

# You Owe Me, My Love Novel Chapter 371

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## Chapter 371 Refuse To Admit

Wu Nian was left with no choice, so she sat down beside Gu Mingchen, with Su Xuyan opposite her.

“We’re playing show hand. You know the rules?” Stephen amiably asked.

“Yeah, I know. But I’m not good at it.” Wu Nian let off an awkward smile.

“It’s okay because we’re not good at it either. Every call has a minimum charge but no upper limit.” Stephen wickedly explained.

The mention of “no upper limit” made her knew they were playing it big.

However, she had an advantage because show hand was all about playing with luck and psychological warfare.

“Hope everyone will show me some mercy,” Wu Nian said.

Stephen burst into laughter hearing what she said. He gave out the cards.

Wu Nian did not look at her hidden card. Her face-up card was an A, Su Xuyan’s was a J and both Gu Mingchen’s and Stephen’s was a K.

Because they had lesser players, they played with a French-suited deck of 32 cards, consisting of 7, 8, 9, 10, Jack, Queen, King and Ace in four suits each.

Every time Wu Nian initiated a call, she’d raised the lowest bet. In the last round, Wu Nian’s cards face-up were AQJ10, and Gu Mingchen’s was KKQQ. Stephen gave up at the third round as he had a low hand of 107Q. Su Xuyan’s cards face-up were K101010.

Wu Nian stole a glance at her hidden card and put it back without an expression.

“Three of a kind, tens. It’s Xu Yan’s call,” Stephen said.

“The two of you are betting on a K. If one of you has a hidden K, then the other one doesn’t have it. I’m betting ten thousand. But I don’t have that much cash with me. Perhaps I could use a cheque?” Su Xuyan asked.

“Cheque? I have spare cash with me, so you can just transfer me a hundred thousand,” Stephen said.

"Sounds good." Su Xuyan then transferred to Stephen.

Stephen went to get some cash upon receiving the transfer.

Gu Mingchen folded his cards.

Wu Nian smiled. "Mr. Su, do you think one hundred thousand is enough? I'm betting a million."

Su Xuyan was a little stunned. He glanced at Wu Nian and asked, "there's already three Ks faced up, are you sure you're betting this much?"

"You can doubt me but just give me a million, Mr. Su." Wu Nian calmly replied.

Su Xuyan frowned. He took a glance at Wu Nian and another glance at Aaron.

Aaron didn't make any expression but only a soft smile.

"Are you sure you're gonna let your girlfriend do that?" Su Xuyan asked him.

"As long as she's happy, I can afford that," Aaron affectionately responded.

Gu Mingchen looked at Aaron coldly. His peaceful gaze had a hint of rage. His expression only cleared when he withdrew his gaze.

Su Xuyan lifted an evil smile on his face. He covered his cards and looked at Wu Nian. "You're a girl, so I don't want to scare you. You're the winner for this round."

"Thank you." Wu Nian showed Su Xuyan her hidden card. It was an 8.

Su Xuyan laughed.

Stephen came over and saw everyone's cards covered up. He curiously asked, "So who's the winner? What's your hidden card, Wu Nian?"

"An 8."

"Amazing. You're nowhere inferior to us," Stephen applauded.

Su Xuyan threw a stack of notes to Wu Nian. "I admit defeat."

On their next three rounds, Wu Nian didn't get good hands. She folded after she drew the third card every round.

She watched the cash flowing on the table.

Every round's bet was at least ten thousand.

In the fifth round, Wu Nian's cards face-up were JQ910 after five draws. Gu Mingchen's was 10QJK, Su Xuyan's was 88KK, and Stephen folded after two cards which were 8K.

"Ten thousand," Su Xuyan said.

Gu Mingchen folded his cards.

Wu Nian took a glance at him.

Gu Mingchen looked back at her with a darkened gaze.

She thought Gu Mingchen gave in to her deliberately.

"One million," Wu Nian said.

Su Xuyan frowned. "You're doing this for real?"

The ends of Wu Nian's lips curved up into a grin. "To you, you're playing with your own money. But to me, I'm not at a disadvantage even if I lose, yet I get to earn money if I win. So tell me, do you think I'm playing it real?"

There was a flash of disgust in Su Xuyan's eyes as he looked at Aaron.

Aaron shrugged his shoulders. "The woman I love is indeed smart."

Su Xuyan pulled a forced smile. "One million, I'll give it to you."

Wu Nian flipped her card over and it was an 8. She had a set of straight 8910JQ, while Su Xuyan only a pair. He lost.

Su Xuyan smiled. "Great job. I'll transfer it to you. Send me your account number. My mobile number is..."

Su Xuyan used the cards to form his phone number on the table.

Wu Nian did not bother to hold back either and immediately texted him Liu Yan's account number.

Su Xuyan saw Liu Yan's name on the account number he was given. He knitted his brows and looked at Wu Nian.

"It's the same as we're very close," explained Wu Nian.

Su Xuyan puckered his lips as he transferred the money over and then showed Wu Nian the text.

"I don't feel like playing anymore, Aaron. I'm a little tired," said Wu Nian as she turned to Aaron.

Aaron left a kiss on her forehead. "Go and rest, goodnight."

Wu Nian reciprocated with a similar peck on his forehead. "Goodnight, darling."

Su Xuyan frowned because he realized Wu Nian wasn't Bai Rong after their interactions.

Then, he sized Gu Mingchen up.

Gu Mingchen looked down. He didn't seem to have a change of expression. It was as if he was not involved with the happenings around him.

Su Xuyan felt a little discouraged.

He tried to sound him out a couple more times, but he did not get an answer he wanted.

Wu Nian went back to the room to find Liu Yan looking at her phone mysteriously. "Nian, it's weird. My account has an extra one million all of a sudden. What should I do? Should I report it to the bank to return to its owner?"

"I just won that and it's my gift to you. You'll need it when you go to Dartan."

"You won it? Shen Yiyan just gave me ten million so I've got enough money. You should keep it yourself. You could neither be a doctor nor a psychologist now, and your salary's not high too. On top of that, you can't use your savings from before." Liu Yan got more worried as she went on.

"I'll be working as a tutor for Gu Mingchen, so I won't have too many expenses."

"Forget about that. Gu Mingchen is such a temperamental guy, so who knows when will you get fired? I was intending to leave a few million for you before I leave."

Wu Nian held onto Liu Yan's hands. "I won't get fired this time, I promise."

There was a sudden bang outside at this moment.

Wu Nian and Liu Yan jumped up in shock.

"What's going on? Is Stephen playing with firecrackers?" Liu Yan asked.

Wu Nian had a bad feeling. She was just playing cards with Stephen a while ago so it can't be him.

She opened the door and looked down.

The main door had been kicked open. A group of masked men dressed in black barged in from the main door. They looked skilled as they held onto their submachine guns...

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### Chapter 372 His Concern Or My Heartache

"Find the person on the photo, and kill the rest of them."

Wu Nian saw at least ten masked men running up the stairs. She was flustered.

She kind of figured it out that they were either after Liu Yan or herself.

This meant the others were in grave danger.

She looked to Gu Mingchen subconsciously, and her eyes were full of worry and heartache.

Gu Mingchen raced out and snatched a gun from the leader's hands. He then pointed it towards his head and said, "Get your men to leave, else I'll shoot right into your head."

The leader looked angrily at Gu Mingchen and shouted, "Kill him!"

His subordinates immediately fired upon hearing his command.

Wu Nian locked the doors.

"Nian, what's happening outside?" Liu Yan sounded worried.

"There's no time to explain. Hurry, help me push the cabinet to the door." Wu Nian instructed while moving the cabinet.

Liu Yan immediately gave her a helping hand.

Wu Nian rushed to the windows and looked out. "It's not too high, I think it'll be fine to jump out from here with a blanket. Yan, you go first."

"Why?" Liu Yan was puzzled.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

The sound of doors banging was becoming more apparent.

"Hurry, jump now," Wu Nian hurried Liu Yan while covering her with a blanket.

In no time, Liu Yan jumped out from the windows.

Wu Nian then quickly covered herself and jumped down too. She held onto Liu Yan and ran off.

"Nian, what exactly happened? I need to know the truth please" Liu Yan asked in a worried tone.

"I don't know. I only saw a bunch of armed men rushing in and firing," Wu Nian replied.

"Then, Gu Mingchen..." Liu Yan's heart stopped for a second, but she didn't continue as Wu Nian's expression darkened.

Wu Nian pulled Liu Yan to the back of the villa and made her hide behind the bushes. "Don't come out no matter what happens. Do you understand?"

Liu Yan held onto Wu Nian's hands and her eyes reddened. "Where are you going?"

"Nothing must happen to you because Bao's still waiting for you to go home. If Gu Mingchen and I die, I'll leave Yanny in your care," Wu Nian instructed.

Tears immediately rolled down Liu Yan's cheeks.

The word "die" was too cruel.

"Please don't go," Liu Yan begged.

"Remember to hide well. You're our only hope." Wu Nian pulled off Liu Yan's hand and disappeared into the dark.

The gunshots had gotten more intense in the living room.

Gu Mingchen got hold of a gun. One of the men shot straight into the leader, killing him. After Gu Mingchen killed a few of the masked men, the rest of them resorted to using over ten submachine guns and pointed towards him.

The couch Gu Mingchen used as a protection to hide behind was now full of bullet holes. The leader's body, which he had used as a shield, was also pierced till hollow from the gunshots.

That group of masked men stood together as a troop and move forward in an orderly manner.

Everybody else was in grave danger. They could not move at all because any movements might cause numerous unwanted shots to them.

Those men used high-speed machine guns too, which were much more powerful and dangerous than the submachine guns. It could shoot through any couches, tables, or even brick walls.

At this crucial moment, a car crashed straight into the men holding on to the high-speed machine guns.

The shooting angle was shifted as a result and hit a hole in the wall upstairs, causing pieces of the wall to fall.

Wu Nian continued to maneuver the car towards the men and destroyed their formation.

Gu Mingchen rolled over his back and found the high-speed machine gun. He fired at the enemy.

A bullet flew towards the direction of the side windows while Wu Nian was reversing the car, and it shot right into her shoulders.

She moaned in pain, but continued reversing before she accelerated in full speed towards the house.

Gu Mingchen chanced upon the right timing and fired towards the men. Within five minutes, there was only a handful of the masked men left escaping.

While Wu Nian was reversing the car again, a masked man suddenly jumped in front of her. He aimed right into her head and fired.

Wu Nian quickly curled herself down. The bullet flew over her head and through the back window.

The man then pointed at her head again and fired another shot.

Gu Mingchen saw that and immediately threw the gun he was holding on towards that man without thinking of his own safety.

That man was hit in his head and fell onto the ground.

Gu Mingchen was worried about Wu Nian. He ran towards her with all his might and ignored the surroundings.

That man, still conscious, then raised the gun and aimed right at Gu Mingchen's head.

"Bang!"

Gu Mingchen turned around to find that man dead.

He looked in the direction where the bullet came from.

Aaron raised the gun he was holding and smiled at him.

Gu Mingchen nodded and rushed towards the car. He opened the car door to find Wu Nian with an arm covered in blood. "Wu Nian."

Hearing Gu Mingchen's voice, Wu Nian looked up with a ghastly pale face. She tried to endure her pain and pulled herself together. "I'm fine."

"Squat down." Gu Mingchen instructed as he picked up the gun on the ground and rushed in.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Su Xuyan killed another masked man standing inside.

Gu Mingchen rushed in and immediately killed another two. "Spare the last one."

Su Xuyan then slowly pointed his gun at Gu Mingchen. He squinted his eyes that were filled with rage and anger.

Aaron saw something fishy. He looked at Su Xuyan weirdly while slowly shifted the gun towards his arm, with the red laser deliberately turned on too.

Su Xuyan saw that red laser on his arm and shifted his sharp gaze, which was filled with anger, to Aaron.

Aaron just smiled at him politely.

The masked man caught hold of this situation and quickly aimed at Gu Mingchen.

Gu Mingchen was alert enough, and aimed at the masked man as well.

The man furrowed his brows. He knew there was no way out for him, so he pointed the gun at his temples and shot himself to death.

Gu Mingchen threw the gun and ran to the car to carry Wu Nian out. "Where's Liu Yan? I need the first aid kit," he demanded in a worried tone.

Aaron ran over as well. "Nian."

"Is the crisis resolved?" Wu Nian was very weak as she had lost too much blood.

"Yes. The enemy has been wiped out." Aaron was heartbroken.

"Liu Yan is hiding in the bushes behind the villa. Take good care of her as she has never been through such situations," Wu Nian instructed.



“You talk as if you’ve experienced it many times, but you’re the only one injured.” Every word Aaron said sounded like he was berating her, but his tone was actually full of affection.

Wu Nian smiled and jokingly replied, “I got hurt on purpose, so you’d care for me.”

Wu Nian then felt an increased pressure on her upper body. She pursed her lips and looked at Gu Mingchen.

He looked like he didn’t do it on purpose as he avoided looking into her eyes. He walked towards the room, placed her on the bed, and looked down at her. “Do you really need to get injured in exchange for his concern?”

“I’m kidding. He’ll still care for me even if I didn’t get hurt,” Wu Nian explained.

“So you’re getting injured because you want his concern? Or was it because you wanted me to feel the pain?” Gu Mingchen asked seriously.

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### Chapter 373 Why Risk Your Life

Wu Nian’s heart skipped a beat. Her breaths came in rapid, shallow bursts as she explained, “I honestly didn’t injure myself on purpose! I didn’t see someone shooting at me from the side. I’m not that foolish.”

“Then stop doing foolish things! Why did you risk your life to come back?” Gu Mingchen roared. His eyes were bloodshot from the pressure accumulating within him, threatening to explode.

Heaven only knew the fear he had just experienced. When Gu Mingchen caught sight of Wu Nian behind the wheel of the vehicle that was charging in, his mind had gone numb with terror.

Wu Nian lowered her eyes. Her long eyelashes hid whatever expression was dancing therein.

Gu Mingchen sighed inwardly. Why on earth did Wu Nian risk her life to come back?

She could easily have fled with Liu Yan!

“I...” Wu Nian began falteringly.

"I'm not interested in your explanation," Gu Mingchen cut in with a low voice. He then stood up and looked back down at the woman.

He knew he would not be satisfied with whatever her reply was.

Coldly, he turned and walked out the door. He stood beneath the old locust tree and lit a cigarette, his hands still trembling from his earlier agitation. He inhaled deeply, then expelled a thick cloud of smoke.

I've finally found her after so long! After so long...

"Can I have a joint?" Stephen suddenly appeared beside Gu Mingchen, interrupting his thoughts.

Gu Mingchen passed the man a cigarette. Stephen lit it and took a deep breath, then peered at Gu Mingchen through the halo of smoke. "Do you know why I stopped painting ten years ago?" he asked.

Gu Mingchen glanced at Stephen. "You lacked inspiration? Or did you no longer need to use art to express your emotions? Did your feelings diminish with time?"

"Bingo!" Stephen exclaimed. "You know me best. You hit the nail right on the head! My life was so peaceful and uneventful that even when I racked my brains thoroughly, I still couldn't manage to produce a single realistic painting. It was a never-ending cycle of drawing, then destroying what I'd just made. There was no point to it. However, I've just felt the impulse to paint again!"

"Because of what had happened?" Gu Mingchen inquired.

"I suppose that's one of the reasons. That gunfight just now made me feel as if I'd died and resurrected. I thought I was dead for sure! But everything changed when I saw that girl's steady gaze. She didn't fear for her own life, only that of others," Stephen said, reminiscing fondly.

Gu Mingchen knew in his heart that the girl Stephen was referring to was none other than Wu Nian.

At the thought of the woman's equanimity in the face of death, Gu Mingchen's heart lurched. However, he hardened his emotions and muttered, "Childish! Foolish!"

"We'd all be dead now if it not for her. Don't be angry. Few others share her boldness. She could have successfully escaped with her friend, but she came back to save us! Doesn't that prove that we, or at least one of us, are more important to her than her own life?" Stephen reasoned.

Gu Mingchen looked thoughtfully at the artist. From the corner of his eye, he saw Aaron bringing Liu Yan over. "Has the first aid kit been prepared? Has the police been notified? Get the yacht ready," he ordered.

"Everything's ready. You can go in and take a look at her." Before Stephen even finished his sentence, Gu Mingchen had already pushed his way in.

Liu Yan dashed over to Wu Nian. Tears brimmed from her eyes when she saw that Wu Nian's sleeve was drenched with blood. She flung herself on her knees beside the bed, begging, "Nian, please don't die."

Wu Nian had merely closed her eyes to rest. At the sound of her friend's pleas, she opened them and said to Liu Yan assuringly, "Don't worry. I'm not going to die. I wasn't severely injured and only got shot in the arm. I'll be fine once the bullet's out. In fact, I'll recover in a week! Don't cry."

"I'll get it out right now. I recall we have anesthesia here somewhere," Liu Yan quickly rummaged through the first aid kit and held the anesthetic up.

"It's my right arm that's hurt. You can use the brachial plexus block," Wu Nian gently reminded.

The other woman nodded and injected the anesthesia in one smooth motion.

The anesthesia required a minute to take full effect. Liu Yan wept as she cut open Wu Nian's sleeve and poured disinfectant on the wound to cleanse it.

"Don't cry. There's no use crying," Wu Nian sighed as she used her other hand to dab at Liu Yan's tears.

Liu Yan sniffed as she said, "Su Xuyan said that the photographs those people were carrying were of me. They came for me! This wouldn't have happened if I hadn't been here."

"It didn't begin with you. It won't end with you either. At the end of the day, you're only another innocent victim in this mess. These people have their own organizations and laws to follow. It wasn't your fault, okay?" Wu Nian comforted her friend.

Liu Yan nodded and wiped at her eyes with a napkin. She pinched Wu Nian's arm lightly. "Do you feel anything?"

Wu Nian shook her head.

Liu Yan proceeded to remove the bullet from Wu Nian's arm. She then expertly disinfected and bandaged the wound.

"Are we leaving now? You'll still have to go to the hospital. It won't do for you to get a fever," Liu Yan admonished.

"We'll have to ask the chief if it's convenient to sail at night. If not, we can't force them to do so either," Wu Nian said obediently.

"I'll ask." Liu Yan darted out to look for Stephen.

Stephen was still smoking under the old locust tree when Liu Yan found him.

"I've operated on my friend, but I'm still worried that she'll develop a fever. Can you send us back tonight?" Liu Yan queried.

"Of course. I'll arrange for a vehicle to transport both of you to the dock," the man replied readily.

"Also, it was all because of me that you almost lost your lives. I'll compensate you for all the monetary losses you've incurred here," Liu Yan continued apologetically.

"Forget it. I'm not all that poor. I'll see you on Saturday night," Stephen retorted.

"All right. See you Saturday night then," Liu Yan agreed.

When she returned, Gu Mingchen was standing at the doorway, peering into the room with dark eyes. He wore a thunderous expression as he bit his lip furiously.

Aaron was holding on to Wu Nian's left hand and saying mournfully, "You've saved my life once again."

"We're all in the same boat, so it was only natural for me to do so," Wu Nian replied modestly. Her gentle voice rippled through the room like a warm spring.

Aaron gazed longingly at Wu Nian, then bent down and planted a kiss on her forehead. "You're my hero!"

Hero?

Wu Nian found Aaron's term of choice rather peculiar.

Aaron's expression softened. "I'll stay behind today. You must leave with Liu Yan first. I'll call you tomorrow. I have something I want to give to you."

Wu Nian nodded. "Call me."

Liu Yan brushed past Gu Mingchen and reentered the room. She then announced to Wu Nian, "Mr. Stephen said we can leave now."

"OK," Wu Nian attempted to get off the bed. Before she could do so herself, she was instead swept up in Aaron's arms and carried out of the room.

As the trio passed Gu Mingchen, he muttered, "Those people who came here were from an organization named Invisible. The big boss of that organization is probably Shen Yiyuan."

Liu Yan gaped at Gu Mingchen. "Are you saying Shen Yiyan sent men to capture me and kill all of you? How can that be? Shen Yiyan was the one who brought about our partnership in the first place!"

"I can only tell you this much. Who knows whether it was Shen Yiyan who sent those men or whether his subordinates decided to do this of their own accord?" Gu Mingchen stated icily.

"I'll ask Shen Yiyan right now," Liu Yan fumed. Drawing out her phone, she uncovered each masked man while furiously snapping photos. She sent them all to Shen Yiyan for his perusal.

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### Chapter 374 Your Life Is Tied Up With Mine Now

The moment Shen Yiyan received the photos, he immediately called Liu Yan.

"What's all this about?" the man demanded.

"Shouldn't you know better than me? Master Shen, if you don't like me, tell me to get lost to my face. I'll be sure to put a great distance between us and stay out of your sight," Liu Yan remarked sarcastically. "You can send all the men you want to capture me, but why must you harm my friends?"

"I'll give you an explanation," Shen Yiyan asserted, then immediately hung up.

Wu Nian looked at Liu Yan and observed, "Shen Yiyan may not have ordered this. Perhaps it was an underhand move by one of his subordinates."

Liu Yan's eyes reddened with tears as she looked at Wu Nian. "He's the boss of that organization, yet one of his subordinates wants to kill me? Don't dogs take after their owners? Even if it wasn't Shen Yiyan himself who commanded it, he must have allowed it nonetheless. He's A City's commander-in-chief! Who would dare defy him?"

"Yan, nothing is that simple," Wu Nian sighed, exhaling deeply.

"I want to leave," Liu Yan's eyes were clouded with tears. She strode ahead without another word, not wanting to reveal too much in the presence of Aaron.

Wu Nian instantly understood what her friend meant.

For the past two years, Liu Yan had suffered at Shen Yiyang's side. She hadn't even wanted to be with him in the first place, and this incident only strengthened Liu Yan's resolve to leave him.

Wu Nian fully supported her decision. Assassinations like this, once set in motion, could hardly be halted. It was too dangerous for an innocent maiden like Yan to remain by Shen Yiyang's side.

Aaron placed Wu Nian gingerly on the sofa, chiding, "It'll be morning when you disembark. I have a few friends in Xenhall who I've called to pick you up and send you home. I won't be able to rest at the thought of you two girls all alone."

Wu Nian shook her head. "Please don't trouble your friends. I've already arranged for someone to pick us up. We'll be safe! Don't worry about us."

"It's no trouble at all. It's my duty. You're my girlfriend! Give me a chance to take care of you," Aaron said tenderly.

"I'm not rejecting your offer, but I think you know who Yan is. The fewer people there are who know about Yan's identity, the better. Someone will come to pick us up. When we arrive safely, I'll be sure to give you a call," Wu Nian promised.

Seeing that Wu Nian was set on her decision, Aaron decided not to pursue the matter. He smiled faintly and nodded. "I'll be waiting for your call tonight then. Don't keep me up worrying."

After Aaron stepped off the yacht, everything whirred into action. Onboard with them were the helmsman and the steward.

Liu Yan stood at the bow, staring out at the vast, endless ocean. Her heart was abnormally heavy.

Wu Nian knew of the tumult that was stirring within Liu Yan. She refrained from calling out to her. Perhaps some time alone would do her good.

Half an hour later, Liu Yan sought Wu Nian, taking a seat beside her. The former then declared, "I have to ensure I get to work with Mo Xue this time."

"Shen Yiyang is clever and subtle. No one can get past him or even figure out what he's thinking. If he agreed to let Bao travel with you for a month, he must have some other schemes in mind," Wu Nian said thoughtfully.

"What should I do then?" Liu Yan cried out dazedly. "I don't ever want to live with him again. I'm afraid of him! And I'm afraid Bao will grow up to be exactly like him."

"You should leave. Leave when Shen Yiyang isn't expecting you to," Wu Nian urged.

"As long as I take Bao with me, Shen Yiyang's guard will be up," Liu Yan said resignedly.

"Then he mustn't know that you've taken Bao," Wu Nian reminded with a crafty gleam in her eye.

"What do you mean? What should I do?" Liu Yan cried.

"This Saturday is Mo Xue's daughter's birthday party. Many people will attend and so will Stephen. As A City's commander-in-chief, it will be difficult for Shen Yiyang to make an appearance. He won't be expecting you to escape then," Wu Nian began slowly.

"What about Bao then? I won't be able to bring him along with me to the party. You know as well as I do that Shen Yiyang's manor is strictly guarded. Aunt Yang and Aunt Zhang are always on the lookout for things to report! Besides, they don't usually bring Bao out of the grounds either," Liu Yan fretted.

"The ideal plan would be for you to leave first. Stay in Dartan for a year to settle down first. Shen Yiyang will focus all of his energies on looking for you. That'll give me a chance to get Bao out," Wu Nian reflected.

"Shen Yiyang will never forgive you! I can't do that. Perhaps I should wait until I've negotiated this collaboration. Shen Yiyang promised to let me bring Bao along for my travels."

Wu Nian knew Liu Yan feared for her. However, the more her friend sacrificed for her, the more troubled Wu Nian felt.

It was 4 a.m. when they arrived at Shen Yiyang's manor.

After Liu Yan had gone to sleep, Wu Nian immediately called Aaron.

"Have you gotten home safe?" the man asked the moment he answered the call.

Multiple thoughts flashed through Wu Nian's mind all at once.

She wanted to ask him for help, as he was a member of Ustrana's royalty after all. However, Wu Nian did not see how she could return this favor.

"We're home, Aaron. Are you coming back tomorrow?" she probed tentatively.

"Yes, I am. Don't expect me too early, though. I might even be rather late," Aaron said apologetically.

"See you tomorrow night then."

Aaron chuckled. "OK, I'll see you tomorrow night. It's getting late, and you're injured. You should quickly get some rest. Goodnight, sweet dreams."

"Goodnight, sweet dreams," Wu Nian replied wistfully.

She hurriedly took a shower after the call ended, careful not to get her right arm wet. By the time she lay down, it was already 5 in the morning. She soon drifted off to sleep.

She was roused the next day by the growling in her belly. When she opened her eyes, it was already past 3 in the afternoon.

After quickly washing up, Wu Nian headed out of her room in search of Liu Yan.

The moment the door swung open, she caught sight of Shen Yiyang reclining on the sofa. He was wearing a white shirt with black accents and had an air of cruelty about him. Shen Yiyang had another man pinned, kneeling, on the floor. With one hand, he extended a gun to Liu Yan, saying calmly, "Do whatever you want to him."

Liu Yan didn't have the capacity to kill a chicken, much less a human being.

She crouched down next to the man kneeling before them. "I won't kill you, but I want to know why you wanted to capture me so badly, even to the extent of killing my friends."

The man turned to Liu Yan with a scornful look on his face. Vehemently, he scowled, "Because you're not good enough!"

The moment he uttered those words, Shen Yiyang directed a violent slap to the man's face.

The man fell over onto his side from the force of the blow.

Towering above him, Shen Yiyang said in a hostile tone, "You don't get to decide whether or not she's good enough. That's up to me."

A peculiar gleam shone in the eyes of the man. He suddenly reached out and grabbed the gun from Liu Yan's hands. Belligerently, he pointed it straight back at her.

Shen Yiyang immediately stood in front of Liu Yan, shielding her. His frigid glare was firmly locked onto the man lying before him.

"Commander-in-chief, she's not worthy of your protection. You're causing your own ruin!" the man cried out in agitation.

At that, Shen Yiyang clenched his jaw, his gaze as cold as steel. "I'll spare you if you put the gun down now," he commanded.

"I'd rather die," the man replied simply. In a flash, he turned the barrel of the gun towards his own temple and fired. His eyes were still wide open when he sprawled dead onto the floor.



Shen Yiyao quickly turned and buried Liu Yan's face in his chest, not allowing her to witness the gruesome sight. "I'll never let anything like this happen ever again," he swore.

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### Chapter 375 Stay With Me Tonight

Liu Yan pulled Shen Yiyao's shirt so forcefully that her shoulders seemed to be trembling slightly.

Seeing that, Wu Nian turned around and did not go in.

She was sure that Liu Yan was not touched but merely overwhelmed with emotions.

Wu Nian used to live an ordinary life that was peaceful and quiet. All she needed to worry about back then was the trivialities of life. Nevertheless, most of her memories were having fun and hanging out with friends without much concern.

But now, she found herself trapped in the world of royal family and politics.

Utterly dispirited, Wu Nian drove to the hotel where the auction was held before. She remembered that Aaron lived there on the way, so she took out her phone and called him.

"Hey, Aaron, this is Wu Nian. Are you back yet?" Wu Nian asked softly on the phone.

"Sorry, I'm still on the ship. I bet I need another four hours to reach the hotel. Let's have dinner together tonight." Aaron's warm voice came from the other side of the phone.

"Alright."

"How's the wound on your arm?" Aaron naturally expressed his concern.

"It's better. Anyway, I'll see you tonight then." Wu Nian's eyes started brimming with tears as her mind recalled Liu Yan's reaction back there.

She wiped her tears and took a deep breath. Then, she stopped by the hospital first to change the gauze on her arm and was given two more bottles of ointment. Before leaving the hospital, she called Aaron again.

"I was just about to call you too. How coincidental is that?" Aaron answered the phone with a grin.

"I'll wait for you at the entrance of the hotel." Wu Nian went straight to the subject.

"Please head to the restaurant on the fourth floor and have a seat. The ambiance is great over there. Go on and order whatever you want. You don't have to wait for me as I need another half an hour." Aaron instructed gently.

Wu Nian's lips curled slight into a smile.

If she met Aaron ten years ago, she would, without doubt, fell in love with him. He would be the perfect boyfriend.

Unfortunately, her heart was now bruised, battered, and abandoned on a deserted island. Her only wish now was to take good care of Yanny.

Just ten minutes after she arrived at the hotel restaurant, Aaron appeared, all haggard and smelling like the ocean. That man had not slept for two nights. However, the dark circles under his eyes did not lessen his charisma by the slightest bit.

"Sorry for the wait." Aaron pulled up the chair and sat down, handing her the menu like a true gentleman. "Could you please order? Stephen's cook left, so I didn't eat much for breakfast and lunch. Go on and order as much as you could."

They had a decent meal last night as Xia He had finished preparing dinner by noon yesterday. She was worried that Gu Mingchen would notice that she was gone. However, Gu Mingchen did not show any unusual reaction yesterday.

Either that, or she was never certain of what was on his mind anyway.

Anyway, it was all good as long as Gu Mingchen did not act on Xia He. It did not matter whether he had deliberately let her go or he did not realize that she had escaped.

"We'd like two filet steak sets, one Foie Gras, one fruit salad, two Blue Oceans, two Borschts, a portion of chicken wings, a portion of French Fries, and a snack platter. Thank you." Wu Nian skillfully ordered the meal and glanced at Aaron. "Is there anything else you want?"

"These really suit my taste," Aaron replied politely while handing a blue square jewelry box to Wu Nian.

Wu Nian looked at Aaron, puzzled.

"I told you that I have something for you, so you must accept it," Aaron uttered softly.

Wu Nian opened the jewelry box and saw a jade necklace inside. It looked like the one that Aaron won in the bid earlier, which he spent thirteen million on.

"Didn't your Grandma ask you to get this? I... I can't accept it." Wu Nian nervously shut the jewelry box, pushing it towards him.

"My Grandma had a jade necklace previously, and she gave it to her eldest daughter-in-law. My mother didn't have one, so she asked me to buy one for my wife... and that's... you." Aaron smiled and gazed at Wu Nian with burning affection in his eyes.

A flash of anxiousness appeared in Wu Nian's eyes. "I have only met you for a few days. Won't it be too early for such a decision? You will have to be responsible for your decisions. After all, you still don't know me well enough."

"I'm more afraid that you'll end up with another guy." Aaron snickered.

"If that happens, it means that I am not meant for you. And although this necklace is for your wife, it makes a huge difference whether you or your Grandma gives it. Besides, the timing matters as well – whether it was given before or after marriage. I think what your grandmother wants is respect. Thus, if I decide to marry you one day, I will be anticipating this necklace from your Grandma, not as a gift, but as an approval." Wu Nian explained solemnly.

"The more I get to know you, the more I like you. What should I do?" Aaron responded with a sigh.

"Couples always tend to be infatuated with each other when they start going out, and that's all because of dopamine. You'll only see each other's good side. As time goes by, you will notice more and more flaws, to the point where all their strengths will become irrelevant. You'll only truly be in love with me when you have accepted all my flaws." Wu Nian responded to his confession with a half-hearted statement.

"Well, I look forward to that day." Aaron smiled and did not force her further.

As they are chatting, the waiters started to serve their dishes one after another.

Wu Nian had some food and did not feel as hungry anymore. Then she started talking again, in a more solemn tone. "There is something I want to tell you. But before I say it, can you promise to keep it a secret?"

"Of course." Aaron agreed swiftly without thinking.

"Are you aware that Shen Yiyang has a wife?" Wu Nian questioned.

"He is a young and outstanding president and politician of A City. Besides seeing him on TV, I have met him a few times in person. He is a charismatic man, and his wife is also very elegant and graceful." Aaron put out his comment.

“Liu Yan wants to take her child away from Shen Yiyang. As long as he has negotiated a deal with Mo Xue, Shen Yiyang promised to let Liu Yan bring the child traveling for a month, and that will be the best time for Liu Yan to escape. Are you able to help me?” Wu Nian requested sincerely.

“In that case, let them travel to Ustrana. I can’t do anything elsewhere. If they can come to Ustrana, I’ll make sure that they’ll disappear without a trace. Shen Yiyang will be absolutely clueless.” Aaron promised with a confident smile.

“Then I thank you for Liu Yan in advance.”

“But, I’d like to have a small request.” Aaron held Wu Nian’s hand.

“Yes?” Wu Nian responded readily.

“I’m your boyfriend. With Shen Yiyang’s wide connections, he must have heard about this. Now, if Liu Yan disappears in Ustrana, he would definitely link her disappearance to me. If you stay in A City, I’m worried that you will be in danger. In that case, why don’t you come and stay with me in Ustrana?” Aaron requested.

“But it’ll be more suspicious if I stay in Ustrana. No matter how formidable Shen Yiyang is, I doubt he would have me killed.” Wu Nian tactfully rejected the suggestion.

Aaron’s eyes dimmed as he lowered his head and kissed Wu Nian’s hand. “I admit that I’m still not good enough. After all, you’re still not convinced to leave home and follow me.”

Wu Nian felt guilty when he said that; it was as if she was using him. “I have four days off every month, so I will go to Ustrana every month until you want me to stop going.”

A look of adoration appeared on Aaron’s face just then as he touched her lips tenderly. “Stay with me tonight.”

## You Owe Me, My Love Novel Chapter 376

[/ You Owe Me, My Love](#)

### Chapter 376 Do You Want Him Or Me

Hearing his words, Wu Nian was stunned for a moment.

She was not a naive underaged teen, so she understood what a man meant by staying the night. It would most definitely not be just pure pillow talk.

She lowered her head, her fingers fidgeting under the table restlessly.

I... don't want to stay...

Meanwhile, Aaron was deeply attracted by how demure she looked, with her beautiful long lashes bright red lips.

He gradually got closer to her and gave her a peck on her eyelids. His lips then continued to inch down slowly until they found hers.

"Such a coincidence to run into you guys here." Gu Mingchen's voice coldly echoed from nowhere.

Wu Nian dodged instinctively. She then raised her eyes and met with Gu Mingchen's exceptionally dark ones.

His knitted eyebrows showed his unpleasantness, though the corners of his mouth were curved upwards slightly.

"Are you staying at this hotel as well?" Aaron asked politely.

"Yes, it's more convenient. Anyway, don't mind me. I won't be interrupting your evening." Gu Mingchen walked past them and sat down a little further away.

At that moment, Wu Nian was feeling awkward and uncomfortable, her fingers drumming the table nervously.

Just then, Aaron abruptly gave a soft chuckle.

Wu Nian looked at him, confused. "What's so funny?"

"You are a special woman. Though you look tough on the outside, you're actually a very shy person," Aaron murmured.

"Aaron..." Wu Nian called out his name but hesitated to further her sentence.

"It's ok. Just tell me if it's inconvenient for you today," Aaron said softly, seeming to detect her reluctance.

"Um... it's just that the culture here is so different compared to Ustrana. We typically have a more traditional thinking, especially when it comes to, you know, these sort of things... But of course, it depends on the individual..." Wu Nian paused for a few seconds.

"I won't force you," Aaron promised with a smile.

Upon that, Wu Nian's eyes flickered with a sense of security.

Aaron is the perfect man – a true gentleman, in fact. I could barely find any fault in him!

Frankly speaking, she would be more than pleased to be in a long-term relationship with him.

But on the other hand, the more perfect he was, the more burdened she became.

Ultimately, she did not have pure intentions when she started going out with him; to her, he was just her last strand of hope to keep living on.

"I'm sorry," Wu Nian apologized sincerely.

"It's alright. I was rushing into things, and I understand that you have your concerns. Maybe I'm not good enough. But I hope time can prove that I'm a good fit for you," Aaron grabbed Wu Nian's hand and said.

"I'm sorry," Wu Nian repeated with her head lowered.

Seeing how dejected she was, Aaron gave her a peck on the forehead gently. "You don't need to say sorry to me, ever. You know that I'm willing to do anything for you. Would you like to head to my room for a while?"

"Okay," Wu Nian responded readily.

"Waiter, could we have the bill please?" Aaron took out his wallet as he gestured for the server.

The waiter stepped forward and said respectfully, "Sir, the guest sitting over there has already paid for you."

Aaron turned his gaze towards Gu Mingchen, who had his back facing towards them. Even the aura from his back view was equally intimidating and aloof.

After that, Aaron took out some cash from his wallet and placed them on the table, "Please thank that gentleman for me, but I prefer to pay for my own order."

With that, he held Wu Nian's hand and left the restaurant.

Just then, Gu Mingchen turned around to glance at them from his table. Unable to control his emotions, his hand inadvertently broke the wineglass that he was holding. The glass shards pierced into the palm of his hand, and blood instantly flowed out, mixing with the red wine pouring out from the glass.

He immediately got up and walked with haste towards the entrance.

"Sir, the customer over there wanted to pay for his own order," the waiter explained.

"I only paid for the woman and me," Gu Mingchen replied abruptly without looking at the waiter.

Meanwhile, Wu Nian and Aaron were still waiting for the elevator.

Right that instant, Gu Mingchen appeared and stood behind her without a word. She had sensed his presence without even the need to turn her head, and she knew right away that it was him. It made her back turned stiff, and her breath became tensed.

At the same time, Aaron also noticed Gu Mingchen and greeted politely, "Mr. Gu, are you done eating already?"

"An accident happened earlier." Gu Mingchen gave a cold response and stared at Wu Nian frostily. "I recalled that Ms. Wu has some medical knowledge? You even dared to perform a reparative surgery on a partially severed artery before."

"Um... I know a bit, but I'm not exactly a professional," Wu Nian replied courteously.

"Would a bandage on a cut require any professional knowledge?" Gu Mingchen asked with a sarcastic tone.

Wu Nian peered at his hand and was shocked to discover blood dripping from it. Her heart tightened as she tried to find an excuse. "I could help you with it, but I don't have gauze, alcohol swabs, or any ointment with me. There is a drugstore nearby, so I think it's best to get them to clean it and bandage it up for you."

"It's fine if you don't want to help," Gu Mingchen responded frigidly, obviously displeased.

His unhappiness weighed heavily on her heart, making her feel bitter. She was befuddled why this man treated her without any respect.

Just then, the elevator door opened with a ding.

Gu Mingchen walked past the two of them and entered the elevator resentfully.

Wu Nian sighed helplessly at that. Regardless of how reluctant she might be, she really could not ignore him being injured without doing anything.

"I really don't have anything that could help you with your wound," Wu Nian repeated, only with more sincerity this time.

"Aaron, I don't feel like going to the drugstore or the hospital. Could you go and buy some gauze and ointment for me?" Gu Mingchen asked Aaron coldly.

Aaron smiled slightly, "Sure. Which room are you staying in? I'll bring them up for you."

"Room 1109. Thanks a lot."

Aaron looked at Wu Nian. "You should head to room 1109 first and wait for me there. See you later."

Wu Nian had no choice but to do as told.

Then, she followed Gu Mingchen to Room 1109 while Aaron went down to get whatever was needed.

Gu Mingchen opened the room and signaled Wu Nian to go in.

Wu Nian doubted if Gu Mingchen would do anything to her. However, his peculiar attitude definitely made her feel uneasy.

She entered the room cautiously. After that, Gu Mingchen followed in and shut the door behind with a loud bang.

Wu Nian's back stiffened again as she still tried to act professionally. "Let me clean up the wound for you for the time being."

Gu Mingchen sat on the couch and looked at her.

Hesitating to move, Wu Nian felt that Gu Mingchen was increasingly odd now.

"Didn't you say that you're going to clean up my wound? Why are you still standing there?" Gu Mingchen reproached solemnly.

Wu Nian took the napkin and stepped over. She gently grabbed Gu Mingchen's injured hand and wiped the bloodstains on it. It seemed like there were four cuts on his palm, one of which was quite deep until she could even see the flesh.

"How did this happen?" Wu Nian stared at Gu Mingchen in slight bewilderment.

He looked back at her with a complex expression. "I remember you mentioned that after you broke up, you left the city to heal your heartache. It sounded to me like you really loved your ex-boyfriend. But why does it seem to me like you're sleeping with another man soon?"

Wu Nian's face sank as she sensed Gu Mingchen's sarcasm, and she responded bluntly, "This is rather personal, so I don't think it has anything to do with you, Mr. Gu."

"Of course it does. My kid will be under your care pretty soon, so I am worried that your inappropriate lifestyle will be a bad influence on my son," Gu Mingchen complained without any shame.

"If that's so, maybe you shouldn't hire me as a home tutor then." Wu Nian felt offended.



Gu Mingchen then got up in a blink of an eye. Before Wu Nian could react, he charged towards her and held her down on the sofa. Their bodies were so closed to each other that it made Wu Nian hard to breathe.

He glanced down at her condescendingly. "Do you want him? Or do you want me? Think clearly before you answer!"

## You Owe Me, My Love Novel Chapter 377

[/ You Owe Me, My Love](#)

### Chapter 377 You Have My Permission

Wu Nian stared at him in shock and could not believe that such words would come out of his mouth. She was puzzled why he would say such a thing.

"I think you may have misunderstood, and I apologize for any behavior that caused this misunderstanding. All this while, I've never had any improper thoughts or, you know, weird desires about you. I just wanted a job that seems challenging. That's all." Wu Nian explained anxiously.

Gu Mingchen lifted her chin and brushed her lips softly with his thumb. "I don't care about what happened before. But from now onwards, you can imagine all you want."

Upon that, Wu Nian's heart thumped wildly in her chest. She scrutinized Gu Mingchen's face, trying to identify his real intention.

His tone was not frivolous at all, nor did he have any trace of lust in his eyes. On the contrary, there was a hint of anger lingering in those darkened eyes.

Is he testing me?

"I have a boyfriend." Wu Nian tried to push him away.

Regardless, Gu Mingchen continued to provoke, "Isn't two-timing a habit of yours?"

"What?" Wu Nian couldn't understand what Gu Mingchen meant.

"It's nothing." Gu Mingchen got up and sat back in his seat while locking his intense gaze on her.

Under his stare, Wu Nian was feeling even more anxious now. "I'll go check on Aaron."

With that, she rushed to the door.

"As far as I know, Aaron has a fiancée in Ustrana, and they're still together. You're too dumb to not know that," Gu Mingchen murmured coldly.

Wu Nian froze as she felt a blow to her heart.

She was aware that Aaron was not a particularly loyal person. It was only when she hung out with him a couple of times did she realize this.

The fiancée that Gu Mingchen mentioned must be the one Aaron spoke of earlier, whom he met through an arranged marriage.

However, even after learning this news, she was not upset. As a matter of fact, she even felt kind of relieved.

Maybe it was because of that, she felt like they finally broke even.

"I know what I'm doing. But I think you're the one who doesn't know what you're doing!" Wu Nian opened the door and stepped outside. After she came out of the room, she leaned against the wall and stared blankly into space.

"Are you waiting for me?" She did not realize it when Aaron appeared in front of her just then.

"Yeah." Wu Nian gave a short reply. She calmed herself down and grabbed the bag of supplies from Aaron's hand. After that, Aaron followed Wu Nian into the room.

Gu Mingchen was still on the couch after she left the room. The man emanated an icy cold aura, which would usually scare off people who tried to get close to him.

The bitterness in her heart had not yet subsided, but still, she walked over and squatted down in front of Gu Mingchen. "There's no need for you to help me with the bandage since I can do it myself. Besides, your arm is injured as well, so you should probably leave now."

"Why don't I do it instead?" Aaron asked politely.

However, Gu Mingchen rejected him, "It's fine. By the way, send my regards to Lisa for me."

Aaron froze for a while at his remark and responded, "Have a good rest then."

He held Wu Nian's hand, and they left Gu Mingchen's room.

As soon as they left, Gu Mingchen threw the things that Aaron bought to the floor.

I can't speak bluntly as I'm afraid she will run away. And I can't hug her and kiss her, yet I have to watch her leave with another man. This is killing me.

Meanwhile, Wu Nian had followed Aaron into the elevator, and he remained quiet the entire time.

From the way Gu Mingchen said it, she knew Lisa must be Aaron's fiancée.

"I have thought about it for quite a while, and I didn't know whether I should mention it to you." Wu Nian decided to break the silence.

Aaron looked at Wu Nian and spoke meekly, "I was thinking about the same thing. Anyway, ladies first, so please go ahead."

"I could continue to play dumb if I want the plan to go on smoothly. Yet my conscience won't allow me to do so anymore. I've not only used you but also hurt Lisa in the process. So I..."

"Lisa was the one I told you before – the one my parents introduced. We're engaged, but we both feel that we're not fit for each other. However, our marriage is related to two large families, so that's why we're delaying it.

"I will go back to deal with it and come back to you. Would you please give me a chance? I know that I shouldn't have lied, and perhaps, it is my fault to deliberately ignore the fact that Lisa is, in fact, my fiancée. But I am serious about you, about us," Aaron explained in advance.

Wu Nian turned away as her mind was in a mess. "I don't blame you because I'm not innocent either. Aaron, don't be rash and don't be fooled by the illusion in front of you. You should consider carefully what you want. People say time would heal the deepest wounds, but I don't think my heart may ever heal at all..."

"Well, lucky you, because my greatest strength just so happened to be patience."

"But what if it takes a lifetime? I'm afraid I no longer have the courage to love again." Wu Nian was truly concerned about this.

She was afraid that others would sacrifice meaninglessly for her. If she could never bring herself to love Aaron and yet affect Aaron and Lisa's marriage, she would definitely blame herself for a long time.

But at the same time, she also worried that if she rejected Aaron, he would refuse to help Liu Yan escape.

We are constantly battling with ourselves, unable to resolve it or get out. We can only keep trying and searching in this life, not knowing if our decisions or outcome is right.

"Even If I fail to make you fall in love with me after a lifetime, at least my life will be meaningful." Aaron held her shoulders and pulled her into his arms. "Wu Nian, you have been bearing too much burden. Sometimes, you don't have to worry so much."

Wu Nian lowered her head to hide the tears in her eyes.

It was all because she had gone through too much. If she could go back in time, she would choose not to drag anyone down.

Ding!

Right then, the sound of the elevator door opening interrupted their conversation.

"I booked an extra room earlier when I passed by the front desk. It's already late, and your arm's injured. Initially, I wanted to send you back, but I know you will reject the offer. But I am worried about you driving back alone. If you don't mind, you can stay here tonight. We will be in separate rooms anyway, so you should feel more comfortable." Aaron helped her to open the room door and inserted the room card into the wall slot.

"Thank you." Wu Nian uttered.

"I will go back to Ustrana tomorrow to deal with Lisa's matter. Will you accompany me back to Ustrana? Grandma may want to see you." Aaron proposed softly, without any confidence.

Wu Nian shook her head. "I need to help Liu Yan get this deal before she could take her children to Ustrana."

Aaron smiled. "I envy her so much. You have sacrificed a lot for her."

"That's because you don't know what she had done for me. Everything started because of me and should be ended by me." Wu Nian murmured guiltily.

"Baby," Aaron hugged Wu Nian's waist and said, "You should be happier, and you deserve all the happiness in the world. My heart aches to see you this way."

Wu Nian raised the corners of her mouth, forcing a smile on her face. However, there was clearly no joy within her. Even so, Aaron was even more drawn towards her as he gazed at her fondly.

"I will marry you," Aaron promised and then added, "that is – as long as you agree."

Before Wu Nian could respond, they heard the hotel's alarm bell beeping promptly.

She looked at Aaron, disturbed. "Is that a fire alarm?"

The second she finished her question, they saw Gu Mingchen appearing from the safety exit.

# You Owe Me, My Love Novel Chapter 378

/ [You Owe Me, My Love](#)

## Chapter 378 Good Morning

"Follow me. The fifteenth floor is on fire," Gu Mingchen uttered lowly as he swept a displeased gaze over the duo before turning away.

Wu Nian felt a rush of puzzlement when he gave her the cold shoulder.

Did he come all the way up here to inform them? When did Gu Mingchen become such an amiable person?

Wu Nian turned to Aaron with a bewildered gaze.

The man gave her a warm smile in response. "Although the fire is spreading upwards, the thirteenth floor might be affected as well. I figure that it will cause a commotion tonight. Why don't we change hotels?"

"You haven't slept for two days. It sounds like a good idea." Wu Nian nodded in agreement. "I'll help you pack your luggage. You should get a good rest."

"It's fine. I can organize things myself. Why don't you wait for me in the lobby?" Aaron replied gently.

Wu Nian did not wish to burden others if the fire were to spread. She quickly entered the corridor, and she soon noticed Gu Mingchen lurking around the corner. He looked livid. His bright eyes looked enraged, whilst his lips were pinched into a straight line.

I should have a proper conversation with him when I have the chance.

The full brunt of his rage seemed to be directed towards her. Under his scrutiny, Wu Nian felt a feeling of unease blossom in her heart.

She began to head downstairs, but Gu Mingchen clutched her arm in a firm grasp.

"I'll send you home," the man said darkly when they had descended to the fifth floor.

Wu Nian rejected his offer politely. "It's alright."

Her answer seemed to snap something within him. Gu Mingchen glared at her with a sharp gaze. "I insist on sending you back," he retorted.

She felt her temper flare upon his remark. "Mr. Gu, don't you think you're acting like a tyrant? I have my own free will to do as I please," she said curtly and shrugged his hand off her arm.

Gu Mingchen sidled closer as he noted her flushed face filled with anger. A flicker of anguish and pain flashed across his dark eyes when he saw her expression.

Wu Nian felt entranced by his gaze.

"Didn't you study psychology? You should be able to put yourself in my shoes. How do you think you'd feel if you were in my position?" Gu Mingchen murmured. His bright stare remained fixated intently on her.

"What do you mean?" Wu Nian spluttered in a moment of panic as she looked at him hesitantly.

"Are you playing dumb? You are an intelligent person. I'm sure you understand what I mean perfectly." He let out a bitter laugh.

Wu Nian felt a feeling of unease settle in her gut as she tried to brace herself. "Mr. Gu, please stop beating around the bush. If you think I want me to understand your implications, you should just cut straight to the chase."

The haze of rage in Gu Mingchen's eyes seemed to thicken when he caught sight of her stoic gaze. "What if I told you I like you? Would you run away from me?" he asked.

Wu Nian jolted in shock when she heard his confession as their gazes locked. Gu Mingchen likes Wu Nian? Should I be feeling delighted or sad?

She struggled to make a decision, feeling her cheeks flush warmly.

Although the man had feelings for Wu Nian, she was sure that his affection wouldn't last. Ultimately, Gu Mingchen would find his perfect partner. If he falls for another woman, I should be happy for him!

"I'm sorry, but I have a boyfriend. I'm sure I'm not the type Mr. Gu fancies. If you cannot change your feelings towards me, I will shift my own behavior and morals," Wu Nian replied coolly.

"I can't believe you were naive enough to trust me. It's good to be straightforward, however, you shouldn't waste your breath on such insignificant things." Gu Mingchen's tone was light despite the way his eyes were clouding over like a dark storm. The man then let out a curt chuckle.

"I don't need your judgment to determine my mistakes. Do you think you have the right to interfere with other's lives as you please? You should refrain from running your mouth so recklessly," Wu Nian snapped in anger.

Gu Mingchen remained silent at her outburst as he looked at her with a solemn stare.

She detested when he acted in such an aloof manner. Although she could not decipher his stony expression, he could still read her mood like it was an open book.

Disgruntled, she decided to end the conversation and descended the stairs.

The hotel lobby was packed with guests. "According to the footage from the surveillance cameras, a woman on the fifteenth floor triggered the smoke alarms because she set money on fire. Please remain calm. There's currently no existing fire hazard in the hotel," the hotel manager explained with a smile, attempting to reassure the frantic guests.

Wu Nian headed outside to call Aaron and inform him about the situation. "The hotel manager explained that there was a woman who set fire to money on the fifteenth floor. There is no imminent danger. You don't have to come down anymore," she told him over the phone.

"Okay, is the lift working now? I can meet you downstairs," Aaron asked tenderly.

"It's alright. I'm going to head home now. I'm still worried about Liu Yan. Thank you for your offer, though," Wu Nian declined politely.

"Alright then. I have a flight back to Ustrana at eight in the morning tomorrow. Since it's such an early flight, you don't have to send me off. I'll call you when I reach Ustrana. Remember to pick up the phone, alright? If you don't, I'm afraid I'll start to worry," Aaron joked with a chuckle.

"You should sleep early tonight. Good night."

"What should I do? I can't bear to wish you farewell," Aaron remained on the call as he peered out the window to spot Wu Nian's tiny figure beneath the maple tree.

Instinctively, the woman tilted her head to the fourteenth floor and caught sight of Aaron. "The pain of our parting is nothing compared to the joy of meeting again," she said.

"Goodnight. I'll watch as you leave," Aaron stated with a cheerful grin.

"Goodnight." At that, Wu Nian ended the call and headed to the parking lot. Quickly, she entered her car and sped off into the distance.

As she drove, everything that had occurred tonight kept resurfacing in her thoughts. More specifically, she was haunted by the incident that happened with Gu Mingchen in the hotel room. Additionally, her mind constantly wandered to the conversation that they had at the stairs.

The more she thought about it, Wu Nian couldn't help but realize that Gu Mingchen was acting strangely. His attitude and tone of voice were a stark contrast to his usual demeanor. It felt as if he had discovered that she was Bai Rong.

Yet, he couldn't have possibly discovered her true identity. She'd replaced her appearance, name, and records. Wu Nian had even gone to great lengths to change her DNA.

Where on earth did I make a mistake?

As she was lost in her thoughts, Wu Nian belatedly realized that she'd already returned to the manor.

Initially, she had plans to visit Liu Yan. However, she was halted by the manor's butler before she could enter.

"Ms. Liu and Mr. Shen are asleep right now," the butler informed her with a warm smile. "It's best not to interrupt them if there are no pressing matters."

Realization dawned upon Wu Nian. Shen Yiyang had an insatiable appetite whenever he visited Liu Yan.

Her heart sank in despair as she trudged towards the garden and gazed at the night sky.

Tonight, there was a bright moon and a sea of twinkling stars that hung in the sky. The moon and the stars seemed to keep each other company. It must be nice to have a partner by your side.

Her phone began to ring as she took a seat on the wooden bench by the lake.

She glanced at her screen and noticed an incoming call from Aaron. "Why aren't you asleep yet?" she asked the moment she answered his call.

"I was worried about you. Are you back home yet?" the man on the line asked gently. The tone of Aaron's voice was raspier and deeper than usual. He must be close to nodding off.

"I just reached home. I'm sorry for making you worry," Wu Nian apologized.

"It's fine. You should sleep early tonight."

Wu Nian's heart warmed when she heard Aaron's affectionate voice. "You too."

That night, she fell into an uneasy slumber and woke up around eight twenty in the morning. Quickly, she brushed her teeth and headed to the gardens for a jog. From afar, she spotted Gu Mingchen's lone figure seated on the wooden bench by the lake.



He had also taken notice of her.

Immediately, Wu Nian had a strong desire to jog at a different location. Yet, he'd already noticed her. If she ignored him and left the garden, it'd looked like she was running away with her tail tucked between her legs.

"Good morning, Mr. Gu," she called out with a forceful wave as she jogged over.

## You Owe Me, My Love Novel Chapter 379

[/ You Owe Me, My Love](#)

### Chapter 379 Why Are You Crying

Despite her greeting, Gu Mingchen remained as silent as a statue.

At his silence, Wu Nian smiled awkwardly and continued on her jog.

As she approached him on her second round, the man was still rooted to his seat. His body was hunched over his phone; Gu Mingchen paid her no mind.

Right at that moment, the morning sun was cast over his seated figure. The golden sun rays seemed to form a dazzling halo around his head. Furthermore, the strong light illuminated across Gu Mingchen's features cast an array of dark shadows across his bent head. It made the features of his handsome face appear more boldly.

Wu Nian's gaze softened as she looked at him.

When Gu Mingchen lifted her head, she averted her gaze in a haze of panic. Under the pretense of ignoring him, she turned her head away.

Slowly, Gu Mingchen lifted his phone in her direction and snapped a few pictures of Wu Nian.

The woman remained unaware of his actions as she jogged past him.

Quickly, the man opened another picture of Bai Rong and compared the two images.

They both had identical foreheads and head shapes.

Bai Rong had an oval-shaped head that wasn't flat. According to superstition, such a unique head shape originated from the infant's sleeping position. If the infant slept with his face towards the sky, the back of his head would turn flat. If he slept sideways, the infant would end up with a beautiful oval-shaped head.

A ponytail hairstyle looked beautiful on such head shapes.

The corners of Gu Mingchen's lips twitched upwards into a faint smile.

Bai Rong had undergone surgery on her eyes, lips, face shape, and ears. Only her nose remained the same.

Additionally, Bai Rong had a tiny round-shaped birthmark above her earlobe. It was so small that most people wouldn't notice it unless they observed it very closely.

He figured that Bai Rong herself did not realize about her birthmark. Hence, her ear remained untouched in the surgery.

Repeatedly, Wu Nian jogged around the garden in endless circles. Gu Mingchen was still seated on the bench. Not once did he approach nor glance up in her direction. He was still scrolling through his phone intently.

At her tenth round, Wu Nian noticed that the man had left the garden.

Curiously, she slowed to a halt and peered around her surroundings in search of him. Yet, she could not find Gu Mingchen anywhere.

She couldn't help but think that she was acting like a fool.

How ironic, didn't I say I want to keep my distance from Gu Mingchen? What am I doing now?

Wu Nian continued jogged for another ten rounds before she noticed Liu Yan walking towards her with a downcast expression.

She was exhausted from her jog. "Are you alright?" she asked Liu Yan worriedly.

"Nothing much has changed. I can only suffer and seethe in silence. I'm still waiting for the perfect opportunity to strike," the latter said helplessly. "Earlier, I saw Gu Mingchen and Shen Yiyan together. What do you think they were talking about?"

"Although Gu Mingchen has left the military field to pursue business, the real strength of his power lies in the country's regime. It is normal for Shen Yiyan to meet him. Besides, Aaron has agreed to lend a helping hand. As long as you visit Ustrana, he will help you vanish without a single trace," Wu Nian said to pacify Liu Yan.

"Shen Yiyan is a ruthless man. If I disappeared in Ustrana, he'd shift his suspicions to you and Aaron. He wouldn't show you any mercy," Liu Yan replied with concern.

"His wrath will change nothing as long as I keep my mouth shut. There is zero evidence. Furthermore, Aaron has a reputable reputation. Shen Yiyao would not dare to provoke him so rashly," Wu Nian comforted her with a grin.

"I pray he finds a new woman as soon as possible. I will be able to visit you the moment he leaves me alone," Liu Yan murmured as she lowered her gaze in misery.

"Let's not talk about such things anymore. There are many complications we cannot predict about the future. The birthday of Mo Xue's daughter is tomorrow. Have you prepared a gift?" Wu Nian asked, swiftly shifting the topic of conversation.

Liu Yan pursed her lips in deep thought. "I heard from Shen Yiyao that Mo Xue's daughter is a big flirt. Besides, she already has a target in mind. Rather than buying fancy jewelry or bags, it'd be better if we gift her something more sentimental," she said after a pause.

"That's a good idea. We could try it out. Do you know the man she fancies?" Wu Nian asked.

"Gu Mingchen." Liu Yan let out an exasperated sigh as her gaze darkened.

"Haha! He really is a two-legged toad," Wu Nian cackled aloud.

Liu Yan giggled at Wu Nian's hilarious joke. "If Gu Mingchen ever heard you call him a toad, I'm sure that he'd curse you to a painful death."

"This is why you have to tease him behind his backs. You can only joke around with people you trust." Wu Nian grinned in response, saying, "We can't let him find out."

"Gu Mingchen might be having lunch here today, and I have no wish to see him. Let's head out for a meal. You can help me brainstorm for gift ideas as well." Liu Yan swung her hand over Wu Nian's shoulder. "I'll be too scared to offer Gu Mingchen as a gift," she joked.

"Okay. Give me a moment to shower first," Wu Nian said as she wiped away the sweat on her face.

"Oh right! How are your wounds?" Liu Yan asked worriedly.

"The wound on my shoulder is just a minor injury. Earlier, it did not affect my run. I'll change the dressings when we head out later. I think the wound is healing up nicely," Wu Nian replied with a shrug.

"You're absolutely fearless, you know? I'll wait for you at the gate. I'm afraid that Shen Yiyao will come meddling later," Liu Yan said as she strode towards the exit.

All of a sudden, her phone began to chime. Liu Yan looked down to notice a call from Shen Yiyao. Instinctively, her brows furrowed together in annoyance. "Shen Yiyao, do you think I'm your mother? You're acting like an infant crying for milk. I've left for no less than ten minutes," she snapped irritably as she answered his call.

"Do you have milk?" Shen Yiyao retorted.

"I don't. Why don't you go look for someone else with milk?" Liu Yan sneered brusquely and ended the call.

Shen Yiyao dialed her number again. "Don't even think about stepping out of your room if you hang up on me again. You know I never make empty threats," he snarled.

Liu Yan knew he was fully capable of fulfilling his threats. Yet, what right does he have to terrorize me like that?

She felt her temper swell like a roaring fire. "You're the great General Shen with immense power and respect. How dare I end the call when you can kill me as easily as one would trample an ant? Talk then! I'll let you chatter on to your heart's content!"

Without another word, she tossed her phone into her purse and stormed towards the gate.

When Shen Yiyao did not receive a response from the woman, he clenched his jaw in fury. "Find out the Madam's location within a minute!" he instructed a butler.

"I will check the surveillance cameras right away." The butler nodded in response. Only the Madam would be able to invoke such terrifying anger from Mr. Shen.

Shen Yiyao was one step ahead of Liu Yan. He was already waiting for her by the exit when she arrived. His phone was still in his clutches as he glared at her and growled, "Liu Yan, am I being too generous? You threw a tantrum as soon as I called you. You even refused to pick up my calls when I forbade you from hanging up!" Shen Yiyao yelled furiously.

Liu Yan's expression dropped as she pulled out her phone and ended the call.

Shen Yiyao was stunned speechless by her actions.

"You're not allowed to go out today! You were asking for it!" He stormed towards her in a haze of fury.

Without hesitation, Liu Yan flung her purse at him and sank to the ground in a squatting position.

Her purse collided against Shen Yiyao, and he felt his anger flare even fiercer. Yet, he caught sight of the way Liu Yan lowered her head as her shoulders began to

tremble. Tears streamed down her cheeks to wet the cement pavement while she sobbed uncontrollably.

Immediately, his angry gaze melted into fondness as he approached her crying figure. "Why are you crying? You were the one screaming at me just now. How is it my fault again? Come on, stop crying. I have something to tell you," he said helplessly.

## You Owe Me, My Love Novel Chapter 380

[/ You Owe Me, My Love](#)

### Chapter 380 I Need You By My Side

Liu Yan pondered for a brief moment. It is a cowardly act to cry in front of him! Quickly, she wiped her tears and rose to her feet. "What do you want to say? Hurry, I want to leave after you're done talking."

Shen Yiyang frowned at the sight of her ferocious glower. "You aren't going to continue crying?"

"Who said I was crying?" Liu Yan denied stubbornly. "I was merely draining the liquid in my body."

"Draining the liquid..." Shen Yiyang chuckled, "You should be draining your stupidity instead."

Liu Yan had no mood to continue her conversation with him. She rolled her eyes and continued to head forward.

Left with no choice, the man reached out his hand to clasp her shoulder, bringing her screeching halt. "Why are you always so angry whenever we talk? For once in your life, can't you listen obediently?"

"It depends on what you have to say. You can't expect me to endure whatever you say like I'm a tree. Even the trees and flowers have feelings!" Liu Yan grumbled as she brushed his fingers away.

"Earlier, Gu Mingchen asked me if Bai Rong is Wu Nian. What do you think I should say?" Shen Yiyang asked in a hushed tone.

A flash of shock flickered over Liu Yan's features.

The last time she told Gu Mingchen that Wu Nian and Bai Rong were the same person, he hadn't believed her words. He had even argued against her logic!

Now that Wu Nian and Aaron are in a peaceful relationship, I don't want Wu Nian and Gu Mingchen to end up together again! If that man finds out about Wu Nian's identity, he'd never let her out of his grasp.

"What did you say?" Liu Yan questioned worriedly.

"What do you want me to say?" Shen Yiyan asked as he released his grip on her.

"Of course you should say she's not! If Wu Nian wanted to reconcile with Gu Mingchen, she'd tell him herself. She's keeping her silence because she doesn't want him to know!" Liu Yan exclaimed.

Shen Yiyan shot her a secretive look. His lips curved upwards as his eyes gleamed with mischief.

"Did you tell him?" Liu Yan asked tentatively with a feeling of unease.

"Did you think I would make the same mistake that you did? Gu Mingchen claims you were the one who told him Wu Nian is Bai Rong." Shen Yiyan cackled.

Flabbergasted, Liu Yan could not form a reply.

A crimson blush painted her cheeks as the man continued to tease her. "It was a slip of my tongue because I had too much on my mind. So, did you deny or confirm his suspicions?" Liu Yan asked him softly.

"I denied it," Shen Yiyan replied.

At that answer, she heaved out a huge sigh of relief as she beamed. "It seems the lying skills you've nurtured since you were young have paid off! You're an excellent liar!"

"Now that I've heard you talk, maybe I should have told him the truth after all. After all, Gu Mingchen is a useful pawn I can use," Shen Yiyan pondered out loud with a twitch of his lips.

"How can you act like this!" Liu Yan clutched onto his arm in desperation.

"I might change my mind if you treat me a little nicer. Besides, Gu Mingchen will owe me a favor if I tell him about Wu Nian. It's a win-win situation for me," Shen Yiyan stated with a languid air of satisfaction.

"Are you messing with me?" Liu Yan whispered fearfully.

"Come on. I want to hear something nice," Shen Yiyan sidled closer as he cocked his head to the side and angled his ear towards the woman.

Liu Yan glared at his approaching figure with revolt. "Will calling you handsome suffice?" she muttered.

"It's the truth. Hence it's not good enough," Shen Yiyang stated with a furrow of his brows.

Liu Yan giggled as she wrapped her hands around his neck to hug him. "You don't want the truth? Then I'll say I love you. I love you! I love you so so much. You are the only man I cherish the most. Hahaha! Isn't this what you want to hear? I can promise you it's a hundred percent fake."

The frown that graced Shen Yiyang's forehead deepened. "It seems like you're not taking a step out of the gate today," he said as he carried her in his embrace.

"No! Shen Yiyang, please put me down. I really need to go out today. It's the birthday of Mo Xue's daughter tomorrow. I need to buy a gift with Nian!" Liu Yan cried out as she tried to wriggle out of his arms.

"Gu Mingchen has already given me Stephen. With him out of the competition, I have nothing to fear." Shen Yiyang continued towards the villa despite her pleas.

"Even if Gu Mingchen doesn't exist, there's still Su Xuyan! You are ruining everything! I don't care! I'll still bring Bao on a vacation!"

Liu Yan's grumpy face in the corner of his vision reminded him of his frivolous childhood.

Shen Yiyang had been immersed in the political war for such a long time. He was constantly surrounded by people who wouldn't hesitate to stab him in the back mercilessly. As a result, Shen Yiyang was no longer the man he once was. Instead, he now resembled a cunning and wily snake. He could not afford to make the slightest mishap in fear of falling for his enemy's political trap. Many people had become victims of these deadly plots.

In order to maintain his position, the man had sacrificed his freedom, happiness, and his chance at marriage.

Only Liu Yan could help him glimpse into his past self. She was his sole source of happiness and freedom.

Even when she was angry, crying, or being stubborn, Shen Yiyang found that he still liked her with his whole heart. She was the only person that saw him for himself instead of treating him like a prince.

"I'll let you out if you kiss me," Shen Yiyang told her gently.

Reluctantly, Liu Yan planted a kiss on his cheek.

"Don't run around recklessly, alright?" Shen Yiyang said profoundly as he set her down and patted her head with affection.

Liu Yan stuck her tongue out at him in a childish manner before dashing off towards the gates.

Shen Yiyao stared at her diminishing back as she ran away. There is no way I will let her leave my side. Without Liu Yan, I'll be trapped in the political sea and drift aimlessly amidst it. In her absence, my life will be lonely and bleak.

When Liu Yan arrived at the gate, she noticed Wu Nian walking over.

She couldn't help but feel guilty at the sight of her friend. After all, she was the one that leaked the information to Gu Mingchen.

What was I thinking! How could I have been so dumb!

"Nian... I'm so sorry," Liu Yan apologized profusely.

"Huh? What are you apologizing for all of a sudden?" Wu Nian asked in confusion.

"I keep messing up. Every time I make a mistake, you are forced to clean up after me." Liu Yan lowered her head in a mixture of shame and guilt.

"I'll forgive you no matter what you do. That's because I know that you were doing it for my sake. But sometimes, you don't know what is beneficial for me. Occasionally, the end product might backfire as well," Wu Nian said with a faint smile.

"I will be extra cautious of my words and actions next time," Liu Yan promised.

"I'll be waiting for the day you change!" Wu Nian chuckled.

That remark made Liu Yan sigh. Sometimes, the grim reality was a stark contrast to her bright hopes.

"Let's head to the hospital to change your bandages first," she advised.

Unfortunately, the wound on Wu Nian's shoulder had not healed as expected. Although the wounds had closed over, the area around the injury remained inflamed.

"You should rest instead of running around," Liu Yan chastised her; the sight of Wu Nian's injury broke her heart.

The injured woman smiled nonchalantly. "Exercise is an essential part of life. I'd say my wound is recovering nicely. I didn't have any infections, pus, or feverish symptoms."

"Doesn't it hurt?" Liu Yan asked as she wrapped the wound.

"I'm used to it." Wu Nian shook her head. "As long as I ignore it, the pain is nothing but an itch."



Liu Yan understood that Wu Nian had suffered in the past. Hearing those painful words made her heart sink even further. "Nian, what if Gu Mingchen finds out you are Bai Rong one day? What would you do?" Liu Yan asked her with a deep sigh.