Reaching their apartment, Shen Peichuan unlocked the door while Sang Yu waited behind him. Just then, her phone vibrated in her pocket. She fished it out and saw that it was Wang Tingxue so she accepted the call.

"Sang Yu, when are you coming back?" Sang Yu had brought some of her belongings over to the dorm, saying she wanted to stay a few days. Now it was nearly ten o'clock but she had yet to return. Worried for her, Wang Tingxue decided to call and ask.

Sang Yu entered the apartment and raised her eyes to look at Shen Peichuan, who was staring at her. Pursing her lips, she whispered, "I'm not going back tonight."

"Why?" Wang Tingxue did not know that Shen Peichuan was back. She distinctly recalled Sang Yu telling her he had gone outstation recently and was not home much.

"My husband is back."

"Oh." Wang Tingxue grinned and replied, "Then I won't disturb you anymore."

With that said, she hung up and sat on her bed. Admiration and envy toward Sang Yu shot through her. She hasn't even graduated yet but she's already found and married a good man. Not only is he influential in society, but his friends are all really wealthy too. I mean, just a present from one of them costs more than ten thousand!

She sighed loudly. It was pointless to be jealous of others. All she could do was work hard for herself.

Sang Yu ended the call and tucked her phone back into her pocket. Shen Peichuan instantly questioned, "Who was that?"

She walked toward the table and poured a glass of water, she replied, "A friend."

She drank the water thirstily. Twisting her head around, she spotted Shen Peichuan still standing in the same spot. His gaze was locked on her and she self-consciously reached up to touch it. "Is there something on my face? Why are you staring at me?"

He did not respond.

Mentally shrugging, she turned to the laundry basket and noted it was full of Shen Peichuan's clothes. Picking the basket up, she placed the dirty laundry in the washing machine. Other people's husbands would bring their wives a little souvenir when they return from outstation. Mine only brings home his dirty clothes.

She sighed mournfully.

Returning from the washing machine, she saw that Shen Peichuan was still rooted to the spot while gazing at her. She blinked. "Aren't you going to take a shower? Or should I use the bathroom first?"

Silence greeted her words. A few seconds later, he queried, "The one who called you earlier, was it male or female?"

So that's what he's agonizing over.

She deliberately said, "Not all my friends are female, you know. I have some male friends too."

He stalked closer to her and muttered, "Could you not be so close to your male friends?"

It was obvious he was jealous. Sang Yu bent her head so he could not see her expression. "But it's not like there are only females in my class. I'm bound to have some interaction with my male classmates. Besides, your workplace is not all males either. You have female coworkers too, don't you?"

She was right. He did have female colleagues. It was unavoidable that he would have to interact with them due to work. "We're just colleagues."

She nodded. "I know. My male classmates and I are only classmates too."

He had nothing to say to that.

"If you're not going to shower then I will. I'm tired and I wanna sleep." With that said, she entered their bedroom and opened the closet to get her clothes.

Shen Peichuan followed her and took the clothes out of her hands. "Wait a moment."

He tugged her over to the bed and sat down, guiding her to sit in his lap. She did as bid, settling herself comfortably on his legs. "What's wrong?"

"I have female colleagues but we're just coworkers. Nothing more," he explained.

"I believe you," she answered with a nod.

He held her hand in his and spoke lowly, "We're not the same. You're still young and inexperienced. You haven't seen enough of the world and the people that inhabit it yet. Maybe someday, you'll meet someone around your age that..."

She jumped to her feet and exclaimed, "You don't trust me, do you?"

"That's not true!" He rushed to clarify, "I just want to tell you that at my age, I've already seen and been through everything. I won't stray so easily."

Biting her lip, her eyes were red-rimmed as she stated, "I might not have experienced as much as you, but that doesn't make me a promiscuous woman liable to change her mind at any moment!"

His hand flew up to cover her mouth. "Don't speak such nonsense!"

"But that's exactly what you're implying! You feel like you've seen so much that you're able to withstand temptation. But for me? I'm too young, which means I'll betray you in the future when I'm faced with temptation!"

Shen Peichuan did not deny it. After all, Sang Yu had not even graduated from university yet. Once she actually got a job, she would be surrounded by men her own age and with similar education. It was only natural that he would worry.

He had never thought of it before tonight. But what happened earlier was forcing him to consider this matter carefully.

Like Lin Xinyan had said, Sang Yu was beautiful and young. *What if she met another man more suited to her?* 

"If you don't trust me then why did you marry me!" Sang Yu's breath heaved with the force of her anger. "Fine! I'll go and find a more suitable man right now!"

She spun around and strode for the door. Shen Peichuan was quick to grab hold of her. She struggled furiously while pounding his chest with her fists.

"Why did you marry me when you don't even trust me? Why?" she screamed herself hoarse as her tears spilled over.

"I was wrong." He swiped at the tears rolling down her cheeks. "I believe you. I trust you. You're a wonderful woman."

Her eyes glistened as she cried out, "You were clearly doubting me!"

His voice was low when he answered, "I wasn't doubting you. It's just that I'm not confident in myself."

She finally stopped struggling and stared at him. "You're an outstanding man! Why would you have no confidence in yourself?"

He chuckled bitterly. "We have a huge age gap."

"But you're not that old." She held his cheek while she scrutinized his face closely. No matter how she looked at him, she thought he was very handsome. Lifting her head, she pressed a kiss to his jaw. "You're finally home after so long and the first thing you do is make me angry."

The couple stared into each other's eyes for a long moment. "Let's not get angry anymore, okay? Let's trust each other from now on."

Shen Peichuan nodded. His large hand cupped the back of her head as he cradled her against his chest. "It's my fault this time. I'll try harder in the future."

Sang Yu smiled in response. Her eyes were still misty as she rubbed her cheek against his chest. "You've been gone for almost a month now..."

Shen Peichuan nodded, adding, "I know. I'll be back permanently after another month or so."

The couple remained in their embrace a moment longer, basking in each other's presence. After a while, Sang Yu murmured, "Let me go. I want to take a shower."

He refused and bent down to kiss her. She quickly shied away, chastising him, "As punishment for what you said, you're sleeping on the couch tonight."

With that, she took her clothes and headed for the bathroom.

"Sang Yu..."

"Say anything more and you'll have to sleep there two nights."

He dogged her steps to the bathroom and tried to negotiate, "Can't I do the punishment next month? I just got back and you're forcing me to sleep on the couch?"

"No. Otherwise, you won't remember and learn from your mistakes," she answered firmly.

Isn't it just too cruel to make me sleep on the couch when it was so difficult for me to come back?

"Sang Yu..."

"Three days."

"Fine, fine. I'll stop talking." At this rate, he would have to stay away from the bed for four days. That was most definitely not worth it.

Shen Peichuan sat down on the bed and stared at the bathroom door. Unbidden images of Sang Yu taking off her clothing and showering swam through his mind. His breathing grew heavier. Realizing where his thoughts were heading, he shook his head vigorously to get rid of them.

If he continued with these perverted thoughts, he would not be able to sleep tonight.

Getting to his feet, he headed for the living room and took out a bottle of cold water.

After several gulps, the fire burning in him had somewhat receded. However, those wicked thoughts still refused to leave him alone.

He sighed.

Immediately after her shower, Sang Yu climbed into bed. By the time he came out of the bathroom, she was already asleep. He stood by the bedside and stared at her. After a while, he left the room to sleep on the couch.

Sang Yu's hand flew up to slap her forehead and she laughed softly. *This man is just too honest.* 

But that was exactly why she loved him.

Even though he was not in the same bed as her, just knowing he was home made her feel safe. Her sleep was deep and restful.

Out in the living room, Shen Peichuan was not so lucky. He tossed and turned but was unable to sleep. His mind was filled with images of Sang Yu. Several times, he got up to check in on her in the bedroom. To his chagrin, she was completely unaware.

For the next two days, he did not make any request of wanting to sleep with her. She did not offer either.

He endured his suffering in silence, which was a fact that she knew. Every time she thought about it, she wanted to laugh. She found him rather silly but at the same time so very adorable.

She could not find it in herself to be mad at him after that.

One last day of holiday later, he had to leave. She knew he did not have a choice as it was his job.

After he reached his destination, he immediately sent her a text: I've arrived.

Sang Yu had only just finished her classes when she received his message. She replied: *Okay. Rest early.* 

Shen Peichuan was standing at the station waiting for his colleague to pick him up. His head was bowed as he stared at his phone screen and messaged: *I miss you*.

When she saw his text, she was stunned. Her lips curled up into a smile as she sent back: *You've only just left.* 

It was exactly because he had just left her that he realized how much he missed her.

His lips pressed into a thin line as he texted: *The next time I go back, don't force me to sleep on the couch again.* 

Sang Yu snickered when she read that. She replied: *We'll see. It depends on your performance.* 

He took her words to heart, reminding himself to behave from now on. He did not want to sleep on the couch again.

Right then, his coworker arrived so he quickly messaged her: *My colleague's here to pick me up*.

She answered with: Take good care of yourself there.

Sang Yu got an "okay" in reply and kept her phone away. She did not have any classes in the afternoon. However, she had to go to an internship interview at a company. The rest of the day passed in a blur as she prepared herself for the interview.

When it was dinner time, she did not want to cook so she bought some fish noodles on the way home. Taking a bottle of cold water from the fridge, she sat down at the table and opened up a pair of disposable chopsticks. She was just about to dig in when her phone chimed.

It was Shen Peichuan sending her a message: Have you eaten dinner yet?

She could not help the happy grin that spread across her face. She replied: *I'm eating right now.* 

Then, she took a photo of her dinner and sent it to him.

Shen Peichuan frowned when he saw the photo. He messaged her: Why are you eating that?

A second later, he sent another text: Have you run out of money?

Sang Yu stared at his messages as a warm feeling swelled in her. Oh my, he's actually expressing his concern now? Looks like he's learned his lesson.

A mischievous expression appeared on her face as she texted him: Yeah, I'm broke. Are you going to give me your payroll card?

There was not even a second of hesitation before he replied: I'll hand it to you when I get back.

Looking at his reply, Sang Yu thought to herself, What a sweet and honest man. I shouldn't get mad at him from now on or kick him out to sleep on the couch. It feels like such a mean thing to do to him.

He was not a bad man, per se. He was just not very romantic and rather straightforward. Yet he was extremely dependable and gave her a sense of security.

She messaged him: I haven't spent the money you gave me. This fish noodle is actually quite nice. I'll bring you to try it when you come back.

He texted back: I don't know what you like either. Just buy whatever you want.

She answered: Okay, I got it.

He then replied: I still have something to do. You should sleep early, okay?

Sang Yu sniffled a little when she read his message. Even though it was already night, he still had matters to attend to, which showed how busy he was. Now she was starting to feel

guilty for her complaints about him ignoring her. She sent back: *Alright. Give me a call when you come back and I'll go pick you up.* 

He texted her an "okay."

The result for Qin Ya's second attempt at IVF was out so Su Zhan accompanied her to the hospital.

"Don't be so nervous," he comforted while gripping her icy hand tightly. He could feel how her whole body was shaking.

Qin Ya was obviously very nervous but she still insisted, "I'm not nervous."

Su Zhan mentally sighed, lamenting Qin Ya's stubborn attitude. *If we fail again this time, it's definitely going to be a huge blow to her.* 

They headed for the doctor's office and Su Zhan raised a hand to knock on the door. After the doctor called out for them to come in, they pushed open the door and entered. Upon noticing them, the doctor invited, "Please take a seat."

Su Zhan guided Qin Ya over to sit in one of the chairs before the desk.

Her lips were pursed so tightly they were white. She kept reminding herself not to be nervous but it was a futile effort.

Think positive! Be positive and good things will happen!

"Doctor, what's the result?" Su Zhan asked.

The doctor did not immediately reply. Instead, he turned to Qin Ya and said, "I would like to speak with your husband alone."

Qin Ya made no move to stand up. Her voice was firm as she stated, "Just tell me whatever the problem is."

The doctor glanced over at Su Zhan hesitantly.

Su Zhan squeezed Qin Ya's hand. "Maybe the doctor wants to tell me what problems I have. Wait for me outside please?" "Does it matter whose problem it is? I can know either way, right?" she retorted.

Rendered speechless by her words, it was several seconds before Su Zhan could speak, "Go ahead, Doctor. We'll face whatever problem it is together."

The doctor nodded. "Alright then."

Gathering the results of the second attempt at IVF, he handed the papers over to the couple.

Su Zhan asked, "Was it a failure?"

If it had been a success, the doctor would have instantly told them the good news. He would not have let them read a bunch of results they could not hope to understand.

The doctor answered, "Yes, it failed."

Qin Ya's body slumped like a puppet with its strings cut as her eyes went dull.

Su Zhan wrapped an arm around her shoulders while consoling her, "It's okay. Everything's fine. You might not be with a child but you still have me."

She raised her eyes to look at the doctor. "There's something wrong with me, isn't there?"

He would not have wanted her out of the room otherwise.

The doctor nodded honestly. "Both times were failures because of the quality of your eggs." He paused before continuing, "If you were to try a third time, there's a ninety percent chance it'll still fail. Your eggs are just not suitable for IVF; the rate of success is too low. I suggest you give up. You will only suffer if you continue trying this method. Not only will you fail to get the desired results, but you'll have to endure the emotional stress as well."

The doctor's words were like a bolt of lightning, striking Qin Ya and leaving her senseless. Her vision blurred before darkening as she fell unconscious.

"Qin Ya!" Su Zhan cried out in surprise. He caught his wife before she slumped to the floor. The doctor ordered,

"Put her on the bed and I'll check her over."

Lifting Qin Ya into his arms, Su Zhan carefully set her down on the bed. The doctor examined her before telling the worried man, "Everything's fine. She's just suffered a heavy blow emotionally and was unable to cope with it. As her husband, you should spend more time comforting her."

Su Zhan looked down at his unconscious wife and murmured, "I know."

Trying to be helpful, the doctor suggested, "Adopting a child is a good option too."

Su Zhan did not bother answering the man. He was not in the mood to say anything at all right now. He knew what the doctor was suggesting, but all he could think about now was whether Qin Ya would be able to get over this hurdle.

Telling her that the quality of her eggs was the problem was like condemning the idea of having a child to death. There was no room for negotiation.

She would never be able to have her own child.

When Qin Ya woke up, she was back in their home. Su Zhan was sitting by the bed. Upon noticing that she was awake, he queried, "Are you feeling uncomfortable anywhere?"

She shook her head mutely, her eyes staring up at the ceiling lifelessly. "Su Zhan."

"Yeah?"

"Maybe we should just forget it..."

"What nonsense are you saying!" Su Zhan shouted. He could not believe what he was hearing.

She shut her eyes and her voice came out raspy, "You're only going to suffer even more from here on out, caught between me and Grandma."

"I'll be fine." He gazed down at her. "I'll never be able to accept you leaving me again. We went through so much to get to this point today. Can you please not talk about leaving anymore?"

"Could you leave me alone for now?" she whispered in a frail voice.

She wanted to be left with her thoughts in silence.

"Alright. I'll be in the living room. Shout if you need anything."

He had to strain his ears to hear her soft "okay."

Understanding her need for quiet, he got up and left the room.

The moment the door clicked shut, the tears she had been holding back burst forth like a broken dam.

The news that she was practically infertile was like a cruel joke from the universe.

There were plenty of couples in the world who were able to have children, but they wanted nothing to do with kids.

Yet she, a woman who so desperately wanted a child of her own, was unable to have one. It was something unattainable, impossible for her.

She sobbed softly at the injustice of it all.

Su Zhan was crouching by the door. Despite Qin Ya's best efforts to keep her crying down, he could still hear everything. The room was so quiet he could hear his own breathing. There was no way he would not be able to hear her muffled cries.

He slid to the floor slowly with his back to the wall. He bowed his head as his body began to tremble violently.

Eventually, the sniffling sounds stuttered before dying down. Su Zhan crawled up from his position on the floor.

Pushing open the door, he affected a relaxed air and entered the room. "Do you want me to cook something for you?"

Exhausted from her emotional breakdown, Qin Ya turned her back on him.

He walked over to kneel beside her. "We already agreed to not mind this matter so much. Why did you still cry?" He reached out to wipe away the tears still glistening in the corner of her eyes.

She moved to look up at him, the tears clinging to her lashes stubbornly. In a hoarse voice, she muttered, "I didn't want to cry."

But I couldn't help it. It just hurts so much.

Su Zhan answered soothingly, "I know, I know."

There was no way he couldn't understand her current feelings.

He knew that whatever he was feeling now, how upset and despondent he was, she would be even more so.

"I don't feel like eating anything." Her heart felt like something was constricting it tightly. So tightly that she could not even breathe, let alone eat.

"Would you like me to send you over to Xinyan's house instead? There are a lot of people there who can talk to you." The atmosphere around them was tense. Her being alone would only lead to her stewing in her thoughts. Out of ideas, he thought that Lin Xinyan might be able to guide her through this dark time.

She blinked at him but did not answer. Honestly, she did not really want to go. In fact, she did not want to go anywhere at all. All she wanted was to be alone with her grief.

"Listen to me this once and just go, alright?" He did not know what else he could do. He could not seem to comfort her so he would need help from others.

"You want me to go there looking like this?" She was not afraid of Lin Xinyan seeing her in this state. Instead, she was worried about the rest of the people in the villa. They would definitely ask questions when they saw her.

"Ya, what's wrong with you? Your complexion looks off."

"Ya, were you crying?"

She did not want to answer those questions.

"I understand. Shall I call Xinyan and have her come over instead?" Su Zhan suggested.

At last, she nodded.

He caressed her cheeks softly and informed, "I'll call her right now."

With that said, he stood up and made his way to the living room to call Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan had woken up really early today. After breakfast, she sent the two kids off to school. Normally, it would have been Zong Qifeng who took them. However, she told him to stay at home today and rest because of his illness.

Zong Qifeng complained that she was making a mountain out of a molehill. He only had a minor cold but she was treating him like he had a severe disease.

Despite his protests, she still insisted on taking the children herself while he stayed home. After all, he was not a young man anymore.

She was still planning on bringing him to the hospital the first chance she got. It was better for him to get a check-up as soon as possible. That way, they would be able to treat him early if he were truly ill.

Zong Qifeng grumbled, "If you won't even let me take the kids to school, what else can I do?"

"Aren't you sick? You can resume doing that after you've recovered. Nobody will fight you for it," she soothed.

Not having anything to say to that, he cited his need for a nap and went back to his room.

Lin Xinyan instructed Aunt Yu to keep an eye on Zong Qifeng and the older woman agreed. After that, she was about to look in on her youngest son when her phone rang. Walking over to the coffee table, she picked up her phone and answered.

"Xinyan." Su Zhan sounded horrible, his voice was low and raspy.

Her chest tightened as worry for him and Qin Ya swept through her. She hurriedly asked, "What's wrong?"

"Do you have time to come over and be with Ya? I need you to counsel her."

Realization dawned on Lin Xinyan. "It failed again?"

"Yeah... The doctor says the quality of her eggs is not good, which means the success rate is incredibly low. We have no hope anymore..."

"Okay. Send me your address and I'll be there as quickly as I can."

"Thank you, Xinyan. I know how busy you are with the kids nowadays. But I didn't have a choice. I don't know how else to help her. It hurts me to see her in so much pain but I don't know what to say." The stress in his voice was audible.

"I know. I'm one of Ya's closest friends and I should be there for her during this time. Don't feel like you're burdening me or anything," she consoled. "You need to keep ahold of yourself too."

"I understand."

Lin Xinyan ended the call with a heavy heart. She stuffed her phone into her pocket and headed deeper into the house. Her precious baby was sleeping in his cot, his flushed cheeks looked absolutely adorable.

For a moment, she stood beside the cot and stroked her son's chubby cheeks, the skin smooth to the touch. She checked his diaper and saw that it was still dry. Just then, Zhuang Zijin entered the room with a newly-washed diaper in hand. Spotting Lin Xinyan, she whispered, "He just finished eating and went right back to sleep. It should be a while before he wakes up."

Twisting her body to face her mother, Lin Xinyan whispered back, "I have to go out for something."

"Go ahead. There are a lot of people in this house and we'll all look after your baby. Don't worry."

Lin Xinyan nodded. She could relax knowing Zhuang Zijin was around to care for her son.

She went upstairs to put on a coat before she left the house. Checking the address Su Zhan had sent her, she relayed the information to the chauffeur.

In no time at all, they arrived at the neighborhood Su Zhan was currently living in. She knew Qin Ya and him had moved out and was living by themselves. However, this was the first time she had been to their new apartment.

Pushing open the car door, she exited.

"Mrs. Zong, shall I wait for you down here?" the chauffeur asked.

"You can head back if you like. I'll just hail a taxi later."

"Then I'll find a place to park and wait for you. Call me when you want to leave."

Lin Xinyan nodded. She sent off a text to Su Zhan informing him that she had arrived.

A few seconds later, Su Zhan replied that he would come down to get her.

Thus, she stood there and waited.

Right then, a taxi came to a stop near her before a young woman got out. Immediately after that, Su Zhan's grandmother exited the vehicle as well.

With the help of the taxi driver, Grandma Su was moved into a wheelchair.

"This is where Su Zhan has been staying after he left the house?" Grandma Su's face was twisted in disdain.

Chen Xue nodded. "Yes."

Since Su Zhan had not been home, Grandma Su sent someone to tail him, and only then did she manage to find his whereabouts. She decided to pay him a visit upon finding out that Qin Ya's second attempt at IVF failed.

Lin Xinyan stood motionless at the door. She knew why Grandma Su was there.

When Su Zhan came out from the neighborhood, she saw Lin Xinyan at the entrance. "Xinyan!" He called out.

Lin Xinyan, Grandma Su, and Chen Xue all turned around.

"Su Zhan!" Grandma Su called out with a tone of disgruntlement.

Hearing that, Su Zhan finally realized that Lin Xinyan was not the only one waiting at the roadside, and his expression immediately stiffened. For a moment, he thought Grandma Su found out where he lived by tailing Lin Xinyan.

"I only met them at the door," Lin Xinyan clarified.

"My place is in the third building, unit 603. You can go in first. I have some things I need to take care of," Su Zhan said.

Lin Xinyan nodded in understanding. "Good luck."

Su Zhan walked out. "Grandma..."

Grandma Su interrupted him before he could even finish his sentence. "Why won't you let me in?" She demanded. "If you don't, I'll call the police to report you for not taking care of me!"

Su Zhan clenched his fists and almost yelled at her. Tamping down his anger, he growled, "Just what do you want?"

"You've abandoned me and don't even let me in your house when I come to visit. I should ask you the same!" Seeing that there was a security guard present as well as the occasional passers-by, she started bawling. "I took great pains to raise you, and this is how you repay me? How could you abandon me in the house when you know I can't walk well?"

It is human nature to be drawn to drama. As such, the security guard stuck his head out to get a good look at the commotion, and the passers-by stopped in their tracks as well.

Lin Xinyan turned around. "Just let her in."

Su Zhan remained stationary.

Seeing that he had no intention of budging, Lin Xinyan persuaded, "You know full well that you'll have to take care of this someday. You can't keep hiding forever."

Su Zhan knew what he was currently doing was not a long-term solution. Even so, there was no surefire way to solve this either, as every solution he could come up with would end up with someone close to him getting hurt.

"Fine, you can come in. Direct all your anger at me, because leaving home was my own decision. Don't get anyone else involved," He warned Grandma Su.

Grandma Su stared at Su Zhan for a long while before replying, "Fine."

Su Zhan turned his head, and without even looking at Grandma Su, he said, "Let's go in."

"Are you here to see Ya?" Grandma Su asked Lin Xinyan.

Lin Xinyan nodded. "I knew she wasn't doing well, so I'm here to visit."

"Good. Help me persuade her later. Tell her that Su Zhan is the family's only child, and he can't be the one to end the family line," Grandma Su said.

Lin Xinyan simply pursed her lips in response. The elevator ride was silent. When they got off, Su Zhan walked in front of them and opened the door.

Since Qin Ya knew that Lin Xinyan was visiting, she had got up from the bed and was seated on the sofa. When she heard the door open, she looked towards it and saw Lin Xinyan. She was just about to greet her when she saw the people behind her.

Qin Ya jumped up from the sofa, her expression turning deathly white almost instantly.

Lin Xinyan walked towards her and caught her by her arms. "Please sit down, your body's weak." Almost losing her balance, Qin Ya held onto Lin Xinyan's arms.

Lin Xinyan smiled and patted her back. "Su Zhan and I are both here. We won't let anything bad happen. Why don't you take this chance to clarify things?"

Qin Ya looked into her friend's eyes and nodded.

The silence in the room was broken by Grandma Su. "Are you doing well? I heard you were lucky enough to have another son," she asked Lin Xinyan.

Her words contained an obvious hidden meaning. It was as if she was telling Qin Ya, "Look at how well she's doing. Shouldn't you be ashamed of yourself?"

Lin Xinyan smiled politely. "I can't say I'm that lucky. Back when I raised my kids by myself, people saw me as a woman without a husband and they all criticized me for getting pregnant while still unwed."

"That's all in the past now," Grandma Su said.

"Yes, it is. But I will never forget it," Lin Xinyan replied.

"Ya," Grandma Su turned her attention to Qin Ya. Qin Ya immediately stiffened and called out, "Yes, Grandma?"

"How could you not tell me you went to the hospital?" Grandma Su's concern was laced with blame. "You've gotten even skinnier."

Qin Ya turned her gaze to the ground.

Su Zhan took out a jacket and draped it over Qin Ya's shoulders. "Ya has been through so much because of me. Her body's weak, so I'm giving the matter of having children a rest."

"Is that your own decision, or was it forced upon you because her eggs are useless?" Grandma Su was at Su Zhan's house precisely because she could not accept the situation, so when she heard that Su Zhan had given up, she could not hold back her anger any longer. "Do you think you're the only one who gets a say in this?"

"So what do you suggest they do?" Lin Xinyan held Qin Ya's hand, hoping to give her some comfort in the nerve-wracking situation unfolding before them.

After a while, Grandma Su said, "If her eggs and womb are useless, then find someone who's willing to donate theirs. If you can't, surrogacy is a plan you can consider. There are many women nowadays who are willing to sell their uterus for money."