

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 371

“Ms. Chen, you must be joking. How can an outsider understand the relationship that does not concern them? Furthermore, you’re not a telepath who can understand the thoughts of others’ minds. Also, Ms. Chen, you’re the focus of this meal.” Lin Xinyan smiled as she easily changed the topic back.

With a smile that did not reach her eyes, Chen Shihan replied, “How am I the focus? Aren’t you the focus?”

Lin Xinyan slowly swallowed the food in her mouth before answering, “Jinghao and I are husband and wife. This man is our uncle, and we’re a family. Only Ms. Chen is a guest here. Aren’t I right?”

Chen Shihan dropped her smile.

Pretending not to notice it, Lin Xinyan continued, “The guest is the most important person in a house. So, Ms. Chen, you’re the focus of today.”

Lin Xinyan was no ruthless woman, but she would not take provoking words silently.

She had known this years ago—the weaker you were, the more others would push their luck with you.

The moment Chen Shihan entered the house, she had been sowing discord between Zong Jinghao and her.

She did not know when the hotel meeting that Chen Shihan mentioned had happened.

At the same time, she was anxious and uncertain.

However, she knew that if she let those emotions show, others would suspect her relationship with Zong Jinghao.

She was more than willing to ask Zong Jinghao about it privately.

She would never question him and show her suspicion while others were around.

Chen Shihan's expression darkened before her face paled. It was an ugly look on her.

In the end, she jumped to her feet. "What a silver tongue you have!"

Lin Xinyan's smile remained bright on her face. "Thank you for the praise, Ms. Chen. I was just stating a fact. Why are you angry?"

"Uncle Wen, I'm done." At that, Chen Shihan grabbed her purse and rushed out of the room.

She felt that Lin Xinyan had embarrassed her.

If she stayed, she would only become a laughingstock for the others.

She had never been in less control than now.

Wen Qing's expression darkened. "She's my guest. Why were you sarcastic with her?"

Lin Xinyan opened her mouth to say something, but Zong Jinghao grabbed her hand. "Wait for me in the car."

He wanted to have some words with Wen Qing.

Lin Xinyan hesitated. It was not that she was reluctant to leave; she was worried about Zong Jinghao.

She did not know why he wanted to speak with Wen Qing. That lack of knowledge made her hesitate.

She feared they would end up arguing.

She wanted Wen Qing and Zong Jinghao to maintain their current relationship.

“I went over the line just now and made Ms. Chen unhappy...”

“Leave first,” Zong Jinghao interrupted.

He knew who was in the wrong.

There was no need for her to apologize to anyone.

She did not do anything wrong, so she did not need to voice her apologies.

Lin Xinyan pursed her lips. She could only do so much; she could not control how this matter would develop.

Standing up, she walked out of the room.

Soon, silence filled the room.

After Zong Jinghao wiped his hand, he threw the serviette onto the table and leaned back on his chair.

He had only had his suspicions about Wen Qing’s attitude earlier, but after the meal, he was sure that his guess was right.

“You have something against her?” Zong Jinghao inquired in a low voice.

He was respectful toward Wen Qing.

He hoped that the people he cared about would be able to live harmoniously.

However, it seemed like something unexpected had happened.

*Wen Qing didn't seem like he hated Lin Xinyan previously...*

His body relaxed further.

Instead of answering him, Wen Qing uttered, "Drink with me."

He called for the server to pour the alcohol into their glasses.

Not planning to embarrass him, Zong Jinghao drank a glass.

After drinking his wine, Wen Qing placed the glass back onto the table. He wanted to be honest with Zong Jinghao.

However, he dared not after noticing Zong Jinghao's attitude toward Lin Xinyan.

"Shihan's father and I are colleagues and best friends. When I encountered her at the hotel, I called her to come with me. That's why I didn't tell you about it. You seem unhappy. Is it because of this?" Wen Qing intentionally shifted the topic away from Lin Xinyan.

Zong Jinghao was no fool. He knew what Wen Qing was trying to do.

He did not care what Wen Qing's thoughts were – he had to tell the other man his stance.

After pouring a glass of wine for himself, he raised it and downed it.

When he placed the glass back down, the glass clinked when it came into contact with the table. "My marriage with her... was short. We were quick to divorce. She's not the best woman I've seen, but she's my favorite."

He looked up at Wen Qing. "After finding out that she had given birth to two of my children, I was shocked," Zong Jinghao muttered, leaving out some of the details.

"She's my wife. I think a man who can't protect his own woman is nothing but trash. Don't you think so too?"

Wen Qing knew Zong Jinghao; he knew Zong Jinghao was telling him where his stance was in the matter.

If anything happened between Lin Xinyan and him, Zong Jinghao would choose to stand on Lin Xinyan's side.

"Jinghao, I'm your uncle. These years..."

"I know," Zong Jinghao cut him off. He knew Wen Qing would definitely try to guilt-trip him.

Therefore, he interrupted the man and repeated his words, "I know. I've never forgotten about it, and I've never been suspicious about it. Protecting the one you're concerned about is a lesson you've taught me. I won't disappoint you."

In the past, he never suspected him, but now...

Wen Qing's lips parted, but no words came to him. It was true that he was the one to say that to Zong Jinghao.

"You have to believe that everything I've done is for your sake. Your mother is Wen Xian, and I am Wen Qing. We're from the same mother. You're her only child. How can I possibly hurt you?" Feeling heartbroken, Wen Qing slammed his palm onto the table. "If not for Cheng Yuxiu back then, your mother might not have died."

His hatred for Cheng Yuxiu never faded away, even after all these years.

Instead, it buried itself deeper into his heart.

Zong Jinghao narrowed his eyes, catching the focal point of Wen Qing's words.

*Cheng Yuxiu.*

*Cheng Yuxiu is involved in my changed impression of Lin Xinyan?*

Zong Jinghao had found out about Lin Xinyan and Cheng Yuxiu's relationship. That was why Chen Shihan was present for today's meal.

*This was Wen Qing's plan.*

*Is he trying to make me split with Lin Xinyan and get together with Chen Shihan?*

Zong Jinghao closed his eyes, finding it ridiculous.

"What's gone by has gone by. I hope you'll take care of yourself. It's late now, so I'll be heading off."

Zong Jinghao stood up and left the room.

"Jinghao."

When Zong Jinghao reached the doorway, Wen Qing stopped him. "Are you angry?"

Zong Jinghao paused, but he did not turn to look at Wen Qing. "Yes. I'm angry. I'm angry that you're targeting her with an outsider. I have two children. I won't be able to give them an explanation if their mother gets hurt. You're a father, too. I'm sure you know how I feel."

With that said, he left without sparing the other man another glance.

Wen Qing could not find the words to respond to him.

Although he grumbled about his disobedient son, he could tolerate no one bullying his son.

He closed his eyes, realizing the difficulty in trying to separate Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan.

*Why didn't Li Jing deal with Lin Xinyan today?*

*Zong Jinghao wouldn't have realized anything amiss and tell me these words.*

After paying the bill, Wen Qing walked out of the restaurant. A jeep drove over, and the guard opened the door for Wen Qing. "Are we heading back?"

Wen Qing hummed tiredly in response and entered the car.

Twenty minutes later, the car stopped in front of a house. The guard came down and opened the door for Wen Qing. "You can get off work now."

"What time do I come for you tomorrow morning?" the guard asked.

"As usual." At that, Wen Qing entered his house, where Li Jing was waiting for him.

She wanted to discuss Lin Xinyan's matter with Wen Qing.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 372

After Wen Qing entered the house, Li Jing brought him a pair of indoor slippers.

Without moving an inch, Wen Qing stood there and asked, "What's wrong with you today?"

"Come in first." Li Jing left the slippers next to him, thinking it was not something she could explain in just one or two sentences.

Wen Qing scoffed at her, waiting to hear her explanation.

*It's not a difficult task to ask Lin Xinyan out for a meal, is it? She can't even do this much?*

He put on the slippers, walked inside, and sat on the sofa. "So tell me, what's going on?"

Li Jing sat next to him. She had been contemplating how to tell Wen Qing about that episode since her return from the clothing store.

However, when it was finally time for her to talk about it, she could not bring herself to start the conversation.

"Hey, say something!" Wen Qing requested impatiently.

"She's a nice girl, so I didn't have the heart to..." Li Jing uttered after a long pause.

Wen Qing lowered his voice. "So you didn't ask her out?" Veins on his temple could be seen as he tried to suppress his anger.



Li Jing looked at him. “No, I didn’t. You know Zong Jinghao’s temperament very well. If he finds out what you did, it will badly affect your relationship with him. Do you really want that to happen?”

Li Jing knew that Wen Qing cared a lot about what Zong Jinghao thought of him. She was so sure that eighty percent of it was because of Wen Xian.

“I think we can be honest with Zong Jinghao. Tell him about this matter and leave it to him to talk to Lin Xinyan. Let’s not meddle...”

Wen Qing grew rather impatient and interrupted Li Jing, “Do you know Lin Xinyan actually knows how to make Tea Silk?”

*Does she really think I’m not aware of all this? Does she think I didn’t think that far?*

Li Jing was stunned. *Lin Xinyan knows how to make Tea Silk? Isn’t that an ancestral technique that’s only passed down within the Cheng family? Where did she learn that?*

“Who told you that?” Li Jing asked in disbelief.

Wen Qing heaved a long sigh. “The man whom I sent to Baicheng for an investigation. Don’t you think I know the pros and cons of all this? For someone as smart as Jinghao, I’m sure he already knows that Lin Xinyan knows how to make Tea Silk. Moreover, I don’t think Lin Xinyan could learn the technique while keeping him in the dark. Don’t you think so?”

With widened eyes, Li Jing asked, “So, you’re saying that he knows?”

Wen Qing was sure of it.

He never loathed Lin Xinyan because she had given him two adorable children – he truly liked her.

Even though he was upset, he would never blame or hate Lin Xinyan.

After knowing that incident, he made up his mind to separate Lin Xinyan and Zong Jinghao.

He could not tolerate and accept the fact that Lin Xinyan was getting close to Cheng Yuxiu.

“Then... What should we do now?” Initially, Li Jing thought it would be best if they were frank with Zong Jinghao and let him persuade Lin Xinyan to stay away from Cheng Yuxiu. However, things seemed a little more complicated now.

Zong Jinghao knew all about Lin Xinyan’s relationship with Cheng Yuxiu, but he did not pursue the matter.

Wen Qing sneered, “Is he still the Zong Jinghao I know? He even moved back to the Zong’s family residence because of that woman.”

Wen Qing was so angry that his chest began heaving rapidly.

Li Jing held his hand and tried to pacify him, “Don’t get mad. It’s not worth it.”

He looked at Li Jing. “If I don’t stop this madness, he’ll forget who his biological mother is. I’ll never allow Cheng Yuxiu to take away Wen Xian’s son!”

He was infuriated.

*Cheng Yuxiu has already snatched Zong Qifeng away from Wen Xian. She can dream if she wants to own Wen Xian’s son too. I’ll see to it that Wen Xian’s son will never accept Cheng Yuxiu!*

That was his bottom line.

Li Jing knew they had reached a point of no return. *Sigh. This matter has weighed heavily on Wen Qing's mind all these years. He can't get over it.*

She stopped persuading him as the only thing she could do now was to support her own husband.

"I'm sorry I took things into my own hands this time and affected your plan..."

"It's all right." Wen Qing narrowed his eyes. *I need to strategize my next move. From Zong Jinghao's reaction today, he has obviously started to suspect something, so I can't risk it anymore as he'll be more prepared. I need to hit the bull's eye. The good news is that I still have time to plan.*

Meanwhile, Zong Jinghao left the restaurant and got into his car, where Lin Xinyan was waiting for him in the passenger seat.

"You had alcohol?" She could smell it on him as soon as he got into the car.

"Just a couple of drinks." Zong Jinghao pulled his collar and unbuttoned two buttons.

Without asking anything, Lin Xinyan got out of the car and moved over to his side. "Get down. I'll drive."

Zong Jinghao smirked. "You're worried about me?"

Lin Xinyan took the car keys and said with a straight face, "Don't drink and drive, haven't you heard?"

Seeing her serious face, Zong Jinghao smiled while rebutting, "I'm not drunk."

"No way." Lin Xinyan was resolute.

Zong Jinghao obliged cooperatively and shifted to the passenger seat. Somewhat tipsy, he leaned against her and spoke into her ears, "You're always right, wifey."

Lin Xinyan moved her body away from him as she gazed at him while starting the engine. "Such a sweet talker... Have you done something wrong?"

*Do I need to read between the lines? Why does it sound like she's referring to something else?*

"Come on, tell me when you met Ms. Chen at the hotel. What did you guys do?"

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 373

Zong Jinghao was not in a hurry to respond to Lin Xinyan's questioning and continued to lean on the car seat, looking drunk. He squinted his eyes and let out a "Huh?" as if he did not hear her the first time.

Pursing her lips, Lin Xinyan asked again, "He wanted to matchmake you and that woman?"

This time, Lin Xinyan did not address Wen Qing as uncle because what he did today had crossed her bottom line.

Zong Jinghao squirmed in his seat. "Perhaps so."

Lin Xinyan went silent.

She then pulled the car over, turned her head, and stared at him. "Don't you have anything else to tell me?"

Zong Jinghao slowly looked up and was greeted by a pair of angry eyes. He smiled and asked deliberately, "What do you want me to say?"

Lin Xinyan felt a little distressed. *I don't ask much in this relationship. I only hope we can both be frank and truthful with each other.*

She was willing to put her trust in him.

*However, given that we're both in a relationship, shouldn't he at least explain his actions?*

She wanted to keep the relationship going, but...

Lin Xinyan looked away and switched off the car engine. "You can drive yourself home."

She felt a need to cool down alone as she was afraid that she would lose control over her emotions if they stayed in the same space any longer.

She got out of the car, closed the door behind her, and strode across the sidewalk.

She tilted her head upwards, hoping that the zephyr could clear her cluttered mind.

Zong Jinghao chased after her and caught her by the arm. "Where are you going?"

Lin Xinyan tried to get rid of him, but his grip on her was too tight.

She uttered, "I want to be alone. Please..."

"Are you jealous?"

"No," Lin Xinyan denied firmly.

"Why are you angry then?"

"I'm not angry."

"Yes, you are."

Lin Xinyan looked at him, who was dressed in a black suit that further emphasized his muscular physique. At that moment, no trace of emotion could be seen on his face.

*Does he really not know why I reacted this way? Does he not care?*

“Yes, I’m angry,” Lin Xinyan admitted while pointing at his chest. “Do you know that I treasure our relationship very much, not only because of our two children but...”

She exerted more strength on the finger she had pointed at his heart. “Because there’s a spot reserved for you in here. I believe in you and our relationship. Do you know that your actions made me feel insecure and uncomfortable? I’m afraid that this is all my own imagination, that it’s just one-sided feelings. I’ve seen Zhuang Zijin’s failed marriage, so I’ve never really had high hopes in any relationship, but with you, it’s different. I actually wanted to commit myself and preserve our relationship. Zong Jinghao, let’s just end it here. Don’t pretend to be nice to me and then break my heart as that’s not the ending I expect.”

She used all her might to escape his grip. She wanted to leave that place soonest possible because she knew she would be more out of control if she continued to face him.

She despised being a grieving woman, but at that moment, she felt as if she was already one.

Zong Jinghao stepped forward and hugged her, but Lin Xinyan punched and kicked him uncontrollably. “Let me go! Let me go!”

Zong Jinghao held onto her hands and clasped them on his chest. “Easy... Easy...”

He had never explained himself to anyone in his life. He was not used to this as he had never bothered to do so for anyone. He always thought he should let his communication be simply ‘yes’ or ‘no’, without the need to justify further.

“Is my verbal explanation the only way to prove that I didn’t do anything that let you down?”

His dark eyes were like a bottomless lake.

Lin Xinyan was stunned and opened her eyes wide to stare at him. *What does he mean?*

She shuddered.

“In the same way, does it mean I’ve cheated on you if I choose not to explain myself?”

Zong Jinghao cupped the back of her head with his palm. “I’m really happy to hear you say such things.”

Lin Xinyan’s eyes started to get watery, and tears soon appeared at the edge of her eyes.

“I’ve not done anything wrong to you. There’s only one woman I love, one that has no powerful family background, no exceptional qualification. She’s also not the most talented woman I’ve met. Yet, there’s something about her that captured my heart. I wonder too, sometimes, why I like this woman so much.”

Lin Xinyan was left speechless.

“Am I really a good-for-nothing in your eyes?”

“Who said so?”

A ray of light flashed through Lin Xinyan’s eyes. “Then, what’s good about me?”

Zong Jinghao’s gaze shifted from her neck to her chest before he fixed them on her lower abdomen...

Lin Xinyan flushed while trying to break free from his grip. “Hurry up and let me go. I want to go home.”



Zong Jinghao's hand, which was on her head, slowly slid down to rub her back before it landed on her waist. With just one pull towards him, Lin Xinyan's body glued onto his, closing any gap between them.

His cheeks pressed against hers, whereas his lips inadvertently pecked her on the earlobes. "Why did you blush when I said you're good at giving birth?"

"I didn't," Lin Xinyan denied. *The way he looked at me just now...*

"I must have been blind then."

"Yes, you're so blind."

Zong Jinghao was rendered speechless.

"I'm not pretty, and neither am I rich nor talented. Only a blind person like you would hug me like this."

Zong Jinghao was again rendered speechless.

*So, that's what she had in mind.*

"You're not pretty, rich, nor talented, but I like you."

Lin Xinyan brushed him off. "Who would believe that?"

Subsequently, Zong Jinghao kissed her. When she struggled to reject him, he bit her lips instead.

*Hiss...*

Lin Xinyan felt the pain and became weaker in her struggle. As an opportunist, Zong Jinghao kissed her deeper until their tongues intertwined. He also pulled

her hand and slid it underneath his shirt, then pressed it on his heart and mumbled, "I give you my heart."

Lin Xinyan was inexplicably sad as she uttered plainly, "All I ever wanted was for us to trust each other."

"I know."

Kissing the corner of her eye, Zong Jinghao released her. "Perhaps he has discovered your relationship with Cheng Yuxiu."

Lin Xinyan was dazed. It took her a couple of minutes to regain her senses as she thought about what he had just said. She nodded in agreement. "I think so too."

*Otherwise, Wen Qing would not have changed his attitude so quickly.*

This was also what Zong Jinghao was worried about. Alas, it happened.

He needed to know how much Wen Qing had found out.

Putting the car keys in her hand, he said to her, "Go home first."

"What about you?" she asked. Within seconds, she seemingly understood what he was going to do next.

He needed to know how much Wen Qing knew about this and how did he discover so.

Upon receiving the car keys, Lin Xinyan headed to the car while Zong Jinghao stood by the roadside and called Shen Peichuan.

Before she left, she turned around and reminded him, "Come back quick."

Zong Jinghao acknowledged her request.

The woman then got into the car, started the engine, and slowly drove off to the main road.

Lin Xinyan watched him through the car window.

“Come pick me up from Yin Tai Road.” Zong Jinghao was on the phone when their eyes met.

Soon, their gazes averted, and Lin Xinyan could only see him through the rearview mirror until his figure almost disappeared from her sight. Then she fixed her gaze back on the road and drove off attentively.

When the car reached the corner of the villa, a black shadow appeared out of the blue, causing Lin Xinyan to bring the car to a sudden stop.

*Screech!*

The screeching sound of the tires hurt the ears.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 374

After the car stopped, Lin Xinyan saw clearly what the dark shadow was.

She jumped onto the car engine and wailed loudly, making Lin Xinyan confused.

“You! Get out of the car!” Like a beast, a ferocious woman, who was grimaced in anger, yelled at Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan stared at her face and tried to recall the woman’s identity. *Gosh, isn’t this the domineering woman at the kindergarten the other day? Why did she stop my car?*

Soon after, Lin Xinyan thought of something and quickly took out her phone to check the latest news. A piece of breaking news caught her eye. The deputy mayor of B city was under investigation due to the video uploaded by Lin Xichen.

She browsed the pages and read that a series of crimes had surfaced from the investigation, from bribery to embezzling money to all sorts of scandals...

*Knock! Knock!*

“Open the door, b\*tch!” The woman came to her side of the car and knocked hard on the window, attempting to break her way in.

Lin Xinyan tried to hold herself together and thought the best way to deal with a crazy woman would be to dial 110. She made the emergency call calmly.

When the woman saw from Lin Xinyan’s phone screen that she was calling the police, she said harshly, “I won’t let this go so easily!”

As soon as she finished speaking, the woman ran away.

Without any hesitation, Lin Xinyan ended the emergency call and drove off.

When she got home, Cheng Yuxiu was teaching Lin Ruixi writing in the living room. The little one had never been to the kindergarten, but she was already talented and could write well after being taught only once.

Cheng Yuxiu was proud of her granddaughter, and she waved at Lin Xinyan upon seeing her entering the house. “Come over here.”

Lin Xinyan put the car keys aside and walked in their direction.

“Come and see how well your daughter writes!” Cheng Yuxiu exclaimed.

Lin Xinyan bent over to read the characters written on the exercise book – *Metal, Wood, Water, Fire, Earth*. Each letter was written beautifully. The little girl looked up at Lin Xinyan, blinking her bright eyes, seemingly waiting for praises.

Lin Xinyan ruffled her hair and landed a kiss on her daughter’s forehead. “My daughter is the best, the smartest girl I’ve ever known.”

After being praised by Lin Xinyan, she was motivated extrinsically to write even better.

Thereafter, Lin Xinyan pulled the corner of Cheng Yuxiu’s shirt and asked softly, “Mommy, can you come with me for a while?”

Cheng Yuxiu nodded and said gently to her granddaughter, “You carry on with your practice, ok? I’m going to get you a glass of juice.”

The little girl was so focused on her writing that she did not look up as she responded, “Ok!”

Cheng Yuxiu then followed Lin Xinyan to her room.

Shutting the door behind her, Lin Xinyan said openly, “Bring along a few people with you if you ever head out these few days.”

*That woman might appear again. Who knows if she will channel her hatred to the children? It's better to be safe than sorry and take necessary precautions.*

She felt very disturbed.

Cheng Yuxiu did not know what had happened, so she asked, “Did something happen? Was it anything serious?”

Lin Xinyan thought for a second. “You didn’t see the news?”

Cheng Yuxiu shook her head. Ever since the two children moved in with her, her life had revolved around them. From sending them to and from kindergarten to researching new recipes at home, to cooking for the little ones.

Even on weekends, Cheng Yuxiu would bring the children to the zoo or the marine theme park. Her schedules were always full, and she hardly had time to follow any viral news.

After hearing Lin Xinyan’s words, she felt that the matter would most probably be related to the current news. She unlocked her phone and looked for the popular searches. Within seconds, she saw the news regarding the deputy mayor.

Cheng Yuxiu looked up...

Lin Xinyan nodded in affirmation. “Yes, it was Lin Xichen who uploaded the video of the deputy mayor.”

Cheng Yuxiu opened her eyes wide in shock. “It’s the one from the time when...”

The kindergarten teacher had once called to inform that the kids argued with their classmate and needed to meet with the parent.

However, she was not sure about the details.

Lin Xinyan explained, "The little girl who quarreled with Ruixi the other time might be the illegitimate child of the deputy mayor."

Cheng Yuxiu soon understood the context. *If that girl was the deputy mayor's illegitimate child, then the mother of the child must be... a mistress...*

*The video Lin Xichen uploaded has led to the deputy mayor being investigated and now the mistress has gotten mad because multiple offenses committed by him have been brought to the limelight?*

"Don't you worry." Cheng Yuxiu knew what to do and would take precautions accordingly.

Lin Xinyan advised, "If it's too troublesome, stay home these few days and avoid going to the kindergarten."

*It's best if the kids stay home until the matter has been concluded and those who deserve to be jailed are arrested.*

Cheng Yuxiu agreed, "I can homeschool them." She thought about Lin Xichen and continued, "To be honest with you, Xichen has never liked attending kindergarten. Though he's just a kid, he claims that his classmates are all very childish. Fortunately, they will be going to elementary school soon."

Lin Xinyan knew that Lin Xichen had a high level of maturity compared to his peers.

Speaking of Lin Xichen, Cheng Yuxiu reminded her, "Go and have a look at him. He's been locking himself up in the room after coming back from school lately."

Lin Xinyan nodded and walked out of her room.

She knocked on the door when she got to Lin Xichen's room.

There was no response, The door was not locked, so she pushed it open gently. A light yellow bedside lamp was lit. Lin Xichen was lying on the bed, intensely studying some numbers on his tablet screen. He did not notice Lin Xinyan walking towards him, let alone the knocking on the door just now.

Lin Xinyan could not understand any of the data shown.

She called out to him softly, "Xichen..."

Right then, Lin Xichen realized someone was in his room. Upon seeing Lin Xinyan, he shouted, "Mommy!"

Lin Xinyan replied with a smile, "You didn't know I came in? What are you looking at so attentively?"

The young boy smiled. "The teacher at AC sent me a mathematic question. I find it very interesting."

He was so excited to show it to Lin Xinyan. "Mommy, look, can you see the patterns from this set of numbers?"

Lin Xinyan shook her head – she was never good at mathematics.

"You see..." Lin Xichen pointed at a slanted line. "These are all composite numbers. The ones on the horizontal line are odd numbers. They all have a specific pattern, so once we sort the patterns out, we can easily figure out the answer."

Lin Xichen sounded very confident and proud when talking about his forte.



Lin Xinyan hugged her son. “You don’t like going to kindergarten, do you?”

Lin Xichen admitted honestly, “It’s too childish. The teachers are always coaxing me as if I’m a baby.”

Lin Xinyan hugged him tighter while kissing his cheeks. “Then... which school do you want to go to?”

With his eyes looking downwards and his eyelashes flickering, Lin Xichen whispered, “I still want to attend AC.”

Lin Xinyan would also like her son to attend AC, but due to his age, he could only attend some courses there.

“Xichen, it’s no doubt that you’re very talented, but you’re still very young. If you skip the path you should walk now, you might regret it in a few years. Every stage in life has its own joy and fun. They all build precious memories that make your life whole. If there’s a missing piece because you skipped some steps, that particular part will remain blank forever. I’ll always support your decision, but I also want you to consider spending a few years in elementary and secondary school. Follow the regular learning pathway, and if your results are good, you can always be promoted to higher grades. By then, you’ll be big enough to study full-time at AC. Isn’t that a better idea?”

Lin Xichen thought about it carefully; it seemed like a sensible decision.

“All right, mommy. I’ll listen to your advice.” Lin Xichen snuggled in his mother’s embrace. “Mommy.”

“Yes?” Lin Xinyan lowered her head to look at him.

He smiled and said, “Did you know that my teacher came to B city?”

Lin Xinyan was a tad bit surprised. “You mean the teacher from AC?”

Lin Xichen nodded. "Yes, he also carries another identity."

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 375

Lin Xinyan asked subconsciously, "What identity?"

"It's a secret," Lin Xichen teased.

Lin Xinyan did not take it to heart and thought that there was nothing strange for Lin Xichen to have secrets with his teacher because they had developed a good friendship. Even though his teacher could be a little weird at times, he had always been very caring towards Lin Xichen.

"Mommy, can you sleep with me tonight?" Lin Xichen hugged her by the neck and asked sweetly.

Lin Xinyan acceded to his request.

"Will he get jealous?" Lin Xichen asked inquisitively.

Lin Xinyan frowned. "Who?"

"Daddy." The way Lin Xichen addressed Zong Jinghao was not as smooth as how Lin Ruixi did it.

Zong Jinghao had not been around when Lin Xichen was a child. Thus, the latter found it uncomfortable to address the former intimately.

Lin Xinyan cupped his son's face and pinched his cheeks. "You're my son. Who dares to comment if I want to hug my son to sleep?"

"Hehe..." Lin Xichen smiled sheepishly in Lin Xinyan's embrace.

At dinner, when Lin Ruixi heard that her mother was going to accompany her brother to bed, she insisted that she join them too.

She held on to Lin Xinyan's thighs and acted like a baby. "Mommy, I don't care. I want to sleep with you too. Don't be biased and hug brother only."

Lin Xinyan bent down to carry her daughter. "All right, all right. Mommy will sleep with both of you tonight."

The little girl was over the moon but still complained a little, "Mommy hasn't been hugging me to bed and telling me bedtime stories. Daddy has claimed you for himself."

Coincidentally, Cheng Yuxiu walked out from the kitchen with a plate of cut fruits and overheard Lin Ruixi's grumbles. "Didn't I tell you bedtime stories too?"

The little girl justified, "It's different. There are no two storytellers that are the same."

Lin Ruixi knew that Cheng Yuxiu treated her well, and she was willing to follow her. However, when she was a child, Lin Xinyan told her stories every day. So, deep down, she felt closer to Lin Xinyan.

"How is it different?" Cheng Yuxiu teased her.

However, she knew in her heart that a mother's love could never be replaced by anyone or anything.

The little girl pursed her lips and thought about it for a while. "Mommy gave birth to me, not you."

Right then, Zong Jinghao walked into the living room and heard what her daughter had just said. It brought a smile to his face.

“Daddy.” The little girl was kicking her feet, signally Lin Xinyan to put her down on the floor. As soon as she got down, she ran towards Zong Jinghao happily.

Zong Jinghao had a suit jacket slung on his arm. Lin Xinyan came over to receive his jacket then hung it up in the wardrobe.

He bent down to carry her little girl. He wanted to touch her face, but he left his hand mid-air when he was reminded to wash up – he had just returned from outside.

“Daddy, Mommy said she’s going to hug brother and I to bed tonight,” the little girl bragged.

Zong Jinghao raised a brow and shot a glance at Lin Xinyan, but she ignored his gaze and continued eating some fruits.

After placing her daughter on the sofa, Zong Jinghao went to wash his hands.

When he came out, Cheng Yuxiu asked lovingly, “Have you had dinner?”

He did not look at her, simply humming in response.

Cheng Yuxiu was already very satisfied with their interaction now, as he would at least respond to her question instead of giving her the cold shoulder as he did in the past.

She undid her apron and went into the study room to give them some space.

Zong Jinghao sat on the sofa and placed Lin Ruixi on his lap, entwining her hair with his fingers. “Who did you say gave birth to you?”

The little girl answered without hesitation, “Mommy did.”

“Then... Do you know that Mommy can’t bear a child all by herself?”

Lin Ruixi blinked and tilted her head to one side, thinking hard.

“I was born by Mommy,” she emphasized, “By Mommy alone.”

“If you don’t believe me, go ask your Mommy. Without me, could she have given birth to you?” His smile was carefree and mischievous.

Lin Xinyan, who was eating fruits, almost choked to death upon hearing his words.

Naively, the little girl asked Lin Xinyan, “Mommy, you gave birth to me by yourself, right? It has nothing to do with Daddy?”

Lin Xinyan shot Zong Jinghao a death stare. *This man...*

She picked her daughter up. “Mommy will bathe you now.”

Zong Jinghao stood up and followed after them.

Lin Xinyan turned to look at him. “I’m going to bathe her. Why are you coming too?”

“I’ll wait at the door. When you’re done with her, you can bathe me too.”

Lin Xinyan did not utter a word.

*Don’t you feel embarrassed?*

She almost lashed out at him.

Zong Jinghao leaned towards her and landed a peck on her cheek before he turned to go upstairs.

Again, Lin Xinyan was rendered speechless.

Lin Ruixi blinked, looking rather upset and puzzled. *Daddy kissed Mommy, but why didn't Mommy return him a kiss too?*

Lin Xichen went back to his room after dinner. He had already taken his bath and changed into his grey silk pajamas. Sitting on his bed with his legs crossed, he bowed his head and started studying the numbers on his tablet again.

He looked up when he heard some noises – it was Lin Xinyan walking into the room while carrying his sister. The young boy heaved a long sigh. *Surely, she insisted to bug us because she knew Mommy was going to sleep with me tonight.*

“Are you upset at me?” Lin Ruixi raised her head and asked.

Lin Xichen gave her a big smile. “Why would I be? How could I not welcome my own sister?”

The little girl smiled and hugged Lin Xinyan. “Mommy, let's go and have a nice bath.”

Lin Xichen shook his head. *When will this girl grow up?*

Lin Xinyan caught him in the act and pointed at him. “She's your sister, also a child like you.”

*Lin Ruixi isn't childish. Lin Xichen is simply mature for his age.*

Lin Xinyan took her daughter to the bathroom and then prepared a tub of hot water. After ensuring that the water temperature was just right, she turned around to undress her daughter, only to find her sitting on a small stool all ready.

She looked like a porcelain doll – fair and tender. Lin Xinyan carried her to the tub. She swam happily while proclaiming, “Mommy, I can swim in here.”

She pulled her daughter back. “Don’t move; I’m going to wash your hair.”

The little girl suggested, “Mommy, why don’t you join me in the tub?”

“I’ll go after you’re done,” said Lin Xinyan.

Children liked to play in the water. Moreover, it was comfortable to take a hot bath. Lin Ruixi was surely enjoying herself very much, as seen from the splash-splash everywhere and how wet Lin Xinyan got after bathing her.

Subsequently, she covered her daughter with a big towel and brought her to the dry area to change into her pajamas. The bathroom had a spacious dry and wet area, so it made the whole process very convenient.

She had tailored-made pajamas for both of her children using very comfortable materials. Each of them had a different color. Lin Ruixi’s was yellow in color, which complemented her skin color and made her look exceptionally adorable.

She blow-dried her daughter’s hair and helped her put her slippers on before she let the girl out to play.

Since she was wet from head and toe, Lin Xinyan decided to take a bath herself.

After removing her clothes and getting into the tub, she remembered that she did not have any sets of pajamas in the bathroom downstairs.



# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 376

Lin Xinyan stroked her own forehead. She couldn't help feeling as if she were always forgetting things. Lucky for her, there was a towel in the bathroom, and she thought of getting her son to grab her clothes from upstairs once she finished showering.

Finally, she soaked herself peacefully in the bathtub.

After a while, she got up and rinsed herself under the rain shower before she wrapped herself in a towel. Without opening the door, she called out to her son, "Xichen, can you grab my pajamas from upstairs?"

Lin Xichen looked at the bathroom's frosted glass door and couldn't see his mother's silhouette at all. "Where are your pajamas?" he asked.

"It's in the drawer under the bathroom mirror," she answered. She deliberately kept her pajamas in that drawer so she could get dressed as soon as she stepped out of the shower. That way, she wouldn't have to wrap herself in a towel before changing.

"Hold on, I'll get it for you now," said Lin Xichen. He put down his tablet, then got off the bed and rushed upstairs in his bedroom slippers. He moved so swiftly that he didn't realize someone was standing behind the door when he opened the door. Upon colliding head to head, he rubbed his forehead and looked up. It was Zong Jinghao, and they were both wearing the same gray silk pajamas.

Fluttering his eyelids, Lin Xichen looked at himself, then raised his head to look at him.

Zong Jinghao bent down and uncovered Li Xichen's hand from his forehead, then asked, "Does it hurt?"

Li Xichen's forehead was neither red nor swollen, so he shook his head and replied, "No, it doesn't."

After a short pause, he asked, "Was your pajamas sewn by my mommy too?"

*I thought Mommy only made pajamas for Ruixi and I.*

Zong Jinghao didn't know whether his pajamas were hand-sewn by Lin Xinyan. She passed the pajamas to him earlier, and all this time he had thought that she had bought them from a store.

Realizing that the material and style of his pajamas were the same as Lin Xichen's, he asked, "Was yours sewn by your mommy?"

Lin Xichen nodded. "Most of the clothes my sister and I wear were made by my mommy."

Lin Xinyan was a fashion designer, and she had a strong understanding of different types of fabrics. There were several sewing machines in her boutique, so it was easy for her to sew new pieces of clothing.

Lin Xichen glared at Zong Jinghao sternly and warned, "You make sure to treat my mommy well."

*Mommy has always treated him well.*

*He is physically small in size, but he can be rather imposing.*

Zong Jinghao then stood up and looked at him from above, saying, "What are you doing up here?"

*Treat Lin Xinyan well? Of course, I owe that to my girl. In fact, it's my duty to look after her. If I don't pamper her, who will?*

*This kid doesn't need to remind nor warn me.*

Lin Xichen looked up and said, "I'm here to get my mommy's pajamas. She wants to sleep with me tonight."

Zong Jinghao wasn't surprised to hear this, but he felt that Lin Xichen's reply had a high and mighty undertone.

*It seems like he's implying that I have dominated his mother for a long time, and now she finally wants to spend time with him away from me.*

Zong Jinghao patted Lin Xichen on the shoulder and smiled without saying a word. He then went into the room and grabbed the boy's pajamas, but Lin Xichen reached out and said, "Give it to me."

Once Zong Jinghao handed the pajamas to him, Lin Xichen held them close to his chest and headed downstairs.

Zong Jinghao followed him from behind with slow and steady steps.

When Lin Xichen reached the bathroom, he knocked on the door and said, "Mommy, here are your pajamas."

Inside the bathroom, Lin Xinyan was busy cleaning up, and she had just put her dirty clothes in the laundry basket.

When she heard her son calling, she told him to hang her pajamas on the door handle outside so she could get them.

Lin Xichen agreed obediently and hung her pajamas on the door handle. Then, he climbed back into bed and continued doing math questions on his tablet.

Meanwhile, Lin Ruixi was rolling around on the bed with her new soft toy.

After Lin Xinyan drained the water in the bathtub and finished cleaning up, she walked towards the door to grab her pajamas from the door handle. Just as she opened the door slightly to reach for her pajamas, she suddenly felt someone grabbing her wrist. In shock, she wanted to call out to the person, but when she saw his silhouette through the gap, she noticed a familiar, well-chiseled face.

Scrunching her eyebrows, she whispered, "What are you doing?"

Zong Jinghao gazed at her from head to toe. Her shoulder-length hair was half-dried, and she was wrapped in a single white towel. Her elegant neckline and fair calves were exposed before his eyes from above and beneath the towel.

His chest suddenly filled with a fiery passion.

Intimidated by his reaction, Lin Xinyan broke loose from his grasp and said, "Stop it. Both the kids are here."

To which Zong Jinghao stated with a deep voice, "Let me in then."

Caught off guard, Lin Xinyan replied softly, "I want to change."

"I know."

When she didn't respond, he smiled and pinched her cheeks, saying, "It's fine if you don't let me in. I will sleep downstairs tonight."

Lin Xinyan was speechless.

*Do I even have a choice?*

*He's doing this on purpose.*

She glared at him resentfully and said, "You already had this all planned out. Do you still need my consent?"

After that, she shut the bathroom door on him.

Zong Jinghao's mood brightened up upon knowing that he had achieved his goal. He walked back into the room and saw Lin Xichen staring at him fiercely in fear that he had come to steal Lin Xinyan away.

On the other hand, Lin Ruixi reacted on the opposite end of the spectrum. When she saw Zong Jinghao, she jumped on the bed happily and called him "Daddy". She then threw herself into his arms and had him wrap his arms around her like an octopus. With one hand around her waist and the other on her buttocks, he said, "Good girl."

However, Lin Ruixi whined, "You kissed Mommy just now, but you didn't kiss me."

She then leaned in and put her cheek next to his lips. "Kiss me too."

Zong Jinghao gave her a peck on her cheek and pinched her nose before saying, "You're so young, but you already know how to manipulate me?"

She giggled in his arms and replied, "I learned many new characters lately. Are you going to reward me?"

"What would you like?" Zong Jinghao said as he hugged her on the bed. Meanwhile, Lin Xichen moved aside and stared at the two of them. *This is my bed, and they are occupying my space.*

Lin Ruixi pondered over it for a while then answered, "I want *Secret Base*."

Lin Xichen immediately shifted his gaze towards his sister in surprise.

*She usually likes soft toys and Barbie dolls.*

Zong Jinghao was equally startled when he heard her answer. "Since when did you start liking such things?" he asked while hugging her.

“This item appeared the most in Xichen’s browsing history, and he saved in under favorites. I’m guessing he really likes it, so I want to give it as a gift to him. However, I don’t have any money,” Ruixi said innocently while nestled in Zong Jinghao’s arms. “Daddy, can you buy it so I can give it to Xichen?”

Lin Xichen really liked *Secret Base*, but he felt that he would owe Zong Jinghao a favor if he accepted it as a gift from him.

“I don’t want it,” the boy muttered as he resisted the temptation.

Laying on the bed sideways with his face on the quilt, Zong Jinghao stroked his daughter’s hair and said, “Your brother doesn’t want it. Why don’t you choose something you like?”

Lin Ruixi already had everything she wanted, so she said, “Get me another duck soft toy then.”

Lin Xichen cringed when he heard this.

*It’s such a good opportunity to ask for something valuable, but she asks for a duck soft toy?*

*She already has one!*

“Okay,” Zong Jinghao promised.

Lin Ruixi happily kissed her father, leaving a trace of saliva on his cheek. Feeling a wet and sticky sensation on his cheek, Zong Jinghao reached out to wipe away the saliva on the corners of her lips.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 377

Lin Ruixi grinned widely, exposing a row of dazzling white teeth. It was as though she enjoyed having her saliva wiped away by Zong Jinghao.

When Lin Xinyan finally walked out of the bathroom in her pajamas, she saw Zong Jinghao occupying most of the bed. Meanwhile, Lin Xichen was cast aside in the corner of the bed like a pathetic little bug while he watched Zong Jinghao and Lin Ruixi behaving affectionately.

She walked over to hug her son, then she took his tablet and put it on the table. "It's time to sleep," she said.

Lin Xichen sighed lightly. *I thought I could sleep with Mommy tonight. Who knew Ruixi and daddy would be here as well? How are we all going to fit on one bed?*

*Is it so hard for me to spend one night alone with Mommy?*

"Ruixi and I will sleep in the middle," Lin Xichen suggested.

He planned to let his sister sleep with him in the middle so Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan would be separated.

Lin Ruixi didn't have the same intentions. She didn't mind any kind of sleeping arrangements as long as her parents were sleeping on the same bed.

Zong Jinghao glanced at his son but did not reveal his thoughts. He then lay down on the bed with Lin Ruixi.

Since both the kids were sleeping in the middle, Zong Jinghao and Lin Xinyan were separated on opposite ends of the bed.

*Whenever Ruixi can't sleep, she would usually pat my chest. In the past, she had the habit of touching Xinyan when she slept. However, since she started spending time with her grandmother, she got rid of this habit.*

*She probably won't hold either of us to sleep anymore, but she might still do it out of muscle memory.*

When Lin Ruixi's tender hands suddenly rubbed against Zong Jinghao's body, he panicked and grabbed her hands. He then said gently, "It's alright, I'm here."

The little girl fluttered her eyes and said, "Your muscles are so hard, daddy."

*Mommy and grandmother's muscles are always soft, but Daddy's muscles are not soft at all.*

Zong Jinghao was rendered speechless by his daughter's remarks.

"Go to sleep. Don't say such silly things," Lin Xichen chided as he patted Lin Ruixi's back.

"I was talking to Daddy, not you," Lin Ruixi retorted.

"Alright, just be quiet and go to sleep," Lin Xinyan instructed sternly.

The two kids obeyed their mother's instructions and immediately kept quiet.

Nevertheless, it took them about half an hour before they finally fell asleep.

Lin Xinyan, on the other hand, stayed awake due to matters of the heart.

She didn't know whether Zong Jinghao knew about Lin Xichen's disappointment, and since he came back late, she hadn't found the right time to tell him.



When she noticed her children fast asleep after a while, she called out softly, “Are you still awake?”

It so happened that Zong Jinghao wasn't asleep yet, so he acknowledged her.

Pushing her blanket aside, she got off the bed and whispered, “I have something to tell you. Let's talk outside.”

Zong Jinghao gently moved Lin Ruixi's head from his arm to the pillow, then got off the bed and followed Lin Xinyan out.

In the living room, Lin Xinyan poured herself a glass of water and asked, “Do you want some water too?”

“No thanks,” Zong Jinghao replied while leaning against the couch in his pajamas. He then looked at her. “What is it you wanted to tell me?”

“I bumped into someone on the way back today,” Lin Xinyan began as she took a seat next to him.

Zong Jinghao narrowed his eyes as if he already knew who had come looking for her earlier today.

Noticing his expression, Lin Xinyan said, “You know who it was?”

*Of course I know. It involves my son.*

He hummed softly and answered, “Don't worry.”

Many people have been sent to hunt down this woman. Without any means to get out of B City, she will be caught sooner or later.

“Did she hurt you?” questioned Zong Jinghao as he stroked Lin Xinyan's long hair.

After taking a sip of water, she put the glass on the table and said, “No, but I’m scared she might hurt the kids. I’ve told my mother not to take them to kindergarten for the next few days. If you know of any bodyguards, please send two over.” She was absolutely terrified that woman might do something extreme.

Zong Jinghao lowered his eyes. “I will see to that.”

Lin Xinyan leaned in and rested her head on his shoulders. “Did Wen Qing find out about us?”

“There’s no evidence showing that he knows yet,” Zong Jinghao replied. Despite what they speculated, Wen Qing only did such things because he knew about their relationship.

However, they did not have any evidence to prove how Wen Qing had found out, and whether it was man-made or otherwise...

Lin Xinyan sighed, “I don’t want to embarrass you, but I also promised her that I wouldn’t tell you the reason. If my relations with her are what caused Wen Qing to separate us, then I am indeed shocked and at a loss for words. If possible, I would like to meet him to explain. Otherwise, I will stay away from her...”

*A private meeting might not be a bad idea, she thought to herself.*

Nevertheless, she was aware that she was careless at times. Zong Jinghao had reminded her of this many times.

She also knew that Wen Qing was emotionally involved with Cheng Yuxiu because when Wen Xian broke the law back then, Bai Hongfei and Cheng Yuxiu were detained for a long time.

Now that Wen Xian was dead, Wen Qing abhorred Cheng Yuxiu.

*From Wen Qing’s point of view, Zong Jinghao is his sister’s only child, so why would he allow me to mingle with Cheng Yuxiu?*

*He should expect Zong Jinghao and I to be aligned in our thoughts and not have anything to do with Cheng Yuxiu.*

*But how does he know that Cheng Yuxiu and I share good relations?*

Lin Xinyan suddenly thought about her recent meeting with Cheng Yuxiu, then sat upright and said, "Could it be that he saw Cheng Yuxiu and I together when we last met up?"

She and Zong Jinghao lived in a villa, and they didn't mind having Cheng Yuxiu over in their house.

So it wasn't difficult for Wen Qing to investigate the extent of Lin Xinyan and Cheng Yuxiu's relationship.

"Let me handle this. You can do whatever you like," Zong Jinghao reassured her as he hugged her in his arms.

With her face on his chest, Lin Xinyan answered, "Okay."

After Lin Xinyan settled matters in her boutique, she went to visit Qin Ya.

The doctor had texted her every day to update her on Qin Ya's condition. Qin Ya's injuries had almost healed, and she had undergone two minor surgeries on her face. If she wanted to fully restore her appearance, she would have to undergo many more surgeries.

"How's Su Zhan been lately?" Qin Ya asked.

Ever since Qin Ya was sent to the hospital, Su Zhan had not appeared at all.

Su Zhan was shuttled between work and his personal life, in addition to taking care of his grandmother at home.

In the past, he spent most of his time frolicking outside. But now, he completely stopped going to his usual entertainment spots.

Qin Ya's accident had impacted him greatly.

Lin Xinyan felt that this was a positive development, so she said, "He's grown up."

Qin Ya had suffered a great deal because of him, and if he did not change his ways, he would be beyond help.

Zong Jinghao pinched Lin Xinyan's cheeks lightly. "Don't worry."

"It hurts," grumbled Lin Xinyan as she pushed his hand away.

"Where does it hurt? Over here?" he said cheekily before biting her neck lightly.

She shoved him aside. "Stop it. We're in the living room."

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 378

*What if someone sees us? Aunt Yu, Cheng Yuxiu, and Zong Qifeng are all in the same building. If they were to wake up...*

“So, does this mean it’ll be fine if we do it in my room?” Zong Jinghao snickered.

Lin Xinyan looked at the trees that were slightly shaking outside and finally let out a moan, telling the man that she was okay with the idea. It was a very faint moan, but he heard it clearly.

Zong Jinghao grabbed Lin Xinyan from the couch by her butt as she hung her arms over his shoulder and kissed him.

The lights were off in the living room, faintly lit by the faint moonlight through the window. Zong Jinghao responded to her kiss as he carried her to the second floor.

When they got into the room, Lin Xinyan finally muttered, “The kids are still down there...”

“We’ll go back once we’re done.”

“But...”

Zong Jinghao immediately stopped the woman from talking by pressing his finger against her lips. He stared at her as he gently flicked his finger on her lip while the other hand slowly moved into her shirt and stopped on her left chest. “You can only think of me in here.”

He pressed his body against her as his hands roamed around her body. He kissed her hair and ears as he began to undo her shirt.

Lin Xinyan was shivering. She was never the one who was in the lead, even when she was the one who seduced him first. Just like all the other times, the man was the one who led her throughout the whole sexual experience.

Lin Xinyan was completely exhausted after that; she did not know if Zong Jinghao had taken her back to the kids' room, nor the time she fell asleep. It wasn't until late midnight when she was woken up by the sound of the door opening. She got up, wanting to get a glass of water. When she reached the kitchen, she saw a person sitting in the corner of the room with a single dim light turned on next to him.

Lin Xinyan rubbed her eyes to take a good look at the person whose face was barely visible under the faint light.

"Can't sleep?" she finally asked after making sure that the person was Zong Jinghao.

The man quickly put his phone down and approached her. "You awake?"

"I'm thirsty." Lin Xinyan frowned.

The man looked at her and went to get her a glass of water. He kept his movements as quiet as possible and watched as she gulped the water down her throat.

"Do you want more?"

Lin Xinyan shook her head and checked the time, only to realize that it was already half-past five.

"Did you get any sleep?" she asked.

"For a while." Zong Jinghao fell asleep with her in his arms once they were finished with their business, but the notifications from his phone woke him up not long after. Most of them were messages from Guan Jing about Wen Qing.

Zong Jinghao could now confirm that Wen Qing knew about the relationship between Lin Xinyan and Cheng Yuxiu. The reason Wen Qing kept looking for a woman for him was most likely because of the outcome.

With Lin Xinyan now awake, Zong Jinghao put the glass of water down and pulled her into his arms. As they cuddled, he realized that her shirt was completely opened and began to help her button it up.

The woman looked at him quietly as his long and tidy fingers moved along her body.

Perhaps because she was still half-asleep, she finally asked the question that had been in her head. "Ms. Chen is gorgeous, don't you think?"

Zong Jinghao froze as he raised his head to look at her as she continued. "You told me once that you're just like any other man, that you yearn for a woman's body. Would you... with another woman..."

She was afraid. The thought of Zong Jinghao sleeping with another woman made it hard for her to breathe.

The man gently caressed her hair, pretending not to hear her. "What other woman?"

"You know what I mean." Lin Xinyan glared at him.

"I don't."

She bit her lip and asked, "Will you cheat on me?"

Zong Jinghao pretended to think about the question and did not answer her.

The woman frowned and was about to argue with him when he kissed her. "If you don't want that to happen, you'll have to satisfy me."

She stared at him for a few seconds before lunging and biting his shoulder without any warning. "I'm going to bite you until you die if you ever betray me!"

"I won't die from this." Zong Jinghao sat there and let her bite him for a few more seconds before pushing her down on the bed. "Even if I die, I would rather die on top of you!"

"Zong Jinghao!"

...

When Lin Xinyan woke up once again, it was already ten in the morning. The space next to her was empty and cold, meaning that the man had already left for quite a long time.

She couldn't help but curse him quietly as she wondered how she was going to explain the situation to the children when they found out that their mother wasn't with them the whole night.

The woman forced herself out of bed, realizing that her body was sticky from all the sweating. She dragged her worn-out body to the bathroom, and when she looked in the mirror, all she saw were the marks Zong Jinghao had left on her. Some were accidents, but some were intentional. It was painful at first, but she didn't feel anything now.

Subconsciously, she reached for her belly. They never used any contraptions whenever they had sex, but she never got pregnant. There was once a time when she didn't give much thought to her infertility, yet, she was now a little disappointed.

Zong Jinghao wasn't there when Lin Ruixi and Lin Xichen were born, so she was hoping to see the man's reaction when he found out she was pregnant.



The woman let out a sigh and went into the shower. After cleaning herself up, she headed downstairs. The kids took a leave of absence from the kindergarten, most likely because of what she told Cheng Yuxiu the day before.

Lin Xichen wasn't solving math problems in his room. He was playing with a Star Wars Lego set in the living room instead.

Zong Jinghao had asked Guan Jing to get the children a set the night before, and like the efficient man he was, he delivered the toy over right away.

Lin Xichen was completely immersed in building his Lego toy and completely forgot that his mother wasn't in his room when he woke up that morning.

As for her daughter, it was much easier. All the mother had to do was hug the little girl and kissed her cheek; she forgot about it right away.

Lin Xinyan let out a sigh of relief as she really had no idea how to explain to the children.

"You must be hungry." Aunt Yu smiled as she pushed a tray of food over. "Have something to eat."

Lin Xinyan was completely famished and quickly sat down by the dining table. As she ate, she took her phone out and called Guan Jing.

At that time, Guan Jing was standing in a room Zong Jinghao was hosting a meeting in when his phone rang. The ear-piercing ringtone interrupted the meeting, and Zong Jinghao turned to glare at Guan Jing coldly.

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 379

Guan Jing shivered as he cursed the one who called him. He quickly pulled his phone out, only to feel a sense of relief when he saw the caller ID.

All one hundred managers had their attention on Guan Jing as the company had stated that all phones must be silenced during a meeting.

Guan Jing quickly answered the call, and Lin Xinyan's voice could be heard from the phone. "Did you check what I asked you to last time?"

Guan Jing froze; he could not recall such a request.

Lin Xinyan put her chopsticks down. "Did you forget? I asked you to help check which management agency Li Zhan belongs to. Is it done?"

Because of Lin Xinyan's reminder, Guan Jing finally remembered it. Since it wasn't a good idea to speak in front of every manager in the company, he decided to take the call outside. Guan Jing showed his phone to Zong Jinghao, and the latter immediately frowned at the caller ID -Chairman's Wife.

The chairman simply grunted and signaled Guan Jing to leave.

"Are you busy?" Lin Xinyan asked impatiently.

"No, no." Guan Jing closed the door behind him and found a quiet spot. "I didn't get the chance to tell you this since you hung up too fast last time. Li Zhan did not sign with any management agency, but he does have a manager."

Lin Xinyan frowned. "Then, can you locate him?"

“He just got back a few days ago. He now lives at 108 Tongling West Road,” Guan Jing replied.

“I see. Thanks.”

“Wait!” Guan Jing quickly stopped Lin Xinyan from hanging up. “Do you know Li Zhan?”

“Nope.”

“Then, why are you looking for him?”

“It’s work-related. Why?”

“D-don’t you know who he is?”

“Oh? Do enlighten me.” Lin Xinyan’s interest was piqued.

Guan Jing was about to answer but he quickly swallowed his words back down. He believed it wasn’t something he should disclose.

“You’ll know when you meet with him,” Guan Jing finally answered and hung up.

Since Lin Xinyan didn’t know anything about it, it only meant that Zong Jinghao hadn’t told her the detail.

Lin Xinyan stared at the phone, completely dumbfounded.

*What the heck? You piqued my interest, and now you’re leaving me hanging here? Is this a game to you?*

She put her phone down and finished her lunch before driving to 108 Tongling West Road. Since she wasn’t familiar with the district, she had to rely on the GPS. The closer she got to her destination, the more remote the surroundings

got. She couldn't help but suspect if a famed celebrity really lived at such a location.

The buildings along the road were all really old. Only a few people could be seen wandering around the stores – most of them were elderly.

From what Lin Xinyan had learned about Li Zhan online, not only was the latter popular, but he was also quite young. She couldn't help but find it weird that such a person lived at such a place.

Lin Xinyan began to wonder if the information Guan Jing gave her was fake. Just as she was about to turn around, she realized she'd already reached her destination. A few people wearing caps could be seen waiting outside the building with cameras hanging around their necks. It was clear that these people were paparazzi.

She quickly parked her car near the building. *It'll be impossible to meet him like this.*

Lin Xinyan finally understood why Li Zhan preferred to live in such a remote place. He only had one reason, and that was to avoid the paparazzi.

She looked outside her car window at the fifteen-stories tall building. There were clothes, including underwear, hanging outside the window to dry. It definitely did not look like a place a celebrity would live at.

Scratching her chin, Lin Xinyan began to wonder how she could meet with Li Zhan. Even if she were to knock on his door, he would simply think she was with the paparazzi; he would not open the door for her.

“What should I do...”

As Lin Xinyan racked her brain, the building's door suddenly opened, and out came a man dressed in plain clothing. He was wearing a cap, and his face was covered by a black face mask.

Before she could react to what was going on, the doorway was flooded with young ladies. They were all chanting Li Zhan's name while holding up signs that reflected their love for the celebrity.

It was Lin Xinyan's first time witnessing a celebrity being surrounded by his crazy fans. She always thought that these were all an act for the television until she saw it with her own eyes. The crowd was even wilder than she thought.

Next to the face-covered Li Zhan was an overweight man in glasses with his hair tied into a bun. The man was trying to shield the celebrity from his fans, but they looked like they were about to be overwhelmed anytime soon.

Lin Xinyan was a little stunned as she never thought she would actually witness such a scene. She was even expecting to see Li Zhan's face and see if he was as good-looking as others said he was.

The only thing she found weird was why Li Zhan was only being escorted by one person. As she was lost in thought, the door to her backseat opened, and in came a man.

"Drive!" the man ordered.

Lin Xinyan turned around and saw a tall man in sunglasses and a black face mask. *Wait... Doesn't he look like Li Zhan?*

She quickly turned back and realized that the fans were still going crazy over the man that had walked out from the front door of the building.

"Who are you?" Lin Xinyan was completely dumbfounded by the situation.

Li Zhan pushed his sunglasses down a little to take a better look at Lin Xinyan.  
"It's you?"

"Wait, Li Zhan?" Lin Xinyan finally saw his eyes.

“Get me out of here.” Li Zhan put his sunglasses back on.

Without any hesitation, Lin Xinyan started her engine and drove out to the main road. She beamed in excitement when she realized that she didn’t have to do anything to get what she came for.

“Where are you heading to?” Lin Xinyan asked.

“The city center.”

Li Zhan was going to attend a fan meeting event. The venue was already prepared; all that was left was for him was to arrive. He thought the car he had gotten into was one sent to pick him up. It wasn’t until he saw Lin Xinyan’s face that he realized he had gotten into the wrong car. Since what was done was done, he had to ask her for help. He could not get rid of his fans like he had again.

The celebrity finally removed his face mask and sunglasses. His black hair was stylishly cut to match his attractive eyes and chiseled jaw; his face was the epitome of perfection.

Even though he was wearing a plain sky-blue checkered shirt, the plain and simple style made him look even sexier.

“Long time no see.”

# Stealing Your Heart Chapter 380

*Long time no see?* Lin Xinyan raised a brow. “Are you talking to me?”

“Is there anyone else in the car other than us?” Li Zhan grinned.

Lin Xinyan racked her brains but couldn't find any instance that she'd met with Li Zhan before.

“Have we met?”

“You really can't recognize me?” Li Zhan asked.

Lin Xinyan turned back to study the handsome face. Other than him being really good-looking, she could not remember meeting him. If she really had met him in the past, it would be impossible for her to forget a face that was hand-carved by God.

The car soon parked outside the biggest mall in the city center. Banners with Li Zhan's name on them could be seen everywhere.

“This should be the right place.”

Li Zhan nodded and put on his sunglasses and face mask. “Can you come in with me?”

Lin Xinyan thought about it and nodded. Since she was looking for Li Zhan to endorse her product, this would be a great chance to get close to him.

Li Zhan smiled. “Let me make a phone call.”

Since many fans were waiting outside the mall, his path would be blocked by them if he were to go down now.

Lin Xinyan understood his situation and did not argue with him.

The celebrity quickly dialed a number and told the people on the other side that he'd arrived.

"Where are you?"

"Main door."

"What's the model of the car you're in? The person I sent to pick you told me they couldn't find you."

Li Zhan raised his head and asked Lin Xinyan, "What's your license plate number?"

"A88066."

Li Zhan repeated the plate number before he hung up.

"They'll send someone to get us," Li Zhan sighed as it was something that happened often to him.

Lin Xinyan smiled to express her understanding. They waited for a few minutes before someone knocked on the window. Since the back door was also being crowded by fans, they had no choice but to go in through the front.

The bodyguards quickly forced the fans back and formed a path for Li Zhan to walk into the mall.

"Li Zhan!" the fans screamed at the top of their lungs as soon as they saw their idol. Lin Xinyan walked next to Li Zhan and could feel the obsession the crowd



had for the celebrity. She couldn't help but shiver – she could not understand why they would go crazy for him.

She even believed that these fans would run over her to get to him if the bodyguards weren't there to stop them.

Li Zhan held a fan meeting at the mall because he had signed a contract with the owner to help boost their sales. Li Zhan was one of the most popular celebrities out there, so the owner believed that the crowd that came because of Li Zhan would also spend inside the mall after the event.

All of the usual decoration in the main hall was replaced by a stage for Li Zhan. Escorted by the screams of his fan, the celebrity entered the mall and took his face mask and sunglasses off as soon as he went up the stage, which only garnered more cheers and shrieks.

Lin Xinyan stood among the crowd as she watched Li Zhan host the event. She admitted that he had the looks and build to receive such attention. It felt as if Li Zhan were shining on the stage, a glow that only the main character of a story would have.

“Thank you for all your love!” Li Zhan smiled and bowed. “Thank you for attending my fan meeting event! To show my gratitude, I have a surprise!”

“Yay!” the crowd cheered, and one of the fans quickly asked. “What's the surprise? Is it a kiss?”

“She's right! We want your kisses!”

The crowd immediately flew into chaos. Even though Lin Xinyan was standing below the stage with the fans, she felt like an outsider. She crossed her arms as she looked around in amusement.

Li Zhan finally spilled the beans and told everyone his surprise. “I'll pick a fan to stay by my side for twenty-four hours!”

His surprise instantly made the fans go even wilder. It was something much more lucrative than receiving a kiss from him.

“Alright. Calm down now.” Li Zhan quickly stopped the crowd from going out of control.

“Thank you, Mr. Li, for announcing the surprise,” the host took over the mic. “We’ll be pointing the lucky winner with our spotlight over there. Everyone, please remain quiet and be patient.”

Everyone who wanted to be the lucky one quickly stopped moving. Many people closed their eyes and prayed to their God for a chance to spend a full day with their idol – maybe even become his wife someday in the future.

The spotlight slowly lit up as Li Zhan whispered to the host.

“Which one?” the host asked in a low voice.

Li Zhan quickly turned to look at Lin Xinyan. “Her.”

“Consider it done.” The host nodded.

The hall was quiet as the light flashed through the crowd; it was so quiet that even their racing hearts could be heard.

The host had already notified the person in charge of the lighting to shine the light on the lucky one.

“Let’s began the countdown! Ten, nine, eight, seven...”

The fans tensed up as the number decreased.

“Three! Two! One!”

The light stopped on Lin Xinyan once the countdown ended. Her eyes widened in disbelief, wondering why the light would stop at her.

“Let us welcome the lucky winner onto the stage!” the host yelled.

Lin Xinyan wanted to argue that she wasn't a fan of Li Zhan and that it would be a waste if she was the lucky winner. Yet, she also knew she might embarrass Li Zhan if she did so.

Upon seeing Lin Xinyan hesitating, the host spoke again, “Miss? Are you okay?”

Li Zhan glared at Lin Xinyan with a bitter taste in his mouth. He was used to being surrounded by his fans; it unconsciously became something he was proud of. Lin Xinyan's troubled expression wasn't a sight he was fond of seeing.

Lin Xinyan could not reject the offer. If she did, she would lose all chance to ask Li Zhan to endorse her products.

Lin Xinyan frowned and proceeded onto the stage as the crowd let out sighs of disappointment while glaring at the lucky woman enviously.

When Lin Xinyan was on stage, the host asked, “Miss, can you tell us what of Mr. Li's character captivated you the most?”

Li Zhan immediately froze at the question; he was curious about her answer as well.