so why would I marry you?"

Zong Qifeng's heart sank into the abyss. "Tell me where you're at. I'll go and find you and explain everything to you."

"I realized that I still love my ex-boyfriend, and he doesn't mind me, I..."

Zong Qifeng gripped his phone so tight he could crush it.

"I don't believe you..."

"I've already left with him. I don't need you to believe me?"

Zong Qifeng stood rooted to the ground as though he was a statue. She had made a promise to him.

And now she has gone back to her ex-boyfriend?

Does she think their agreement was a joke?

Wen Qing looked at him and smirked before taking his leave.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 226

Cheng Yuxiu had disappeared off the face of the earth, and even her phone number became obsolete after that call.

Zong Qifeng had gone to Mengcheng County to look for her once, but he didn't succeed. Even her ex-boyfriend Bai Hongfei disappeared without a trace.

He lost hope only after that. Maybe she had eloped with Bai Hongfei after all.

Every promise she had made were just lies.

However, Wen Xian refused to believe that she had disappeared. How could she leave her child behind?

"I have faith in her," Wen Xian declared.

Zong Qifeng was too devastated to process what she said, and he went upstairs to have some time alone.

Wen Xian held the child in her arms and returned to the Wen family house.

She had to find out if Wen Qing was behind all this.

After all, he had plenty of reasons to do that.

He might have kidnapped Cheng Yuxiu as he didn't want the two families to get into conflict or make her unhappy.

When she got there, Wen Qing had yet to return.

“Mom, when is my brother coming back?”

Madam Wen pulled her daughter’s clothes tighter around her and took the baby from her arms. “You just came back from the hospital a few days ago, and you’re running around already? Wouldn’t a call suffice?”

Wen Xian managed a small smile. “I miss you and Dad. I’m not cold in the car, since I’m wearing so much.”

Madam Wen smiled. She was happy that her daughter still thought of the family even after she got married.

She looked down at the baby in her arms. He was only a couple of days old, and his face had already gotten chubbier.

Wen Xian glanced at the baby too. “He has started gaining weight already.”

“Kids tend to put on weight quite a bit in the first month. The ones that grow faster can get around three or four kilograms heavier,” Madam Wen said, speaking from experience.

Madam Wen was scared that her daughter would catch a cold, so she told her to rest in her room. Wen Xian called her maid back at the house to take care of Zong Qifeng.

Cheng Yuxiu’s sudden disappearance seemed to be a huge blow to Zong Qifeng.

That was why she had decided to come back and see Wen Qing. She wanted to find out if Cheng Yuxiu had been kidnapped or if she had actually eloped with Bai Hongfei.

If she had been kidnapped, Wen Xian would sacrifice anything to save her. It could even be exposing the truth or ending her relationship with Zhuang Ziyi.

If she had eloped with Bai Hongfei, then Wen Xian would have to stay and take care of Zong Qifeng and the child.

This whole mess started because of her, and she had to take responsibility for it.

As for Zhuang Ziyi, there was a high chance that she might have to forego their relationship.

She looked at the baby sleeping beside her, and she reached out to stroke his little cheeks. How could she deprive this child of a mother?

Dinner time came and went, and Wen Qing was still nowhere to be found. "Is he that busy?" Wen Xian was a little panicked.

"He goes out quite a bit these days," Madam Wen answered.

"What's he even doing outside?" Wen Xian asked.

"It's probably his work. He's not married yet, so what else could he be busy with besides work?"

Wen Xian didn't manage to get what she wanted to hear from her mother, but she figured that Wen Qing wouldn't let their parents know if he had actually kidnapped Cheng Yuxiu.

He would have kept the truth from them so that they wouldn't get worried.

She couldn't sleep that night as she couldn't stop thinking about Cheng Yuxiu. In a bid to catch Wen Qing when he comes home, Wen Xian stayed up waiting.

The door finally creaked open when the clock was going to strike ten.

She pushed her blankets away quietly so that she wouldn't wake the baby.

Wen Qing was hanging up his coat at the doorway when he saw Wen Xian coming towards him. “Why are you here? Did you have an argument with Qifeng?”

The first thing he did when he saw her was to ask about her relationship with her husband.

“We’re fine,” Wen Xian said, coming closer. “Big Brother, tell me the truth. Did you kidnap someone by the name of Cheng Yuxiu?”

Wen Qing froze for a moment before he asked, “Who’s Cheng Yuxiu?”

His heart thumped inside his chest. Did Wen Xian know about Zong Qifeng’s affair?

“Sister...”

“Big Brother, you know that I married him for the sake of the families. We don’t love each other at all, and we only had this child to maintain our relationship with the Zongs. I knew that he was having an affair and I was fine with it, so you don’t have to worry for me. If you kidnapped her, then please release her. I’m begging you.”

The last thing Wen Qing expected to hear from his sister was that she was fine with Zong Qifeng hooking up with Cheng Yuxiu. She’s not angry about it?

“Sister, you’re not going to be able to live in peace with that woman getting between you and Zong Qifeng. Moreover, the two of you will never have a chance to fall in love with each other.”

“Big Brother, just give her to me and I’ll deal with the rest...”

“I didn’t kidnap her. Didn’t she elope with her ex-boyfriend? Why are you asking me to release her? Did Zong Qifeng tell you to do this?” Wen Qing said as he scoffed silently.

Wen Xian's words only made him more reluctant to let Cheng Yuxiu go. Zong Qifeng and Wen Xian would never be able to build a romantic relationship if Cheng Yuxiu was still around.

Since they got married and had a child, they would have to stay with each other, be it for their families' sake or for the child.

"You sure you didn't kidnap her?" Wen Xian asked, searching his face for signs that he was lying.

Wen Qing stared at her straight in the eye and said slowly, "Yes, I didn't kidnap her."

As a soldier, Wen Qing had an iron resolve.

Even his father Wen Jin's interrogations wouldn't have gotten the truth out of him, let alone his little sister.

All Wen Xian had was speculation that he had kidnapped Cheng Yuxiu, but no evidence. He knew that her attempts were hopeless.

"Big Brother..."

"It's getting late. I'm really tired from training, so let me rest, okay?" Wen Qing said before she could finish her sentence. He was obviously unwilling to dwell on this topic.

Wen Xian pursed her lips together, her voice turning dry. "Big Brother, you know that I still loved Ziyi when I got married to Qifeng, so it's fine if he's in an affair too. You don't have to feel sorry for me. If you have kidnapped her, please just let her go."

"Why are you two still together then? Why not just get a divorce? For goodness' sake, Wen Xian, you're married now, so just settle down. Also, for the last time, I didn't kidnap her."

Wen Qing pushed past her and went into his room after that.

Wen Xian stayed rooted to the ground as her mind in a mess.

Was she making baseless claims?

Was Wen Qing actually innocent?

However, she figured that Cheng Yuxiu wouldn't get back together with Bai Hongfei and elope with him, considering her personality.

She hadn't even met her child yet, so why would she disappear all of a sudden?

She didn't want to believe it, but Wen Qing seemed adamant about it. She felt helpless for a good while.

She walked back to the room and saw the baby lying still on the bed with his eyes open. He was very quiet and well-behaved; his eyes were looking around as though he was exploring this unfamiliar world from the bed.

The nurse had said that he would be shortsighted for a while, so she walked over and bent down to look at him.

His gaze remained unfocused, as though he hadn't noticed her presence.

Of course, he couldn't see her.

Wen Xian picked him up gently.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 227

The first snow of the winter fell soon after.

Everything was covered with a thick layer of shiny white snow overnight, making them look as though they were made of snow.

Wen Xian wrapped the baby in winter clothing tightly first thing the morning, leaving only his nose and eyes exposed. Madam Wen came in to see her daughter and grandson, only to see them ready to leave. "Why are you up so early? Why don't you sleep for a while more?" She frowned.

"I need to get back before breakfast. I can't leave Qifeng alone at home," Wen Xian said as she packed the baby's milk powder and bottle into her bag, before slinging the bag over her shoulders and picking up the baby in her arms.

"Qifeng isn't a kid anymore, he's not going to starve if you aren't there, is he?" Madam Wen asked. She didn't want her daughter to catch a cold from the blizzard outside.

Wen Xian looked at her mother for a couple of seconds and said, "Mom, I'm leaving."

She had the chauffeur waiting outside, and Madam Wen resisted the urge to get Wen Xian to stay, considering that Wen Xian might have just wanted to be a good wife to her husband. Instead, she put on a thick fur coat and followed Wen Xian out.

She only returned home after Wen Xian had gotten onto her ride. Wen Qing came over in thin pajamas when she was hanging up her coat. Maybe soldiers tend to have a higher tolerance to cold weather? "Where did you go? It's so early," he asked.



He could tell that she had just come back from the outside.

Madam Wen smiled. "I just sent your sister off."

Wen Qing's face froze for a second. "She has gone back so early?"

"She said that she was worried about Qifeng. You see, they weren't too interested in each other when they got married, but they seem to be fine now. Your sister wanted to go back early in the morning despite the cold weather just because she was concerned about Qifeng."

Wen Qing stayed silent, instead pouring himself a cup of water at the table. He pondered over Wen Xian and Zong Qifeng's matters in his head.

It all started with Wen Jin's good impression of Zong Qifeng. He stood out from all the rich kids in the area and had risen to the highest rank in his company within a few years and contributed much to the company's development.

Wen Qing felt proud of his sister for getting married to such a capable man.

As such, he would never allow anyone to mess up this marriage.

He put down his cup. "I'm not eating at home."

He left to go back to his room after that. "You don't even have time to eat?" Madam Wen asked. She was clearly unhappy.

"I have training," Wen Qing said as he closed his door behind him, isolating himself from the world.

The road was slippery from the snow.

Wen Xian looked outside at the snow-covered scenery. Although it felt like a winter wonderland, her heart felt as cold as the temperature that day. There was not a single bit of warmth to this weather.

Screech!

The wheels of the car skidded across the ground, and the driver yelled in shock, "The ground's too slippery and I can't stop!"

Before he could say anything, the car slid out of the road. Although the driver had been careful, there wasn't a fence by the side of the road to stop them, so they could only watch as the car skidded across the slippery ground.

Wen Xian had never experienced anything like this, and she broke out in a cold sweat. She felt helpless and she hugged the baby in her arms tightly.

Luckily for them, a tree managed to break the fall; however, they hung perilously over a steep slope.

"Please don't move, ma'am," the driver said as he was clearly frightened by the situation.

The car swayed. It could tip over any moment if the weight distribution was not even.

Wen Xian was immobilized by fear that she held her breath.

"Quick, call Qifeng now!"

The car could topple over any moment, and it only made her more anxious. She was holding a baby who was barely a month old!

The driver immediately took out his phone, and it didn't take long before Zong Qifeng picked up.

“Sir, we’re in trouble. The road was too slippery and we’re trapped...”

“Wah!”

Before the driver could finish his sentence, the baby cried out in Wen Xian’s arms. Wen Xian immediately looked down to check for injuries, but it made the car lose its balance at last.

In a flurry of snow, screams and cries, the car crashed onto the ground below.

It had toppled over from the steep slope.

The driver passed out on the impact, and Wen Xian wasn’t much better. She felt pain in her legs, but she didn’t have the time to bother about that as she had fixated her gaze on the crying baby.

When the car toppled over, she instinctively held on tight to the baby. She had slammed her foot into the front seat of the car so that it wouldn’t crush the baby, leaving a small space for him.

The baby might have been hungry as his cries grew louder. It took a lot of effort, but Wen Xian managed to reach out and pat him gently. “Don’t cry, baby...”

The baby seemed to understand her words and their current predicament, and his cries stopped abruptly. His watery eyes looked around the car.

Wen Xian began to lose grip on reality, but she forced herself to stay awake for the baby’s sake. She managed a weak smile as she looked at the baby. Thank goodness you’re fine, she thought. I won’t be able to face your parents if anything were to happen to you.

Blood fell from her leg that was lodged in the gap between the seats.

She was about to pass out when she heard a commotion outside.

“We’ve found it! The car is here...”

She heard Zong Qifeng’s voice calling out her name vaguely, but she couldn’t summon her voice to answer him. Everything went black after that.

Zong Qifeng had panicked when he saw blood on his son’s face through the car window. However, when he looked closer and saw how well-behaved the baby was, he began to feel relieved. The baby wasn’t hurt after all.

He reached out to take his son, and it was then when he realized that Wen Xian had used her leg to push the seat away so that it wouldn’t crush the baby. The blood on his face was from her injured leg. Zong Qifeng carried his son out of the car with shaky hands and called for emergency services.

Soon, Wen Xian and the driver were rescued from the car and sent to the hospital by Zong Qifeng’s army of men.

They managed to pull through, though they were both injured.

In particular, Wen Xian’s leg had been crushed for way too long.

“Her leg injury is very serious. Her shin is completely shattered, and we would have to restore it with metal bars. It won’t heal completely, but at least she will still be able to walk normally...”

Zong Qifeng was troubled. Although they had top-notch medical care, but metal bars were still fundamentally different from bones.

Besides, it would be very difficult for her to walk properly again with that shattered shin bone.

He never saw it coming.

“We need your consent. Please sign here if you want to go ahead with the surgery,” the doctor said while handing him the consent form for surgery.

Zong Qifeng signed his name on the form without much hesitation.

There was no way he could reverse the situation, so the best he could do now was to reduce the damage to its minimum to save Wen Xian’s life.

“We’ll use the best methods to help her back on her feet as much as possible.”

“We’ll do our best,” the doctor said, taking the consent form from him and ordered preparations for surgery.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 228

Wen Xian finally woke up two days after the surgery, and the first thing she said was, “How’s the baby? He’s not hurt, is he?”

Her voice was dry and raspy from being unconscious for two days straight.

Zong Qifeng held her hand and said, “He’s fine. You protected him very well.”

Wen Xian heaved a sigh of relief and looked up at the ceiling. “Thank God he’s fine. I won’t be able to face you if anything happened to him.”

She didn’t want to mention Cheng Yuxiu in case it makes Zong Qifeng unhappy.

Zong Qifeng lowered his gaze. “I’ve never felt so embarrassed in my life before,” he said with a bitter grin.

“It’s all my fault.”

Wen Xian put all the blame on herself. “I was being too selfish. I forgot about you.”

“You’re not at fault, and neither am I nor her. It’s just a matter of fate.”

He patted her hand. “Don’t think about anything else. Focus on your recovery.”

“I went to see my brother, and he said that he didn’t kidnap her...”

“It’s fine. If you want to leave, we can get divorced as soon as you recover...”

“I’m not doing that. I’m staying here with you and the baby,” Wen Xian said as she held his hand. “I can’t deprive him of a mother...”

At that moment, Lin Xinyan began to cry.

She felt as though someone had poured boiling water into her, scalding her from the inside.

She couldn’t pass any judgments, since everyone seemed justified in their actions.

“What happened after that?”

Cheng Yuxiu remained calm the whole time, as though she was merely telling the story from a bystander’s point of view.

“Wen Xian couldn’t walk because of her injured leg...”

“Didn’t the doctor say that they can fix it with metal bars?”

“They only found out after the surgery that her leg had been crushed beyond repair in the car. She couldn’t walk anymore, and because of that, Wen Qing kept me and Bai Hongfei captive for even longer, since he didn’t want Zong Qifeng to leave Wen Xian’s side. No one suspected a thing when he claimed that we eloped, since everyone knew that we used to be lovers.”

“After that...”

A few more years passed, Wen Xian finally found out that Wen Qing had been keeping Cheng Yuxiu captive from his conversation with Wen Jin. By then, Zong Jinghao was already six years old.

Cheng Yuxiu had just given birth when Wen Qing went to kidnap her that year. She was locked in the dark, damp cell for a long time where the nasty environment had led to her infertility.

Wen Xian would never have guessed that Wen Qing had lied to her and that her father knew about it the whole time. She crashed into the room and yelled at them, "How could you do that?"

She was beyond furious.

"Wen Xian, why are you here?" Wen Qing asked, standing up from his chair. "We're doing this for your own good..."

Wen Xian continued to scream, "You're breaking the law for me? Who gave you the right to take away someone's liberties?"

"You need to calm down," Wen Qing said, his face darkening. "Haven't you been living in peace for the past few years? You're getting along with Qifeng, and that's good enough. What else do you want? Why would I risk losing my job to do this if it wasn't for you?"

Wen Xian stared at Wen Qing for a long while. "Let her go," she sobbed.

Wen Qing frowned. "Pretend you didn't hear anything today. Go back home now."

"How could I do that?" Wen Xian said, tears welling up in her face. She threw herself off her wheelchair and kneeled down before her brother.

"Are you crazy?" Wen Qing yelled, pulling her up. "You want to lose a limb or something?"

Wen Qing was getting impatient with Wen Xian. She had already lost the ability to walk, and she's still fighting for a woman that had nothing to do with her?



“I don’t care! I’m not getting up unless you let her go!” Wen Xian yelled with much resolve. Wen Qing was left with no choice.

He bent down to look her in the eye. “Why do you want to save her? Aren’t you concerned that she’s going to show up and ruin your marriage?”

Wen Xian looked at him. “I need to save her. I sent her to Zong Qifeng because I wanted to get together with Ziyi...”

“So you set them up?” Wen Qing asked, his expression contorting into something unreadable.

“Let her go,” Wen Jin said, breaking the silence. He believed that Wen Xian and Zong Qifeng were close enough to not drift apart because of that woman.

After all, their child was already six years old, and Zong Qifeng wouldn’t leave Wen Xian for that woman out of the blue.

However, he still hadn’t found out Wen Xian didn’t give birth to the child.

Finally, Wen Qing decided to obey his father’s orders and told Wen Xian the location where he held Cheng Yuxiu captive.

“How did you survive that ordeal?” Lin Xinyan asked, holding Cheng Yuxiu’s clammy hands tightly.

She could feel Cheng Yuxiu’s body trembling.

“I don’t know but it was very hard. I stared at the same walls every day and my mind went at some point. I couldn’t tell one person from another...”

When Zong Qifeng saw Cheng Yuxiu once again after six years, it was at an underground storage space. Her hair was long, dry and unkempt, and her gaze

was empty. Her body was thin like a stick, and when he opened the door, she stayed put in the corner of the room, as though she had succumbed to fate.

Standing at the door to the room, Wen Xian told Zong Qifeng, “She didn’t elope with Bai Hongfei after all. My brother kidnapped her and threatened to kill Bai Hongfei if she didn’t make that call to you. She had been kept here all these years.”

Zong Qifeng couldn’t hear anything else. All he could think about was how she had been imprisoned here all those years instead of running away with Bai Hongfei.

Bai Hongfei was released by Wen Xian as well.

They hadn’t been imprisoned together from the beginning.

Zong Qifeng’s legs felt like they were full of lead, and walking became a chore. He almost couldn’t match her face to the bright and strong girl he knew.

She was just a puppet, her soul had drifted from her.

She could no longer fend for herself besides breathing.

Cheng Yuxiu had retreated further into the corner of the room when she saw someone coming into the room, as though she was terrified.

Zong Qifeng went down on one knee before her and swept her hair away from her face. Cheng Yuxiu began to tremble from fear. “Get away from me,” she said.

She shoved Zong Qifeng, but he didn’t budge. “It’s me,” he rasped.

Cheng Yuxiu stared at him in shock, and when she finally registered his face, tears began to roll down her cheeks.

Zong Qifeng hugged her tightly. "I am taking you out of here."

"When I was rescued, my mind had been in a mess, and I couldn't remember a lot of things. It took a year for me to become normal again. The last time I met Wen Xian, she told me that she was sorry. We've never met again since. Soon, I heard that she was pregnant, and died not long after."

"Does that mean that Zong Jinghao has a half-sibling?" Lin Xinyan asked, instinctively assuming that the child Wen Xian carried belonged to Zong Qifeng.

"No. Qifeng said that the child wasn't his. I'm guessing that it belonged to the man Wen Xian loved."

Cheng Yuxiu looked at Lin Xinyan and reached out to stroke her face. "We got married barely a month after she passed away. Jinghao was unhappy about it even till now. When I was being held captive, Wen Xian did put in a lot of effort into raising him. He still won't call me his mother until now."

"Why can't you tell him?" Lin Xinyan asked as her heart ached. She felt sorry for a lot of people, but it was mostly for Zong Jinghao, since he didn't even know that his birth mother had been around the whole time.

If he found out that Cheng Yuxiu had been his birth mother, he would definitely regret giving her the cold shoulder all these years.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 229

“How much I wanted to tell them that he is my son?” She felt sad and sorry.

How she wished that he would call her mum.

When he was born, everyone knew that he was the son of Zong Qifeng and Wen Xian. He was also the sole heir to the Zong family and the only grandchildren for Wen family.

What would she tell others if she admitted now that she was indeed the mother of the child?

Back then, Wen Xian and Zong Qifeng were lawfully wedded couple, but she was merely his mistress.

What would others call her son then?

An illegitimate child?

No, she could never let that happen.

She could not allow Zong Jinghao to be labeled as an illegitimate child.

He was the heir to the Zong family, and how would others see him if he was known as an illegitimate son? How could he take over the business in the future?

“Furthermore, The Zong family and Wen family shouldn’t go against each other. If they hold grudges against each other, it wouldn’t do them any good.” She said helplessly. “How you think that I was able to marry Zong Qifeng in the first

place?” She was able to marry into the Zong family because she agreed on Wen Qing’s terms.

“Because of Wen Xian, he has always been very nasty to me. He thought that it was all because of me that his sister died at a young age, and couldn’t be with Zong Qifeng. Wen Xian’s death was a heavy blow for him. He knew that I care about the ancestral business of Cheng family, that was why he threatened me with it.”

Wen Qing threatened her that if she wanted to marry Zong Qifeng, then she had to make sure that tea silk from the Cheng family would vanish forever.

Now Lin Xinyan finally understood why the production of tea silk was so little and so rare.

“Wen family used to be very powerful and even now, and if they find out that you have mastered the skill, I’m afraid that...” Her hands trembled uncontrollably. She remembered all her traumatized past like it was just yesterday. She would shrink in fear whenever she thought of it. Those years had cast a nightmare over her life. She knew what Wen Qing was capable of doing and she had gone through too much, and now she didn’t want Lin Xinyan to suffer and go thru the same thing as her. And she definitely couldn’t bear to see Lin Xinyan in danger.

“It is not too late now. It is fine if you have mastered the skill, but remember not let others know about it.”

Lin Xinyan bent down to lay her head on her lap. Holding her hands, Lin Xinyan said, “You must have faith in Jinghao and me. We can surely overcome all the obstacles, although it might put us in danger. Outsiders would never know the sacrifices you have made; especially the Cheng family’s ancestral business to stay by Jinghao’s side. But we knew, so please believe us. We will be able to protect the ancestral business of the Cheng family, and it will be pass on from generation to generation.”

“What a silly child.” Cheng Yuxiu said as she stroked her hair. “All I ever care about is the safety of you, Jinghao, and the two kids.”

She didn’t care about anything else; nothing was more important than the safety of her loved ones.

Lin Xinyan didn’t speak anymore, but she had made up her mind to continue the legacy of the Cheng family. Although she didn’t understand Cheng Yuwen’s decision in the first place, she finally got her head around it and understood Cheng Yuwen’s intention. If she were in his shoes, she wouldn’t want the ancestral business to vanish as well.

“It is late now, do you want to have a rest here with me?” Cheng Yuxiu asked softly.

Lin Xinyan nodded.

Yuxiu took off her jacket and shoes, and got in the bed together with Lin Xinyan.

Cheng Yuxiu tucked her in, and faced her while lying down, “I knew you are different the moment I met you.”

She was not the same as all the other mistresses that she had met before.

Cheng Yuxiu stretched out her hand and caressed her forehead. “I have always wanted to have a daughter.” Chen Yuxiu said as she tucked her hair behind the ears.

Now that her son had married a good wife, her wish was fulfilled.

“You can always treat me like your daughter and give me all your love,” Lin Xinyan said lovingly, with her beautiful eyes.

“Of course I am giving you all my love, I have even given Jinghao to you.” Cheng Yuxiu smiled back, but there was an unnoticeable wetness in her eyes.

“Why would there be an engagement between Jinghao and me since we were babies?” Lin Xinyan asked suddenly. She had asked Zhuang Zijin about it before, but she didn’t say anything. Now that Cheng Yuxiu had mentioned it, she didn’t explain why the engagement was agreed on in the first place either.

“I don’t know either. I heard about the engagement from Zong Qifeng too. I asked him before that why must it be you, but he didn’t say anything either. I think you may be related to Wen Xian. Do your parents know her or her relatives?”

Lin Xinyan was lost in thought. Back then, Zhuang Zijin brought everything with her when she married Lin Guoan. Therefore, she might be the only left in her family, and she had never mentioned anything about the Wen family.

If Wen family was so powerful and somewhat related to the Zhuang family, how could Lin Guoan send them abroad without fear?

Lin Xinyan shook her head, “I never knew that I have other relatives in Wen family. It was my mother all alone.”

“Perhaps it was fate. Don’t think about it anymore and get a good rest.”

Lin Xinyan nodded.

It was a quiet night just like usual; however, Lin Xinyan couldn’t sleep.

It was the same for Cheng Yuxiu, she couldn’t sleep as well. She was just pretending that she had a good sleep.

The next morning, Cheng Yuwen had prepared breakfast and served it in the lobby, and sent some toiletries over to them. Then, the two of them went to the lobby after they were ready.

Cheng Yuwen watched how they walked in the lobby, and he knew that the late-night talk between the two of them was worth it. "I have never seen any mother-in-law and the daughter-in-law who bond so well," he commented.

With a long face, Cheng Yuxiu said to him, "Don't you think this is over. I wouldn't forgive you if anything happens to Yan."

Cheng Yuwen knew that he owed it to her, so he didn't talk back, "Come on, let's sit down and eat, the food won't taste good when it gets cold."

"Let me introduce to you our signature dish. I know you have been locked away and couldn't try this dish all this while. But let's enjoy the meal today."

"Alright." Lin Xinyan smiled. She then pushed the soymilk to him and said, "You too."

She had always treated him as her master, and now after she knew about his real identity, she respected him even more.

"We will leave after the meal." Cheng Yuwen told Lin Xinyan. Then he looked at his sister, "How about you? When are you leaving?"

Cheng Yuxiu looked troubled. She chewed the food in her mouth slowly. Cheng Yuwen could see through her thoughts at a glance, "Don't you want to see the two kids? Since the mother of the kids is here, why don't you ask her for her permission?"

Cheng Yuxiu looked at Cheng Yuwen with a frown, "What if Jinghao finds out? You knew that my relationship with him was tense."

"It is alright. I could ask the driver to fetch the children later. I will tell them that I miss them and want to see them. That way, you could see them once they are here."



“That’s a great idea. You are so brilliant.” Cheng Yuwen smiled. “I bet you can enjoy your meal now,” said Cheng Yuwen while giving her a look.

Cheng Yuxiu smiled timidly, feeling excited. She can’t believe that she can see them as a Grandma now.

It was almost like a dream, so surreal.

Yet this quiet and peaceful moment was so real.

She had a lot of regrets for the first half of her life, but now all she ever wanted was to have a peaceful life, without any hurdles.

After breakfast, Cheng Yuwen got ready to fetch the children. Suddenly, Lin Xinyan walked out and said, “Let me go with you.”

“You are worried about me? Cheng Yuwen asked.

“No, I am not worried about you. I am worried that they won’t let the children leave with you if I weren’t there.” Lin Xinyan shook her head as she said it.

Zong Jinghao definitely wouldn’t agree to hand over the two children to Cheng Yuwen. That, she knew for sure.

Cheng Yuwen opened the car’s door and said, “Let’s get in the car.”

Lin Xinyan bent over to get in the car.

The car passed through the morning fog in the mountains and moved forward slowly.

The car was moving slowly due to the fog, therefore it was late when they arrived at the destination. They got out of the car and entered from the back door.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 230

While Lin Xinyan was locked away in the backyard, the two kids had gotten used to the life here. Every day after meal, they would wander around in the village. It was a village with picturesque scenery, and the children enjoyed themselves very much. They treated themselves as a tourist, experiencing the village life to the fullest.

Yesterday, Lin Ruixi heard from an old grandma that it was the season for persimmons now. Wild persimmons could be found on the mountain to the west. Lin Ruixi had eaten all kinds of fruits before, but she had never eaten handpicked persimmons from the mountains. Therefore, she was curious about it and begged Zong Jinghao to bring her to the mountains.

Zong Jinghao would never say no to his daughter. Therefore, after breakfast, he brought two children with him to the mountains with the bodyguards. Shen Peichuan went with them, while Su Zhan and Qin Ya stayed back to hold the fort.

Bai Yinning didn't go to the mountains due to his immobility.

When Lin Xinyan came in from the back door, the front yard was empty. Bai Yinning had gone to deal with the company's affairs, while Su Zhan was holding a freshly plucked wild chrysanthemum flower, trying to impress Qin Ya. As for Qin Ya, she was squatting by the river washing the children's clothes. The river was clear, but it was a bit cold due to the changing season. The washing machine would be good to have now, but unfortunately, there wasn't one here.

Su Zhan stretched his head out quietly and handed the flower to her, "Does it smell good?"

Qin Ya stared at him angrily, "Get lost! Can't you see that I am washing clothes?" She continued, "Don't you know that giving a chrysanthemum flower as a gift is a bad sign to the receiver? Do you wish that I am dead?"

Generally, women loved receiving roses, daisies, and other types of flowers. But she had never seen anyone giving out chrysanthemum flower to a living person.

Su Zhan lowered his head awkwardly and blinked his eyes innocently while looking at the purple and pink chrysanthemum flowers. The flowers are beautiful, aren't they? Only this type of flowers can be found in this season.

"I didn't mean to curse you." Su Zhan felt wronged and upset.

Out of frustration, he tossed the flowers into the river. The river looked more lively with the bright flowers in it.

"Su Zhan, what's wrong with you?" Su Zhan pointed the river with a frown, "Why would you toss the flowers into the clear river? Are you trying to pollute it?"

Su Zhan was speechless.

What the...

Why can't I do anything right?

It's not hazardous waste either. What can the flowers do to the river?

"Pick them up." Qin Ya stared at him. Su Zhan's jaw dropped open as his eyes widened in shock. Pick them up? But how? The flowers had drifted away with the water.

However, his gaze fell on her hands. He saw the redness in her hands due to the cold water so he pulled her hands and wanted to warm them for her, "Let me rub your hands for you."

Qin Ya shook off his hands and said, “Don’t change the topic. I didn’t ask you to rub my hands for me.”

Su Zhan was standing on the rock by the river while he was holding Qin Ya’s hands. As she shook off his hand with a great force, he lost balance and fell into the river. With a thud, water splashed onto Qin Ya’s body.

Qin Ya’s intention was to stop Su Zhan from touching her, and she didn’t expect to push him into the river accidentally. It was winter, so the water could be freezing.

Su Zhan emerged from the river, and he was shivering. He had goosebumps all over him due to the coldness. He shouted at Qin Ya, “Are you trying to kill your husband?”

It was so cold.

At first, Qin Ya was guilty of what had happened to him, but after hearing what he had said, she wasn’t feeling guilty anymore. “Cut it out, Su Zhan. We are just pretending to be in love so please don’t forget about that. As soon as we get back to the city, we will break up, and there will be nothing else between us. Do you get it?”

Su Zhan swam up to the shore quickly. Then, he held his arms with both of his hands instinctively. He realized it became colder when the wind blew. “Ah-choo!” He sniffled as he covered his nose and mouth. “Qin Ya, you took advantage of me, and you should be responsible for it!”

Qin Ya was speechless.

“Su Zhan, don’t you feel embarrassed at all?” Qin Ya had never seen anyone so shameless and despicable.

“I don’t care...”

“What are you two doing here?” Lin Xinyan saw both of them bickering in the cold weather. Furthermore, Su Zhan was wet from head to toe, wasn’t that too cold for him?

Qin Ya and Su Zhan heard the voice and turned their heads around at the same time. They saw Lin Xinyan standing not far away, and spoke in unison, “You came...”

Noticing both of them said the same the thing simultaneously, they stared at each other for a brief moment. Then, Qin Ya averted her gaze; walked towards Lin Xinyan and greeted, “Ms. Lin.”

Lin Xinyan responded in a nod, but she didn’t look away from Su Zhan, “Have you taken a bath in the river?”

“Ah-Choo! Ah-Choo!” Su Zhan bent over his body, trying to warm himself up. Taking a bath? Of course not!

“I will go back into the house first.” He couldn’t take the coldness anymore, else he would catch a cold very soon.

Lin Xinyan asked Qin Ya in a curious tone, “Are the two of you fighting?”

Qin Ya shook her head, “No, no, he slipped and fell into the water himself.”

Lin Xinyan knew that Qin Ya was lying; however, she couldn’t care less. Instead, she asked, “Where are Xichen and Rui?”

“President Zong brought them to the mountains to pluck the persimmons.” Qin Ya answered.

“What?” Lin Xinyan frowned.

To the mountains?

It was not something Zong Jinghao would do. Although he was stuck here, I bet he was pretty busy?

How did he make time to go for the persimmons plucking?

“Ruixi was the one who begged him to bring her to the mountains,” she explained seeing Lin Xinyan’s doubtful look.

After the explanation, Lin Xinyan finally understood what happened. Her phone was still in the house, so she had to get back there to call Zong Jinghao and asked him to come back now. Cheng Yuxiu was still waiting for her so she had no time to waste.

Just as Lin Xinyan was about to go back to the house, Su Zhan walked towards her in his newly changed clothes. Seeing Lin Xinyan in a hurry, he asked, “Are you looking for President Zong?”

Without waiting for Lin Xinyan to answer the question, he then continued, “He is in the mountains. His beloved daughter begged him to go.”

Seeing Su Zhan walked towards her at the right timing, Lin Xinyan asked, “Can you call him and ask him to bring the children back?”

Su Zhan agreed with a nod and started calling Zong Jinghao with his phone. However, he could only hear a female voice answering him, “I’m sorry, the number you have dialed is currently unavailable. Please call again later.”

“I couldn’t get through to him.” Su Zhan hung up the phone. “Probably the signal in the village isn’t strong enough. Let me call again.”

“Beep beep beep... The number you have dialed is currently unavailable. Please call again later...” It was still the same answer from the other side of the phone. He looked up at Lin Xinyan and said, “There is probably no signal in the mountain.”

This was the first time he had encountered such a problem. He had always been able to dial out to other locations.

Lin Xinyan gave it a thought and nodded. It was possible; after all, it was a huge and dense forest.

“Which mountain did they go to? I will go and look for them.”

“I will go with you then. I am not entirely sure if there would be wild boars or other animals around the mountain. Just in case anything happens, then I can come to your rescue. Else, Jinghao will skin me alive if he finds out that I failed to protect you.” Su Zhan walked forward to lead the way.

Lin Xinyan’s initial plan was to bring the two children to Cheng’s family residence; however, now she had no choice but to look for the children in the mountains with Su Zhan. Su Zhan was indeed a smooth talker who could talk her into his plan.

They walked along the rugged path towards the top of the hill to the west.

The path was wet because of the night dew, and it was slippery. Out of concern, Su Zhan warned her, “Slow down there.”

“Mmm...” Lin Xinyan responded as she looked at the vines sticking out all over the ground. It wasn’t easy to walk.

“Look at the footprints; they should be somewhere here.” Su Zhan looked at the trampled plants in front of him and continued, “I will lead the way, and you follow me at the back.”

As soon as he finished speaking, he followed the footprints on the ground intently. Lin Xinyan did not follow Su Zhan at his back right away. Instead, she looked around her surroundings and searched for something. Luckily, she saw two branches with the tree forks that came with the right thickness not far away from her. She walked over to grab one of the branches and broke it from the tree. She then put the branch on the ground to see if that was the correct height for

her. After testing the height, she broke it at a height that she thought was appropriate. A ready-made walking stick was done in just a matter of minutes. The walking stick was a perfect tool to support her in walking on the wet ground so she wouldn't fall easily.

As she was breaking the other branch from the tree, she accidentally cut her hand. The cut was right in her palm, and she shouted in pain.

Hearing the shouts, Su Zhan turned around and found her far behind. Seeing her hand covered in blood, he asked worriedly, "Are you okay?"

Su Zhan then hurried over, wanting to check on her wound. Perhaps he was walking too fast; he slipped accidentally. As he was about to fall, he grabbed the tree on his right-hand side for support and saved himself from the embarrassment of falling.

"Gosh..." He was in a shock and let out a long breath.

"Are you okay?" Lin Xinyan asked as she was concerned.

"I am fine. What are you doing?" Su Zhan replied after he stabilized his footing. He then saw the branches on Lin Xinyan's hand, and he was baffled.

Lin Xinyan smiled, "I bet you have never climbed a mountain like this. You need to have a walking stick to climb a mountain like this." She then showed him the branches.

When she was a child, she and Zhuang Zijin were sent abroad. They were living in a remote place, and they also had no money. Therefore, she and Zhuang Zijin often went to the mountains not far from where they lived to pick bracken ferns. The locals didn't know that they could eat it, but Zhuang Zijin knew that this plant was a delicacy, which was especially delicious if you served it as a cold dishes or stir-fried it with meat.



I guessed when you had no money and not enough food; everything would be yummy as long as it can feed your tummy.

Su Zhan broke the branches just like Lin Xinyan had instructed; then he used it as a support.

After half an hour, Su Zhan saw a persimmon tree in front of him. It was huge and tall, the tree was full of permissions. It looked beautiful as if hundreds of little red lanterns hanging before them. Now that the persimmons tree was in front of them, Zong Jinghao shouldn't be far away from them. "Look, little sister-in-law, there is a persimmon tree here."

Lin Xinyan's eyelids twitched at his words. Did he just call her as little sis-in-law?

She was not happy with this form of address.

"I bet we are not far away from them." Su Zhan didn't notice the facial expression of Lin Xinyan.

He then realized that Lin Xinyan didn't move, so he turned to look at her face. Lin Xinyan didn't look so well. He asked curiously, "What's wrong with you? Little sister-in-law?"

Shen Peichuan, Zong Jinghao and him were about the same age. In fact, Zong Jinghao was elder than him and Shen Peichuan. Lin Xinyan was Zong Jinghao's wife, so they should be calling her sister-in-law.

Although Lin Xinyan was about six or seven years elder than him, she looked young like a fresh graduate from university. Nobody could tell that she was a mother of two.

He thought it would be inappropriate to call her sister-in-law; therefore, he added the word 'little' in front of the title.

Just then, somebody walked towards them and asked, "Who is over there?"