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Chapter 391 Wherever You Go I Go

“What?” Wu Nian was puzzled by Mo Xue’s abrupt question.

Mo Xue’s lips curled up slightly. “Mr. Gu never gives Ai Wei’er the time of the day. Hell, he

doesn’t even bother sparing her a glance. But every time he appears, so do you. Don’t tell me

the two of you don’t know each other.”

Grasping her meaning, Wu Nian smiled faintly. “Fate works wonders, I guess.”

“Do you two really have nothing to do with each other? If that’s the case, why would he let

you have this collaboration?” Mo Xue pushed.

“When I went to Stephen’s island previously, Mr. Gu was also there.

They met an accident

and believe that I was the one who rescued them. Perhaps this is the reason. But of course,

luck plays a role as well. In fact, history proves that successful and great men mostly relied

on luck. I’ve always been a lucky person, so if you collaborate with me, I believe that that

luck would be extended to you as well,” Wu Nian calmly replied.

“An eloquent speaker now, aren’t you? Fine, I’ll consider it.”

The word “consider” was largely associated with refusal. And more often than none, the

wait for an answer would be endless.

“I’m returning to my country tomorrow. I hope you’ll let me know your answer by then. My

company is very set on venturing into the jewelry business, so if we can’t get your

cooperation, I’ll have to fly to Uron tomorrow. I’m also meeting some jewelers there for a

discussion.” Wu Nian nodded.

“Wait. Didn’t you come here specifically to discuss a collaboration with me?” Mo Xue was

suspicious and slightly angry.

“My boss heard that you wanted to find a business partner in A City, so he rushed over

immediately. After all, he’s familiar with Xyperia and also with you.

“But, if you’re not interested in cooperating with us, then we can only search for other suppliers. To be honest, no matter who ends up collaborating with us, we’ll still seize eighty percent of the market.

“As you know, sales of luxury goods mainly rely on reputation and connections.

“My company has had connections all along. As for reputation, it solely lies in the operation.

Everything is stated clearly in the proposal.

“Since you have guests to attend to, I won’t take up any more of your time. I shall await your

good news.” Wu Nian gave her a curt nod.

Mo Xue’s expression softened slightly. “Since you’re already here, have dinner before

leaving. The manor is very big. I’ll ask Ai Wei’er to give you a tour.”

“Sure. I’ll take you up on that offer.” Wu Nian smiled politely.

Mo Xue called Ai Wei’er and the latter came up very quickly.

“Let’s go, gorgeous.” Ai Wei’er smiled and linked arms with Wu Nian cheerfully.

Except for Liu Yan, Wu Nian wasn’t used to being close to other girls and felt uneasy

because she wasn’t all that familiar with Ai Wei’er.

“Chen, I’m taking her around the manor. Do you wanna come?” Ai Wei’er called out to Gu

Mingchen.

Gu Mingchen shot a fleeting glance at Wu Nian before getting to his feet.

Wu Nian’s heart skipped a beat and she quickly looked down.

Come to think of it, it really does seem like we always appear at the same place and at the

same time. I wouldn’t have noticed if Mo Xue didn’t mention it.

Seeing as Gu Mingchen had silently accepted her invite, Ai Wei’er bounded over excitedly

and held onto his arm. “I’ll show you two the most mysterious old castle in Xenhall. It has a

history of five hundred years. My mother said that there used to be a princess living in it.”

Old castle?

Wu Nian still remembered the time when she returned from the United States and received a strange case. She had gone to an old castle, where many bodies were found in the attic.

Ever since that case, she got the chills whenever old castles were mentioned.

Mo Xue's manor had a shuttle bus car. The driver pulled up in front of them and Ai Wei'er

boarded it first, sliding into the first row.

Gu Mingchen waited for Wu Nian to get on, so she sat in the second row.

"C'mon, Chen!" Ai Wei'er beckoned him enthusiastically.

Gu Mingchen got into the last row and looked to the left.

Ai Wei'er stared wistfully at Gu Mingchen, feeling slightly disappointed that he didn't sit next to her.

The old castle was to the far north of the manor. Judging by the distance, they would

probably arrive in five minutes.

Ai Wei'er hopped down from the car merrily and skipped to the last row.

Wu Nian felt a strange feeling rising within her, but she feigned calmness as she alighted the car.

Noticing Wu Nian's expression from the corner of his eye, Gu

Mingchen's brows furrowed

slightly as he got down from the car.

Ai Wei'er held onto Gu Mingchen's arm and flirted, "Can you sit with me next time? Please?"

"I think I've already made myself clear the last time," Gu Mingchen said in a monotonous voice.

"I don't mind that you have two kids or that you have a wife. Your wife isn't in Xenhall

anyway, so just hit me up whenever you come for a visit," Ai Wei'er offered generously.

Wu Nian was at a loss.
The women in Xyperia are really open-minded. Every country has its own culture. I doubt I'll ever get used to living in Xyperia. Haha.
Gu Mingchen pried Ai Wei'er's hand away and grunted, "Please, show some respect."
"Fine. I guess I'm just being delusional, but you can bet your sweet a*s that I'll never give up." With that, Ai Wei'er sashayed toward the old castle.
The castle was so dark that they couldn't see anything.
Wu Nian felt a warm hand grab hers.
There were only the three of them here. Hence, it could only be Gu Mingchen's hand that was holding hers based on the calluses grazing her palm.
When Ai Wei'er turned on the flashlight on her phone, Wu Nian instinctively withdrew her hand and flicked her eyes toward Gu Mingchen.
Immersed in pitch-black darkness, she couldn't make out his expression.
Ai Wei'er lit up an oil lamp with the aid of her phone, she then turned off the flashlight before explaining, "My mother said that we should use oil lamps when visiting the old castle because it's dimmer and gives a better effect."
"I see that your mother likes spooky adventures, or perhaps, she just likes to spook others?"
Wu Nian uttered placidly.
Ai Wei'er giggled. "I think so. Whenever guests come over, she likes to let them have a tour around the old castle. Hahaha! And then, she would watch them flee from the castle with petrified looks on their faces. Haha!"
Wu Nian's mouth twitched and she looked toward the wall.
There were some gruesome paintings on the walls that looked especially frightening in the dimly lit space.

But they did not scare her in the least.
She had seen her fair share of dead bodies and performed too many surgeries to count. She

didn't believe in ghosts and spirits. Hence, she couldn't fear something she did not believe in.

Ai Wei'er stopped in front of a painting and introduced, "This painting is of a pirate. His story is quite a tragic one. Rumor has it that he's cursed and can only stay at sea, but there was a soldier who didn't believe him and dragged him onto land forcefully. The pirate was hung to death.

"Just before he drew his last breath, he whispered that he would bring with him the souls of all the people who had seen his face before. "Scary, right?"

"It does sound very scary," Wu Nian replied half-heartedly.

Seeing Ai Wei'er starting to climb the stairs, Wu Nian followed after her. When she passed by the pirate painting, a peal of sinister laughter reached her ears. She

instinctively looked at the painting and saw that the pirate's originally serious face was now stretched into a hair-raising smile.

Gu Mingchen had also noticed it, and he gently placed his hand on her waist.

Warmth bloomed in Wu Nian's chest because she knew that he meant to protect her.

She had deliberately provoked him this morning, causing him to storm away in anger. In

spite of that, he had ordered lunch for her. At present, he was as attentive and protective toward her as always.

Meeting Gu Mingchen in this life was the best thing that ever happened to her.

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Chapter 392 Caring As Always

Sensing the lack of movement behind, Ai Wei'er looked over her shoulder at the painting and screeched in horror. "What's going on? The pirate wasn't smiling just now. How is he smiling now?"

“This is a double-sided painting method. Because of the position and lighting, different viewing angles will allow you to see different things,” Wu Nian explained calmly.

“Oh, so that’s why. Chen, I’m a little scared. Can you hold my hand while we walk?” Ai Wei’er

sent a pleading look at Gu Mingchen.

Wu Nian chuckled softly at that.

Gu Mingchen squeezed her waist before releasing her.

Ai Wei’er looked at Wu Nian with a quizzical expression. “Why are you laughing?”

“Your mother is very cute,” Wu Nian said meaningfully.

“Cute? My mother? More like evil. C’mon, let’s go upstairs,” Ai Wei’er urged.

Suddenly, something fell from above, causing her to scream loudly.

Caught off guard, Wu Nian also took a step back in fright.

Ai Wei’er illuminated the ground with her oil lamp, but when she didn’t find anything, she

asked Gu Mingchen in horror, “Chen, did you see anything just now? I’m scared.”

Gu Mingchen took the oil lamp from her hand and remarked, “You get startled so easily. I’ll

look around this castle on my own. You should wait outside if you’re scared.”

Ai Wei’er blinked at him dumbly.

She frequently visited this place, so of course she wasn’t afraid. She only pretended to be so

because she wanted Gu Mingchen to protect her, but in the end, he couldn’t even be

bothered with her.

“Are you scared?” Ai Wei’er asked Wu Nian.

Wu Nian suggested, “Why don’t we turn on the lights? We’d be able to see things clearer this way.”

She wasn’t afraid at all. To her, the most terrifying thing in the world were not ghosts and spirits, but the human heart.

“There aren’t any lights in here and it’s best not to use flashlights, or you might see things

beyond your expectations. Really,” Ai Wei’er muttered mysteriously.

“Then, are you or are you not going to bring us around?” Gu Mingchen inquired coldly.

“Do you both want to? If you do, then I’ll take you. If you don’t, I’ll bring you guys out,” Ai

Wei’er replied.

“Let’s go out, then” Gu Mingchen responded tersely and walked ahead.

Once again, Ai Wei’er held his arm.

Meanwhile, Wu Nian trailed after them down the stairs.

Gu Mingchen pulled the door but found that it wouldn’t budge.

Frowning, he glanced at Ai

Wei’er with a questioning gaze. “Why won’t it open?”

“Just pull it,” Ai Wei’er pulled on the door, but it refused to give.

She tried using both hands. When it remained securely in place, she pounded on the door

irritably.

“Is there anyone outside? Open the door! Slack, open the door!”

Slack was the driver who drove them over here, but there was no response from him.

Ai Wei’er knitted her brows into a frown and kicked the door hard.

“Open the door, you idiot!”

Still, only silence greeted them.

Fishing out her phone to call him, she found that there was no signal.

She turned to look at Gu Mingchen with a confused expression. “Chen, does your phone

have a signal?”

Gu Mingchen took out his phone to check, to which Ai Wei’er craned her neck to get a better

look.

Seeing that his phone did not have any signal either, she was nonplussed.

“How’s this possible? We usually have reception here. Sh*t, this is scary.”

“Are you having fun? Well, you can continue. I’ll take a break until you’re bored of fooling

around.” Gu Mingchen put the oil lamp on the coffee table and sat on the sofa.

“It’s not me. I really didn’t ask them to lock the door. I’m telling you the truth,” Ai Wei’er denied anxiously.

Gu Mingchen ignored her, so she continued banging on the door.

“Open the door, Slack! If you don’t open it this instant, I’ll fire you! Slack!” she yelled.

There was only unending silence.

Wu Nian held Ai Wei’er’s hand and found it to be damp with cold sweat, probably due to fear.

Her brows creased and she glanced at Gu Mingchen, claiming, “Mr. Gu, Ai Wei’er isn’t lying.

She really didn’t lock the door.”

Gu Mingchen instructed in a solemn voice, “Come here and take a seat first. Since it wasn’t

her doing, there’s even lesser of a chance someone would listen to her orders and open the door.”

Wu Nian tugged Ai Wei’er over before sitting across from Gu Mingchen.

“What’s going on? Everyone in the manor knows that I’m easily frightened and would never

lock the door. I really am scared,” Ai Wei’er stared at Gu Mingchen with terror sprawled on

her face.

“At most, we’ll have to wait for half a day before your mother gets someone to come look for

us. If you’re scared, sit here and don’t go anywhere,” Gu Mingchen advised stoically.

“Then, where are you going?” Ai Wei’er sat down beside Gu Mingchen.

The latter did not answer, and simply glanced briefly at Wu Nian.

Wu Nian lowered her gaze. She wasn’t an unreasonable person. Since Ai Wei’er wasn’t

responsible for this, she was worried that there were other hidden dangers lurking around.

Hence, she agreed that it would be better for everyone to stick together.

She was confident that Mo Xue would send someone to retrieve them at night.

Silence hovered over them as no one bothered speaking. Sensing Ai Wei'er gradually inching closer and closer, Gu Mingchen's brows snapped together and he abruptly got to his feet.

"Where are you going?" Ai Wei'er asked worriedly.

"To the bathroom. There should be one here, right?" Gu Mingchen queried.

"Yes. I'll take you there." Ai Wei'er stood up and led him toward the bathroom.

Gu Mingchen went in, but seeing that she didn't intend to leave, he pursed his lips and reached out to close the door.

Ai Wei'er held it open and whimpered, "Don't lock it. I'm scared."

"This is inappropriate, so if you'll excuse me." Gu Mingchen shut the door forcefully.

He came out after washing his hands, but Ai Wei'er was nowhere in sight. Hearing footsteps

approaching, Wu Nian shone her phone's flashlight onto him from her position on the sofa.

"Where is she?" Wu Nian asked.

"Didn't she come back?" Suspicion grew in him.

Wu Nian shook her head. "She kept saying she was scared and clung to you everywhere you went. It doesn't make sense that you're back and she isn't. Do you think something happened to her?"

Feeling apprehensive, she yelled, "Ai Wei'er!"

There was no response. Only a gust of chilly wind swept through the castle, the barely audible sound resembling that of a demon's laughter.

"Ai Wei'er!" Wu Nian called out again, but only the billowing wind answered her.

Worry gnawed at her chest and she looked toward Gu Mingchen. "Let's search around for her. Something doesn't feel right."

"But why do I feel like we're being pranked, that she deliberately led us to the pirate painting and also deliberately kicked up a fuss?" Gu Mingchen said solemnly.

“Yes, that was the case in the beginning, but after we found out that the door was locked, she wasn’t pretending anymore. When I held her hand, her palm was all sweaty. That’s the reaction of someone who’s afraid. It can’t be faked,” Wu Nian clarified. Then, she stood up and headed toward the bathroom while calling out, “Ai Wei’er!” Gu Mingchen followed behind her and shone the flashlight toward the base of the stairs. “That door was closed when we came in, but it’s open now.” Wu Nian immediately strode toward it, but Gu Mingchen grabbed her arm. “Stay behind me.” Wu Nian thought for a while, and conceded in the end, moving to stand behind him. Gu Mingchen walked through the door and swept the light around the place. There were several gloomy-looking paintings, a fireplace, a table, four wooden chairs, and a rocking chair, which was still eerily swaying back and forth. “Someone was just here,” Wu Nian observed.

“There are two possibilities. Either this is a prank, or Ai Wei’er was knocked unconscious,” Gu Mingchen speculated. “If this is indeed a prank, Ai Wei’er would’ve screamed like before, no matter if she was abducted or left on her own, but she didn’t, which means that she was knocked unconscious,” Wu Nian continued where he left off.

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Chapter 393 Are You Still Mad At Me

“Do you think it was done by a single person or a duo?” Gu Mingchen asked. “At least two people were involved. One person wouldn’t have been able to render Ai Wei’er unconscious and keep the oil lamp from smashing to the ground. Plus, the person who

locked the door didn't enter through the main entrance as the door was locked from the outside. If that person has truly gained entry, then there are other passages in this castle."

Wu Nian walked toward the fireplace and looked at the ashes there.

"Take a look, Gu Mingchen."

Striding over, Gu Mingchen spotted another drag mark on the ground.

"I'll go up and take a look."

He crawled in, only to swiftly back out in the next moment as oil poured down from above,

followed by a dozen logs that were lit.

The moment the logs came into contact with the oil, a blazing fire flared to life.

Taking Wu Nian's hand, Gu Mingchen took three steps back.

"I'll break the door." As he said that, he snagged a chair and stalked out before smashing it

against the door.

He hit it once, twice, thrice... On the sixth time, the door finally broke.

They were then greeted by the sight of Slack sprawled over the steering wheel with a knife

protruding from his neck and blood pooling on the ground.

Wu Nian placed her hand under his nose, only to find that he was no longer breathing. Thus,

she shook her head at Gu Mingchen.

"Run ahead and call Mo Xue when there's a signal. Ask her to keep the front gate closed and

get the surveillance footage at once," Gu Mingchen ordered.

Subsequently, he climbed onto the car and swept his gaze around. "I spot them. There are

three men, so I'll give chase!"

Leaping down from the car, he sprinted toward the northern gate at full tilt.

When Wu Nian had gotten a signal, she immediately phoned Mo Xue.

"Mo Xue, an issue

came up. Someone kidnapped Ai Wei'er. Send men to the northern gate at once."

After saying that, she hung up and ran toward the northern gate as well. When Gu Mingchen saw the three men stuffing Ai Wei'er into the van, he grabbed the door immediately.

"Be careful, Gu Mingchen!" Wu Nian shouted anxiously.

Jumping up, Gu Mingchen slipped into the van, and in the next instance, a man was kicked out the opposite door.

As soon as the man's partners in crime saw that their buddy had been attacked, they

instantly got out of the van with knives in their hands. "Keep your nose out of this!" one of them threatened viciously.

Gu Mingchen merely stared at the two men who had masks on. Then, he swiftly charged. He

moved so fast that before they could even react, he'd already restrained one of the masked

men's hands, whereupon his knife clattered onto the ground.

While the other man was still contemplating how he could help, Gu Mingchen had already

grasped his wrist and pinned him against the car door.

At this time, the man on the ground scrambled up while clutching his stomach. The moment

he saw Mo Xue's men heading over, he promptly took off.

"Catch him!" Mo Xue demanded sharply.

Half the bodyguards chased after the man who was making his escape, and the other half

helped Gu Mingchen restrain the two men.

"Where's Ai Wei'er?" Mo Xue asked Wu Nian.

"In the van," Wu Nian replied.

The butler opened the car door and carried Ai Wei'er out. "Ms. Ai is unconscious," he

reported to Mo Xue.

Livid, Mo Xue ripped the mask off one of the men. "It's you?" she exclaimed in surprise.

The masked man dipped his head in panic.

"You know him?" Stephen questioned.

“He’s my nephew – a good-for-nothing who only knows how to eat, drink, carouse, and gamble. He asked me for a loan of two million last week, but I rebuffed him. Never had I thought that he’d do such a crazy thing!” Mo Xue growled, incensed. “What’s the big deal about giving me two million when you’re so rich, Aunt Xue? I’m going to lose my hands if I don’t pay them back next week.” “That’s your problem. I won’t give you any money. Take him to the police station,” Mo Xue instructed coldly. “Looks like you’re in a bad mood today, so I’ll excuse myself. I’ll come back tomorrow and continue painting you,” Stephen drawled. At this, Mo Xue rolled her eyes at him. “My money doesn’t grow on trees either, yet everyone is trying to dupe me!”

“Who’d be able to dupe you when you’re so smart? If you think the person I introduced you isn’t trustworthy, forget about forging a collaboration. It’s your choice, so stop making a mountain out of a molehill!” Stephen snapped in chagrin. “If so, why are you suddenly painting me? Don’t tell me that you have no other motive, for I won’t believe that,” Mo Xue declared bitterly. “Hah!” Stephen sneered. “You’re always like this. I feel truly lucky that you’re not my wife. Since you think that I have an ulterior motive, let’s call an end to it, then. I won’t do it anymore.” Then, he whirled around, wanting to leave the place. Mo Xue instantly grabbed his hand, but he didn’t even spare her a single glance. “I spouted nonsense because I was in a bad mood. My daughter was almost kidnapped, and my subordinate was killed, so please understand my situation,” she murmured apologetically.

“Mo Xue,” Stephen called out. Then, he turned sideways and looked at her. “When I finish my painting of you, it’ll also be the closing of the chapter that was us. Don’t look for me anymore in the future.”

Mo Xue stared at him with pursed lips. “Have you ever loved me?” “I love your straightforwardness, honesty, and unpretentiousness. I might have given it a try when I was in my youth, and my blood ran hot, but now that I’m old, I know what’s right for me. And unfortunately... you’re not it,” Stephen answered solemnly. “In that case, there’s no need for you to paint me anymore. I don’t care for that!” Mo Xue huffed as she released her grip on his hand.

The moment his hand was free, Stephen strode ahead.

Upon seeing that, Mo Xue stamped her foot. “Come back!”

However, Stephen didn’t turn back. Instead, he disappeared behind the shade of a tree.

A witness to it all, Wu Nian arched an eyebrow.

Mo Xue pushed her man away with her temper tantrums. So, what about me and Gu Mingchen?

She instinctively shifted her gaze to Gu Mingchen, only to realize that he was likewise staring at her. All at once, her heart jolted, and she hung her head guiltily.

“Hey, you! Ms. Wu, yes? I agree to your terms, so when do you think we can sign the contract?” Mo Xue barked irately.

“My company will send someone over to sign the contract. May I know when you’ll be free?”

Wu Nian murmured courteously.

At this, Mo Xue hesitated for a moment as she glanced in the direction in which Stephen

had disappeared. Subsequently, she snapped, “Tomorrow, then.”

At that, Wu Nian phoned Liu Yan. Over the moon, Liu Yan then told Shen Yiyi about it, and

he said he’d send someone over to sign the contract.

When they left, Mo Xue arranged a car for her and Gu Mingchen. Throughout the entire drive, Wu Nian kept her gaze out the window, saying nary a word to Gu Mingchen.

When the driver had driven her back to the hotel, Gu Mingchen alighted from the car as well.

Then, she stepped into the elevator, and he likewise did the same. Later, when she stepped out of the elevator, he still did the same. Her steps abruptly came to a halt. But on second thought, perhaps he reserved a room here as well, so we're merely on the same floor, and he's not deliberately following me.

At this thought, she continued walking. After she'd unlocked her room door, she glanced over her shoulder, only to see that he was still standing behind her.

Before she could even say anything, he'd already pushed open the door and sauntered in, plopping onto the sofa nonchalantly.

Wu Nian was rendered speechless by it all.

Casting Wu Nian, who was still standing by the door, a sideways glance, Gu Mingchen

asked, "Are you still mad at me?"

"No." The moment she said that, regret swamped her. I should've thrown a tantrum instead!

That would've been the right way to drive him away.

Upon hearing this, Gu Mingchen's gaze turned tender. "Come over here."

The right way to drive him away would have been to snap, "why should I go over to you," but

before the words even made it out of Wu Nian's mouth, her legs had already carried her over.

She then sat down across from him.

Getting to his feet, Gu Mingchen propped his hands on both sides of me.

"Accompany me to Ferropene tomorrow."

"Huh?"

"I want to go on a vacation with you. No one knows us in Ferropene, so we have more

freedom,” Gu Mingchen explained softly.

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Chapter 394 A Trip Down Memory Lane

As Wu Nian gazed into his eyes that resembled a vast sea of stars, she felt as though she

was being sucked into them.

Logically, she should rebuff him, but her heart yearned for the exact opposite.

I’ve always wanted to go on a vacation with him, but I never had the opportunity. Can I go

this time?

In reality, his remark of no one knowing them there was the most tempting aspect that was

luring her in.

“If we go, how long will we be staying there?” she queried.

Upon hearing this, a smile bloomed on Gu Mingchen’s face. “You decide.

If you want to have

fun longer, I’ll accompany you for a few more days. Conversely, if you

want to come back, I’ll

accompany you back.”

This promise resolved her worry and helped her come to a decision.

“Okay. In that case, let’s not meet up tonight to avoid rousing suspicion.

We’ll meet in

Pillere,” Wu Nian suggested.

All at once, Gu Mingchen dipped his head and kissed her deeply. As his eyes shone brightly

with undisguised delight, he echoed tenderly, “We’ll meet in Pillere.”

Then, he left. Meanwhile, Wu Nian checked out of the hotel and went back to pack her

luggage.

Since the collaboration was now set in stone, and her vacation was just around the corner,

she needed to have a talk with Aaron.

On her way back, she booked a ticket back to Lightspring without Gu Mingchen’s

knowledge.

She arrived at the waiting lounge at nine o’clock at night, and she mentally converted the

time. Xyperia is seven hours ahead of Ustrana. Since it's nine o'clock at night here, it's

probably two o'clock in the afternoon in Lightspring.

With that, she gave Aaron a call.

When Aaron heard that she was coming, he inquired with a smile, "Have you had your dinner?"

"Yup. I booked a flight ticket to Lightspring, and I'll be arriving tomorrow morning," Wu Nian stated, cutting right to the chase.

"Really? Are you serious?" Aaron was ecstatic.

"I've got something to discuss with you," Wu Nian murmured apologetically.

At this, Aaron's gaze dimmed. Nevertheless, he still replied mannerly,

"Okay. Your flight is ten minutes before nine, Xyperia time?"

"Yeah."

"Ring me up when you arrive. I'll go and pick you up at the airport,"

Aaron offered

gentlemanly.

"Sure."

After hanging up the phone, Wu Nian went to the refreshment lounge

for a drink. She took a

disposable cup and mixed in some hot water after pouring half a cup of cold water.

"I caught sight of you from afar, and I even thought that I mistook someone else for you.

Why... you're going to Lightspring?" Su Xuyan's voice drifted over.

Upon hearing his voice, Wu Nian turned and looked at him with a placid gaze before

inclining her head a fraction. "You're returning to the country, Mr. Su?"

The expression on Su Xuyan's face was rather strange at this time.

"Would you like to listen

to my story?"

Chuckling softly, Wu Nian cast a glance at the time. "My flight is taking off ten minutes

before ten, so I'll probably board twenty minutes before that. You've got half an hour with

me.”

At this, Su Xuyan smiled, his smile tinged with a hint of bitterness.

“You’re indeed not her.

She’s more unyielding compared to you, and she’ll never allow me the opportunity to talk to her for half an hour.”

“Are you referring to... Bai Rong?” Wu Nian asked.

Su Xuyan nodded in response. “She’s my wife.”

The corners of Wu Nian’s mouth lifted upon hearing this. “Gu Mingchen also claims that she’s his wife.”

“She married me first, but we later got divorced. Then, she married Gu Mingchen. However, they’re divorced as well. Therefore, she’s not bound to anyone now,” Su Xuyan explained.

“Sounds like an interesting yet complicated story. But...” Wu Nian paused for a moment

before continuing, “With all due respect, you’re not as loyal as Gu Mingchen. He’s at least spending his life in solitary, but your private life is somewhat difficult to accept.”

“If she returns, it’ll definitely be different.” Chuckling bitterly, Su Xuyan then admitted, “I find myself rather filthy as well.”

“A man’s loyalty isn’t reliant on when the relationship is in its honeymoon period, and both are happy with each other. Rather, it’s when he has to stay alone without any female companionship. And you obviously can’t do it, Mr. Su. “Many men cheat when their wives are pregnant and fool around with other women out there. To them, it’s the woman’s fault for failing to satisfy them. Having said that, do you think that the fault truly lies with the woman?” Wu Nian questioned with a smile.

At her words, Su Xuyan’s gaze dimmed. “So, I’m destined to never win over the woman I love, yes?”

“I don’t think you even understand what love is, Mr. Su. In my opinion, you probably don’t truly love Bai Rong. If you love her, it’s something that comes from deep within you. Even if another woman were to strip and stand before you naked, you’ll still restrain yourself when you think of how you’ll be betraying her once you’re intimate with another woman. Yet, it’s clear as day that you didn’t do so, Mr. Su,” Wu Nian said mildly. “I merely want to use such a way to numb myself and forget her by finding other women as her substitute. However, I can’t forget her.” “It’s not because of love that you can’t forget her. Rather, it’s because of some other reasons – such as unwillingness to admit defeat, hurt feelings, or even resentment. “After all, love isn’t the thing that one remembers forever. Contrarily, love is something easily forgotten. It’s something that fades over time. Oftentimes, the longer we stay with the person we claim to love, the more we forget how to love each other.

“On the other hand, resentment is something one remembers forever because one will always wake up with resentment. The process repeats itself every single day, so resentment is the thing that carves itself into one’s mind,” Wu Nian expounded. “Then, how can I forget resentment? I’m living a tortured life every day, or more accurately, my life is a living hell,” Su Xuyan muttered sorrowfully. At this question, Wu Nian’s lips curved into a smile. “Convert it into something more meaningful. For instance, your dream when you were young, achieving even greater success in your career, attuning yourself to the kindness around you, or perhaps you can even find a suitable woman and date her. It’s very difficult to let it go, but when you finally manage to

accomplish it one day, you'll be rewarded with happiness. So, why make life difficult for yourself?"

"In that case, can I pursue you? I promise that all those despicable things in my past will never happen again, and I'll start over for real," Su Xuyan asserted in a seemingly sincere manner.

"Nope," Wu Nian declined right away. "Sorry, but I have a boyfriend. You should find a woman who has no boyfriend. A wrong start is the beginning of a painful life."

"Are you referring to Aaron? He'll never marry you, and you can take my word for that," Su Xuyan contended firmly.

"That has nothing to do with you, Mr. Su." Wu Nian then took a sip of water.

However, Su Xuyan merely stared at her without leaving. "Did Mo Xue decide to collaborate with you or Gu Mingchen in the end? I saw him heading to her manor as well this morning."

"I'm sure you know who's the boss behind me, no? Although Gu Mingchen is from a prominent family, luxury accessories aren't his specialty. Mo Xue isn't no fool, so I think she knows who she should collaborate with," Wu Nian answered implicitly. There was no need for her to hide the fact that Mo Xue chose to collaborate with her, for Su Xuyan would know about it in no time anyway.

"You're an excellent employee. I wonder what terms you would have agreeing to jump ship,"

Su Xuyan mused with a smile, putting on the most winning, alluring, sincere, and captivating smile ever.

Undeniably, he has quite the good looks, Wu Nian inwardly admitted.

"I'm only helping Shen Yiyan because Liu Yan is my friend. Actually, I'm not his employee. I majored in education."

“Then, would you like me to get you a job? The director in charge of the Education Ministry is a friend of mine, so I can speak to him,” Su Xuyan offered enthusiastically.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 395

Chapter 395 Where Are You Going

When Wu Nian heard that, she was reminded of the time when she first got acquainted with

Su Xuyan. At that time, he knew that she majored in medicine, so he said that he was

acquainted with all the hospital directors in A City and could arrange a job for her.

Chuckling, she replied, “You seem to have forgotten Shen Yiyang’s identity. It’s a piece of cake

for me to find a job. However, I want to depend on myself, so no thanks.”

“So, you’re not giving me even the slightest opportunity?” Su Xuyan lamented in disappointment.

“Giving you an opportunity will only result in you doing me a favor, and the more you do for

me, the greater your resentment. Since we both know it’s impossible between us, it’s better

to nip it off in the bud. I’d like to go to the washroom before boarding my flight, so is there

anything else, Mr. Su?” Wu Nian inquired politely.

“I can still see you in the future, yes?” Su Xuyan asked.

“There’s no need to waste time when it’s impossible between us. Thus, there isn’t a need for

us to meet again. And even if we do meet again, let’s just regard each other as strangers.”

Wu Nian left no room for negotiation.

His possessiveness is too terrifying. He’ll destroy someone if he can’t get her, so I don’t

want to experience it a second time after having experienced it once!

She then went to the washroom. Afraid that he’d wait for her outside, she even tarried in the

washroom for about ten minutes.

When she got out of the washroom, there was already a line for her flight.

Keeping her head down, Wu Nian walked to the end of the queue. Then, she fished out her

phone and played "My Talking Hank."

Her dog had slept for a long time, so it now needed to pee and eat. At this moment, its

entire body was filthy.

After having her dog pee and bathing as well as feeding it, she leveled up to level 48.

Subsequently, she switched over to Ape Escape. After playing for a while, her flight started

boarding, and she breathed a sigh of relief that Su Xuyan hadn't come over to bother her.

Having embarked on the plane, she reclined in her seat and closed her eyes.

"Do you mind changing seats with me? I'm in the first class at the front."

Upon hearing Su Xuyan's voice, Wu Nian's eyes sprang open in astonishment, and she gaped

at him.

Anyone would gladly seize the opportunity to upgrade to the first-class cabin, so Su Xuyan

then sat down beside Wu Nian. Flashing her a devilish smile, he

remarked, "I happen to have

a client in Lightspring, so I'm headed that way as well."

At this, Wu Nian was rendered speechless.

He's rather aggressive in pursuing someone. If it weren't for the fact that I know him too

well, I might have truly fallen for him like most girls when confronted with such a handsome,

rich, and lavish young man. Well... just like me back then.

Nonetheless, she didn't expose him nor reply to his remark. Rather, she again closed her

eyes.

Likewise, Su Xuyan reclined in his seat, but he fixed his gaze on her.

Sensing his stare, Wu Nian turned to the side and gave her back to him.

"Hi miss, may I have two blankets, please?" Su Xuyan murmured to the air stewardess.

Smiling, the air stewardess handed him two new blankets. After taking them from her, Su Xuyan opened the packaging and draped one over Wu Nian. Wu Nian didn't even twitch, and her eyes remained closed. A long while later, she finally dozed off. In the end, she was awakened by the announcement that the flight was about to arrive in Lightspring. All at once, she glanced at the time, only to see that it was a quarter to ten in the morning. She slid the drapes open, but the sun hadn't risen yet. "You can probably watch the sunrise on the plane at this time. The moment the sun breaks through the clouds is a stunning sight," Su Xuyan commented smilingly. "I see," Wu Nian replied. "Excuse me, but I need to go to the washroom." Hence, Su Xuyan allowed her room to pass. Wu Nian then went to the washroom, but she didn't tarry for long before returning to her seat since there was a long queue. "Aaron is coming to pick you up?" Su Xuyan questioned. "Yup." Taking out her cosmetics from her bag, Wu Nian applied lip balm, followed by lipstick. Su Xuyan stared at her throughout it all. "How long have you been dating Aaron?" "Not long. Why?" Wu Nian looked at him. "How I wish I'd known you before Aaron," Su Xuyan lamented regretfully.

Upon hearing this, a smile tugged at Wu Nian's lips. "In reality, things would still be the same even if you'd known me before Aaron. Honestly speaking, you're not my type, Mr. Su." "What's your type? A gentleman from Ustrana like Aaron?" Su Xuyan queried, curious. "Loyal," Wu Nian concisely blurted this single word. At this, a bitter smile manifested on Su Xuyan's face. "Would you believe me if I were to tell

you that I once remained chaste for three years for my wife and was even willing to be a eunuch for her sake?"

"I would, but aren't you planning to pursue me now?"

"Aren't you the one who asked me to let her go?" Su Xuyan countered. At this, Wu Nian smiled, her smile bright and alluring just like a flower in full bloom.

Just then, the sun broke through the clouds, its rays illuminating her face through the

window. "Well, every person's perspective is different, so their stance toward an issue is different. In the end, it'll only lead to each feeling that his or her opinion is right and resent

the other's lack of understanding. But in reality, it only proves one thing – the two people's

outlook and values are different, so they can't live together."

"Then I'll just change, okay? What do you want from me?" Frustration swamped Su Xuyan.

At this time, the plane was already descending, and there was an announcement urging all

passengers to remain in their seats as the plane was about to land in Lightspring.

Wu Nian shifted her gaze to him. "There are a few elements to a happy marriage that

doesn't make one weary. Firstly, the same outlook on life. Secondly, the same values.

Thirdly, loyalty. And fourthly, a sense of responsibility. Let me give you an example of the

outlook on life I mentioned – a girl gives a beggar some money when she passes him by

every day. Do you think this is right or wrong?"

"That depends on the relationship between the beggar and the girl as well as the girl's

experience and capabilities. Perhaps something happened in her life recently, leading to her

doing so. Thus, I can't generalize and say for certain whether it's right or wrong," Su Xuyan

countered dialectically.

Upon hearing this, Wu Nian's lips curved into a smile. "To me, that has nothing to do with me. I don't care. After all, it's her business, so why should I poke my nose into it?"

This reply struck Su Xuyan dumb.

"Let's move on to values. You spent a fortune to pursue a girl. A first-class flight ticket from Xyperia to Lightspring costs about three thousand five hundred, yes?" Wu Nian asked.

However, Su Xuyan said nothing to this.

Thus, Wu Nian continued, "It doesn't matter that you did such a thing when you're not my husband. However, if you were my husband, your life would be a living hell if you did such a thing."

"That depends on the person's financial capability, no? Three thousand five hundred is no

different from a penny to me," Su Xuyan retorted in disgruntlement.

"Hence, our values are different. I'm not a person who attaches much importance to romance. Rather, I yearn for a secure life. Alright, I think that's enough from me, Mr. Su. I

wish you a pleasant journey," Wu Nian declared with a smile.

When the plane arrived at the airport, she wanted to leave, but Su Xuyan didn't allow it and

blocked her path instead. He stared at her deeply. "Haven't I said this? I can change no

matter what you demand of me. In the future, you can manage my finances."

"I don't like managing someone else's finances. Excuse me, but please move," Wu Nian stated coolly.

Frowning, Su Xuyan allowed her passage.

After alighting from the plane, Wu Nian turned on her phone.

A flurry of messages came in, causing her phone to beep incessantly.

Noticing that many were from Gu Mingchen, she inhaled deeply and gave him a call.

However, before her call had even connected, she spotted him standing right in front of her...

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 396

Chapter 396 I Like That Man So Much

Wu Nian widened her eyes as she remembered Su Xuyan was still standing behind her. With no time to explain in detail, she hurried over to drag Gu Mingchen away. The latter flung her hand away with a cold expression.

His actions startled Wu Nian.

She knew that Gu Mingchen was upset as he strode forward with a sullen face.

He gritted his teeth and grabbed her by the arm. Turning into a corner, they walked in the

opposite direction where there were two security guards on duty.

Gu Mingchen presented the traveling documents for the guards to scan before letting them

in.

He remained silent throughout the process and continued ahead with his hand still holding

hers.

Seeing that there were not many people in the area, Wu Nian figured it was the passage to

access the private jet.

He pulled her into the lounge. Releasing his grip, he stared at her sternly and then

commanded in a low voice, "Tell me the reason why you've come to Lightspring."

Wu Nian looked him in the eyes.

Since I'm all alone, it's best I tell him the truth. Otherwise, I'll need to tell more lies to cover

up and it'll end up with me getting caught in my own web. After all, it's easy to spot any logic

errors if I'm not careful in faking them.

"Since Aaron and I have started a relationship, I felt that it's better to speak face to face as

we end it," Wu Nian explained softly.

Gu Mingchen's gaze gradually became gentle. "You could have told me that you guys were

breaking up. Do you know how worried I am about you?"

"I did tell you about it yesterday. I also said that we shouldn't get in touch until we get to Pillere," Wu Nian clarified.

"So, it's my fault then?" he responded with a question. His gaze was still as intense as ever.

Wu Nian stepped forward and hugged Gu Mingchen. Resting her head on his chest allowed her to feel his body's warmth. She said gently, "I'm surprised that you came looking for me in Lightspring. I think you must have really liked me to come rushing all the way here. However, I need my own space and I don't like feeling restrained."

Gu Mingchen lowered his head to look at her. "I'm not trying to control you. I just want to know what's in your mind."

Wu Nian returned the gaze, only to realize that his eyes were all red. He probably pulled an all-nighter and didn't get much rest the night before. Her heart ached for him.

"You know that I'm here to break up with him, right? I didn't tell you in advance because I was afraid that you'd fret. I mean, what if you don't allow me to see him? Then, I'd be in a dilemma."

"Why would I say no to you separating with him? Anyways, don't do that again. Although I'm hot-tempered, I'm not an unreasonable person. You..." he hesitated, "You'll find out sooner or later."

"Okay, I'll get to know you better. One more thing, Su Xuyan is also here in Lightspring. Don't let him see you."

A tinge of suspicion flashed across Gu Mingchen's eyes. "He's in Lightspring? If I'm not mistaken, he should be returning home."

"We took the same flight."

Gu Mingchen connected the dots and said, "He's chasing after you."

"I don't like him and we've cleared the air about this. Just that... I don't want him to know

about our relationship." Wu Nian lowered her eyes.

"Are you scared that he might mess around with you or that he might hurt me?" he tested her.

"Gu Mingchen, I have my own reasons and justifications. But I can't reveal them to you now.

Perhaps I'll tell you one day, but not now. So, please don't probe into this, okay?" Wu Nian pleaded.

Gu Mingchen pondered over her words for fifteen seconds and nodded.

"All right. How long do you plan to stay in Lightspring?"

"Most likely, I'll leave for Ferropene tomorrow."

"If by any chance you bump into Su Xuyan at the airport tomorrow, he'll surely follow you to

Ferropene. I'll stay here. Take my private jet tomorrow, it's safer this way and there'd be less

hassle," Gu Mingchen commanded domineeringly.

Wu Nian gave it some thought before replying, "All right. I won't contact you until tomorrow."

Frowning, he asked, "Do you actually need that long to break up with him?"

"You didn't get any sleep yesterday. Go get some rest," Wu Nian advised.

"Do you really think that I would be able to get any shut-eye without any news from you the

entire day?" Gu Mingchen put her on the spot.

"Then... I'll call you at noon," Wu Nian changed her mind.

"That's better." He was relieved.

"I'll take my leave now, okay?" she muttered.

As much as Gu Mingchen was reluctant to let her go, he caved in.

Wu Nian walked out from the lounge and realized that the passengers from her flight had all disappeared.

The corridor was deserted as the crowd had all moved on to the baggage claim area.

While waiting for hers, she saw Su Xuyan, who was standing at the very far end staring at the baggage carousel.

She decided to call Aaron.

He answered the phone in a flash.

"I heard the announcement. You've arrived and should be waiting to collect your suitcase, right?" Aaron sounded happy.

"Yeah, I'm still waiting."

"All right. I'll be right there." He hung up.

Wu Nian turned around but did not spot Aaron. Moments later, the conveyer belt was

activated and she could see her suitcase being delivered.

Right when she was about to reach for it, someone held her by the waist.

"Nian," Aaron called her as he landed a kiss on her cheek.

Bewildered, she side-eyed him.

Aaron beamed with joy. "I missed you so much."

Wu Nian changed the topic, "My suitcase is here."

"Which one? Let me get it for you." He held her hand.

Wu Nian did not shake his hand off because Su Xuyan was present on site. She simply

pointed at a blue suitcase.

Aaron let go of her and fetched a trolley. "My car is parked outside. Come with me."

Wu Nian followed him from behind. She did not turn to have a peek at Su Xuyan. Taking a

deep breath, she gazed at Aaron's side profile with a sullen face.

Aaron led her out of the airport to his Lamborghini.

"I've book a hotel for you. You can take a rest and then join me for lunch.

My grandmother

would love to meet you." Aaron was thrilled.

It was a challenge for Wu Nian to break up with him. As brutal as it sounds, I still have to say

it.

"Aaron, I came here to tell you something," Wu Nian started.

"Hmm?" Studying her facial expression, his smile disappeared. "Let's get into the car first."

He opened the door for her like a gentleman.
Wu Nian got in and Aaron ignited the engine.
She did not say a word, thinking it was not appropriate to discuss the matter when he was driving.
When he pulled over at Heston Hotel, he unfastened the seatbelt and wanted to get out of the car. At that moment, Wu Nian grabbed his arm.
Aaron shifted his gaze from her hand before moving upward to her face.
“Can I trust you, Aaron?” Wu Nian asked.
“Of course,” he said without any hesitation. Then, he turned to face her in anticipation.
“There’s someone I really like. I like him so much that I’m willing to let him go. If there’s only one thing on earth that I want to treasure, it’s him. I figured I’ll never have any feelings for you. I’m so sorry that I used you.”
You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 397

Chapter 397 She Was From A Wealthy Family

“So, your purpose here today is to cut ties with me?” Aaron’s face slipped into a somber and defeated look.
“I need a favor from you for one more thing. It’s about Liu Yan. In return, tell me what’s the condition for helping me out.” Lifting her chin, Wu Nian was downright blunt.
“What if my request is for you to stay with me for a year?”
Aaron’s question left Wu Nian speechless.
He chuckled. “Don’t worry. I won’t force the love of my life to do something she’s reluctant to do. Rest assured that I’ll help you out, no strings attached. I just hope that you don’t be a stranger when we meet again. You did promise to cook for me once, remember?”
Wu Nian looked at him with gratitude.
Aaron stroked her hair. “Actually, I’ve been thinking about it a lot recently. I know that you

didn't have any feelings for me when you agreed to be with me. You scrupled a lot. You might have used me but I was really attracted to you."

"I needed to get rid of somebody so I had no choice but to get attached to a boyfriend.

Hence, I chose you," Wu Nian explained.

"You're fantastic, strong, brave, kindhearted, righteous, smart, and beautiful. Besides a weak body, all I have is just my looks and a fabulous family background."

Aaron was rather downcast.

"I'm not as good as you think I am. I've committed suicide, got poisoned, jumped into the sea, undergone plastic surgery, married twice, and even faked an identity in order to start

afresh. I can't even forgive my own father. Aaron, I thank you for helping Liu Yan. If there's

anything I can do for you in the future, I'll give it my all." Wu Nian made him a promise.

"You treat me as your friend by telling me all these. I won't let you down and I'll keep your

secrets under wraps. I'll be there if you need me," Aaron assured her.

She leaned over and hugged him. "Thank you and I'm sorry."

"I told you this before, you never have to thank me for anything. I'm willing to do anything for you," Aaron said in a serious tone.

With a mixed feeling, she let him go.

She was very grateful for his help, contributions, and the way he did so without asking for anything in return.

"I'll get off here, then," Wu Nian said.

"Tell me a day or two in advance when your friend is coming to Ustrana," Aaron reminded her with a heavy heart.

"Okay."

He curled his lips. "I've booked a room for you, it's 1809. Would you let me be a friend and a host even though I can't be your boyfriend?"

“Sure. I’ll bring the suitcase to the room.” Wu Nian got off the car. Aaron followed suit and helped her with her belongings. “When are you leaving?”

“Tomorrow.”

“You’re here only for one day?” He was rather disappointed. “There’re many famous tourist spots in Lightspring. You can’t cover them all in a day. Where would you like to visit the most?”

“What do you recommend?”

“If you’re not too tired, I’ll bring you to a place after putting your things in your room.” Aaron smiled.

Wu Nian nodded in response.

Aaron drove for two and a half hours before arriving at a church.

He introduced the place, “This is a replica of St. Paul’s church. There’s a mini version of the Buckingham Palace at the back of the church. You can have a meal, watch horse racing, and play golf here.”

Wu Nian wandered around. “It’s such a unique church, but not visited by many.”

“The place belongs to my grandmother. It’s not open to the public.”

“Oh, your grandmother?” She had a strange feeling about it.

Considering our current relationship status, it’s not appropriate for me to meet the elders in his family, is it?

Aaron noticed her anxiety. “Don’t worry. Although my grandmother can’t wait to see you, she doesn’t meddle in my private life. I’ll clarify our situation with her. By the way, my grandmother has a very close friend from A City. She’s thrilled to know that you’re from A City too.”

“But I didn’t bring any gifts.” Wu Nian was not used to visiting an elder empty-handed.

“You’re the best gift you can bring. Just keep my grandmother company and chat with her.”

Hearing that, Wu Nian hesitated. Then, won't it make me look bad to only stay briefly?

Aaron led her through the mini version of Buckingham Palace. As they entered a magnificent hall, she saw an old lady making tea by herself.

"Grandma, this is Wu Nian, my friend from A City," introduced Aaron.

"From A City?" Aaron's grandmother smiled lovingly at Wu Nian. "That's great. Tang is also from A City."

Wu Nian greeted her respectfully.

"Come over here," Aaron beckoned her and then commanded the maid, "Help me get the photo."

Feeling awkward, Wu Nian took a glance at Aaron before she walked toward his grandmother.

The old lady looked at Wu Nian gleefully. "Aaron told me about you. He wants to call off the wedding planned for him and marry you instead. I think you're a good choice, so I've decided to cancel off the wedding."

"This..." Wu Nian turned to Aaron with a perplexed gaze.

"Grandma, Nian and I are just friends. That being said, I still insist to call off the wedding,"

Aaron made his position very clear.

"What? Didn't you tell me that you like her a lot and want to marry her? Don't think that I'm senile or have dementia just because I'm old now. I remember everything you said." His grandmother got worked up.

"I jumped the gun. We've decided to stay as friends. That's enough, Grandma, Nian is our guest today." Aaron tried to drop the topic.

Upon hearing that, his grandmother heaved a long sigh and let out a wry smile.

The maid brought the photo album.

Aaron's grandmother opened it sentimentally and pointed at a woman in a long traditional

dress. "This is Tang."

To Wu Nian's disbelief, the woman in the photo looked exactly like her mother.

"Tang had such a pitiful life. Back then, she left her child with her parents and followed her husband to the United States to pursue his career. When her parents made a trip to look for her, an earthquake broke out and all of them died in the tragedy," she told a story.

"All of them died?" Wu Nian was shocked to the core. "Is any of her relatives still alive?"

Aaron's grandmother shook her head. "She wasn't able to conceive another child. As a result, her husband married a second wife who bore him a pair of children. Tang went into depression after that and passed away in her forties. She was my best friend."

Wu Nian lowered her eyes.

Her mother was an orphan and she looked identical to the woman in the picture. Could it be that she's the woman's child who survived the earthquake? Tang's dead and my mother has gone mad. It doesn't seem like there's a need to contact her to verify this.

Back then, Xing Bachuan abandoned Bai Bing because she was an orphan and did not possess a prominent family background.

If Bai Bing had not lost her parents, she would have grown up in a noble family and became a socialite. She would not have been abandoned, let alone becoming mentally ill.

Unfortunately, we can't turn back time. I must be extremely careful in every step I take, very very careful...

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 398

Chapter 398 I Know You Are Bai Rong

Gu Mingchen did not call during the day, so Wu Nian gave him a call in the evening when she

returned to the hotel Aaron had arranged for her.

"Hey." Wu Nian spoke first.

"Yes," Gu Mingchen acknowledged.

"I've settled my issue," she informed him.

"Okay," was his casual and short reply.

"All right, then I shall see you tomorrow in Pillere."

"Got it." Gu Mingchen hung up.

A weird feeling arose in her as if her heart was burdened by a heavy rock.

She wanted to dial his number again but did not know what else to say.

After all, she was

not very good with her words.

Putting her phone aside, she went to take a shower. Right then, she recalled an article she

had read before and felt that it was a piece of timely advice.

The gist of the article revolves around three words of wisdom from a boss to his employee

who's worked for him for three years.

The first piece of advice being there is no such thing as a free lunch.

Don't attempt to look

for shortcuts.

Second, curiosity kills the cat, especially if it's not something beneficial.

Third, don't make any decisions rashly. Otherwise, one will regret it forever.

The man didn't take a shortcut on his way home. Instead, he chose the main route which

was filled with passersby. When he heard a lady was running amok in the hotel he was

staying in, he locked himself in the room whereas others who went to check the ruckus out

were killed by the lady. When he got home and heard a man's voice, he didn't act recklessly

and hurt his wife. As it turns out, the man was his grown-up son.

Wu Nian turned off the shower.

She decided not to call Gu Mingchen even though he sounded unhappy.

Worst case

scenario, I'll break up with him as per the original plan.

I should calm down and live every day to the fullest. This is best for everyone.

After showering, she switched off her phone and went straight to bed.

Some time later, she was awoken by the door bell.

Switching on the bedside lamp, she put on the disposable hotel slippers and took a peek at

the peephole, only to find Gu Mingchen standing at the door.

Baffled, she opened it. "Why are you here?"

Reeking of alcohol, he entered the room, shut the door, and

immediately pinned her against

the wall before kissing her passionately.

She tried to push him away but he was too strong. He locked her in position with a tight grip

on her waist as she struggled to gasp for air.

He domineeringly orchestrated each move with passion, making it irresistible for her. After

half an hour, he gradually stopped all of his amorous advances.

Gu Mingchen carried her into the bathroom to wash up. No one spoke a word.

He's obviously drunk and isn't ready to hear me out. This isn't going too great.

He freshened himself up and handed a towel over to her.

Wu Nian snatched the towel from him and subsequently tossed it on the floor.

He cast a sharp gaze at her in response before he spun on his heels and went out of the

bathroom.

Wu Nian remained silent and continued her bubble bath for another half an hour. When she

came out, he was still around.

Ignoring him, she lay on the bed with her back facing him and shut her eyes.

When she was about to doze off, she felt her side of the bed sink and she was held by an

outstretched arm.

She turned her head and was met with his intense gaze. Feeling a pang of sadness, she

questioned, "Don't you think that you're too full of yourself?"

“Yup,” he responded.

She turned her whole body to face him. “What’s bothering you? I can’t help but noticed that you’re unhappy these days.”

“You know the reason why,” Gu Mingchen muttered.

“I can’t read your mind, you know.”

“It’s getting late, get some rest.” He turned off the lights, leaving the room pitch-black.

She turned her back to him again.

Misery churned within him. Feeling troubled, Gu Mingchen propped himself up.

Wu Nian looked at him. “What’s wrong?”

“I’m just wondering how long you plan to hide it from me. Perhaps, you’ve discovered the fact that I know who you are?” His brooding eyes were scanning Wu Nian, trying to see through her.

“What do you mean by that?” she asked in trepidation.

“I’m wondering if you are still her, or if I’m completely mistaken.” Pulling a serious face, Gu

Mingchen got up from the bed solemnly.

Upon realizing what he meant, Wu Nian’s face turned pale. “You thought I’m Bai Rong.”

“You’re still pretending that you’re not even though you know that I’ve been waiting for you.”

You know that I don’t like you being around Aaron, yet you still hung out with him till evening.

You resisted having sex with me.

It’s always been me forcing myself on you.

You’re etched in my heart, but you kept wanting me to let you go.

Three years passed us by, then another three years, followed by two more. We’ve wasted

eight years in total. Our child is already seven years old, for goodness sake.

At this stage, I know I’ll always let you win if we continue leaving things hanging. The sheer

agony of struggling to have a future together. I can’t seem to see the light at the end of the

tunnel.

Therefore, Bai Rong, I think it's time for me to give you up.

Wu Nian locked eyes with Gu Mingchen, her expression was stony.

"Don't come looking for Yanny anymore. He has the impression that his mother has passed away. If he finds out the truth one day, that his mother is still alive and is actually beside him

but refuses to accept him nor be with his dad, he'll hate you forever.

"In addition, I'll get married again. So your presence would be a stumbling block between

Yanny and his stepmother.

"Don't worry about Yanny. He's my son too, so I'll take good care of him.

Although I can be

strict at times, I'll raise him to be the best version of himself. I also believe that my future

wife will treat him as her own. I'll look for a partner on the pretext of getting married," Gu

Mingchen said coldly.

Wu Nian said nothing as she kept her gaze low, allowing her tears to fall.

Gu Mingchen snorted at her for not expressing her wish to reconcile even though he had

laid his cards on the table.

"There's no need to see each other again." With that, he turned around, headed to the door,

exited the room, and closed the door shut.

This is exactly what I wanted! To make the man I love the most exit from my world and live a

lonely life henceforth.

But what's the point of being alive now? Perhaps, I don't deserve to be alive.

Wu Nian did not continue sleeping. As she sat on her bed bawling her eyes out, she made a decision.

The next morning, she purchased a ticket to return to A City. After landing, she went straight

to the psychiatric hospital to see Bai Bing. To her dismay, Bai Bing had committed suicide.

Completely shaken up, she went to see her doctor in consultation.
“What happened? Why did Bai Bing kill herself? She was perfectly fine the last time I saw her.”

“I’m sorry, we’re clueless as to why she took her own life. She banged her head against the wall out of the blue. When we discovered it and rushed to her, she was already dead. Are you her family member?” asked the doctor.

“Where is she buried?” Wu Nian wanted to know more.

“From the record, it doesn’t show that she had any surviving family member or relatives. So, the hospital followed our standard operating procedures and carried out a public funeral for her. Please come with me.” The doctor led Wu Nian to the graveyard located behind the psychiatric hospital.

Bai Bing had been buried. The newly erected tombstone had her name engraved on it as well as her daughter’s name, Bai Rong.

Instantly, Bai Rong fell to her knees before Bai Bing’s grave.

Liu Yan’s matter has been resolved. There’s nothing else in this world for me to hold on to...

no more attachments, no one to care about, and no more sense of belonging...

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 399

Chapter 399 Safe And Sound

After Wu Nian paid her respects to her mother, she called Liu Yan.

“Nian, I have some good news! Shen Yiyao has already signed the contract for the

collaboration with Mo Xue and he’s agreed that I can travel for a month with Bao. Hahaha!

Life’s looking great for me,” exclaimed Liu Yan happily the moment she picked up the call.

“That’s great, I’m happy for you too! You can finally live a carefree and exciting life, for no one but yourself. Although it’ll be mundane, you’ll be far away from dangers. I believe that

you'll be happy. After all, this has always been your dream," replied Wu Nian with a smile.

"Yeah, I must leave Shen Yiyan first. He has a wife and is even the commander-in-chief.

Once I'm exposed, I'll be condemned as a sinner. Perhaps, I'll be written into history as a

seductress who led to the demise of a nation. That'll be really unlucky!

My reputation will be tarnished for years. Hahaha!"

"When do you plan to leave?" asked Wu Nian.

"I still have one thing to settle. I'm not worried about you for now because Aaron will protect

you. Instead, I'm slightly worried about my parents. I have to get them to retire first. I've also

asked a friend to help them change their identities. I wonder if they'll agree," revealed Liu

Yan worriedly.

"Be honest with them and tell them the situation you're in now. You're their only child.

Although you might have drifted apart from them, your parents don't have any other

children. They'll still treat you as their only daughter."

"Our relationship deteriorated greatly back then. Nian, can you help me approach them and

see what's their stance?" Liu Yan asked her for a favor.

"Sure, I'll ask them out tonight."

"Tonight?" Liu Yan scratched her head. "Should we meet up first and discuss how you're

going to tell them?"

"There's no need for that. I know what your thoughts are. After I'm done talking to your

parents, I'll contact you at night." With that, Wu Nian hung up the call. She then called Liu Yan's father.

"Yes? Who is this?" His weary voice sounded, making his old age clear.

Hearing that, Wu Nian felt her heart ache. Even this old director's not spared by the ruthless

effects of time.

“Hello, I’m Liu Yan’s friend. I have something that I’d like to discuss with you. Are you free tonight?” asked Wu Nian politely.

“I have no such daughter.” Liu Yan’s father hung up immediately. Sighing, Wu Nian called Liu Yan’s mother instead.

“Hello?”

“Hi, I’m Liu Yan’s friend. I’d like to talk to you and your husband. Would you be free tonight?

It’s about something important,” she said gently.

“Yan’s friend?” Her mother sounded hesitant.

“Yes. She had her own reasons why she left. Back then, she was forced to give birth to her child and only did that to protect everyone.”

“Is she doing well? As her mother, I will never hold a grudge against her forever. Even though

she got pregnant before marriage, we’ll still stay in contact with her.

How is it possible for us

to never forgive her? Why must we cut off all ties?” She choked up as she spoke.

“She just wants to protect you. Can we meet tonight? It’s better if we meet in a more private setting,” suggested Wu Nian.

“My husband is a stubborn man, so I need some time to convince him. Come to Jasmine

Spa Parlour and enter any room. It’s run by my friend, so I can enter directly through the back door.”

“Okay, I’ll head there now. See you later!” After hanging up, Wu Nian took a cab to Jasmine

Spa Parlour.

The streets of A City had changed drastically through the years, to the extent that she could barely recognize it anymore.

When she was younger, her dream was to build a house. She wanted to stay at her favorite

place forever. However, she kept relocating now. The transient nature of her houses often

reminded her of how fragile life was.

While her mind wandered, she arrived at Jasmine Spa Parlour and followed the staff into room 203. "I'd like a rose-scented bath, but not now because I'm waiting for someone. Is that alright?" "Sure. Please take a rest first. If you need assistance, just press the service button on the table," said the staff with a smile as she passed her a cup of tea.

"Thank you. Can you please leave the room for a while? It won't be for long."

"Oh, sure." The staff shot Wu Nian a puzzled glance before leaving the room.

Wu Nian sent a text to Liu Yan's mother: I'm in room 203.

She had just sat on the couch when Liu Yan's mother entered through the back door and

locked it. With an anxious look, she asked, "What happened to Yan?

She's not coming home

and doesn't even call us. Even during festivals or her father's birthday, she still didn't come

back. Her father is so infuriated by her."

"I'm sorry, but she has her own reasons for doing so. She got into trouble with someone

formidable and was forced to enter a relationship with him. He even prohibited her from

aborting her child, saying that if she did that, her loved ones would be in danger, especially

her parents. Liu Yan was worried that she would drag both of you down, so she cut off all

ties with you. She just doesn't want to involve you two."

After a slight pause, she continued, "Liu Yan has a chance to leave that man now. However,

she would need to escape this country and live anonymously. She's afraid that the man will

seek trouble with both of you after she leaves."

Liu Yan's mother frowned as she blurted a series of questions. "Who did Yan offend?

Although she's very straightforward with her words, she's not a bad person. I always remind

her to be mindful of her words. What should we do now? Where is she going? Is she never coming back? What should my husband and I do? He misses her so badly that he fell sick.”

“I can’t reveal who she offended for now. However, he is a very powerful man. A single command by him can turn the entire A City upside down. You can barely imagine how much power he wields.”

“Could the man that you’re talking about be... Shen Yiyang? The current commander-in-chief?”

asked Liu Yan’s mother tentatively.

Wu Nian was stunned, not expecting her to be right on her first guess. Liu Yan’s mother caught on to Wu Nian’s expression and knew that she was right.

“I knew it! Since young, he kept pestering Yan. I was still wondering how someone like him managed to become the commander-in-chief. Never have I expected him to treat Yan like this. I mean, he’s already married, for goodness sake! Yan hates mistresses and being restrained the most. Her life must be so horrible now.” Liu Yan’s mother wiped her tears, her eyes reddened.

“Well, luckily, she has an opportunity to escape now and she managed to find someone who can change your identities. Although you won’t be able to contact your past friends, you won’t be in any trouble. Will both of you be willing to do that?”

“Can’t we leave with her? We’ll follow her wherever she goes. We can always find new friends and jobs, but we only have one daughter. We can take care of her too!” Liu Yan’s mother pleaded sadly.

“That would be the best. I can arrange for that. What’s Mr. Liu’s opinion?”

“He actually cares more about Yan than me, but he just didn’t understand her actions. If he

knows about this, he'll definitely be willing," assured Liu Yan's mother confidently.

"If both of you are willing, just call me. I'll make the necessary arrangements."

Scrutinizing Wu Nian, Liu Yan's mother replied, "Thank you."

"I'm just doing what I should do." Wu Nian revealed a smile.

Now that Liu Yan's family was safe, she had no more regrets.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 400

Chapter 400 The Sorrow Of Farewells

As Wu Nian did not want Liu Yan to worry excessively, she called her.

"What did my parents say?" asked Liu Yan anxiously.

"Well, not only did your mother agree to retire, but she also wants to leave with you and take care of you in the future."

"Really?" Liu Yan was getting emotional.

"Yeah, but she still needs to convince your father. Don't worry, he loves you more than your

mother. If he knows that you had your own grievances, he'll definitely leave with you. Also,

since we've settled everything with your parents, it'll be safer if you don't meet with them for

now. Since Shen Yiyan's such a meticulous and cautious person, we should be more careful

too."

"Okay! It's great that my parents are willing to leave with me. I have enough money for the rest of our lives. Other than not being able to meet with you anymore, I don't have any other

regrets," said Liu Yan as tears streamed down her cheeks.

"Farewells are inevitable in life. I consider myself lucky to be able to have you as my friend.

You must be happy, okay?" Wu Nian smiled faintly.

"I promise you that I'll be happy," guaranteed Liu Yan.

Soaking in the rose-scented bath, Wu Nian closed her eyes quietly and enjoyed the relaxing

massage.

"Ma'am! Ma'am!"

When the beautician woke Wu Nian up, she opened her eyes.

“You’ve been in the bath for two hours. It won’t be good if you soak in the water for too long,”

reminded the beautician gently.

“I’m sorry, I fell asleep.” Wu Nian stood up and the beautician wrapped a towel around her.

Probably because she had soaked in the bath for too long, she lacked oxygen and her legs

turned weak. She lost her balance and fell into the bathtub again.

Massaging her temples, she said apologetically, “I’m sorry, I can’t seem to do anything well.

How much more money do I have to pay?”

“There’s no need for that. If you like it, you can consider signing up for a membership. If you

pay a thousand, we can give you two hundred for free. You can use it for spa, massages, or

even staying overnight,” introduced the beautician enthusiastically.

“We can stay overnight here?”

“Yeah, we have standard and large rooms on the third floor. They all cost five hundred a

night. If you pay for the overnight stay and the spa, we can give you a thirty percent

discount. We even provide room services.”

“That’s great! How much will you give if I pay ten thousand for the membership?”

“If you pay a thousand, we’ll give two hundred for free. If you pay two thousand, we’ll give

five hundred. So if you pay ten thousand, we’ll give five thousand.

Would you like to sign up

for membership now?”

“Yes, please.”

“Sure!” The beautician grinned brightly and did it immediately.

After Wu Nian paid, she stayed in the spa parlor’s guest rooms.

The room looked quite decent and its walls were painted in pink. The couch and bed look

relatively new, with a weighing scale and a treadmill placed in the room as well. She actually

liked it quite a lot.

After lying on the bed, she connected to the Wi-Fi and checked the price of the yacht.

The eleven-meter-long yacht cost less than four hundred thousand. Its pictures and

description were quite decent. The yacht was equipped with rooms, beds, televisions, bathrooms, and at the end of the yacht, it was renovated to a kitchen.

There was also a

dining table underneath. Two deckchairs were spread out on the bow, with the bridge being

above the cabin. It was very spacious.

However, one would need a license to steer a boat.

Hence, she searched up where she could get a license.

The people selling the yacht would arrange for the examination.

She checked her bank account again. With more than seven million left, she could buy a

larger yacht. Scrolling through the web pages, she only stopped when it was three in the

morning. She placed her phone on the bedside table and lay on the bed, but she could not

fall asleep.

This is bad. It seems like my insomnia is starting again.

Wu Nian got up and ran on the treadmill for an hour. It was only after exhausting herself that

she could sleep.

The room was soundproof, so she slept till she woke up naturally the next morning. She

grabbed her phone to glance at the time.

As she had forgotten to charge her phone yesterday, it had switched off automatically.

She immediately charged her phone. When she was washing up in the toilet, she heard the

notification sounds of her phone ringing relentlessly.

Could it be that one of those messages is from Gu Mingchen?

Wu Nian shook her head at that thought.

Nah, there's no way he would contact me... I'm just overthinking.

It was quite ridiculous for that thought to even cross her mind. After all, Gu Mingchen had

evicted her out of his world. And yet, she was still clinging onto some hope. When one's mind and heart are not at the same place, conflicts and troubles would arise.

She knew that if she did not want the situation to reach a point of no return, she had to remain rational and clear-minded.

After washing up and exiting the bathroom, she glanced at her phone. The missed calls

were from Liu Yan and Liu Yan's mother.

She felt apologetic that her phone had switched off automatically, which stopped her from serving as their means of communication.

She called Liu Yan's mother first.

"Did something happen to Yan?" the latter asked worriedly.

"I'm sorry, I overslept. Yan's fine, so don't worry," assured Wu Nian gently.

"That's great! My husband already agreed to leave with Yan. What should we do now? We'll

listen to everything you say. But before we leave, can you let us meet with Yan once?" She

heaved a sigh of relief.

"Okay, I'll call her first and get back to you within ten minutes." With that, Wu Nian hung up and called Liu Yan.

"Nian, where are you? What did my parents say?" demanded Liu Yan anxiously. Hearing that,

Wu Nian thought that Liu Yan's temper was just like her mother's.

"I'm in room 506 in Jasmine Spa Parlour. I'll be staying here for a short period of time. Your

parents have already agreed to leave with you, but they'd like to meet you first. You can

come over here now and we can have a spa together. There's a backdoor through which your parents can enter."

"Alright, I'll come over now." Liu Yan hung up immediately.

With Wu Nian acting as the middleman, Liu Yan and her parents finally met. While the family

of three chatted, she stood guard outside.
Wu Nian reckoned that within a month, she and Liu Yan would embark on separate paths.
Although she felt sorrowful, she decided not to show it because she did not want to affect
Liu Yan's feelings. Nonetheless, that didn't stop her heart from aching with sadness.
One hour later, Liu Yan walked out of the room with reddened eyes. She grabbed Wu Nian's
hands. "Thank you, Nian."
"You don't need to thank me. It's all because of your close relationship. Let's go and have
dinner. We can head to the bar afterward. To send you off on your journey, let's get drunk
tonight," suggested Wu Nian with a smile.

"All right. Let's go and get drunk!" Liu Yan hugged Wu Nian's shoulder. Now that the former
had resolved something that had been troubling her for ages, her mood improved.
They went to the famous Lane Hotel in A City.
"The codfish, corn stew, roast duck, and sauteed crab with tofu here are amazing. Shen
Yiyan brought me here to eat these previously." Liu Yan ordered some dishes and added
some herbal tea, too.
"When are you planning to go travel?" asked Wu Nian.
"Now that I've settled everything with my parents, I plan to leave next week. They'll join a
tour group to Ustrana. I'll tell you the details after I sign them up."
"They can't join a tour group to Ustrana. For starters, if Shen Yiyan knows that all of you are
going to Ustrana, he'll definitely think that something's up. When that happens, he can
cancel the tour easily and your parents won't be able to leave," reminded Wu Nian.
"Then what should we do?"