

Work Hard 551

Chapter 551: You Can't Just Fire My People

To suit the status of Xu Corps, no matter how much Xu Qingyan disliked it, she had to transform herself into an elegant socialite as per Father Xu's orders.

So, after so many years, it had been a long time since Xu Qingyan had tested out what was suitable for her and what was currently popular amongst women. She had merely become the face of Xu Corps.

"Since you can't change the situation with your father and will get hit regardless, then you should dress the way that you like. You don't need to continue doing what you don't like," Tangning explained patiently to Xu Qingyan, like a mentor speaking to her student.

Xu Qingyan thought about Tangning's words and realized that she was right. But, she also felt a little upset; upset that she pretended to be someone she wasn't for so many years.

Afterwards, Tangning instructed Lu Che to send over her styling team to Hyatt Regency, "I've worked with this team for a long time. You can also call them in future if you need them."

Xu Qingyan remembered Tangning's every word as she looked at her own seaweed-like hair.

"I'll leave her with you. I trust your professionalism."

The stylists smiled as they nodded their heads, before they started applying their skills on Xu Qingyan.

Tangning noticed that Xu Qingyan was a little nervous, so she walked over and shook her stiff body, "Does your father have anything he is afraid of? Or is there someone that he is wary of?"

"Grandfather," Xu Qingyan replied without a second thought, "My father is afraid of my grandfather..."

"Then, your grandfather..."

"He is living on a small private island. But, it isn't far from Beijing. We can get there in 2 hours," Xu Qingyan replied as she sat down.

"Tell me the address, I'll tell Jingxuan to get him."

Xu Qingyan nodded her head. She then pulled out her phone to find her grandfather's address and passed the details on to Tangning.

While Xu Qingyan was surrounded by the stylists, Tangning covered her stomach and stood up to make arrangements for Xu Qingyan. She then looked down from the second level and said to Xu Qingyan, "I'll be in the study room. Give me a call when you're done."

Actually, Tangning was getting a bit sleepy because of her pregnancy, so she needed some rest.

Xu Qingyan had no idea about Tangning's situation, but even she ended up falling asleep while getting her makeup done.

After 3 hours, Xu Qingyan was finally awoken by the makeup artist. As she opened her eyes, she was shocked. The woman in the mirror was nothing like how she started out.

Once upon a time, although her body was covered in expensive jewelry, she looked too much like a precious socialite with no individuality. But now...

Her slightly curled short hair highlighted the definitions of her jawline and her charming makeup finally put her amorous eyes to good use. She wore a stylish suit that was full of character and on her feet were a pair of delicate and unique black high-heeled shoes...

"Miss Xu, are you satisfied with this look?"

Xu Qingyan had never seen herself like this before. She had never seen herself with so much personality.

"Uh huh."

"If you add a bit of confidence and relax your walking style, you will be even more beautiful."

Hearing the stylist's suggestion, Xu Qingyan giggled and nodded her head. Meanwhile, looking down from the second level, Tangning noticed the young woman. She was suddenly reminded of the younger version of herself...

She had once done so much to please Han Yufan, yet what did she get in the end?

This was proof that all women must learn to be strong. Only then would others learn to appreciate them.

Whether it be a lover or a relative, this rule applied for both.

So, why did Tangning decide to help Xu Qingyan? There was actually one other very important reason. It was because she saw herself in Xu Qingyan. However...they weren't completely the same. After all, when faced with suppression, not everyone knew how to use their intelligence to retaliate...

...

Meanwhile, Ye Lan was at home casually eating some melon seeds. Everytime she cracked open a seed, she would throw the shell randomly around the room. She knew that Xu Qingyan never disobeyed her father's orders, so it wouldn't take long before she'd obediently return home and get back to work.

The family's cook looked at Ye Lan helplessly. It was obvious that she was doing it on purpose. It wasn't the first time, and every time she did it, Xu Qingyan would end up being scolded by her father.

"This woman is so hateful. If only she could be kicked out of the Xu Household."

"What are you muttering about in the corner?" Ye Lan heard some chatter and turned to look at the cook with a cold glare, "Do you not want your job anymore? If you don't want it, you can immediately get lost!"

The cook did not expect to draw trouble upon herself, however she had no choice but to tear off her apron and throw it on the ground, "You shameless sl*t. Did you think that I want to stay here that badly?"

"Shoo."

The cook felt wronged as she held back her tears and headed for the door. At this time, Father Xu walked into the living room holding some documents and questioned the two women, "What's happening here?"

Ye Lan sugar-coated the entire situation as she explained what had happened to Father Xu. As a result, Father Xu turned to the cook and yelled, "Get lost! From now on, you will no longer have a job. You're fired!"

The cook looked at Father Xu in shock as she weighed the seriousness of the situation in her mind. Just as she was about to plead for mercy, a beautiful black figure attracted the attention of the three people in the living room.

Father Xu was stunned. He had never seen Xu Qingyan look so beautiful before.

Meanwhile, Ye Lan was filled with envy. After all, her and Xu Qingyan had never been on the same level when it came to beauty. Especially since, Xu Qingyan's current style looked like it had been specifically personalized to suit her.

"You can't just fire my people," Xu Qingyan said calmly to Father Xu.

"You've become beautiful," Father Xu scanned his eyes across his daughter. He suddenly felt that he had overlooked her. He never expected that she could look so beautiful.

"Why aren't you leaving?" Ye Lan threw her arrogance upon the cook. At this time, Xu Qingyan's volume increased, "I already told you, you can't just fire my people!"

Ye Lan furrowed her brows at the sound of Xu Qingyan's voice before she looked at her with an amused smile. She suddenly felt that Ye Lan had gained some guts. How dare she speak to her with this tone of voice?

"Xu Qingyan, did you think you are in control of this family? Don't forget, your father already told me previously that if I wanted to, he could hit you to death right away."

"Really?" Xu Qingyan asked with a smile. In reality, she was extremely nervous inside. After all, she had never spoken so bravely in front of Ye Lan and her father. Inside, she was actually not that confident.

Ye Lan scoffed and crossed her arms as she approached Xu Qingyan. She then glared at her coldly, "I feel like I should teach you a lesson on behalf of your ill-fated mother. Otherwise, you wouldn't understand that this is the Xu Family and I am Mrs Xu, the woman that you should be calling 'mom'!"

After speaking, she lifted her hand and swung it towards Xu Qingyan's face...

Chapter 552: I Dare You To Try And Help Her

Xu Qingyan wasn't as submissive as before. Instead, she directly grabbed onto Ye Lan's wrist and glared into her piercing eyes. The two women practically wanted to tear each other apart.

"Ye Lan, don't go overboard. I hired Auntie Zhang for this job; you have no right to fire her."

“Xu Qingyan, you sure are weird. You obviously know that you have no status in this family, yet you don’t seem to learn from your past experiences,” Ye Lan smirked, “Perhaps, you don’t think you’ve been hit enough?”

After hearing these words, Xu Qingyan’s eyes were filled with hatred. Because she knew, half the injuries on her body were all because this woman had married into the family and drove a wedge between her and her father, causing him to act violently towards her.

But...

“Hubby, tell me, whose side are you on?” Ye Lan asked Father Xu with slight mockery. She was well aware of Xu Qingyan’s status in the family.

Father Xu did not say a word. He simply walked over to the two women, swung his arm, and threw a slap across Xu Qingyan’s face. Five red finger marks appeared on Xu Qingyan’s delicate face. He had hit her with full force, in fact, it was so powerful that the corner of her lips began to bleed, “Apologize to your mother...”

“I am your daughter!”

“If I can give birth to you, I can also strangle you to death. Children are disposable; I can always have another. But, there is only one Ye Lan...”

Not many people in this world would be able to say such words to their own daughter...

“I’ve given you fame, fortune and status, what have you given me in return?” Father Xu sneered. “I may as well have given birth to a piece of trash...”

Xu Qingyan tried her best to hold back her tears as Father Xu threw one attack after another at her heart. But, this time, she did not say a word. She simply stared bravely at Father Xu; at the father that she once thought could still be saved.

From now on, apart from hate, she no longer felt anything else for this man.

“That’s because you are a piece of trash...”

Xu Qingyan deliberately provoked him. As a result, Father Xu once again swung his arm. But, before his hand reached Xu Qingyan’s face, he noticed a white-haired old man dressed in a black suit, standing in the doorway glaring at him angrily...

“Father, why are you here?”

Elder Xu did not say a word, but his footsteps were heavy. He simply walked over to Father Xu, one step at a time, and directly threw three slaps across his face. Father Xu’s face immediately turned red before it started to swell. “Even the dog I own doesn’t bite it’s illegitimate child. You’re worse than a dog!”

Father Xu looked at Elder Xu in shock. This was the first time he had ever been slapped by him.

“Father...”

Elder Xu glared at Father Xu before he stumbled over to sit on the sofa with the assistance of his bodyguards. He then flipped the box containing the melon seeds that Ye Lan was previously eating, all

over the floor. "I may have been aloof from the world for many years, but that doesn't mean that you are now in charge. Didn't I previously warn you that, if you were to remarry, your second wife would not inherit even a cent from the Xu Family?"

Father Xu did not say a word. He simply took a quick glance at Ye Lan.

Elder Xu noticed the look of Father Xu's face, so he turned his attention to Ye Lan, "Since you are my son's new wife, shouldn't you offer me a cup of tea."

Ye Lan was a little surprised. This was the first time she had met Elder Xu, so she did not dare to delay. Inside, she was still dreaming that Elder Xu would develop an acceptance towards her.

Quality tea leaves and temperate hot water; Ye Lan presented Elder Xu with a cup of tea. However, Elder Xu simply glared at her, "Do you not understand the rules?"

Ye Lan held back her displeasure as she raised the teacup towards Elder Xu once again. However, in this instant, a pitiful scream echoed through the room...

"Ahhh..."

The teacup that Ye Lan presented to Elder Xu had been knocked out her hands and the scalding hot content was now all over her body.

"Who do you think you are? How dare you treat my granddaughter in such a way! Rather than focusing on being an actress, you decided to team up with this evil monster."

At this moment, Ye Lan did not care at all what Elder Xu had to say. All she could focus on was her burning body as she turned to Father Xu and pleaded, "Hubby, help me, help me..."

Father Xu wanted to walk over and help her up, but Elder Xu warned in a ferocious tone, "You b*stard. I dare you to try and help her."

Hearing the warning, Father Xu was speechless as he watched Ye Lan being put to shame.

"Hubby, save me...I still need to partake in films. I can't have any scars. I still need to win awards."

The living room was filled with Ye Lan's cries of help, but Father Xu remained in place, too afraid to step forward.

"If you dare to help her today, then we will no longer be father and son. You can also forget about taking even a cent away from Xu Corps," Elder Xu threatened. "I never thought you'd treat my granddaughter in such a way."

Normally, Father Xu would not tolerate being treated this way, but...the man before him, was the father that had also hit him for half his life. He had no ability to retaliate.

"From today onwards, I will be living here. I would like to see if you have the ability to lay even a finger on Qingyan."

"Father, this is my own family matter."

“Fine. If you want me to keep my nose out of your business, it’s possible, I’m not that petty,” Elder Xu did not intend to leave Father Xu with any pride, “As long as you leave the household with this woman and not take a cent with you, I will leave you alone...”

Father Xu did not say another word. To protect himself, he simply let Ye Lan continue to cry in pain for quite some time.

Ye Lan glared at Father Xu with hatred. No matter how much sweet talking he usually did, it all boiled down to how he’d react at important times like this. And how did he react?

He threw her to one side without hesitation....

“Your reaction tells me that you want to continue living together. That’s fine with me, but you need to mentally prepare yourself. Just a moment ago, I heard you and the entertainer throw insulting words at Qingyan. I was extremely disappointed and angry to witness that. So...during my stay here, I won’t be treating the two of you nicely.”

Elder Xu then turned to Xu Qingyan and smiled, “Qingyan, come to grandfather.”

Qingyan approached Elder Xu, no longer afraid.

“From now on, treat this woman the way that she has treated you in the past...”

“I don’t want you to be gentle and kind. I want you to protect yourself. Towards those that have bullied you, I want them to understand what it means to receive double the retribution.”

“Speak up. You can request something from that woman right now.”

Chapter 553: He Is Even More Frightening

After hearing this, Ye Lan glared at Xu Qingyan. She had been brought up with a delicate lifestyle and started off as a child actor. So, everything she learned was from the entertainment industry, including how to bully the weak and insult others.

Over the years, even she couldn’t remember how many schemes and tricks she had played on Xu Qingyan. Now that the tables had been turned, Ye Lan tried to look calm, but deep down she was in a panic.

Elder Xu had never visited their household before, so nothing like this had ever happened. But, this time...

...Elder Xu had personally witnessed the couple bullying Xu Qingyan. It seemed, Ye Lan may have some suffering coming her way.

Father Xu, Elder Xu and Ye Lan looked at Xu Qingyan, waiting for a response. However, after quite some time, she finally said slowly, “I don’t care...”

Father Xu and Ye Lan were shocked. According to Xu Qingyan’s personality, there was no way she’d say something like this. How could she not care?

If these words were said within a different household, perhaps it would have been enough to end all battles. But, this was the Xu Household!

“How badly have you suffered? Why would you cover up for the wench?” After speaking, Elder Xu turned to Ye Lan and demanded, “You...come here.”

Ye Lan was a little stunned as she looked at Father Xu helplessly. But, Father Xu merely furrowed his brows, unable to retaliate against his father.

Ye Lan had nowhere to turn to for help, so she had no choice but to walk over to Elder Xu. As soon as she stood before him, Elder Xu raised his hand and threw a slap across her face. In fact, he did not stop at one slap. He continuously slapped her as he lectured, “You’re just a toy that can’t even be considered as an actress. How dare you bully my granddaughter!”

“I let you marry into the family so you could take care of my son and granddaughter. Instead, you made my granddaughter suffer in your hands.”

After a series of 5 slaps, Ye Lan was so dazed that she could barely stand up straight...All she could hear was a ringing in her ears...

Afterwards, Elder Xu said to Father Xu, “If you dare lay a finger on my granddaughter again, then you should directly show yourself out the door.”

This was the first time that Xu Qingyan had witnessed such a scene.

She couldn’t believe, in this household that was filled with memories of being hit, there would actually be a day when her father and Ye Lan would also experience this pain. With this thought, Xu Qingyan felt a sense of satisfaction.

It’s not that she had never pleaded for help, but...

...every time she tried, Father Xu would find a way to stop her.

So, this time, with Tangning’s careful planning and Tang Jingxuan’s assistance, she finally understood how it felt to be in power and to get revenge.

Father Xu did not say a word. He simply looked at Xu Qingyan from behind and felt that he had never truly understood his daughter.

As for Ye Lan, apart from a swollen face, all she had left was complete hatred towards Xu Qingyan. But, Xu Qingyan did not care, because Tangning had taught her not to.

Within this family, Xu Qingyan no longer needed to please others. Because, the more she tried to please others, the more she devalued herself.

Right now, her main priority was to make a comeback.

“Yanyan, are you feeling better?” Elder Xu asked Xu Qingyan in a caring manner after he was done teaching the two a lesson.

As Xu Qingyan resembled her grandmother, Elder Xu felt like he owed her. Whenever he saw her, he was extremely protective of her.

“Thank you grandfather, I’m fine.”

Did fine mean that she wasn’t good?

Elder Xu’s expression darkened as he turned back to Father Xu and Ye Lan without a word. It seemed, he was gesturing that there was still plenty of time. Since he was moving in, dealing with a couple of cheap people wasn’t going to be difficult.

Of course, Xu Qingyan’s abnormal response made Father Xu quite surprised. According to her usual personality, she couldn’t possibly calculate her response in such a schematic way, because she wasn’t normally one to think outside the square.

But...

“Come, let’s have some food together. Grandfather is hungry.”

Father Xu was not in a good mood after being taught a tough lesson, but there was nothing he could do as he watched the grandfather and granddaughter walk away. He simply hurried over to help Ye Lan up. But, Ye Lan glared at him as she pushed him away.

Afterwards, Xu Qingyan met up with Tang Jingxuan. After getting into Tang Jingxuan’s car, she held onto her belly as she burst into laughter, “That was so satisfying! I’ve never been this satisfied before...Ning Jie is amazing.”

“Did you also get slapped?” Tang Jingxuan asked as he looked at the finger marks on Xu Qingyan’s face.

“Danger cannot be overcome without taking risks. Grandfather had to witness that scene for him to be determined to deal with the two,” Xu Qingyan did not care about the finger marks on her face, “It was much too satisfying. Especially the way that grandfather dealt with Ye Lan. Jingxuan, thank you for bringing grandfather here in time.”

“Little Monkey...”

Xu Qingyan took a deep breath before she smiled at Tang Jingxuan, “Don’t worry, I’m fine. I will never be as amazing as Ning Jie, but I have my own strengths. Jingxuan, I’m quite jealous of you; you have a great support like Tangning.”

Tang Jingxuan put away his pained expression and sighed, “You only see what’s on the surface. My sister is indeed invincible, but that’s because my brother-in-law spoils her.”

“Are you referring to President Mo?” Xu Qingyan immediately thought of the almighty king-like man.

“He’s even more frightening.” After speaking, Tang Jingxuan started the car and drove Xu Qingyan away. “Let me take you to eat something good. This can be a reward for looking so pretty.”

“I want to show my gratitude for what you and Ning Jie have done for me.”

Tang Jingxuan took a slight glimpse at Xu Qingyan as he drove, “We don’t need anything...”

“Isn’t there anything that troubles you?”

With the mention of troubles, Tang Jingxuan thought carefully to himself. Over the past two days, because of Xu Qingyan, he had not had any time to think of other things. In fact, he found himself feeling happy just to see Xu Qingyan happy...

"It won't be easy to defeat your father and Ye Lan..."

"I know. I will try to learn as much as I can from Ning Jie. By the way, aren't you returning to the US?"

In reality, Tang Jingxuan had already missed his enrolment date.

Maybe it was because some things were destined to happen, he thought to himself.

But, Tang Jingxuan did not say a word as he drove the car to a hotel. Just as the two finished picking their dishes, Tang Jingxuan's phone rang.

Tang Jingxuan looked at his phone in surprise; he recognized the number.

"Pick it up..."

Tang Jingxuan looked at Xu Qingyan and picked up the phone. However, the first thing he said was, "How did you get my phone number?"

"Ning Jie gave it to me. Jingxuan, can you give me a bit of your time? I want you to meet someone."

Tang Jingxuan originally wanted to reject the request, but since Tangning had allowed it, he knew it was honestly something related to work, so he asked, "What time?"

"Where are you right now? I'll come and look for you..."

Tang Jingxuan glanced at Xu Qingyan and replied with their current address...

"Song Yanshu will be dropping by in a moment," Tang Jingxuan said as he put down his phone.

Chapter 554: Was It All Fake ?

"Why do you still need to meet with her?" Xu Qingyan was a little confused, "Won't it make you feel uncomfortable?"

"I'm guessing it's work-related," Tang Jingxuan didn't explain too much. After all, Xu Qingyan was by his side. "Although, I must say, I don't know in what way our interests still correlate with each other."

He had already retreated from the entertainment industry and dissolved the matter from before. Since he had already made a decision, he would not regret it.

Xu Qingyan looked at him questioningly with a trace of worry. Because to her, Tang Jingxuan was no longer just an old classmate, he had practically become family. She did not want Tang Jingxuan to be dragged back into a tornado of scandals. Yet, the entertainment industry was exactly a place like this. So, now that Song Yanshu was engaged, wasn't it a bit inappropriate for them to meet?

"Jingxuan, to prevent the media from writing nonsense, I think it's best that you avoid meeting with Song Yanshu. I'll meet with her on your behalf," Xu Qingyan suggested in seriousness. "After all, the

media don't know what to write about her and I. Although you've already retreated from the entertainment industry, you still need to think about Tang Corps, especially since there is no necessity for you guys to meet."

Tang Jingxuan lowered his head and thought for a few seconds before he eventually nodded in agreement, "OK."

"In that case, you leave first. I'll call you later to pick me up."

"I'll leave it with you then..." After speaking, Tang Jingxuan stood up from his seat and swiftly left the hotel. Not too long after, Song Yanshu appeared at the hotel, all dressed up. Next to her was a tall and built American man. They entered the lobby of the hotel and quickly located the restaurant and table that Tang Jingxuan had messaged them with.

Song Yanshu approached with the American man. But, all she found, was Xu Qingyan sitting beside the window eating by herself.

"Miss Xu, where is Luo Xing?"

"Have a seat first," Xu Qingyan directly said. Of course, the knife and fork in her hands continued to cut the steak in front of her, "Jingxuan had something he needed to do, so he left first. However, he asked me to stay back and meet with you. He wants to know why you were looking for him so urgently."

As soon as Song Yanshu heard that Tang Jingxuan had left, there was a slight disappointment in her eyes. However, she tried her best not to let anyone know.

"In that case, I'll give him a call..." Song Yanshu pulled out her phone. However, just as she was about to press Tang Jingxuan's number, Xu Qingyan stopped her.

"Miss Song, what are you trying to do? Jingxuan is no longer a part of the entertainment industry. Shouldn't you let him go?" Xu Qingyan asked straightforwardly. "I can tell that you still have hope in him. But...don't forget, you were the one that made the decision."

Song Yanshu looked at Xu Qingyan with intrigue, "Fine, I'll talk with you then. Jack here is a famous composer from the US. Not too long ago, he happened to come across Luo Xing's voice and found that his voice was similar to what he had been looking for. He felt that he could help Luo Xing improve, so he decided to contact me."

"If he's not here today because he doesn't want to see me, he has no need to do that. This is a rare opportunity!"

"It's not because he doesn't want to see you," Xu Qingyan rebutted, "You've overestimated your importance!"

Song Yanshu's expression suddenly turned sour...

"Let's be honest, did you come here today to help Jingxuan, or was your motive to keep hanging onto him?" Xu Qingyan asked straightforwardly, "I'm sure you know how easy it is for the media to capture photos of the two of you. As an experienced manager, there's no way you would make such an amateur mistake."

Song Yanshu looked at Xu Qingyan with teary eyes. After quite some time, she finally mumbled, "I actually miss him a lot..."

"What's wrong with you? You're already engaged..."

"This is something I realized after I got engaged," Song Yanshu replied. "I know what I've done wrong, but back then, too much happened at once and I didn't know how to process it."

"So? You're here to beg for forgiveness?" Xu Qingyan looked at Song Yanshu with ridicule. "Song Yanshu, you weren't like this before. Or perhaps, was everyone wrong about you? Did you think you could give up as you please and make up again when you want? Did you think Jingxuan is so easily swayed by you?"

Song Yanshu was dumbfounded...

"Today, I am speaking on behalf of Jingxuan. For the final time, he will not be returning to the entertainment industry; he has new goals in life. So, song invites and American composers mean absolutely nothing to him. From now on, please don't meet with him on your own, it will make me uncomfortable."

Song Yanshu listened quietly to Xu Qingyan's words. After a few moments, she turned to Xu Qingyan and pleaded, "Can you let me have one look at him? Just one look is enough."

"I think, what you need right now, is not Jingxuan, but a clear head."

"Miss Song, I hope this is the last time. Otherwise, the entire nation will be disgusted by you. You don't need to worry about Jingxuan. Even if he has nothing, he still has me." After speaking, Xu Qingyan stood up to leave. At this time, Tang Jingxuan casually approached Xu Qingyan and asked, "Are you finished?"

Xu Qingyan pointed to Song Yanshu with her chin and rolled her eyes, "I hate scenes like this. Are we in some kind of a TV drama? First, the guy pursues the girl, but the girl rejects him, even though she likes him. Afterwards, when the guy falls in love with someone else, she suddenly feels like her man has been stolen from her..."

Tang Jingxuan gave an amused chuckle before he turned to Song Yanshu and said, "In my mind, I still have a beautiful image of you. Don't destroy it."

"What if I told you that I could cancel my engagement for you?"

Song Yanshu suddenly lifted her head and said firmly, "Luo Xing, would you be willing to return to my side? After all...we already have 'that' kind of relationship."

Hearing her mention canceling her engagement, both Tang Jingxuan and Xu Qingyan froze.

As for Song Yanshu's last sentence. It obviously carried with it a sense of threat.

'That' kind of relationship!

However, Tang Jingxuan did not panic or buckle under pressure. He simply smiled, "Yanshu, what made you become like this?"

Song Yanshu looked away.

"I'm sorry, since you made a decision, then you shouldn't regret it. Plus, you are already engaged and I already have Qingyan. I'm sure I've already expressed my standpoint clear enough. I wish the best for both of us." After speaking, Tang Jingxuan held onto Xu Qingyan's hand and said, "Let's go home."

"I refuse to believe that you have no feelings left for me," Song Yanshu said as she chased after the couple, "Don't tell me the pain you went through before was all fake..."

Translator's Thoughts

Yunyi

Have you all noticed that Song Yanshu still calls Tang Jingxuan 'Luo Xing'? Whereas, Xu Qingyan calls him by his real name? It goes to show that Xu Qingyan views him as who he really is.

Chapter 555: She Doesn't Look Like She Will Give Up

"Love should not be calculative like this," Tang Jingxuan did not look back, but he felt Song Yanshu's words were unusually cold, "Plus, I believe that a person that often thinks on behalf of others, can never be that bad. Please stop dragging me back amongst the scandals. Whether it's you, or the 'good news' you wanted to tell me, I have absolutely no interest."

Song Yanshu also did not understand what had gotten over her. Thinking back on the way she portrayed herself in front of Tangning and everyone else, she suddenly questioned whether she had been acting all along and the current jealousy-filled woman was her true self.

"Luo Xing, I truly need you," Song Yanshu stood up and said with urgency, "I truly do."

Hearing these words, Tang Jingxuan finally turned around. But, at this moment, his mind was only filled with the injury-covered Xu Qingyan. Because he knew, Song Yanshu's so-called 'need' was merely a desperation to satisfy her unwillingness to admit that he had moved on.

"I'm sorry, but I think that there's someone that needs me more," Tang Jingxuan lifted his and Xu Qingyan's intertwined hands and looked at her in seriousness.

He then dragged Xu Qingyan out of Song Yanshu's sight with no hesitation whatsoever.

Song Yanshu fell back on the sofa in a daze as her hands trembled. Her past indecisiveness had blinded her from the importance that Tang Jingxuan held, and when she finally came to realization, it was already too late.

But...was it really too late?

...

In reality, Song Yanshu had no idea that her so-called 'need', would make Tang Jingxuan understand what he truly felt.

He finally understood who he truly needed, who he treasured and who he should protect.

"You must be really happy inside. Song Yanshu pleaded for you to take her back," Xu Qingyan pulled her hand away shyly as they left the hotel.

"To me, she already means nothing."

"Song Yanshu doesn't look like she will give up."

"Then I'm sorry. I may not be good at other things, but I am extremely stubborn. Once I've made up my mind, I will never turn back," Tang Jingxuan said in seriousness. "Let's go, I'll take you home."

Xu Qingyan's face was slightly flushed. But, it wasn't clear whether it was because of the lighting, or because she understood a deeper layer of meaning to Tang Jingxuan's words.

The two did not say a word as they drove. However, halfway, Tang Jingxuan received a phone call from Tangning.

"Sis...from now on, don't pass my information to people that have nothing to do with me."

"Even if I didn't tell her, she would have got it from someone else," Tangning replied calmly, "If Yanshu has become a burden to you, then I will make sure that you will never see her again."

"Sis...I'll handle this matter myself," Tang Jingxuan replied confidently. "You don't need to do anything. After all, you were once on really good terms with her. I know what to do. I just hope that she doesn't go overboard."

"Is Qingyan beside you?" Tangning asked.

"Yes, she's here," Tang Jingxuan replied honestly.

"Since you don't want me to get involved, then protect Qingyan well. She is not from the entertainment industry. Don't make her pay for something she's not a part of," Tangning said with a deeper meaning. It no longer mattered that Song Yanshu was great at her job and had sacrificed a lot for Tang Jingxuan in the past.

"I don't think Yanshu will go that far."

But, sometimes, women would do anything when it came to love.

As Tang Jingxuan and Xu Qingyan returned back to the Xu Household, they found Elder Xu and Father Xu sitting on the sofa in the living room. Father Xu initially wanted to release his anger on his daughter, but unfortunately, the man sitting next to him was a lot more powerful than him.

Xu Qingyan wanted to smile, but was too afraid to smile. Meanwhile, knowing that Elder Xu was around, Tang Jingxuan felt rest assured that Xu Qingyan would be safe.

"Go home, don't worry about me. If anything happens, I will give you and Ning Jie a phone call."

Tang Jingxuan nodded his head and left the Xu Household after giving his greetings to Elder Xu. As for Xu Qingyan, she headed straight for her bedroom after greeting her father and grandfather. However, upon entering her room, she screamed as she discovered that the doll that usually sat on her bed was torn apart and lying on the floor. As for the clothes in her wardrobe, they were all cut into shreds with scissors.

When she opened her shoe cabinet, she found that shards of glass had been left in her shoes...

And when she looked at her handbags, they were filled with blades...

The fire inside her boiled. Her first reaction was to go look for Ye Lan, but...just as she reached her doorway, she remembered what Tangning had said. She had told her that no matter what was to happen, she should not act on her own. So, Xu Qingyan immediately gave Tangning a phone call and explained everything that had happened in detail.

“Qingyan, although this definitely has something to do with Ye Lan, it may not be entirely her idea. After all, without your father’s support...”

There were some things that Tangning didn’t need to explain in detail; Xu Qingyan already knew. But, she felt quite fortunate to have Tangning’s support.

“What should I do then?”

“Don’t make a big fuss out of it. Secretly tell your grandfather what has happened. This would be better than igniting a war on your own. Qingyan, you must remember, everything you’re doing, is to protect yourself. Don’t just appear capable on the surface, you need to actually benefit from what you’re doing.”

“Once you seize power, you can protect yourself and the people around you.”

“I understand. Thank you, Ning Jie,” Xu Qingyan immediately understood Tangning’s words.

So, she did nothing until late at night when she gave Elder Xu a phone call.

“Grandfather...can you come up to my room for a second?”

“What is it? Aren’t we both in the same house? Why are you calling me on the phone?”

“Grandfather, don’t let father know I’m talking to you. Please.”

Hearing Xu Qingyan’s plea, Elder Xu got up and walked to Xu Qingyan’s room. As soon as he saw the mess on the floor, his face turned red in anger...

“Grandfather, please don’t get angry yet,” Xu Qingyan pulled Elder Xu over to sit on the sofa, “Let me say a few things first.” As she spoke, she pulled out the medical report from her previous visit to the hospital.

As soon as Elder Xu looked at the report, he was in shock, “Was this all caused by the creature that you call father?” Although Tang Jingxuan had already explained to him that Xu Qingyan suffered from domestic violence, he didn’t expect it to be this extreme.

“Ever since that woman married into the family, father has gotten worse.”

“Rubbish! What an animal!” Elder Xu yelled. “Don’t be afraid Qingyan, grandfather will stick up for you.”

“Grandfather, what I’m truly afraid of is the fact that that woman has already bewitched my father into no longer acknowledging our existence. There’s no way she would allow the Xu Family to live in peace.”

Elder Xu thought for a moment and eventually scoffed, "I never officially announced that I'd be handing Xu Corps to your father." Elder Xu had a plan, "Tomorrow, I will combine your shares with your mother's and place it all under your name. After that, you will have more shares than that monster."

"As for this entire house, grandfather will also give it to you."

Did this mean that she would have the right to kick Ye Lan out...?

Did it?

Chapter 556: Let's Raise The Ante

Over the next two days, 'W.H.' officially finished showing in theaters and wrapped up the season with close to \$2 billion in ticket sales. With this result, Tangning showed off her box office dominance. Combined with her results from 'Stupid', she officially became known as the 'Box Office Queen'.

One 'Stupid' and one 'W.H.' was enough to stabilize her foundation as a great actress. Even if she didn't end up receiving a Fei Tian Award, she was already seen as the best newcomer in everyone's eyes.

Of course, competition for the Fei Tian Awards was as fierce as ever. As a result, Ye Lan's fans went around slandering Tangning, claiming that the results were definitely influenced by Elder Mo in some way. After all, no one was willing to accept that their idol didn't compare to others. Although Ye Lan did not have a great personality, her acting was undeniably good, so it was only normal for her fans to be upset.

"If someone else receives the award, I won't mind. But, if it's Tangning, there's no way I can accept it. After all, Tangning and Ye Lan's acting is practically on the same level."

"These awards are getting worse each year. It's obviously rigged."

Over the next few days, there were plenty of discussions about who would be the winner of the Fei Tian Awards. After all, this year had the most suspense and competition was fierce. The public seemed to have become accustomed to expecting that whenever Tangning was involved, there was bound to be a good show. But, how could an actress that announced her retreat be deserving of an award?

"I feel that giving the award to someone that has retreated, is a mockery to those that are persistent."

"I have no comment about her decision to retreat, after all, everyone has their right to make their own choices, but...when it comes to an award, it should be given to someone that is serious and hardworking."

Because of Tangning's retreat, plenty of people had their opinions.

Although she continued to have films to release, retreating suggested that she had given up on being an actress, whether it be a temporary or long term decision.

...

Late at night, Song Yanshu was at home drinking wine and watching television. The entertainment news was currently focused on predictions for the Fei Tian Awards. As she watched, her eyes darkened with a trace of ridicule.

“Tangning won’t be winning an award this time,” a cold voice could suddenly be heard coming from behind her. Song Yanshu turned around to find that it was her fiancé. So, she immediately asked, “Why?”

“Because she’s retreated from the industry! Even being nominated is already an award enough for her. There’s no way that the organising committee will consider someone that has retreated.”

“Why does that even matter? There’s no rule against it,” Song Yanshu refuted.

“It’s insider information,” her fiancé replied as he sat down beside her and made a hush gesture. “Tangning can indeed act and Mo Ting is indeed powerful, but Hai Rui has no control over the Fei Tian Awards.”

“Although it hasn’t been officially recorded, it is an unspoken rule amongst the judges.”

“Have you not looked at the names of everyone that has ever won? Which winner has ever been someone that has retreated?”

“Someone that has retreated, will never win!”

“Does that mean Ning Jie will go home with nothing?” Song Yanshu sat up, “That’s impossible, President Mo has calculated everything carefully, there’s no way he wouldn’t know about this.”

“President Mo is impressive, but he isn’t flawless,” the man scoffed. “I would like to see how President Mo cleans up this mess.”

“Aren’t you really close to Tangning? You’re welcome to notify her of this result,” the man sneered before he returned to the bedroom, leaving Song Yanshu all alone on the sofa in a predicament.

Tangning was Tang Jingxuan’s older sister, but Tang Jingxuan...

Why should she continue to care about the family of the person she loved?

Plus, Mo Ting probably already had his plans. There was no reason she should implicate herself in the matter.

...

Late at night. Xu Household.

As soon as Elder Xu said that he’d transfer shares and the Xu Household to Xu Qingyan, he immediately got his lawyers to organize everything in secret. In other words, Xu Qingyan was about to become the new owner of the Xu Family home. If she wanted someone to leave, even Father Xu would have no say.

Father Xu and Ye Lan had no idea about what was happening. They assumed that Xu Qingyan’s silence was because she was too afraid to say anything, so they continued to act out of line.

Xu Qingyan did not mind. As per Tangning's words, Xu Qingyan already had everything, so why bother with Ye Lan over such petty things?

Meanwhile, Ye Lan wasn't an easy fire to extinguish. She had always had her small circle of friends and connections within the entertainment industry. As she was annoyed by being beaten by Tangning, she decided to contact one of her good friends.

"It doesn't actually matter whether I receive an award or not. After all, I am well aware that my acting isn't great. But Yang Jie is different, she is a true talent."

"If Yang Jie doesn't win this year, I will be the first to find it unfair."

Xu Qingyan and Tang Jingxuan had just returned home and were standing behind Ye Lan, listening to her start fires all over the industry.

They looked at each other, before Xu Qingyan gestured for Tang Jingxuan to go home first. Tang Jingxuan gently patted Xu Qingyan's head, completely ignoring Ye Lan. He knew, even if Ye Lan trained for another ten lifetimes, she would never outsmart Tangning.

After Tang Jingxuan left, Xu Qingyan walked over to the sofa opposite Ye Lan and sat down with a smile, "I still feel that the award should have been given to you. Look at the way you're acting right now, you were born with this talent."

Hearing Xu Qingyan's voice, Ye Lan put down the phone and stared coldly at the woman opposite her, "What? There's nothing you can do about it."

"Of course I can't do anything. But, Ye Lan, there's no way you can stop Tangning from winning. Even when you put in your best effort before...you weren't even worthy of being on the final nomination list!"

Ye Lan looked at Xu Qingyan with ridicule, completely disregarding her words. All she knew was, Elder Xu was bound to leave sooner or later, and when that time came, there'd be no one around to help her. However, Ye Lan had no idea that many changes were already taking place, right under her nose.

"Why don't we make a bet?" Ye Lan looked into Xu Qingyan's eyes at confidence, "I bet that Tangning won't win The Best Newcomer Award."

"What happens if she wins?"

"Let's raise the ante. If Tangning wins, I'll get a divorce with your father," Ye Lan laughed in ridicule.

"What do you think? Isn't this what you've always wanted?"

Xu Qingyan stared calmly at Ye Lan. After a few moments, she finally replied, "I'm not going to gamble with you, because I know you won't keep your word. But, I'm certain that Tangning will win. Whereas you...have already lost your chance."

Chapter 557: A Retreated Person Still Poses a Threat

"Xu Qingyan, I think it's best if you stop acting so arrogant. After all, Elder Xu is bound to leave some day."

Xu Qingyan brushed back her hair and stood up from the sofa with an amused smile, "Did you think that I still care at this point?"

She already had her trump card in her hand, when the timing was right...

...she was going to wait and see the expression on Ye Lan and Father Xu's face.

...

At this moment, inside the quiet hospital.

After all the suppression that Tang Xuan had gone through, she was currently being forced by Elder Tang to remain in the hospital and take care of her pregnancy. In reality, ever since the day that the caretaker told her that Tangning was also pregnant and that she could sell the news to the paparazzi, she had been making plans in her mind.

All she wanted to do right now, was escape from the hospital. But, she was currently broke and the only thing that gave her any value was the information she held in her hands about Tangning's pregnancy.

Her desperation to escape and her hatred towards Tangning further increased after she saw that Tangning had been nominated for a Fei Tian Award and that the entertainment news constantly revolved around her.

But, she had no idea that this time, she was practically giving up on her entire life...

After all, Tangning's tolerance had a limit.

And Mo Ting and her child, was her bottom line...

"Over the past few days, Ye Lan's fans and Tangning's fans have been arguing like crazy."

After hearing the hospital staff gossiping about the entertainment news, Tang Xuan thought carefully to herself and finally decided not to sell the information to the paparazzi. After all, the paparazzi were hired by others, so they wouldn't be able to offer her much money, instead, they may even attract future troubles. So, in the end, Tang Xuan made Ye Lan her target. After all, Ye Lan must hate Tangning...

Ye Lan wasn't hard to contact. All Tang Xuan had to do was call her manager and say that she had a job offer. Tang Xuan had, after all, been the Big Miss of the Tang Family for many years; throwing a few big names into the mix wasn't difficult to do. However, as Ye Lan picked up, she was quite surprised.

"I am Tang Xuan. The eldest daughter from Tang Corps."

Ye Lan wasn't stupid; she, of course knew the status that Tang Xuan held in Tang Corps. But, because of Tangning, Ye Lan responded in an arrogant and disdainful voice, "Oh, it's you. I almost thought there really was a big job offer for me..."

"I have some first-hand information regarding Tangning. Do you want to hear it?"

Ye Lan found these words quite amusing, "Miss Tang, aren't you speaking to the wrong person? Why aren't you speaking to the media and paparazzi instead?"

“Because, I thought you’d be interested,” Tang Xuan’s voice was a little shaky. She actually wasn’t certain whether Ye Lan would take her offer.

Ye Lan swayed her legs as she nibbled on some melon seeds. She originally wanted to hang up on Tang Xuan, but thinking about the bad relationship between the two sisters, she wondered whether Tang Xuan actually had some important information to offer her.

“Set a price,” Ye Lan requested.

“\$2 million,” Tang Xuan was quiet for a moment before she thought of an amount that Ye Lan would be able to accept. In the past, this was merely the minimum price she would pay for a car.

But, things were very different now.

In fact, she was even worried that Ye Lan wouldn’t be willing to pay \$2 million. However, Ye Lan simply laughed; her laughter echoed through the phone.

“The once almighty Tang Family heiress is actually negotiating with me over \$2 million.”

“Isn’t this a joke? Miss Tang, how did you become so pitiful...?”

Tang Xuan endured the humiliation as she clenched her fists and asked patiently, “Are you going to buy it, or not?”

“Of course I’ll buy it. \$2 million is just a pair of earrings for me. To swap it for some important information is well worth it. But, keep this in mind Miss Tang, if the information you give me isn’t worth anything, then I may be even more ruthless than Tangning,” Ye Lan warned.

“I would like to receive the money first, in case you don’t keep your promise.”

“That’s fine. I know you’re poor; the entire Beijing knows it!” Ye Lan agreed swiftly. Afterwards, she instructed her assistant to deposit \$2 million into Tang Xuan’s bank account. And of course, after Tang Xuan received the money, she passed on the information she knew to Ye Lan.

Ye Lan was dumbfounded...Tangning was actually pregnant.

But, what did that have to do with her?

Ye Lan didn’t know whether to laugh or cry.

Did she just waste \$2 million to buy something that only the media would be interested in?

Ye Lan held onto her phone in deep thought. In the end, she decided to give her friend Yang Xi a call.

Since she had first-hand information and had already paid \$2 million for it, she had to find a way to best utilize it. She couldn’t possibly provoke Mo Ting, but she could offer the information to another competitor as a favor. A competitor like Yang Xi.

This actress often existed amongst the gray areas with a strong gang-related backing. Only this woman’s man had the guts to compete with Mo Ting.

So, Ye Lan directly contacted Yang Xi, “Yang Jie, I have something to tell you. I heard that Tangning’s pregnant, I’m not sure if it’s true or not.”

Yang Xi was older than Ye Lan, but she was younger than Tangning by a couple years.

She came from a poor family background, so she relied on her gang connections to slowly get to where she was. Within the industry, she was often feared by others. She originally started her career as a singer, but she never got famous. So she tried to pursue a career in the Korean and Japanese market, but then returned to China and changed careers to become an actress.

Because a lot of money had been invested into her, the Fei Tian Award was very important to her. Only with the award in her hands would she be able to continue advancing in her career.

Tangning was undoubtedly the obstacle that she feared the most.

How could someone that had retreated from the industry pose such a threat?

After careful consideration, Yang Xi finally made a decision. She accepted Ye Lan's favor, even though she knew that Ye Lan's intent was not innocent.

As a result, she found out that Tangning was pregnant!

What would be the result of this battle?

The entertainment industry had always been a vain place. Everything that one did was simply to increase their status. After all, once one experienced the ecstasy of being chased by fans, one would know how addictive the feeling of being worshipped is.

...

Of course, when it came to the Fei Tian Awards, Mo Ting was well aware of what the judges were thinking. He also knew that retreating from the industry appeared to be a very immature decision in their eyes. So, Tangning was held back from being completely acknowledged. But, he was never one to be unprepared. Even if everyone was in a panic or waiting to watch a good show, Mo Ting remained as calm as ever!

Of course, he was completely prepared.

At this time, Mo Ting suddenly received an invite from 'Originality's' Charity Event. This well-known charity actually decided to invite Tangning at a time like this!

Because Tangning had been to many charity events in the past, she had no reason to reject this one...

Chapter 558: Tangning's Out Of Luck !

'Originality' was a well renowned international company that only invited the most influential people. So, those that received invites were naturally those that were admired by others.

The invite was like an acknowledgement that a celebrity's popularity was enough to influence others.

As Tangning's manager and husband, it didn't seem right for Mo Ting to reject the invite...but, he was also worried about Tangning and the baby in her stomach

Although they had already made a decision to announce Tangning's pregnancy, he did not like things that happened beyond his control.

Plus, attending this event would mean that Tangning would have to make a long journey.

As soon as Tangning saw the invite, she knew that Mo Ting would be worried. Especially since she was already 6 months pregnant. In fact, the longer that the baby was in her stomach, the more careful Mo Ting became.

"I've already asked Lu Che to reject the invite for you," Mo Ting explained beside Tangning's ear.

"Instead, I've asked Fang Yu to send them a donation as an expression of Hai Rui's sincerity..."

"...even though I know that attending this charity event would have helped your nomination for the Fei Tian Awards."

Tangning held onto her stomach as she smiled, "I trust your arrangements."

Mo Ting wrapped Tangning in his arms and placed his chin on top of her head, "Are you annoyed that I've made the decision on your behalf?"

"You are my manager. Everything you do is for my own good. On top of that, you are my husband. I believe that you simply want to protect me," Tangning replied gently. Perhaps she hadn't realized, but she probably trust Mo Ting more than she trust herself.

"The 'Originality' Charity Event is being held all the way in The Netherlands and requires a long travel time. Most importantly, as soon as you leave my sight, I can't help worrying about you. I get so worried that my heart aches," Mo Ting wrapped his arm around Tangning from behind and gently stroked her cheek, "These past few months have been the most calm and peaceful months since our marriage. You're beautiful and capable. I'm starting to worry that keeping you at home will drive you crazy from boredom."

Tangning was quite surprised by these words. Because she was pregnant, she had become quite lethargic and hadn't realized that she had slightly neglected Mo Ting...

Thinking of this, Tangning grabbed onto Mo Ting's hand and placed it on her chest, so he could sense her heartbeat, "Did you know that I still love you like crazy?"

"So, whether it's a life filled with excitement or a life filled with simple pleasures, as long as you are by my side, I will feel at ease."

"Just like how your hug is the most warm and safe place I have ever experienced."

After hearing Tangning's words, Mo Ting remained silent for a few minutes.

No matter how strong a man was, they would weaken in front of their lover and sometimes overthink things.

"Are you not ready to be a father?"

"Don't worry, you are going to be the world's best father."

Mo Ting nodded his head and suddenly changed his mind as he gave Lu Che a phone call.

What had he and Tangning not experienced?

So, he regained his determination. Even if there were things that he was afraid of, as long as he still had the energy to hold on, he would still be the same ruthless Mo Ting that everyone feared.

...

The man supporting Yang Xi was a famous philanthropist. However, everyone knew that his background wasn't completely clean. It turned out, Tangning's invite to the 'Originality' Charity Event, was planned by this man. Whether Tangning was pregnant, one look would be enough to determine.

Ever since the nomination list for the Fei Tian Awards was released, Yang Xi diligently studied the films of her competitors.

The other three competitors progressed through the industry like textbook examples, but Tangning was different. She flew past all obstacles and gained a popularity that still existed even though she had retreated.

Tangning's capabilities; Tangning's methods; everything about Tangning gave off a sense of danger.

So, Yang Xi was a little scared as her desire to win became heightened.

"Yang Jie, we've confirmed that Tangning will be attending," Yang Xi's manager gave her a phone call to notify her.

"That's good..."

"But, I heard that President Mo will also be accompanying her," her manager emphasized. "Should we think of a way to distract him?"

"If you have an idea, then go do it."

Yang Xi had heard that Mo Ting doted on his wife, but she didn't believe it. After all, she had never witnessed it in person and she didn't believe that genuine love still existed. Especially within the entertainment industry; wasn't everyone just playing a game with their bodies and seeking benefits?

"If Hai Rui is at risk of going bankrupt, I refuse to believe that Mo Ting will continue to stay by Tangning's side."

Yang Xi needed a chance to prevent Tangning from winning the award. If Mo Ting was to come along, then he'd get in the way.

As soon as the manager heard this, she immediately made arrangements. But, was Hai Rui so easy to shake up? Especially for someone as insignificant as Yang Xi's manager?

Yang Xi grew up in rough conditions and had followed the gangs for many years. When it came to underhandedness, she knew every trick in the book. Over the years, she had learned a lot in secret, including how to anaesthetize a person and how to make people put their guard down.

So, it wasn't like she had never seen a smart person before. But, she refused to believe, just because they were smart, they'd be able to escape her trap.

Her motive this time was simple...she was either going to force Tangning to withdraw her nomination...or she was going to make Tangning lose her child. Since Tangning had made things difficult for her, she wasn't going to make things easy for Tangning either.

If someone dared to compete with her, they would not end up well.

To her, miscarriage was a normal occurrence. Perhaps, the conditions in which she grew up in, had given her this uncaring attitude towards life.

Regardless, the main focus at hand for Yang Xi, was to find a way to lure Tangning to her...

...

To prevent themselves from being discovered, Mo Ting and Tangning disguised themselves and decided to depart Beijing for The Netherlands one day in advance. After arriving, the couple quickly settled into their hotel room. Of course, under Mo Ting's careful protection, Tangning did not get bothered by anyone at all. But, he had no idea that danger was slowly closing in.

Meanwhile, over at the Xu Household, Ye Lan was already celebrating her victory.

Even if Tangning didn't get defeated, she would at least be able to witness a good fight.

Did Tangning want an award? No way!

Xu Qingyan noticed Ye Lan humming happily to herself and glared at her with disgust. It was obvious that she had done something sinister and was celebrating by herself.

Just as Ye Lan stood up to leave the living room, she noticed Xu Qingyan standing behind her, "What? You can't bear to see me happy?"

Xu Qingyan did not say a word as she stared calmly at Ye Lan.

"You just wait, there's a good show on its way...Tangning's out of luck!"

Chapter 559: I Wouldn't Be Playing This Game With You

Out of luck!

If she was referring to someone else, Xu Qingyan may have believed her, but she was talking about Tangning who had pulled through multiple battles and handled so many obstacles with ease. So, Xu Qingyan couldn't help but wonder who was truly out of luck.

She already had the trump card in her hands and was merely waiting for her enemy to reveal their hand first.

...

The 'Originality' Charity Event was to be held at the Emperor Hotel in The Netherlands. Tangning and Mo Ting had already checked in ahead of time, but they did not manage to avoid the preparations that Yang Xi had made at the hotel; she had already been waiting for Tangning's arrival.

Tangning was indeed pregnant. Even though she concealed it well at the beginning, now that she was 6 months pregnant, it was no longer so easy to cover up.

Seeing this, Yang Xi's first impression of Tangning was that she was a difficult opponent.

Of course, no one in the industry was easy to deal with. Especially as their status got higher, their EQ and versatility was bound to be high too. And Tangning was a special example.

Everyone knew that she made a clear distinction between love and hate, yet some people still decided to provoke her. This was because, for people like Yang Xi, they did not believe that true friendships existed in the world, especially not in the entertainment industry...

But, although Yang Xi disliked Tangning, she had never looked down on her. After all, her history and background was even less impressive than Tangning's.

So, now that her enemy had arrived, was it time for her to deliver the gift that she had prepared?

It seemed, she had people watching Tangning round-the-clock. So, as soon as Mo Ting stepped out of the room, a hotel staff immediately rang Tangning's doorbell, "Madam, I have a gift for you. The lady that asked me to bring this to you, specifically instructed that you not show this to your husband."

The hotel staff gave a slight smile as he finished. After leaving behind a letter, he quickly turned and left. Tangning picked up the letter and noticed underneath her name were a few lines of text: "If you want me to keep your secret, then tear up this letter after you finish reading it".

Tangning quickly figured that the person that wanted to play with her, wasn't a professional. The fact that they delivered the letter as soon as Mo Ting left, immediately revealed to her that they were spying on her.

Regardless, what secret did she have that couldn't be revealed to others?

The enemy seemed to think they were smarter than they really were.

Even so, Tangning still opened the letter after a thorough examination of the envelope and its contents.

As soon as she opened it, it simply read, "Meet me 7pm tonight at The Queen's Ballroom, I will be sitting beside the window waiting for you."

There was no name on the letter, so it was hard to guess who it came from, but Tangning found it quite amusing.

A moment later, Mo Ting returned to the room to find an amused smile on Tangning's face. So he also smiled and asked, "What are you looking at? I haven't seen that look on your face for a while."

Tangning directly handed the letter to him.

After taking a quick look, Mo Ting threw the letter aside, "Why are people's methods becoming less and less creative?"

Tangning wrapped her arms around Mo Ting and chuckled, "Their methods are indeed lousy, but it still managed to attract your attention, didn't it? Since, they want to play a game with me, then let's play."

“I’m just afraid...”

“Ting...don’t worry. Both our baby and I aren’t made of paper; we are strong!”

Normally, during situations like this, Mo Ting would simply stare at Tangning helplessly. But, even though he knew that the enemy was at a disadvantage, Tangning was 6 months pregnant. So, as her husband, he wished he could stand in front of her and shield her from all forms of attack. How could he not be worried about her?

However, Mo Ting was always the one to give up in the end.

7pm, Tangning arrived at the ballroom right on time. As she walked in, she realized her enemy had wasted a lot of energy just to see her.

The ballroom was well guarded with bodyguards every few steps. Seeing this, Tangning began to develop a strong sense of danger.

What did this person have planned?

Yang Xi sensed a change in the expressions around her, so she turned around and followed their gaze. As soon as she spotted Tangning standing in the doorway, she stood up and pulled out a chair for her. She was obviously a woman, yet she elegantly pulled off a gentlemanly gesture. This was perhaps the only aspect about her that Tangning still liked.

So, the person was none other than Yang Xi!

“You’re here. Please, sit down.”

Yang Xi noticed that even though there were so many bodyguards around, Tangning did not look intimidated whatsoever. She directly walked past them like they did not exist.

“I wonder why Miss Yang wanted to see me so urgently.”

As Yang Xi watched Tangning sit down, she pointed to Tangning’s stomach with her chin, “Miss Tang seems to be pregnant.”

Normally, famous celebrities would feel pressured by marriage and pregnancy.

So, Yang Xi naturally thought that Tangning had remained quiet about her pregnancy because she was afraid to let people know about it. But, to her surprise, Tangning’s expression remained unfazed. She simply looked like a happy mother-to-be. Of course, her mind did not stop trying to figure out what was happening.

“Yes, I’m about 6 months pregnant.”

“Why haven’t you announced it?” Yang Xi asked curiously.

“Miss Yang, why don’t you get straight to the point and tell me your motive. Sitting here like this will make both of us awkward. Plus, my husband is about to return to the room,” Tangning noticed Yang Xi was trying to build up the conversation, so she didn’t want to waste her efforts and directly asked for her motive.

“Miss Tang, look at you, you’ve got both fame and fortune. Plus, you’ve got a powerful husband and a cute child on the way. I’m sure you could do without a piece of decoration like the Fei Tian Award.”

She was finally getting to the point.

Tangning smiled and looked at the bodyguards as she asked Yang Xi, “You organized so many bodyguards. It couldn’t be because you’re afraid of me, right?”

“Miss Tang, since I’m speaking to an intelligent person, I won’t go around in circles. I am giving you two options today: either you tell Mo Ting to withdraw your nomination for the Fei Tian Award, or you won’t be leaving here today. I know that Mo Ting is powerful, but there are plenty of people here. Even if he appears, he may not have the ability to take you out of here, don’t you think?”

“You put in so much effort to get me here. Is this all you’ve prepared?” Tangning glanced at the bodyguards and turned back to Yang Xi, “If it wasn’t because we are in The Netherlands and I am unfamiliar here, I wouldn’t be playing this game with you.”

Yang Xi was a little surprised...

Tangning’s expression at this moment was completely different to the gentle aloof woman just a moment ago.

“That’s because, in comparison to those that go around in circles, you are a straightforward person. I like straightforward. So, do you want your child, or do you want the award?”

“My methods may be simple, but, I managed to get you here, didn’t I?”

“Since you’re here, it won’t be easy for you to get out.”

At this moment, a sinister look appeared on Yang Xi’s face...

Chapter 560: Mo Ting’s Acting

“It’s not like I’ve never dealt with a pregnant lady before. My assistant once had a relationship with my manager, so I directly gave her a slap. Who would have thought that a small action like that would cause her to have a miscarriage. As you can see, life can be quite fragile, don’t you think?”

After speaking, Yang Xi stood up and walked over to the floor-to-ceiling window, “I actually thought of multiple ways to lure you here today. Including many complex schemes...”

“But, I thought, you’ve been in the industry for so many years, what schemes have you not experienced?”

“So, rather than overcomplicating things, I decided to use the most simplest method. Perhaps, simple may work...”

“After all, intelligent people hate it when others offend their intelligence, and you are the Queen of intelligence.”

“You don’t need to worry about President Mo returning to the room. He has his own troubles to deal with.”

After listening to what Yang Xi had to say, Tangning glanced down at her stomach and thought for a moment. Afterwards, she lifted her head and said calmly, “Why can’t you let the Fei Tian Awards remain fair?”

“Even if I withdraw and you have one less competitor, when you finally hold the award in your hands, will you feel that it is as great as it originally was?”

“I’m happy to give up on the award. But, do you really think that you’ve won? We aren’t professional critics or judges. Don’t you want to compete fairly and see who wins?”

Yang Xi stood beside the window unmoved by Tangning’s words, “Perhaps we are after different things. Plus, I know you like lecturing people!”

“You are an heiress of the Tang Family. Even if you lose everything, you still have Tang Corps. Plus, you also have Mo Ting and Hai Rui. On the other hand...I can only rely on myself to advance one step at a time. Did you think it is really that great to be the woman of a gangster?”

“You don’t understand how it feels to constantly worry that if you make one wrong move, your corpse may end up being thrown into the wild!”

“So, any chance I get to free myself from this life is important to me.”

“Make your decision. There’s no point wasting our breaths on useless chatter.”

“We are both simply trying to survive.”

Tangning looked at the woman in the distance. For a moment, she actually felt like she could relate to her. But, that didn’t mean that Yang Xi had an excuse to hold her hostage and threaten her.

“Your situation deserves sympathy, but your actions prove that you are no different to the gangster that you speak of,” Tangning tried her best to remain calm. “Anyway, even if I agree to withdraw from the Fei Tian Awards, I still need to contact Mo Ting first so he can arrange it.”

“Tangning, do you think I’m stupid? You are famous for being sly. The best thing you can do, does not require Mo Ting’s involvement. You simply need to take a few indecent photos and that will be enough to disqualify you from the award.”

Yang Xi crossed her arms and turned to Tangning with a smile, “You’re right. This is the type of world I was brought up in and this is the type of game that I play. So, I can change my mind at any time. It’s best that you put that little brain of yours away and forget about retaliating.”

“Where’s Mo Ting?”

“Don’t worry. As long as you do as I say, I won’t make things difficult for him,” Yang Xi said as she raised her eyebrows provokingly.

“You may be in control of this game, but if I don’t see him safe and sound, you won’t get anything from me. Everyone in the industry knows how I am: I’d rather die with glory than live with dishonor. If you

want to kill two people, I will be happy to accept the challenge,” Tangning looked firmly into Yang Xi’s eyes.

Yang Xi looked at Tangning and believed that she would indeed do anything.

And she knew, if something actually happened to Tangning, she would also be in trouble...

“Fine...”

“You can do what you want to my child and I, but you can’t afford to touch Mo Ting,” Tangning’s voice turned cold.

Yang Xi was extremely confident. After all, she had already made careful preparations from the moment that Tangning checked in. It seemed, controlling Mo Ting wasn’t a difficult thing to do.

However, there was one thing she didn’t consider. If Mo Ting could handle such a powerful business empire, then there was certainly no problem he couldn’t resolve.

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At this very moment, in the underground carpark.

As Tangning wasn’t used to some of the products provided by the hotel and Mo Ting couldn’t trust others, he had personally driven to the local supermarket to buy a few things that Tangning usually used.

However, as he drove into the carpark, he sensed something unusual behind him.

He did not alert them to his realization straight away. Instead, he held onto his shopping bag and carefully observed the situation.

There were more than a couple people trailing him...

Mo Ting focused on his surroundings. As he looked around, he noticed a pay booth. So, he deliberately weaved himself back and forth through the cars until he eventually lost them.

The guys that were trailing him were in a panic as they looked everywhere for signs of Mo Ting. But, apart from the exit to the hotel, there was nowhere else he could have escaped to...

So, they began to suspect that Mo Ting had run out the exit. They immediately jumped into their car and rushed towards the exit, only to be stopped by the boom gate at the pay booth. At this time, a man wearing a hat reached out his hand and asked for their parking ticket. But, his hand could not reach their car.

“Don’t you have legs? Can’t you stand up and stretch?”

The attendant was quiet for a few seconds, before he turned and revealed that he had a missing arm, “I’m sorry, not only do I not have legs, I also have a missing arm.”

The men bickered amongst themselves before they finally placed the parking ticket into the attendant’s hand. They then drove out the exit.

Of course, after their car swerved away, the one-armed attendant revealed a cold glare and immediately made a phone call to the hotel security.

Don't forget, Elder Mo had once said that Mo Ting's acting was not bad...

...

"Miss Yang, we've lost the man that you asked us to trail."

Of course, Yang Xi ended up receiving news that Mo Ting was no longer under surveillance. But, of course, she couldn't reveal her frustration on her face.

So, she calmly said to Tangning, "He...is already in my hands..."

"Impossible. I can see the lack of confidence in your eyes," Tangning responded.

"Even if I didn't manage to capture Mo Ting, you are still in my hands. You can try to not co-operate, but I can force you," Yang Xi put down her phone and looked at the bodyguards. "Two of you, come here."

"I can directly give the organizers of the Fei Tian Awards a phone call and withdraw from the nominations. I'm pregnant, aren't you afraid something may go wrong if you continue like this?" Tangning tried to delay Yang Xi. "You simply want the award and I simply want to protect my child."

"No. You still have a chance to compete with me in future. Why should I let a strong competitor off the hook?" Yang Xi said in a resolute manner.