

Stealing Your Heart Chapter 826

"You don't have to explain yourself. I know you're not the romantic type, so let's just go in." Sang Yu held on to Shen Peichuan's arm as they went in.

Sang Yu was humble and caring. Even though she was young, she had never used her age as an excuse to take advantage of him. She even showed interest in Shen Peichuan's work and hobbies. In his mind, she was the one.

He was happy with her.

In the restaurant, it seemed like everyone was having a good time. Sang Yu went to examine the menu on the wall and ordered something light since she had a fever. She then turned to Shen Peichuan and asked, "What would you like?"

"Whatever you're having," he replied.

Sang Yu happily placed their orders before they went and found a table for themselves. The food was served rather quickly after. However, Sang Yu did not eat much because she had little appetite.

After they were done, they left the restaurant together, but Sang Yu suddenly stopped.

"What's up?" Shen Peichuan looked back at her.

She did not respond. Her stomach felt upset as if she were about to throw up. *Did I eat too fast just now? Or was it the food?*

Shen Peichuan reached out to touch her forehead, but Sang Yu stop him and said, "It's not a fever."

Shen Peichuan was concerned. "You don't look so well right now."

Sang Yu stood there for a while until that disgusting feeling subsided. She then pressed her hand on her chest and said, "Alright, I'm good to go now."

After that, Shen Peichuan brought Sang Yu into the city to get a new phone since it would be hard for them to keep in touch without it, especially when she was about to leave B city.

That night, they reached home at around ten. Shen Peichuan was on the bed after he finished bathing. Sang Yu, on the other hand, just got out of the shower. She walked to the bedside and snuggled under Shen Peichuan's blanket.

She then went on to toss away the towel she was using to cover her body.

"You're still sick," Shen Peichuan said and gave her a kiss.

"I'm fine now. Don't you miss me?" Sang Yu lay in his arms, her soft skin bare on his burning chest.

I'd be lying if I said no. Even though Shen Peichuan tried to restrain himself, his body inevitably took over soon after.

The next day, Sang Yu had to catch up on sleep during her trip back.

Half a month flew by, but Su Zhan and Grandma Su almost never talked. Even if Grandma Su initiated the conversation, Su Zhan's response would be brief and cold.

In the end, Grandma Su stopped trying.

Qin Ya had not contacted Su Zhan ever since she left. Su Zhan desperately missed her, so he secretly traveled to C City to see her.

It was a beautiful day with good weather. Under the pleasant warmth of the sun, maple leaves along the pavement had turned bright red as some slowly fell to the ground.

After Qin Ya returned, she had been putting all her attention into work and avoided mentioning anything about her personal life. Shao Yun knew not to ask since they were adults, and he understood that everyone had things they did not want to talk about.

Shao Yun was the same as always. A man that loved fancy outfits like the one he wore that day, a floral shirt under a white suit. Even Qin Ya gave up on him and his sense of fashion as he walked into her office with his car key in hand.

Shao Yun went ahead and sat on her desk. "Let's get off early today," he said.

Qin Ya raised her head. It was clear she lost some weight but her gaze was sharp. "Uncle, can you act your age for once?"

"How am I not?" Shao Yun did not feel like his action was, in any sense, immature.

He had always been enthusiastic.

"Go get changed. I'm taking you somewhere."

"I'm busy," Qin Ya replied.

"You've been working day in and day out since you're back. That's not good for you. Let's just go have some fun and relax." Shao Yun suggested as he snatched Qin Ya's pen from her hand.

Then, he grabbed her arm and pulled her away from the desk.

"Where are you taking me?" Qin Ya got annoyed. "I swear if it's an arcade again..."

"Not this time, we're going someplace new." Shao Yun sifted through the wardrobe and took out a gown that was a display in the shop. He tossed it to Qin Ya. "Put it on."

Qin Ya paused.

She looked at the gown and asked, "Where are we going with this?"

"It's a serious occasion." Shao Yun smiled. "I'll wait for you at the door."

However, Qin Ya was not in the mood and just wanted to be left alone. *There will be a lot of people for sure, Ugh. And I actually have to wear a gown and do my make-up.*

"Uncle..."

She wanted to convince Shao Yun to leave her alone.

“Just treat it as doing me a favor. I’ll be at the door,” Shao Yun said as he left the room.

Qin Ya let out another sigh and took the gown with her to the changing room.

Shao Yun’s car was parked on the sidewalk right in front of the shop.

Not far from it, parked Su Zhan’s car with him inside. Su Zhan had changed quite a bit as time passed. He used to be the most talkative and outgoing out of the gang, but now, he was more reserved.

He came here without telling anyone just so he could see Qin Ya.

There were too many sleepless nights where Su Zhan had his phone in his hand, wanting to contact her but never did.

Previously, Lin Xinyan said he only married Qin Ya because he was under pressure from Grandma Su.

That was not the full truth. Su Zhan was still an adult and he would not marry Qin Ya if he did not have feelings for her. He could have just married anyone if it were to shut Grandma Su up.

Su Zhan realized how he felt a long time ago, that he loved Qin Ya. All the heartache he was feeling was because of this.

Even though he did not dare to go meet her, he still wanted to see her.

All because he loved her.

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Seeing Shao Yun at the entrance, Su Zhan decided to stay in the car for fear of being seen.

After a while, he saw Qin Ya walk out in a pearl white gown as if her slim figure was wrapped in moonlight. Her wavy black hair was bundled up casually but a strand got loose and covered her forehead.

Qin Ya had put on some make-up so that she looked more energetic and to disguise her pale face.

Shao Yun's eyes lit up and smiled as he said, "It's a waste for such a fine beauty like you to be sitting in the office every day. You should be out there ruining people's lives."

"Uncle, if you're going to joke around like that. I'm leaving." Qin Ya said as she pretended to be angry.

"Don't. Please don't. With a woman like you by my side, people are going to be so envious of me," Shao Yun said cheerfully.

Qin Ya smiled. "Does this counts as doing you a favor then?"

"Definitely," Shao Yun said as he opened the car door.

Qin Ya lowered her head and got in the car. "You owe me then."

Shao Yun stood at the door while looking at Qin Ya and smiled. "Haven't I treated you good enough? Why are you so stingy when it's with me?"

"I don't care. I'm leaving if you don't," Qin Ya said and motioned to get off the car. She was obviously joking around.

"Alright. Sure." Shao Yun stopped her. "I owe you one." He smacked his lips and continued, "I wanted to give you a breather by bringing you out but I end up actually owing you a favor. The sayings were right, women are as difficult to please as the villains."

"I'm the woman, who makes you the villain?" Qin Ya said with her gaze raised. The make-up accented her eyes and made them look clearer.

"I'm ignoring that." Shao Yun huffed.

This lass sure has a sharp tongue!

Then, Shao Yun hop onto the driver's seat and sped away. Even after the car was out of sight, Su Zhan was still dazed from seeing Qin Ya, unable to snap out of it.

It hasn't been long since Qin Ya left me. But it looked like she's back to normal. Is it because of Shao Yun? She liked to talk with Shao Yun too back then.

Su Zhan lowered his gaze. *She and Shao Yun...*

He felt a sudden sharp pain from his chest as if someone had stabbed his heart and let it bleed out.

Before this, Su Zhan had been on the road without pause nor rest, just to see Qin Ya. To find her going out with Shao Yun in this manner, his bloodshot eyes were almost drowned in tears.

But out of the blue, he burst into ironic and sorrowful laughter.

If she's happy, so be it. Even if we almost made it with only the papers left, she deserves her freedom.

Su Zhan was suffocating in his heartbreak.

As if to comfort him, a single leaf fell from the tree above onto the windscreen but was immediately blown away. Just like how he was a lonely man who everyone abandoned.

It was a long time before Su Zhan started the car again.

The round trip between B City and C City without rest exhausted him. However, it was seeing Qin Ya smiling at someone else that really took a toll on Su Zhan.

He knew he should be giving her his most heartfelt blessings, but his restless heart could not be tamed at the moment.

Su Zhan walked into the house and tossed his coat onto the sofa. Grandma Su was alone, watching TV.

She noticed the look on Su Zhan's face and called out, "Su Zhan?" She was worried about him.

Su Zhan, however, did not respond. He walked straight to his room and shut the door. Su Zhan seldom came out of the room unless it was for food, so there were close to no interactions between the two of them.

At first, Grandma Su was quite hospitable, but it slowly simmered away with how cold Su Zhan acted.

Concerned, Grandma Su wheeled herself to the living room balcony. It was connected to Su Zhan's balcony, allowing her to see Su Zhan sitting on the floor in shambles through the glass wall that split the balcony.

Grandma Su felt uneasy with what she was seeing. *Was I wrong?*

"Qin Ya." Su Zhan murmured and flinched.

Seeing him like this, Grandma Su could feel her tears welling up. She immediately left the balcony and went into her room. *I never wanted this to happen... I just wanted a child. I didn't want Su Zhan to suffer like this.*

The situation right now was far from ideal for Grandma Su. With Qin Ya gone, Su Zhan was living like the walking dead.

Knock! Knock!

Someone was at the door.

"Come in," Grandma Su said as she turned around.

Aunt Ji opened the door. "The sugar cake that you wanted is ready."

"Huh? When did I order that?" Grandma Su replied.

Aunt Ji raised an eyebrow. "Just now, Madam."

"I didn't ask for any sugar cakes." Grandma Su had forgotten that she had asked Aunt Ji to make some.

Aunt Ji did not make a fuss about it. Grandma Su had been forgetting things here and there lately. Just yesterday, she forgot where she placed the remote and blamed Aunt Ji for losing it.

As Aunt Ji was leaving, Grandma Su stopped her.

"Yes, Madam." She turned around.

"Hmm, what did I want to say again?" Grandma Su had something on her mind but had forgotten it after a split second.

"Let me know when you remember," Aunt Ji said before she left.

Grandma Su was a little confused. *I was about to say something right?*

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Grandma Su took quite some time to think about it but was unable to remember what she wanted to say. Su Zhan, on the other hand, seemed to have picked himself up as he took a shower and put on some fresh clean clothes. Exhaustion was written all over his face, but there was a storm going on in his head, allowing him no sleep. So he decided to go to the law firm.

"Mr. Su, someone's waiting for you in the reception room," said the receptionist.

"Okay." Su Zhan nodded in response.

In the reception room was the elderly woman that retracted her lawsuit after hiring him for a lawsuit.

"Anything I can help you with?" Su Zhan asked with a bland expression.

The woman stood up. "Thank you for the help last time, I'm here to express my gratitude." She said as she placed the gift she brought on the table.

However, Su Zhan pushed the gift back towards her. "I can't accept this. I didn't do much after all."

"It's nothing extravagant, just a good aged wild ginseng. Please keep it, Mr. Su," the woman said and pushed it back to Su Zhan.

Not wanting to refuse any further, Su Zhan took the gift and placed it under the table, showing that he accepted the gift. Then, he sat down. "Can I know whether there's anything else you need help with?"

"No." She shook her head. "You were the only one that would accept my request last time. Even though I ended up retracting it, I am happy that my daughter can rest in peace now."

"What happened?" Su Zhan asked.

The woman smiled, "You didn't watch the news, did you?"

Su Zhan shook his head so she continued, "That couple died in an accident yesterday."

"Oh?" Su Zhan was surprised.

"Yes, they reaped what they sowed," she replied. "I heard the mistress couldn't get pregnant after marrying into the family. Even if she did, she'd lose it soon after. I lost my grandchild because of the Lu family, they deserve it." The woman's voice sounded slightly hoarse.

Su Zhan lowered his gaze at the mention of a child. "How did the accident happen?" He redirected the conversation.

"The Lu family's a prominent family. I doubt they'll accept not having an heir. The mistress got into a huge argument with them like what happened with my daughter. The couple was on their way to file a divorce before passing away." The woman was gratified by their death.

It was justice for her and her daughter.

"My daughter and her child were both so young..." Her eyes started to turn red before she realized she was talking too much. "Oh, I'm so sorry for taking so much of your time," the woman said as she stood up.

"It's okay," Su Zhan replied.

"I'll leave you be now. You're a busy man after all. Things would definitely turn out great for a kind man like you." She smiled.

After he asked the receptionist to help send the woman off, Su Zhan returned to his office and sorted out a document. It was a case that he took a few days ago.

Usually, he would not have taken cases like this, but Su Zhan wanted to get himself busy so he made an exception.

He was to meet with the client that day.

The client was a woman. Her husband cheated on her during her pregnancy and now she wanted to divorce him as well as strip him of all his assets.

She was a strong woman. People would think that she would be weeping in the corner when she found out about it but on the contrary, the first thing that came to her mind was to fight for the assets.

“Even though you know he’s cheating, we’d still need some solid proof. With you being pregnant right now, it would be easy to divorce him with no alimony paid if we had evidence to back up our claim.”

“I’ve heard that you usually don’t accept cases like this. Thank you for helping me,” she said.

“I’m a lawyer, it’s my job to help you get the best possible outcome.” Su Zhan replied calmly. “What you need to do now, is gather evidence as soon as possible since he has no knowledge of what you know right now.”

“Okay. I’ll be in your care after this then,” she said, standing up with a hand supporting her stomach.

“No problem.”

After the client left, Su Zhan remained in the office and went through all the information she had provided regarding the family’s properties.

They had a house that the husband paid for and the wife was in charge of renovations. The husband is a manager of a company with an annual income of eight hundred thousand. A three hundred thousand car, and about a million in savings. It was a well-off family, falling apart because of the husband.

The wife wants the husband to forfeit all of these. Not many people can be like her and keep their cool like this.

Buzz...

The phone on the desk started vibrating.

Su Zhan picked it up and immediately heard Aunt Ji’s anxious voice, “Mr. Su, Grandma Su went missing!”

“What happened?” Su Zhan asked with his brows knitted.

“She said she wanted to get some fresh air so I took her to the park. Then she saw people selling steamed cakes so she asked me to buy some for her. It only took a few minutes, but when I came back, she was gone.”

“She’s not in the park?” Su Zhan was heading outside.

“I looked around but can’t find her, so I called you immediately.”

“Okay. You continue searching around, I’ll be right there.”

Su Zhan ended the call and got on his car.

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By the time Su Zhan arrived, Aunt Ji was still anxiously asking passersby if they had seen Grandma Su. Grandma Su was in her care when this happened, so she was afraid to the point of tearing up thinking about the consequences.

"You're done here?" Su Zhan said after he hurried over.

"Yes. I can't find her. How can she disappear just like that? She can't even walk properly." Aunt Ji was stressed out.

"How long has it been?" Su Zhan asked.

"It hasn't been an hour." Aunt Ji contacted Su Zhan without much delay, so it had not been long.

Since they could only file a missing person case after twenty-four hours, Su Zhan decided to split up. "You go back to the house. Call if you find her,"

"Okay. I'll go back right away," Aunt Ji replied.

Su Zhan was more composed. After he gave out the order, he went to the maintenance staff. Since the park was a neighborhood property, there were security cameras everywhere.

The staffs were very helpful when they heard that someone went missing. It was not hard since they had a rough estimate of when it happened.

Soon after, Grandma Su was on the screen.

When Aunt Ji was at the stall, Grandma Su wheeled herself out of the park. With that, they know that she was not in the park. Su Zhan immediately headed out with some staff following behind.

“Let’s split up.” Su Zhan commanded. “She’s in a wheelchair, so she shouldn’t be far.”

The four of them quickly split up and started searching.

An hour had passed with no news on Grandma Su’s whereabouts. “Did the grandma go somewhere? She wouldn’t have just left the park without a reason right?” Commented one of the staff.

Su Zhan figured what he said was right. *She must’ve gone somewhere, but where? She hardly interacts with anyone outside and even the relatives have cut ties.*

Without an idea of where to go, Su Zhan decided to try his luck and headed to the area they used to live in before he graduated. They moved into the current neighborhood after he became a lawyer and earned a small fortune.

The place was run down with only a few residents. Clothes were hung everywhere and were highly unhygienic.

Su Zhan saw no one at the house so he asked around with the picture of Grandma Su on his phone, hoping someone would have seen her. But no one did.

After he made sure she was not there, Su Zhan got in the car. At that point, he started feeling anxious. *Where could she be?*

On his way back to the park, Su Zhan passed by the abandoned school that he used to attend and caught a glimpse of someone at the gate. *Grandma!*

Su Zhan stopped the car and looked back. After he confirmed that it was her, he quickly got out and went to her.

“Why did you come here?” Su Zhan was relieved that he found her but there was still some anger in him because she made everyone worried by going missing.

Grandma Su turned around and smiled. “Is school done? I’m here to pick you up.”

"What are you talking about?" Su Zhan said as his forehead creased. *We left this area so long ago.*

"I... " Grandma Su suddenly looked dazed. "What did I want to do again?"

"We're going back," Su Zhan said and pushed her wheelchair to the car.

All of a sudden, Grandma Su slapped her leg and said, "Oh! I was here looking for you. There's a sports competition going on today, right? I'm here to watch you compete!"

The old lady's words stumped Su Zhan. *What's going on right now?*

After they got in the car, Su Zhan called Aunt Ji to let her know that he found Grandma Su and let Aunt Ji inform the maintenance staff.

"Thank the lord you've found her. I was going through a panic attack just now," said Aunt Ji when she saw Grandma Su together with Su Zhan.

Su Zhan got Grandma Su into her room and proceeded to call Aunt Ji to the living room.

"Has Grandma been acting weird recently?"

"Well," Aunt Ji pondered for a moment. "Nothing necessarily weird happened. But she has been forgetting quite a lot of things she asked me to do."

Suddenly, Aunt Ji remembered something and said, "It's not the first time I served the elderly. Back then, some of them were as old as Grandma Su. When they started forgetting things, it's most probably..."

"Hold that thought. I'll bring her to the hospital," Su Zhan interrupted. He knew what she was about to say but did not want to accept it.

Even though he was mad at her stubbornness, Su Zhan did not want his grandmother to be sick.

"Su Zhan, you need to treat Qin Ya well. Why have I not seen her around lately?" Grandma Su said as she got out of her room.

Su Zhan clenched his fist and looked at her. "What are you talking about, Grandma?"

"Didn't you two get married? You take care of her. Liu Feifei was a bad woman that left you because she thought we were poor. I don't like her. Now that you're with Qin Ya, be good to her and hurry up and give me a baby." It looked like Grandma Su was just blabbering, but Su Zhan understood every word she said.

She's all over the place right now, that's clearly not normal.

Su Zhan took a blanket and covered Grandma Su's legs before he pushed her to the entrance.

"Where are we going?" She asked.

"The hospital."

"Are you sick?" Grandma Su looked up at him.

"No," Su Zhan replied. "It's not me, it's you."

"I'm not sick!" She was suddenly agitated. "I'm fine, I don't wanna go to the hospital."

"Let's just go and do a checkup."

"No, I'm not going. I'm not sick," Grandma Su said as she stretched out and grabbed the door frame with her hands.

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Grandma Su was as stubborn as ever and insisted that she was not going to the hospital. Su Zhan did not want to force her in case she gets too unnerved, she was old after all.

Therefore, he took the liberty of calling a doctor over to check on her while Grandma Su was asleep.

Su Zhan described what happened to the doctor, and from what he heard, the doctor had deduced that those were symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. "This is just a preliminary diagnosis," the doctor said. "You still need to head over to the hospital to get a confirmation. From what you say, things look quite serious, so please visit the hospital as soon as possible.

"Okay," Su Zhan replied.

When Grandma Su woke up, Su Zhan told her that he was not feeling well and wanted her to come with him to the hospital. Hearing that, Grandma Su immediately went along.

After some tests, it was confirmed that Grandma Su had Alzheimer's disease, also known as dementia by some.

"Elders that have this disease lose their ability to recall and manage their memories. Symptoms may include anxiety, aggressiveness, illusions as well as hallucinations. We can only control it with medication as there's no cure for this. Just talk to her more and don't let her feel lonely," the doctor explained.

Su Zhan nodded in response, "I understand."

"Good to know." The doctor looked through the medical record. "Whenever this happens, it usually involves the elder's mental health, but of course old age plays a big part too. From your description, she was fine until recently. For her to get to this stage in such a short time,

her mind must have gone through some substantial stress. Please be careful and take care of her feelings.”

“Okay,” Su Zhan replied.

After that, the doctor prescribed some medicine for them. Aunt Ji was sent to collect them while Su Zhan accompanied his grandmother.

“Are you sick?” Grandma Su asked.

“No.” He looked at her. “I’m fine.”

“Okay, that’s great news,” she said while expressing her relief.

Looking at Grandma Su, Su Zhan felt a sense of helplessness slowly creeping up on him. “Let’s go home.”

Grandma Su smile. “Okay”

When they reached the house, Grandma Su asked Aunt Ji to cook some pork ribs as she knew it was Su Zhan’s favorite.

Aunt Ji looked at Su Zhan and got a nod before she answered, “Yes, Madam.”

With his grandmother like this, Su Zhan had to put aside a lot of work to spend time with her, but the client wanted to see him.

Su Zhan decided to go for a brief meeting with the client, so he asked Aunt Ji to look after Grandma Su. “Don’t go out if you don’t need to.”

“Yes sir,” Aunt Ji replied.

The meeting was at a café. The client was already there when Su Zhan arrived, so he immediately walked towards her and sat facing her.

“Drinks?” The client asked.

"Plain water will do"

The client proceeded to slide an envelope to him on the table.

Su Zhan could tell what was in it without looking as he picked it up. "You already got evidence?"

"He didn't know I was looking for it. It's easy when he's not weary of me. Inside you'll find the hotel that they go to as well as all the records of them meeting each other there." Even though she was a pregnant woman that got married not long ago, she was extremely calm and collected.

Never once had she expressed any form of aggression.

Su Zhan has been working as a lawyer for quite a long time now, but he rarely saw clients like this. Not a single shred of sadness was on her face even with her current situation.

He looked through the content of the envelope. *They've been meeting at the same hotel about a dozen times now.* Besides the record, there was also a USB drive.

"What's in this?" Su Zhan asked.

"It would be hard with just the check-in records. He'd try to brush it off as just business discussions in the room. In there's the cold hard proof," she explained.

Su Zhan raised his eyes towards her.

"Do you think I'm going overboard?" She smiled.

"Not really." Su Zhan was honest. "I'm just surprised at how composed you are."

Your husband cheated on you but you didn't waste time feeling down and depressed. On the contrary, you found a lawyer to help you gain the rights to all the property.

"A man that cheated on you is like spoiled food. Forcing it down would only hurt you, so it's better to just throw it away. Leaving him with nothing is more than satisfying. He should face the consequences anyway. The USB drive there has a duplicated file, I have the original. Not only am I taking everything, but I also want him to feel humiliated to a point he wished he were dead." That instance was the first time Su Zhan saw a hint of hatred on her face.

So she does hate him, but she's strong enough to know what she has to do to take advantage of this awful situation.

"Am I too cruel to you?" She looked at Su Zhan.

"No. I'm actually impressed by your composure," Su Zhan casually remarked.

"I'm going to confront him today. I want this to be over as soon as possible, so I need your help," the client requested.

Su Zhan took out the divorce agreement he prepared and passed it to her. "Everything drafted as per your request. Have a look."

She went through the agreement and looked satisfied as she put it in her bag. "Please help me prepare for a lawsuit as soon as possible. I doubt he'll just let me take everything, so we will see each other in court for sure. I'm counting on you then."

"Leave it to me."

When the client left, Su Zhan followed suit. He was in the car, about to start the engine, when suddenly his phone rang.

The moment he took out his phone and saw Qin Ya's name on the message notice, his heart froze.