

Work Hard 1191

Chapter 1191: Epilogue: I'm Interested In Him !

For quite some time, Qian Lan's workmate had been attempting to organize a blind date for her. The target of this date was a high school physics teacher from the building next door; a young man in his early twenties that went by the name of – Mo Zichen.

His height was more perfect than a model's and his appearance was more attractive than a celebrity's. But, rumors claimed that this young man came from a very poor family background.

If that wasn't the case, then why did he always dress in the same black suit and same boring black-framed glasses?

Qian Lan had run into this man in the past; his face was indeed attractive, but his actions weren't very interesting.

However, her friends insisted on pairing them together. So, she gave them some face and agreed to meet with him. To be honest, others did not have a good impression of the young man, but Qian Lan was surprisingly pleased by him.

After all, he was gentle, good looking and he appeared quite frugal, even though he didn't talk much. Qian Lan was surprised that, in this day and age, there was still a man that knew how to manage his money.

"Miss Qian, you are the first woman to sit opposite me for more than 5 minutes in silence without storming off in anger," Mo Zichen laughed. His face was so exquisite that it was practically perfect.

"You're also the first frugal man I've met, who's still in his early twenties," Qian Lan replied with a giggle.

"Hello, I'm Mo Zichen, a high school physics teacher."

"I'm Qian Lan, a primary school english teacher."

The two quickly fell silent again, but it wasn't an awkward silence. After all, Qian Lan was well known for being a bit strange herself. She didn't like men that looked too showy and especially disliked men that bragged.

Not only was Mo Zichen not sleazy at all, he even felt a bit cold and aloof as though he was purposely making people forget his existence.

Qian Lan liked his low profile personality.

"Will we get the chance to meet again?" Qian Lan asked straightforwardly.

"Sure, when I have no class, I'm usually quite free."

The first meeting between the two was so plain and simple that it made others sleepy just by looking at it. Qian Lan's friend had been monitoring the date from a hidden spot, so, as soon as Mo Zichen left, she

yawned and approached Qian Lan, "That guy was much too boring. Forget about it, we'll introduce you to someone else. It's just a shame that he was so good looking."

"No, I'm interested in him!" Qian Lan giggled.

"What?" her friend cried in surprise. "Qian Lan, is there something wrong with your brain? I don't expect you to find a tall, rich and handsome guy, but at least find someone that's normal. Look at Mo Zichen, he looks like a weirdo from head to toe. What do you like about him?"

"You need to think it over carefully, Miss Mayor's Daughter. Although you didn't rely on your parents to get to where you are, you can't be so shabby. Look at your older sister, she married some kinda MIT professor who recently opened his own laboratory. Do you want to lose to her?"

"There are actually plenty of choices at the school. It's just that you won't reveal your identity. If you did, plenty of men would throw themselves at you!"

Qian Lan brushed away her friends arm and laughed, "As long as I like him, why does it matter what others say?"

"Oh you, I really don't understand what you're thinking."

"Fine, since you like him, I'll get his phone number for you. There's no need to thank me!"

As a result, Qian Lan got a hold of Mo Zichen's phone number. But, she was too afraid to contact him because she was afraid he would find it too sudden. She was, after all, a woman, so she didn't really want to be the initiator.

After returning home, one of the maids approached and said, "Second Miss, the Big Miss is waiting for you with the Madam."

"OK," Qian Lan changed into a pair of slippers and walked into the dining room. She then sat down at her usual seat on the dining table.

"Qian Lan, your father's found you a few young and capable men, when will you have time to meet with them?" Mother Qian asked as she held back a smile.

"Mom, I want to find someone myself."

"No, I don't trust your judgment. Look at what a great husband your sister's found. Your father and I simply want to find someone to take good care of our little princess."

Qian Lan revealed an awkward smile, but she did not say a word nor look at her sister.

Soon, her so-called brother-in-law came downstairs. But, Qian Lan simply greeted him timidly and left the dining table.

"That child's getting more and more bad mannered."

"Mom, it's fine," the man quickly comforted Mother Qian before he sat down beside his wife.

This man's name was Xu Chunhao. He was once Qian Lan's school senior who she also dated for two years. However, Xu Chunhao ended up going overseas, and when he finally returned, he somehow turned into her brother-in-law.

From that moment on, Qian Lan no longer expected too much from men. She simply wanted someone that was honest and low key; someone like Mo Zichen.

It seemed, Xu Chunhao found her sister was more mature and successful.

That night, Xu Chunhao came knocking on Qian Lan's door and walked in like he was there to give her honest advice, "Mom's only doing this for your own good. She wants you to meet some good men."

"If I find a good man, I'm sure you'll be put in a difficult position," Qian Lan laughed. "If there's nothing else, please leave. I still need to prepare for my class tomorrow."

There was nothing that Xu Chunhao could do. So, he simply left the room.

The only reason why Qian Lan's sister wasn't jealous was because she knew her husband was going into Qian Lan's room to show off.

After all, it was impossible for Qian Lan to find someone better.

At that moment, Qian Lan felt tempted to message Mo Zichen.

So, she pulled out her phone, and after staring at it for ages, she finally sent him a message. It was just a few simple words: 'Hi, it's Qian Lan, are you asleep yet?'

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At the time that Mo Zichen received Qian Lan's message, he was having dinner at home because his brother had returned from the military.

Because Mo Zixi made it into the military university, he had to undertake training at the army base.

"Zichen, you sure enjoy struggling. Hai Rui is such a big company, but instead of casually helping dad out and enjoying the life of an heir, you've gone to be a teacher."

Compared to Mo Zichen's tall slender body, Mo Zixi was more on the built and strong side.

His skin was tanned from his time in the military and it gave him an especially healthy glow.

"Big Brother and Brother Two, stop chatting, come in and help mom carry some dishes," Mo Ziyang cried from the kitchen.

"Coming," Mo Zixi said cheerily as he turned towards the kitchen.

Meanwhile, Mo Zichen tried to recall how long it had been since he last returned home? Even he couldn't remember properly. Perhaps, 5 years...

When he saw that his parents were still as distinguished and elegant as they always were, Mo Zichen felt as though he had only left home for 5 days.

Mo Ting still looked the same and was still as powerful and respected as ever. Everything about him was good except for the fact that he wouldn't allow his three kids to cause Tangning too much trouble because he was a complete wife slave.

Meanwhile, Tangning didn't change much either. Her legs were still long and gorgeous and she maintained her appearance well.

"Zichen, I think it's almost time that you return home," Tangning said to her son.

Mo Zichen had been smart from a young age, so this helped him set his own ideals in life. As a result, he left home many years ago to experience life on his own. But, no one had any idea that he was actually the son of The Big Boss of Entertainment, Mo Ting, and The Mother of Sci-fi, Tangning.

Chapter 1192: Double Identity !

Mo Zichen did not say too much, he simply hugged Tangning and said, "Mom, I've missed you."

"If you've missed me, then you should come home and visit more often," Tangning instructed. "I barely see you throughout the year, how am I supposed to not worry about you?"

"From now on, you should report to your mother once a month," Mo Ting ordered after hearing that his wife was worried.

"Yes, Dad."

"Brother Two, you're so uninspiring, why are you so obsessed with being a physics teacher?" Mo Ziyang inherited her parents' quality genes, so not only was she beautiful, she also had a long pair of legs.

"I think a simple life like this is quite good," Mo Zichen replied. "I'm even considering the possibility of a girlfriend. When the time's right, I'll bring her back to meet you all."

"Brother Two, let me warn you, there aren't many families in Beijing that can match up to us," Mo Ziyang humphed. "If she wants to be my sister-in-law, she will need the approval of our ENTIRE family."

"Cheeky brat," Mo Zichen laughed as he patted his younger sister on the head.

"Brother Two, you're the smartest person I know. Look at how I always approach you when I have troubles instead of Big Brother who only knows how to resort to violence. You need to continue protecting me," Mo Ziyang placed her head on Mo Zichen's shoulder.

"Yes, I will."

"By the way, don't you want Cai Jiejie anymore? Cai Jiejie likes you the most."

The Cai Jiejie that Mo Ziyang spoke of, was none other than Nangong Cai – a.k.a Little Eggshell.

Even after all these years, she still liked the two brothers, but Mo Zichen always avoided her. Firstly, he didn't like her, and secondly, he knew that Mo Zixi, his older brother, was in love with her.

He didn't want to fight with his brother over a woman.

“If I get the chance, I’ll bring my girlfriend home to meet you.”

“What do you mean, ‘if you get the chance’? You MUST bring her to meet me!”

Mo Zichen sat through the dinner with a complex mix of emotions, but a phone call soon arrived to break his thoughts.

As soon as Mo Ziyen watched her brother pull out his phone, she snorted, “Why are teachers so busy these days?”

“Mom, Dad...”

“That’s fine. You guys continue eating, I’ll see him out,” Tangning said as she stood up and led Mo Zichen to the front door.

Seeing her little boy had now turned into a grown man, Tangning felt a little emotional.

“Zichen, others may be oblivious, but you can’t lie to your mother. I won’t question your true identity, but you need to promise me that you’ll stay safe at all times. I can’t lose my son for no reason.”

Mo Zichen did not explain anything. He simply stretched out his arms and hugged his mother, “I understand, Mom.”

“Go ahead.”

Men were born to be ambitious.

Tangning had said before that she didn’t care what professions her sons were in and what partners they chose. As long as they were comfortable with their decisions, that’s all that mattered to her.

But, Mo Zichen...

Tangning sighed at the thought of her son. This young man had been smart from a young age and was always switched on, so her instincts told her that he hadn’t settled as a mere physics teacher.

And, she was right!

As soon as Mo Zichen left Hyatt Regency, he removed his glasses, hopped on the motorbike in his apartment garage and rode straight over to an agreed meeting location.

Being a physics teacher was all a lie... His true identity – was a spy for the Ministry of State Security!

Due to his high IQ, the Ministry of State Security had scouted him back when he was still in university. At first, he simply did some back end work, but later, he was promoted to the role of an intelligence officer.

Being a physics teacher was just a cover for his true identity.

It made it convenient for him to be sent on missions at any time...

His mission this time, was to confirm whether the professor of a particular university was involved with some sensitive work that may affect national security.

No one in his family knew that he worked for the Ministry of State Security because he had signed a confidentiality agreement.

But, how could the highly observant Tangning not figure out the clues?

When carrying out his mission, Mo Zichen transformed into a completely different person. He wore a leather jacket, rode a motorcycle and was brimming with manliness. And, when it came to fighting, probably even someone trained in the military, like Mo Zixi, couldn't compete against him because he was much too smart.

After completing his mission, he returned to his apartment and changed back to his usual look. He handled it perfectly.

That was when he finally noticed the message from Qian Lan.

As an intelligence officer, Mo Zichen had many identities and skills. He could even investigate Qian Lan's entire background and trace her family tree if he wanted to, but he did not do that. Perhaps, it was because there was something mysterious about her that he couldn't understand.

So, he simply replied, "Yes, I'm asleep..."

But, how could a sleeping person reply to a message?

Qian Lan couldn't help but laugh at his response.

"There's a film I want to watch tomorrow night, are you free? I looked at your class schedule and it appears as though you have nothing on."

"Yes, you're right, I have no classes tomorrow, so you can go ahead and make arrangements."

The two relatively uninteresting people, were actually interested in each other.

What an odd situation.

The next night, Mo Ting did not dress in his usual black suit. This time, he turned up in a brown jacket. When Qian Lan saw him, she found him extremely mesmerizing.

"It's a shame that you're not a model."

With Mo Ting and Tangning's superior genes, Mo Zichen naturally inherited all their best features.

"But, for some reason, I feel like you look similar to a certain celebrity."

"Really?" Mo Zichen replied vaguely; he was certainly a professional at ending conversations.

But, Qian Lan didn't mind. She simply laughed and asked, "Do you like detective films?"

"They're not bad," Mo Zichen replied, "I've watched a few."

But, he actually thought they were nonsense.

"Great, I was worried that you wouldn't like them," Qian Lan was quite accommodating to Mo Zichen's feelings.

Mo Zichen smiled and shook his head. They then entered the theater together and sat down next to each other.

Every now and then, Qian Lan would turn her head to look at Mo Zichen. From the side, he looked even more handsome and charming than he did front on.

“You always seem so cold and indifferent, as though you’re keeping your true feelings restrained.”

“Perhaps it’s because I’m not used to interacting with the opposite sex,” Mo Zichen replied.

“Do you find me boring?”

“I’m a very boring person too,” Mo Zichen replied. “My students like attending my class, but none of them are interested in what I say, they’re just there to look at my face.”

“That’s because you’re good looking.” Qian Lan couldn’t help but chuckle as she witnessed an adorable side to Mo Zichen. “Let’s hang out more from now on. I quite like having a friend like you.”

“It’s rare for someone to like me.”

Mo Zichen was telling the truth. Due to his confidential line of work, it was hard for him to get close to people. At the same time, it also made him cold and indifferent to everything, so he practically had no friends.

Was Qian Lan an exception?

For some reason, he didn’t feel repulsed by her. It was a strange feeling.

A smart person’s brain was useful, so their judgment was naturally good too! This was something that he never doubted about himself.

Chapter 1193: I Know What To Do

Because she had someone to go out on dates with, Qian Lan began to spend a bit more time on her appearance. This small change was quickly picked up by her family members.

In the end, Mother Qian curiously asked her older daughter, “Is Qian Lan seeing someone? She’s been putting on a bit more makeup lately.”

“I’m not sure,” Qian Lan’s older sister shook her head.

“You need to show more love and concern for your younger sister. Think about our status, what will we do if she ends up marrying a poor fellow?” Mother Qian said to her older daughter.

“Don’t worry Mom, I’ll keep an eye on Qian Lan.”

“Qian Hui, I’m not asking for much, I just want Qian Lan to find a good man. That way, even if your father and I were to leave this world straight away, we’d be able to rest in peace.”

Qian Hui smiled and comforted her mother, “Mom, don’t worry, Qian Lan will definitely find her happiness.”

“Secretly follow her a few times. If the man is of a low standard, immediately stop them before their feelings develop any further.”

Qian Hui had no choice, she couldn't retaliate against her mother's nagging, so she replied, "Mom...I know what to do."

Back when Qian Lan first chose to teach at school instead of working for her family business, her parents were already against it. But, that was just a career decision, so it didn't matter too much whether she listened to them or not. However, this time, it involved a big part of her life, so it wasn't up to her to decide.

Qian Lan had no idea that her family was monitoring her every move. All she knew was, Mo Zichen was definitely the type of person that she liked.

Although Qian Lan grew up with helpers around the house, she was a mature and independent person with her own ideals. So, she knew exactly what she wanted and what she didn't want.

Therefore, Mo Zichen wasn't someone that she wanted to miss out on. Whether it was her life or her partner, as long as she came across something that she liked, she would do whatever she could to give it a try. But, of course, if Mo Zichen didn't like her, then that was a different story.

As they were both teachers, their free time was limited. But, there was a theater near the school, so it turned into an excuse for Qian Lan to meet with Mo Zichen again.

Although Mo Zichen found the theater quite lame, he was not annoyed by Qian Lan's invite, so he agreed to meet with her.

The two agreed to meet after class to watch the second screening for the day. However, Qian Lan had no idea that her family had arranged for someone to follow her.

But, of course, Mo Zichen noticed it straight away. They're stalking methods were so outdated that they couldn't even compare to the paparazzi that followed the Mo Family. It was obvious that they were amateurs.

But, Mo Zichen pretended that he didn't know a thing.

"There haven't been many good films lately, but this one has been trending, so I decided to buy a ticket for it," Qian Lan said as she handed Mo Zichen a ticket.

As soon as Mo Zichen looked at the film title, he couldn't help but laugh inside: it was a film produced by Hai Rui.

"Last time, I noticed you weren't really into the detective film, so I chose a sci-fi this time."

"OK," Mo Zichen remained calm and collected the entire time. To be exact, this was a part of his professionalism as an intelligence officer.

"Do you usually have any hobbies outside of class? For example, do you exercise or read any books?"

"I like sleeping," Mo Zichen replied honestly. He taught during the day and completed missions at night; this was very tiring. So, whenever he had spare time, he chose to catch up on sleep.

"It's fine, I'm quite a boring person too," Qian Lan laughed.

From a bystanders point of view, sparks didn't seem possible between the two, but for some reason, Qian Lan wanted to give Mo Zichen a try.

"The film's about to start, let's go inside," Mo Zichen suggested; he was getting a little annoyed by the person who was sneaking photos of them.

Qian Lan nodded her head. As she held onto a bucket of popcorn, she headed into the theater with Mo Zichen and sat down.

By this time, the person following them, had already sent their photos to Qian Hui.

As soon as Qian Hui saw Mo Zichen, she furrowed her brows, "This punk looks handsome, but I'm sure he doesn't come from a strong background. He's obviously just a toyboy!"

Because of her first impression, Qian Hui immediately instructed someone to check Mo Zichen's background. But, not only was he a normal teacher, his parents sounded like very unfortunate people.

In other words, he was a nobody with no parents and possibly nothing worthy of mentioning.

How could someone with that background be worthy of Qian Lan?

As a result, Qian Hui obtained Mo Zichen's contact details from the school. Her mother was right, she needed to end things between Qian Lan and Mo Zichen before things developed any further.

Mo Zichen didn't expect that the Qian Family would come looking for him the next day. He simply noticed that, by the time he and Qian Lan finished their film, the person that was following them had disappeared.

"Mr. Mo..."

"You can call me Zichen," Mo Zichen replied.

"I want to ask you...what are your thoughts regarding love?" Qian Lan's hint was obvious, but Mo Zichen did not reply straight away, so Qian Lan smiled awkwardly and added, "I'm sorry, I was being too impatient."

"No, you're quite cute like that," Mo Zichen smiled. "I don't have any thoughts regarding love. It all depends on fate."

"Hai Rui's film was really good, thank you for today. Let's meet again."

Mo Zichen did not show any obvious interest, nor did he reject her either.

But, this made Qian Lan wonder if she had been too direct.

"Let me take you home."

"It's fine, I live nearby," Qian Lan rejected Mo Zichen's offer. "You must be tired from a full day of work. Go home and get some rest."

"OK, send me a message when you get home," Mo Zichen said without persisting.

Mo Zichen seemed to be polite like a gentleman around everyone. It was as though he was trying to keep his distance. Because of this, Qian Lan was a little depressed. But, she did not show it on her face in case her family were to find out and object against them.

Afterwards, the two headed their separate ways.

However, after changing his clothes, Mo Zichen once again disappeared into the night. It couldn't be helped; this was his job.

Because of this, his colleague laughed at him, "Because of this crazy organization, you can't even speak the truth when you're flirting with a chick. You've certainly had it tough. If you don't like her, I suggest you swiftly reject her. What's the point of not showing any emotions."

"If this was someone else, they would have already run away in fear. But, the situation is different this time," Mo Zichen shrugged.

"F*ck, so there's actually someone in this world that likes your boring demeanour!"

"Don't say that. I actually have a lot of personality," Mo Zichen said as he put on a pair of black gloves.

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Qian Lan had a slight feeling that Mo Zichen didn't like her, but then, he never expressed it clearly, so she was quite bothered by it...

By the time she arrived home, her family members were already asleep, so Qian Lan was saved from having to explain where she went. But, she had no idea that her family already knew about her dates with a poor young man.

Chapter 1194: You Don't Care, Do You ?

The next day, while Qian Lan had class and Mo Zichen didn't, Qian Hui asked her men to invite Mo Zichen out for a chat.

To highlight her identity, Qian Hui specifically dressed in expensive clothing so Mo Zichen would realize Qian Lan's status and knowingly retreat.

Mo Zichen thought about the man that had followed them yesterday, so, as soon as he saw Qian Hui, he immediately realized her intent.

"Please sit, Mr. Mo," Qian Hui said as she pointed to a chair with her chin. She then removed her sunglasses and placed them on the table in front of them. "My name is Qian Hui, I am Qian Lan's older sister."

"Hello, Miss Qian," Mo Zichen said as he sat down.

"I've asked to see you here because I noticed you've been getting really close to my sister lately. May I ask how far the two of you have progressed?"

“That...seems to be my private matter,” Mo Zichen replied with a smirk that was neither friendly nor hostile.

“Let me put it this way, no matter how far you’ve progressed, please stop where you are right now. My sister does not have an average identity. I’m sure you understand what I mean,” Qian Hui said before she pulled out an envelope from her handbag, “This is a small gesture from me. Please take it as an apology for my sudden intrusion today.”

Mo Zichen looked at the envelope and laughed, “Miss Qian is certainly generous, but I don’t really need this.”

“Is it not enough for you?”

“I don’t like it when people get involved with my private matters. Please leave, Miss Qian,” Mo Zichen directly expressed his thoughts.

“Mr. Mo, did you perhaps already know our Qian Lan’s identity? Is that why you deliberately got close to her?”

“I’m not sure what kind of a throne the Qian Family has, but I honestly don’t like it when people interfere with my life. No matter who’s sitting opposite me today, I would give the same response.”

Mo Zichen found it quite hilarious: to prevent him from getting close to Qian Lan, the Qian Family actually tried to resolve it with money...

Qian Hui returned home in defeat. She originally thought that a bit of money would be enough to send the poor man away, but, from her point of view, Mo Zichen had obviously seen through Qian Lan’s identity and was trying to leech off her power and influence!

How could Qian Lan be interested in a man like that? He had no idea that it was time for him to retreat!

Qian Lan didn’t know that Qian Hui spoke to Mo Zichen and Mo Zichen simply treated it like a joke, so he didn’t tell Qian Lan about it.

However, during his mission at night, his colleague once again laughed at him, “Hahaha, think about it, our almighty Young Master Mo; the beloved son of Mo Ting and Tangning; a man with enough of a family fortune to rule a country – someone actually threw money in your face? Hahaha!”

“Stop laughing!” Mo Zichen said helplessly.

“You should have thrown a \$1 million cheque back at her. What a joke! Our Young Master Mo may be lacking in many things, but money’s not one of them! That Family is clueless about your identity. If they knew, I bet they’d be shocked.”

“It’s fine,” Mo Zichen didn’t care at all.

“Don’t you want to know what the Qian Family does?”

“What else could it be? I didn’t realize it before, but when Qian Hui came looking for me, it quickly hit me. What’s the surname of the new man in office?” Mo Zichen replied. “But, even though I know, my approach is still the same. I’m not going to let anyone interfere with my private life.”

“What about your Mom?”

“My Mom is the only exception!” Mo Zichen replied.

Not only was Tangning Mo Ting’s most precious, she was also Mo Zichen’s.

“To be honest, I don’t think you and Qian Lan make a good match...You should just forget about it.”

“Stop talking nonsense. Get to work!” Mo Zichen did not express too much of how he felt about Qian Lan, so no one knew what he truly thought.

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That day, after class, Qian Lan sent Mo Zichen a message, but Mo Zichen did not respond.

Qian Lan returned home, but to her surprise, she was greeted with a family meeting.

“Qian Lan, come here,” Mother Qian ordered.

“Mom...what’s going on?”

“I asked your sister to speak to someone today. But she returned in disappointment,” Mother Qian said.

“Who’s this someone?”

“Don’t act dumb, how could the daughter of the mayor be interested in that poor man?” Qian Hui turned and said to her sister. “Qian Lan, do you want the entire family to be turned into a joke because of you? Will that make you happy?”

After hearing Qian Hui’s response, Qian Lan had a bad feeling.

No wonder Mo Zichen never replied to her message that day. It turned out, her family had spoken to him.

With this thought, Qian Lan was furious, “There’s nothing going on between us, why would you go looking for him?”

“I obviously went there to show him where we stand. The Qian Family will never accept a poor man as their son-in-law,” Qian Hui yelled. “You need to understand that you are a part of the Qian Family, so it is your responsibility to protect the family’s reputation.”

“Mom, is that what you think too? Do you think that what Qian Hui did was right?”

“Don’t blame your sister. I was the one that told her to do this,” Mother Qian humphed. “Qian Lan, I’ve introduced so many eligible young men to you. You should, at least, choose one of them instead of choosing a mere physics teacher...”

“I’m honestly disappointed in you.”

“I’m disappointed in you too,” Qian Lan said as she threw open the doors to the house and stormed out.

She never expected that her family would interfere with her private matters like this, nor did she expect them to be so disrespectful to her life choices. Moreover, they even insulted Mo Zichen because of her!

With this thought, Qian Lan began to cry as she left. However, she didn't know where to go. Perhaps, it was a good choice for her to go apologize to Mo Zichen. But, after what her family did, how was she to initiate a meeting with him?

In the end, Qian Lan pulled out her phone and gave her friend a call. This was the friend that had originally introduced her to Mo Zichen.

From her friend, she managed to get Mo Zichen's address.

Although she knew it wasn't convenient for her to suddenly show up at his place, she knew it would torment her if she didn't explain herself to him.

So, she went to Mo Zichen's home. However, she rang the doorbell many times, yet there was no response. Was he not at home?

But, where could he be so late at night?

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By the time that Mo Zichen completed his mission, it was already 1am. But, when he returned to his home, he spotted a person sitting on the stairs outside his apartment.

Mo Zichen had a proper look and realized it was Qian Lan.

"Why are you sitting here?" Mo Zichen immediately walked over and covered her with his jacket.

Qian Lan stood up and looked at Mo Zichen apologetically, "I'm here to apologize on behalf of my family..."

"You didn't need to do that. It's already so late, it's not safe for a woman to be out here like this," Mo Zichen replied with a calm voice.

But, his indifferent attitude was what made Qian Lan hurt even more, "Didn't you feel insulted at all?"

"Your family was only doing it for your own good. If we look at the situation from their point of view, they didn't do anything wrong."

"Then, what about from your point of view?" Qian Lan asked.

"Don't do this ever again. There are so many stories about women being attacked late at night. You shouldn't be wandering around on your own like this," Mo Zichen's voice became more serious.

"You don't care, do you?"

Chapter 1195: You Caught Me

"Qian Lan, you didn't need to come out here to explain yourself to me. I'm not upset," Mo Zichen replied. "Besides, I honestly think that family is more important than anything. You shouldn't argue with your parents because of a person you don't know well."

Mo Zichen's response made Qian Lan feel even worse.

After all, his every word sounded like he was viewing the situation from a bystander's point of view. Never did he consider that she had come out here all on her own, just because she was worried that he was upset.

"I understand..." Qian Lan mumbled. "I'm glad that you're not upset. I'm going to go. Thank you for your jacket."

"I'll drive you..."

"That's not necessary," Qian Lan said before she quickly turned to leave. However, after a couple of steps, she paused and said to Mo Zichen, "I thought I meant something different to you. But, I guess I'm no different to everyone else."

"I'm sorry!"

Qian Lan shook her head. There was nothing to be sorry about. Some people needed to give things a try before they found out whether they suited each other or not.

If their identities were the obstacle between them, she could have tried her best to reduce the gap. But, if Mo Zichen felt nothing for her, then all her hard work would simply go to waste.

So, it was time to forget about him and give up instead of humiliating herself.

After causing so much drama, Qian Lan returned home to find her mother waiting for her in the living room. When Mother Qian saw the spaced out look on her daughter's face, her heart ached, "Lan Er, can't you give your mother a peace of mind? What's so good about that poor rascal?"

"If you guys insist on interfering with every facet of my life, I might as well die. It's easier that way." Qian Lan hated having her life controlled by others. "Mom, if you don't believe me, then give it a try."

After speaking, Qian Lan wiped her nose and added, "By the way, you don't need to worry, I won't be contacting Mo Zichen anymore. He was never interested in me anyway!"

Afterwards, Qian Lan weakly returned to her room and collapsed onto her bed.

She couldn't understand why she was born into a family like this. Why did she have such controlling parents? She simply wanted a normal relationship and life.

...

The next day, Qian Lan and Mo Zichen happened to run into each other in the school cafeteria. This had never happened before.

The two of them simultaneously avoided the other's eyes and found a seat to sit down in.

Qian Lan's friend noticed the awkward atmosphere and guessed what had happened between the two, so she held onto her tray and sat down opposite Qian Lan to comfort her, "I told you ages ago that the two of you weren't from the same world. Look how awkward things are now."

"I still like him, but he doesn't like me," Qian Lan replied.

“What? Are you trying to say that he rejected you?” her friend was shocked. “That poor as*hole doesn’t know what’s good for him! Doesn’t he know that he missed out on a relationship with the mayor’s daughter?”

“You’re saying this because you didn’t hear how my sister insulted him with money,” Qian Lan laughed.

“No wonder,” Qian Lan’s friend understood because the Qian Family were indeed frightening. “What do you plan to do now? You must have been crying a lot last night. Your eyes are all swollen.”

“I’m not sure either,” Qian Lan shook her head. “I guess I’ll just accept my fate and listen to my parents. I’ll go on a few blind dates, get married and never return to that family again.”

“Does that mean you’re giving up on Mo Zichen?”

Qian Lan looked at Mo Zichen in the distance and felt her heart ache. If Mo Zichen had shown even the slightest bit of interest in her, she would have persevered to the end. But...

...how was she to know that Mo Zichen had his difficulties. As an intelligence officer he had signed a confidentiality agreement to keep his identity a secret. So, for Qian Lan, he was someone that could disappear at anytime. Why would she want a lover like that?

To forget about Mo Zichen as quickly as possible, Qian Lan decided to focus all of her energy on her work, but for some reason, after clarifying things with Mo Zichen, she couldn’t help but take notice of him even more.

That was the way the human heart worked; people always wanted what they couldn’t get.

But, Mo Zichen’s life continued as normal. He taught during the day, went on missions during the night and slept whenever he got the chance.

All the while, Qian Lan’s phone number sat idly in his phone and wasn’t touched for a long time.

Perhaps, it wouldn’t take long before Qian Lan would forget about the unhappy encounter between them.

...

Suddenly, one day, Nangong Cai showed up at the school. Seeing this familiar face after class, Mo Zichen reacted with a smile, “Why did you suddenly come looking for me?”

“I happened to be passing by, so I decided to drop in to see you. Aren’t you going to treat me to lunch?” Nangong Cai giggled. Nangong Cai was no longer the Little Eggshell from their youth. She was now a graceful young woman.

“Let’s go,” Mo Zichen said before he put away his textbooks and walked through the school with her.

“You disappeared for 5 years. What have you been doing all this time?”

“Can you not ask?” Mo Zichen replied. “I don’t want to talk about the past.”

“Fine, I’m afraid no one can tell what you’re thinking,” Nangong Cai replied, even though she looked a little disappointed.

The two chatted happily as they left the school grounds, but this quickly turned into gossip amongst the other teachers.

After all, Mo Zichen did not come from a notable background. How did he know a young woman who obviously appeared to be an heiress of some sort?

That was when Qian Lan heard about how Mo Zichen walked side-by-side out of the school with a long-legged beauty. Her heart immediately felt a little sour. Did Mo Zichen reject her because he had a better option?

Of course, she simply heard the rumors, but she didn't expect to actually run into them.

This was when the two returned from lunch and Nangong Cai walked Mo Zichen back to the school, "Can I come look for you again in future?"

"As long as I'm here, you're welcome at any time."

Nangong Cai nodded her head happily and hugged Mo Zichen, "I really miss you and your brother."

"You can visit him at the army base."

Mo Zichen simply stood still without hugging Nangong Cai back.

But, Nangong Cai was used to it.

Plus, she was well aware that Mo Zichen had no romantic feelings for her...

...

The only reason why Qian Lan ran into Mo Zichen and Nangong Cai, was because she was dropping by to pick up some documents. The two looked really close, as though they had known each other for a long time and this made Qian Lan feel extremely hurt.

However, Nangong Cai noticed the awkward look in her eyes.

So, she laughed and asked, "Is there something going on between you and that teacher?"

Mo Zichen also laughed, "You caught me."

"It's written all over your face...So, what happened? Did you upset her?" Nangong Cai asked in an amused manner.

Chapter 1196: You're Different !

After hearing Nangong Cai's questions, Mo Zichen replied, "Cai Jie, in my heart, I have always treated you like an older sister. You know how I am, I always express my standpoint clearly."

"I know, but if you're interested in her, you shouldn't upset her!"

"It's OK if I'm heartbroken, but someone else must be happy for me to feel like my heartbreak is worth it!" Nangong Cai said. "That's enough, you still have class. I'm going to leave."

Mo Zichen nodded his head, but his heart felt a little strange after knowing that Qian Lan saw him with Nangong Cai.

That night, he was sent on a solo mission, so it took a little longer than usual. It wasn't until 3am that he finally returned home. But...in the same spot outside his apartment as last time, he found the same person waiting for him.

"You're back," Qian Lan smiled when she saw Mo Zichen. "For some reason, I feel like you are a bit different during the night compared to the day."

Mo Zichen approached Qian Lan and was quickly overwhelmed by the stench of alcohol on her body. He did not look happy, "This woman, how dare you drink so much alcohol and sit here all by yourself?"

"No one would dare come near me...I have pepper spray!" Qian Lan said in drunk state.

Mo Zichen had no choice but to help her into his apartment. He then led her to the bathroom and helped her wash her face.

"Are you awake now?"

With the shock from the cold water, Qian Lan's mind cleared a little. When she noticed she was sitting on the edge of a bathtub, her face turned red in embarrassment.

"I'm sorry, I've embarrassed myself in front of you...You must find me annoying. I got drunk because I was rejected and I even came all the way to your home..."

After apologizing, Qian Lan stood up and held onto the wall. She tried to guide herself out of Mo Zichen's apartment but ended up tripping on a rug on the floor.

Mo Zichen quickly tried to support her, but she pushed him away, "I feel like I'm a huge failure who can't even control her own life."

Mo Zichen understood that Qian Lan was a woman who dreamed of a normal life, free from her parent's restraint.

"You must think I'm a mess."

Mo Zichen did not say a word because he didn't know what to say.

Unable to hold back her emotions anymore, Qian Lan broke down in tears. Even though she looked really vulnerable, she accepted it.

Mo Zichen watched this kind-hearted woman from behind and couldn't hold back anymore. In the end, he approached her from behind and gently patted her on the back of the head, "You're different."

"Huh?" Qian Lan didn't know how to react.

"You know what I'm talking about!" Mo Zichen said as he led her over to the sofa.

Qian Lan tried to understand what Mo Zichen meant, but because of the alcohol, she couldn't think straight.

"This is my first time drinking alcohol. Let me think about this for a second..."

Mo Zichen couldn't help but laugh as he headed to his room to grab a blanket. By the time he returned, Qian Lan was already asleep on the sofa.

Mo Zichen did not disturb her. Instead, he went to fetch her a pillow so she could sleep more comfortably.

...

If not for her background, Qian Lan was actually a very simple woman. So simple that even an extra in the entertainment industry was more impressive than her.

But, this simpleness was what made Mo Zichen feel comfortable.

Perhaps, due to his job as an intelligence officer, this kind of simpleness was what he longed for.

Mo Zichen had good self control, especially when it came to his emotions. Even when it came to his family, he resisted seeing them for 5 years, just so his mother wouldn't worry about him, so love was no different.

He didn't want to hurt anyone. After all, as an intelligence officer, he wasn't entitled to a simple life.

But, now that it was right in front of him, what could he do?

As he looked down at the woman sleeping on his sofa, Mo Zichen felt a complex mix of emotions...

...

The next morning, Qian Lan woke up in Mo Zichen's apartment. She was only 70% in her right mind last night, so now that she recalled what happened, her face immediately burnt up.

"You're awake. Go freshen up, breakfast is almost ready."

Qian Lan looked at Mo Zichen as he walked out with two plates of toast. That was when she suddenly remembered that Mo Zichen had said something important to her the night before, but she couldn't recall what it was.

So, when they sat down at the dining table, she took the opportunity to ask, "Errr...did you say something important to me last night?"

"I said you were different," Mo Zichen repeated himself patiently.

After hearing this, Qian Lan finally understood what he meant. She had previously said, 'I thought I meant something different to you. But, I guess I'm no different to everyone else.'

So, was this a response to those words?

"Then...we..."

Mo Zichen put down the glass of milk in his hand and adjusted the glasses perched on his nose bridge. He then asked, "Qian Lan, when you came looking for me last time, what time did I come home?"

"About 1am."

"What about last night?" Mo Zichen added.

“Around 3am.”

“Don’t you have anything to ask me?”

Qian Lan shook her head. She did find it strange, but she was sure that he hadn’t gone clubbing or looking for women. The aura he gave off said it all; there was nothing impure about him.

“I won’t say anything about it, because there’s nothing to say. However, I must warn you that this will continue for a long time. What are you going to do about it?” Mo Zichen questioned.

“Do you...have a special reason?” Qian Lan guessed. “If that’s the case, then you don’t need to say anything. I don’t mind.”

“If you can accept all this, then...we could try being together,” Mo Zichen said decisively.

“Really?”

“Yes! Just in case a drunkard invades my apartment again,” Mo Zichen said before he handed Qian Lan a glass of milk.

“Don’t mind my parents. Even if I risk my life, I would never listen to their orders. I will only choose who I want to.”

“Actually, you don’t need to argue that badly with your parents,” Mo Zichen said with a deeper meaning.

“Are you trying to tell me that my family is more important than my partner?”

“What I’m trying to say is, the two things need not oppose each other. I will make sure that your parents are satisfied with me.”

“How?” Qian Lan was extremely curious. Was there perhaps a way that he could change his background?

“Hurry to class after you finish your breakfast. By the way, you didn’t return home all night, won’t your parents be worried?” Mo Zichen reminded. “You should give your mother a call. No matter how angry you are at her, she is still your mother.”

“OK,” Qian Lan nodded. However, she still needed to think about how she was going to communicate with them.

She truly liked Mo Zichen. No matter what his background was, she was already set on him.

Her older sister had already married a big shot, did they need to apply so much pressure on her as well?

Sitting opposite her, Mo Zichen looked at Qian Lan’s stressed expression and laughed...

This silly woman...

Chapter 1197: Mo Ting Is My Father

Qian Lan did not go home for an entire night. Originally, she planned to go to class first before returning home to explain herself. But, when she reached the school, she found the principal waiting for her.

The principal was sitting at Qian Lan's work desk, and as soon as she arrived, he said to her, "Qian Lan, pack your things and go home."

"Huh?" Qian Lan furrowed her brows, unsure of what had happened.

"Ah, listen, I had no idea that you were the second daughter of the mayor. I'm sorry if I offended you in the past!"

After hearing this, Qian Lan finally understood what was happening.

It seemed, the Qian Family had dropped by and said something.

"Principal...actually..."

"Go ahead, don't make things difficult for us," the principal waved his hand, gesturing for Qian Lan not to resist. The Qian Family had already explained everything, so it wasn't likely that she'd be able to stay at the school for much longer.

Qian Lan was upset, but she couldn't apply any more pressure on the principal. So, she packed her things and left the school.

She simply didn't go home for one night and her family already reacted in such an extreme way. What was to happen if she insisted on being with Mo Zichen?

Filled with frustration, Qian Lan carried her belongings back home. However, she returned to find her mother sitting on the sofa watching television.

"You're back."

"Mom, what happened at school?" Qian Lan questioned her mother.

"You didn't come home for an entire night. Were you with the physics teacher?" Mother Qian asked as she turned to look at her daughter. "Since you haven't learned your lesson, I had to put an end to things for you."

After hearing this, Qian Lan almost lost her mind.

"Then, why don't I just stop being your daughter?" Qian Lan threw her belongings on the floor. "Just pretend you never gave birth to me. I don't want to return to this family ever again."

"Watch what you're saying!"

"Mom, let me warn you one last time, if you don't respect my life, I don't know what I'm capable of doing!" Qian Lan said before she turned around and ran out of the house.

Mother Qian took a deep breath. She simply felt that her daughter was being too reckless. Parents simply wanted what was best for their children, why couldn't she understand them?

After running out, Qian Lan didn't know where to go. So, she ended up wandering the streets all on her own.

...

Meanwhile, back at school, Mo Zichen quickly heard about what happened to Qian Lan, so he immediately gave her a phone call. But, Qian Lan's phone was out of battery from the night before and she hadn't charged it yet.

So, as soon as his class ended, Mo Zichen immediately drove out of school. He had a feeling that she'd be at a particular place.

...

At the same time, Xu Chunhao was running around looking for Qian Lan. He was upstairs when Qian Lan was arguing with Mother Qian and he heard Qian Lan run out. So, as soon as Mother Qian returned to her room, he immediately left to look for his sister-in-law.

Luckily, Qian Lan hadn't gotten too far.

"Qian Lan...get in the car," Xu Chunhao drove his car over to Qian Lan and blocked her path. "Let me take you home."

Qian Lan looked at Xu Chunhao and shook her head, "You shouldn't get involved with my matters."

"I just don't want to see you arguing with your family."

"I'm sorry, but that's none of your business."

After speaking, Qian Lan continued walking. At this time, Mo Zichen's car also stopped nearby. As soon as he saw Qian Lan, he honked his horn at her.

Qian Lan looked over carefully. When she noticed it was Mo Zichen, she immediately crossed the road and hopped into the passenger seat.

"Let's go."

Xu Chunhao watched as Qian Lan left with Mo Zichen, but there was nothing he could do.

At the same time, Mo Zichen also spotted Xu Chunhao.

"What happened?" Mo Zichen asked on the way back to his apartment. "Were you dismissed from school?"

"My mother did it. She didn't want to see us together," Qian Lan explained straightforwardly. "But, I don't want that family anyway. Zichen, can you take me away from here?"

"But, you are bound by blood, nothing can break that bond! Let me take you home..."

"I don't want to go back!"

"I'm not capable of kidnapping someone's daughter," Mo Zichen said. "Trust me, I have a way of convincing your parents."

"How?" Qian Lan was at breaking point. "My parents insist that I find someone on the same level as us. I don't want my parents to insult you..."

“Who said we aren’t on the same level?” Mo Zichen laughed as he sped up his car.

“But, I don’t want to see my mother.”

“Then, let’s go see your father,” Mo Zichen replied. “Give me his address. Forget it...I can find it myself.”

“Are you being serious?”

Could he be any more serious? Mo Zichen laughed, “Do you think that I’d allow the woman I like to have a falling out with her family because of me? I am a person who prioritizes family. I won’t let your relationship with your family turn sour.”

“But...”

Mo Zichen did not say another word as he drove Qian Lan straight over to the City Council Office. He then told the receptionist that he wanted to see Father Qian.

Fortunately, it was almost lunchtime, so Father Qian had just finished with some work and ran into the young couple near the entrance.

“Let’s go...” the trio headed over to a nearby teahouse and sat down. During this entire time, Qian Lan had her head down.

“Do you still know where your home is?” Father Qian growled.

“Hello, Uncle, my name is Mo Zichen.”

“I’ve heard about you, but I never expected you to be so brave as to come looking for me with my daughter,” Father Qian said as he adjusted his suit. “You’ve practically stolen my daughter from me.”

“I’m sorry, Uncle, I know you’re worried about your daughter, that’s why you’re concerned about the friends that she makes. I understand how you feel.”

“Since you understand me, then why...”

“Dad, don’t be too harsh with your words!” Qian Lan quickly protected Mo Zichen.

But, Mo Zichen did not get angry. Instead, he smiled and said, “I’m sorry if I have offended you, Uncle. I will invite you to a dinner with my father at a later date to give you a proper apology for suddenly showing up today.”

“Hmmpf.”

“If Uncle may give me the honor, I would like to invite Qian Lan to a dinner at Hyatt Regency tonight.”

As Father Qian listened to the young man speak, he was initially angry that the rascal was being so brave. How dare he make such a request, at a time like this? But, when he heard the words ‘Hyatt Regency’, he quickly furrowed his brows in confusion.

After all, who didn’t know that every single house in that estate was worth billions.

“Hyatt Regency?”

"I'm sorry, Uncle. I forgot to mention that Mo Ting is my father and Tangning is my mother," Mo Zichen spoke like a gentleman the entire time.

Who in Beijing hadn't heard of these two names?

Father Qian couldn't believe that Mo Zichen was their child.

Even Qian Lan was shocked!

"You..."

"I'll explain this to you later," Mo Zichen whispered in Qian Lan's ear.

Chapter 1198: He Was Once Qian Lan's Boyfriend

"Since you're the son of Mo Ting and Tangning, why didn't you reveal your identity from the start? Also...if you're their son, why are you a physics teacher in such a shabby school?" Father Qian was still suspicious of Mo Zichen's identity.

"No one knows Qian Lan's identity at school either. I'm afraid of the same things that you're afraid of," Mo Zichen replied smoothly. "As for why I'm teaching physics, it's because my father hopes that my brother and I can gain more experience from the outside world. That's why my brother is in the military while I'm here as a teacher."

In reality, simply looking at Mo Zichen's calm demeanor, it was easy to tell that he was not like the average person.

This made Father Qian speechless.

"Qian Lan is my precious daughter, I don't want her to suffer. She may feel like I'm too controlling, but she needs to understand how dangerous of a position I hold in office."

"It's not that I'm discriminative against the background of others. I simply hope that when I step down from my position one day, my son-in-law will be able to protect my daughter from suffering."

"Fine, since you've clarified everything to me, I have no reason to object against your relationship. You can make your own decisions. I'm going back to work!" Father Qian said as he stood up, looked at his watch and rushed back to his office.

Afterwards, Qian Lan stared at Mo Zichen as though she was looking at a stranger, "I thought...you were just a normal physics teacher."

"I will only be a normal physics teacher from now on. I felt bad to have used the names of my parents today. I can't believe I had to use my family background to get a girlfriend," Mo Zichen shook his head helplessly.

"So, the beautiful young woman that came looking for you yesterday..."

"An older sister that I've grown up with. She happened to be passing by," Mo Zichen explained.

“This suddenly feels so surreal!” Qian Lan said as she looked at Mo Zichen. “Will you eventually join the entertainment industry and become a celebrity?”

“No, I’m destined to be an unnoticed physics teacher...I like living a simple life.” After saying this, Mo Zichen stretched out his hand and ran it through Qian Lan’s long hair. “Will you continue to like me?”

Qian Lan looked into Mo Zichen’s eyes and nodded her head. She felt as though he was the only person that understood her because they were the same kind of people.

“I’ve already spoken to the principal. You can continue teaching. No one will interfere with your job again.”

“What if both our mothers decide to control us?”

“I’m good at dealing with old people. Do you want to try?” Mo Zichen winked. “Let’s go back to school, stop wandering around aimlessly. You’re going to make me worry about you. Also, stop drinking alcohol...”

“OK.”

Afterwards, the couple returned to school. However, no one mentioned anything to Mother Qian.

...

When Xu Chunhao failed to bring Qian Lan home with him, he actually felt his heart ache. He couldn’t deny that Qian Lan still had a place in his heart – but he already married her sister.

Worst of all, Qian Lan was now in love with some poor guy. What kind of happiness could he give her?

When Xu Chunhao returned home, he ran into his wife in the living room, “Where did you go?”

“I went to look for Qian Lan. She and Mom had a huge fight this morning.”

“Chunhao, don’t you think you’re showing too much concern as a brother-in-law?” Qian Hui asked with a raised voice.

“Qian Hui, what are you trying to say?” Mother Qian noticed the overtones in their conversation, so she began to question her daughter, “What’s wrong with Chunhao showing some concern for his sister-in-law?”

“Mom, there are some things that you don’t know.”

“If I don’t know, then tell me so I know,” Mother Qian replied. “From the tone of your voice, are you suggesting that there’s something going on between Chunhao and Qian Lan?”

“I didn’t say anything. I’m going back to my room,” Qian Hui held back her anger and resisted the urge to break through the last layer of secrets. Holding back her tears, she quickly returned to her room.

Meanwhile, Xu Chunhao had been pushed to his limits by Qian Hui’s temper.

Qian Hui was the one that told him to take care of Qian Lan. But now, the one to doubt him, was also her.

“Chunhao, why didn’t you bring Qian Lan back?”

“She boarded a man’s car,” Xu Chunhao replied. “The two of them looked very close!”

“Why is that poor fellow still bothering my daughter?” Mother Qian’s anger rose once again. “This won’t do. I have to go to the school and look for him!”

“Mom...let me go. It’s easier for men to talk with each other,” Xu Chunhao suggested. “I’m also worried about Qian Lan, I don’t want her to go down the wrong path.”

“OK, you go then.” Mother Qian had no idea that Xu Chunhao was once in a relationship with Qian Lan.

After listening to his mother-in-law, Xu Chunhao glanced upstairs, obviously afraid that Qian Hui would be upset.

Mother Qian understood and waved her hand, “Go ahead. I’ll comfort Qian Hui...”

“OK...thank you, Mom.”

After speaking, Xu Chunhao grabbed his car keys and headed out of the house. He was going to have a good meeting with Mo Zichen.

As a professor at MIT, he thought he definitely had the right to teach a mere physics teacher a lesson. But, how was he to know about Mo Zichen’s shocking background and frightening academics.

At this time, Mother Qian went upstairs to comfort her daughter, “Qian Hui, what’s wrong with you? Why were you acting so fierce towards your husband. Even as a mother-in-law, I couldn’t stand it.”

“Mom, that’s because you don’t know the truth,” Qian Hui explained as she wiped away her tears.

“How would I know if you don’t tell me? What made my daughter so upset?”

“The truth is, before Chunhao went to the US...he was...he was once Qian Lan’s boyfriend,” Qian Hui couldn’t resist anymore as she revealed the truth to her mother.

After Mother Qian heard this, she looked at her daughter in shock, “What did you say? I dare you to say that again!”

“Mom...”

“Did you know about this from the start?”

Qian Hui nodded.

“What’s this all about? Hurry and explain everything in detail!” Mother Qian felt like she was about to have a heart attack. Why was her son-in-law suddenly involved with Qian Lan? And, from Qian Hui’s tone, why didn’t it sound simple?

“Mom, I honestly regret marrying Xu Chunhao right now. Although he hasn’t said it, I can tell that he still has Qian Lan in his heart. Worst of all, they live under the same roof. Mom...I’m afraid...”

Chapter 1199: I Don’t Want My Family To Use You

“Oh child, why didn’t you mention this earlier?” Mother Qian’s heart pressure increased. “I was wondering why Chunhao cares so much for Qian Lan. So the truth is...he’s bullying my daughter!”

“Mom...” Qian Hui cried as she pounced into her mother’s arms. “Mom, you need to help me.”

“Wait until he comes home, let’s see what I do to him!” Mother Qian hugged Qian Hui with an angry expression.

...

At this time...

Xu Chunhao’s car had just arrived at Qian Lan’s school. He immediately went inside and found Mo Zichen.

After confirming that Mo Zichen was in the office preparing for a class, he asked someone to call him out.

Mo Zichen lifted his head and saw Xu Chunhao standing outside the office with a slightly complex expression. Mo Zichen got up from his desk, walked over to Xu Chunhao and called out his name, “May I ask why you’re looking for me, Mr. Xu?”

“Stop bothering Qian Lan,” Xu Chunhao said straightforwardly. “The two of you don’t match at all. Have you looked at yourself? Which part of you matches Qian Lan? She’s the daughter of the mayor; not some average teacher. Did you think you could use her as a stepping stone?”

After hearing Xu Chunhao’s evaluation of him, Mo Zichen let out a laugh, “If this is what you came here to talk about, I think it’s best that you turn back now.”

“Give us a condition. What can we do for you to let Qian Lan go? Is \$1 million enough?” Xu Chunhao asked as he pulled out a cheque and started writing. “Or is that not enough? I can add another \$1 million if you’d like...”

“Qian Lan is precious to the Qian Family, she isn’t someone that a person like you can casually get close to.”

“If you don’t leave now, I’m going to call security,” Mo Zichen couldn’t be bothered talking to the man. So, he turned around to return to his desk. But, to everyone’s surprise, Xu Chunhao suddenly grabbed onto Mo Zichen’s arm and threw a punch towards him.

However, Mo Zichen quickly grabbed onto Xu Chunhao’s wrist and stopped him.

“You will pay for what you’ve done today!”

“I’ll be waiting,” Mo Zichen replied coldly as he threw Xu Chunhao’s arm aside.

Unable to do anything about Mo Zichen, Xu Chunhao left without a choice.

But, it didn’t take long before Qian Lan heard about their incident. So, she quickly went to look for Mo Zichen.

However, Mo Zichen was already in the middle of a class and couldn’t talk to her.

So, Qian Lan returned to the teacher's office. But, halfway there, she was stopped by Xu Chunhao, "Qian Lan..."

Seeing that everyone in her family was trying to interfere with her private life, Qian Lan let out a bitter laugh, "Why can't you let me go?"

"Qian Lan, everyone's simply worried about you," Xu Chunhao acted like he was morally correct.

"Xu Chunhao, you should mind your own business." After speaking, Qian Lan walked around Xu Chunhao and left.

She didn't want everyone to use love as an excuse to 'care' and 'protect' her. It made her feel like she was trapped and unable to breathe.

Qian Lan knew that Xu Chunhao had already spoken to Mo Zichen.

Over the past few days, the Qian Family had already caused quite a commotion at the school. Everyone now knew that she was the second daughter of the mayor and that she was dating a poor guy.

She felt like she had completely lost her freedom. Even when she breathed, she had to be careful.

Qian Lan struggled with this. For some reason, she suddenly felt exhausted. It was bad enough that the Qian Family were trying to control her, they even went to harass Mo Zichen. What right did they have to do that?

Before meeting her, Mo Zichen lived a simple and ordinary life. Qian Lan was aware that he liked living peacefully like that. But, the Qian Family made it impossible for him to get any peace.

How much longer did she have to endure?

...

Soon, Xu Chunhao returned home from visiting the school. But, waiting for him, was the stern-looking Mother Qian.

"Mom..."

"Chunhao, let me ask you, before you married Qian Hui, who else did you have a close relationship with?"

After hearing Mother Qian's question, Xu Chunhao could guess what was going on: Qian Hui must have revealed the truth.

"Mom, why are you suddenly asking this?"

"Don't act dumb. Back when you married Qian Hui, you already knew that she was the older sister of Qian Lan. So, why didn't you mention anything? What's your motive for keeping this a secret? Don't tell me that you want both my daughters to cling to you?"

"Mom, you've misunderstood. I already told Qian Hui about this from the start. Besides, Qian Hui knows that Qian Lan and I are like brother and sister," Xu Chunhao explained. "Look at how I've never crossed the line all these years."

He was right.

After listening to Xu Chunhao's explanation, Mother Qian warmed up.

"But, due to the nature of this relationship, I still think it's best for you and Qian Hui to move out so she stops feeling paranoid," Mother Qian instructed.

"Mom, mine and Qian Lan's conscience is clear."

"Since you've explained everything, I'm not going to pursue this matter, but you and Qian Lan better keep your distance. It's already tough enough that she's involved with that poor fellow," Mother Qian warned.

It was at this very moment that Father Qian returned home. As soon as he walked in and heard Mother Qian calling Mo Zichen a poor fellow, he quickly said, "Housewives are indeed short-sighted!"

"Old man, what are you talking about?" Mother Qian immediately asked.

"Don't you know yet? The 'poor fellow' is actually the son of Mo Ting and Tangning," Father Qian humphed.

"That...that can't be possible."

"I've already asked someone to confirm it. It's 100% true. The Mo Family and Tang Family are both rich and powerful; Qian Lan sure has good taste," Father Qian said in an exaggerated manner.

"Does that mean the rascal is actually from a socialite background? If Qian Lan marries him and we have this extra layer of connection, our influence in Beijing will grow even bigger, right?"

"You could say that," Father Qian replied.

It wasn't long ago that the two of them were looking down on Mo Zichen. Now that they knew he was the son of Mo Ting, their attitude immediately changed.

At this time, Qian Lan was hiding behind a divider listening to her parents' conversation. Earlier that day, Father Qian made things sound so good, as though he truly cared about his daughter's happiness. But, what was the truth?

He simply had his eyes on the Mo Family's influence in Beijing...

With this thought, Qian Lan revealed an extremely disappointed expression. Perhaps, being with Mo Zichen, was a bad thing for him.

Sometimes, a person simply couldn't escape their fate. This was a reality that she had to accept.

Therefore, Qian Lan gave Mo Zichen a phone call and arranged to meet with him.

Mo Zichen thought Qian Lan was being bullied again, so he immediately rushed over to their meeting location. But, after they saw each other, Qian Lan said, "Zichen, I think we should just forget about the relationship between us."

"It hasn't even been that long and I've already caused so much trouble for you. I think a relationship that involves family is very tiring."

"I don't want my family to use you. You deserve better."

"Qian Lan..." Mo Zichen wanted to cut in.

"I'm sorry!" Qian Lan apologized as she held back her tears. "I need to be free from my family first. Otherwise, all the pressures I receive from them, will be transferred onto your shoulders."

Chapter 1200: Don't You Want This Family Anymore ?

"Must you do this?" Mo Zichen's heart ached...

"I don't want my family to milk you dry," Qian Lan said with certainty. She then stretched out her right hand, "I will free myself from my family. Wish me luck."

Mo Zichen took a deep breath and finally nodded his head as he shook Qian Lan's hand, "If you have any difficulties in the future, don't hesitate to look for me."

"I don't want to trouble you..." After speaking, Qian Lan left as soon as possible; if she stayed any longer, she was afraid that she would feel regret.

She knew that Mo Zichen was a great guy. But, the problem was, she hadn't fully understood her family.

After leaving Mo Zichen, Qian Lan kneeled on the ground and cried for quite some time. But, she also reminded herself that from that day onwards, she was going to do all that she could to reject her family's involvement in her life. She was going to gain their respect and take back control.

Otherwise, she was never going to date again.

...

As soon as Qian Lan returned home, Mother Qian quickly approached her and asked, "Weren't you supposed to go to Hyatt Regency for dinner? Why didn't you go? Where's that young man?"

"I'm not going today nor will I ever go," Qian Lan replied with seriousness. "Because you and the rest of the family disgust me."

"Qian Lan, how could you say that? We only want what's best for you."

"Stop saying that," Qian Lan growled. "By the way, Mo Zichen and I broke up. Your wish came true. I won't be seeing him ever again."

"Qian Lan..."

"If there's nothing else, I'm returning to my room." After speaking, Qian Lan stormed past her family and stubbornly returned to her room.

Mother Qian and the rest of the family could only sigh, "That kid has no idea that we are thinking on her behalf."

"She is completely clueless."

Qian Lan snorted when she heard these words and decided that she was definitely leaving the household.

The next morning, Qian Lan went to school and handed in her resignation. However, just as she left, Mo Zichen walked past her with his textbooks.

At that moment, Mo Zichen acted as though she was a complete stranger. He walked straight past her without a trace of emotion.

Since they had ended their relationship, there had to be a clean end. There was no point showing any pain and making the other feel bad.

Qian Lan's heart ached, but she also grew stronger.

To free herself from her parents, she went ahead and signed up for the military without her parents knowing. By the time that Mother Qian found out, Qian Lan had already passed all the tests and checks.

Mother Qian was quite surprised; she didn't expect her daughter to be so unreasonable. But, to get into the military, Qian Lan even cut her hair without discussing a thing with her family.

Before attending her recruit training, Qian Lan was at home packing her bags. Mother Qian approached her room with Qian Hui and said, "Qian Lan...why don't I ask dad to remove your name from the military. Don't go."

"If you ask dad to do that, then I'll go report him," Qian Lan said stubbornly. "Entering the military is my choice, you have no say in this matter."

"Why would a woman go join the military?"

"It's because I don't want to see you," Qian Lan laughed. "Apart from entering the military, I have no other choice."

"Qian Lan!" Mother Qian began to feel anxious. "I'm only doing it for your own good."

"We've already been on this topic for too long. There's no point talking about it any further," Qian Lan said as she closed her suitcase. "Mom, I wish you the best of health. Sis, I hope you have a baby soon."

Mother Qian was furious, but there was nothing she could do. Qian Lan had become a lot more stubborn and she couldn't do anything about her.

Qian Lan carried her luggage and started to head out of the house. But, just as she got downstairs, she ran into Xu Chunhao.

Qian Lan did not say a word as she continued out the door, however Xu Chunhao called out, "Don't you want this family anymore?"

"Let me escort you." However, Qian Lan waved her hand and walked out without turning back.

How badly was she hurt for her to be so decisive?

No one understood how she felt and how much pain she suffered. But, she simply wanted control over her own life. Was that too much to ask for?

No matter how the Qian Family clung to her, she was going to follow through with her decision. She couldn't live the rest of her life following someone else's plan.

This was the only thing that Qian Lan wanted.

So, she completely immersed herself into the training that was closed off to the world. She needed build a stronger will and firmer faith.

...

That night, during his mission, Mo Zichen's colleague asked, "Did you know that the girl you dated has joined the military?"

Mo Zichen nodded his head, "Yes, I heard."

"Holy sh*t! I've never met such a tough heiress. Just to free herself from her family, she sent herself to the toughest place on earth!" the man laughed. "And you, my dear brother, you are so pitiful. Your relationship was much too short!"

"Even a dangerous situation like this can't shut you up!" Mo Zichen humphed.

"But, I can understand why you were interested in her. Hasn't there been a 'sister' that you grew up with? After all these years, you haven't even felt a thing for her."

"Qian Lan simply appears weak on the surface. She's actually got a strong mindset," Mo Zichen sighed.

"Forget about it. No matter how strong she is, she is no longer yours. In our line of work...what right do we have to be in a relationship?"

Mo Zichen did not say a word. Only time could allow them to become their best selves.

A few days later, Tangning asked Mo Zichen home to attend Hai Rui's Anniversary Celebration.

In reality, it was just an excuse to see her son.

Mo Zichen figured that showing his face briefly would be enough. After all, keeping a low profile was key to his safety. So, he returned to Hyatt Regency before the event.

At that time, Tangning and her good friends were gathered at home.

"Zichen's home."

Mo Zichen approached the three women and greeted them sweetly, "Auntie Long, Auntie Lin, Mom."

"Why are you suddenly back?" Tangning immediately held onto his hand.

"I had some free time..." Mo Zichen replied. "You guys continue chatting. I'll go back to my room and get changed."

"Don't take too long," Tangning said. After he turned away, the aunties began to chatter.

"Zichen's teaching far from home. Aren't you worried about him?" Long Jie asked. "Look at the child, his lost a lot of weight."

“I may worry about him, but it’s his life. He has the right to make his own decisions,” Tangning replied.

“Who would believe that the beloved son of the almighty Mo Ting and Tangning would be a mere teacher at a school? That’s unbelievable.”

“As long as he’s happy.”

Mo Zichen leaned against the wall and listened to his mother protect and support him.

In this world, probably no one else understood him better than Tangning.

Mo Zichen suddenly felt grateful but also heartbroken.

He didn’t want to see his mother grow old and die someday...

(Even though Tangning currently looked no different to a thirty year old...)