

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 401 - 402

Chapter 401 Farewell

“Let your parents join a tour group to somewhere near Ustrana. I’ll contact Aaron and ask him to pick them up,” Wu Nian suggested.

“Your plan does sound better. I was too simple-minded. Let’s go with your suggestion, then.

Please help me contact Aaron to take care of my parents,” was Liu Yan’s reply

“Sure.”

After eating, they went to a bar nearby, where they became slightly tipsy after drinking. Then, they went to sing at a karaoke bar.

Wu Nian sang a lot of songs, belting out all the notes at the top of her lungs.

Liu Yan had drunk a lot too. Unable to hold herself together, she fell asleep on the couch.

After asking the staff for a blanket, Wu Nian draped it over Liu Yan and continued signing.

The last song she sang was Goodbye My Friend.

“So goodbye my friend, I know I’ll never see you again. But the time together through all the years will take away these tears. It’s okay now, Goodbye my friend.”

The song aroused her sadness. After gulping down a glass of red wine, she lay down on the couch as well.

Although Wu Nian should be drunk after drinking so much, she noticed that her mind was surprisingly clear.

She did not want to sleep either, so she grabbed her phone and scrolled to Gu Mingchen’s number.

Before she even realize what she was doing, she had clicked on the dial button.

Gu Mingchen rejected the call.

Wu Nian forced out a smile while tears streamed down her cheeks. She closed her eyes.

It's better if he didn't accept it.

Her head felt heavy and she was on the brink of falling asleep when her phone rang.

When she saw that it was from Gu Mingchen, she subconsciously picked it up.

"What's the matter?" Gu Mingchen asked in a deep voice.

His background was silent and his voice sounded exceptionally emotionless.

Wu Nian remained silent.

Gu Mingchen chuckled and scoffed, "Didn't I tell you to stop contacting me? Have you

forgotten about it? What do you want, Bai Rong?"

"I'm sorry, I called the wrong number." Wu Nian hung up the call. After a moment of

deliberation, she blocked his number and deleted it.

I mustn't call Gu Mingchen again. Never.

Feeling upset, she poured herself another glass of red wine and drank everything.

She did not know how she fell asleep. In the end, the staff at the karaoke bar had to wake

her up.

Her head ached terribly. Afraid that Liu Yan would say something nonsensical, she brought

Liu Yan to her room in the spa parlor and continued sleeping.

It was only when someone knocked on the door that Wu Nian got up to open it.

Shen Yiyao was standing outside solemnly. He threw Wu Nian a sharp glance, his gaze as

unfathomable as the deep-sea trench. However, there was a vague turmoil of emotions in

his eyes, as if he had discovered something.

Wu Nian felt shivers run down her spine.

"Where is she?" asked Shen Yiyao coldly.

"She's still sleeping. We sang at the karaoke till late at night yesterday," explained Wu Nian.

"I'm afraid that she didn't only go to the karaoke bar, right?" asked Shen Yiyao as he

scrutinized Wu Nian.

Smiling faintly, she cast her gaze downward and did not reply to him. At this point in time, it would be riskier to speak excessively. Shen Yiyao entered the room. Liu Yan was sprawled across the bed with a leg dangling outside the bed and her shirt rolled up to her stomach. She had one hand under her head and the other thrown casually across the sheets. Walking over, Shen Yiyao carried her and smoothed her clothes. Just then, Liu Yan opened her eyes and saw him. "My head hurts. I want to sleep!" "If you didn't drink so much last night, it wouldn't have hurt. Are you happy to see your parents?" asked Shen Yiyao, his tone hostile. Liu Yan glanced at Wu Nian. "You told him?" Wu Nian was rendered speechless. Liu Yan is simply too naive. She exposed everything immediately. "Yan really misses her parents. It's not crossing the line to meet them, right?" Wu Nian defended her friend.

Liu Yan glanced at Shen Yiyao. "Of course not. But there's no need to do it so secretly. If you want to see them, I'll arrange it for you," replied Shen Yiyao grimly. "The problem can only be resolved by the one who started it. I'm afraid that you can't solve the conflict just by making arrangements yourself," interrupted Wu Nian, afraid that Liu Yan would say something wrong. "If I can't solve a problem, do you think that you can?" snapped Shen Yiyao coldly. "For instance, are you planning to contact Aaron to help Liu Yan leave with her parents?" Wu Nian's heart skipped a beat at that. So, Shen Yiyao already knows our plan clearly. "I don't think I'm capable enough to do that. Do you think I am that capable, commander-in-chief?" Wu Nian threw the question back at him calmly.

He lowered his head and glanced at Liu Yan in his arms. "Don't do anything that you'll regret, okay?"

Shen Yiyuan was currently emitting a dangerous aura. He was like an awakened beast, threatening to devour anyone in sight.

"What's wrong with you? Why are you acting up so early in the morning? Don't vent your anger on me. I'm not your punching bag." Liu Yan struggled to break free from his grasp.

However, he hugged her even more tightly. "It's already past noon. It's not morning anymore.

Also, I never vent my anger on you. I'll only vent my anger on others after being infuriated by you."

"Looks like your subordinates are constantly under the fire of your fury, huh? You're already over thirty this year. It's time for you to control your temper," reprimanded Liu Yan.

Shen Yiyuan placed her down and pinned her on the bed. He threw a glance at Wu Nian.

"You'd better leave now unless you'd like to witness us in action."

Speechless, Wu Nian blushed and glanced at Liu Yan.

Liu Yan struggled futilely. "Shen Yiyuan, you're bullying a helpless woman. What kind of a man are you?"

"Are you really a helpless woman? You don't look like it, being so sharp-tongued!" rebuked

Shen Yiyuan.

Silently, Wu Nian left the room and closed the door behind her.

I guess I won't see Liu Yan anymore today.

She left Jasmine Spa Parlour. Following the address on the website, she headed to a yacht shop near the sea.

The salesperson walked toward her enthusiastically. "How may I help you?"

"I'd like to buy a yacht that's around twenty meters long for me to live in. It should be

well-equipped with advanced facilities. It'll be better if it can steer itself to a designated location on autopilot." Wu Nian stated the requirements she wanted. "We've just launched a new series of yachts. The equipment is imported and they fulfill all of your requirements. The yacht is around twenty meters long and eight meters wide. It has three levels too." The salesperson took out a catalog. He continued introducing the yacht, "The basement is a storage section equipped with a fridge. You can place food and miscellaneous items there. There are two rooms that are twenty square meters wide on the first floor. One is a bedroom and the other is the living room. There's also a kitchen which is connected to the lower ground storage room. There's a bar counter in the kitchen for eating." After a slight pause, he added, "There's also a guest room with nice scenery and the bridge on the second floor. There's an open deck on the roof where you can fish. Furthermore, if you buy it now, we'll give you a lifeboat for free. It'll be attached to the side of the yacht. If something happened, all you need to do is press the emergency button and the lifeboat will be deployed within a minute before it self-inflates." "Sounds good! How much does it cost?" Wu Nian felt convinced when she saw the picture.

"Ms. Wu, you're here too!" A man's voice sounded. She turned around and glanced at the man, but she did not know him. He smiled awkwardly and explained, "I'm Zhang Xingyu, Mr. Gu's assistant."

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Chapter 402 We Are Friends

"I see," replied Wu Nian before tears welled up in her eyes inconspicuously. "I'm here to accompany a friend, so I won't disturb you anymore."

"Oh, okay," he answered.

“Ms. Wu, its initial cost is one million and eighty thousand. But since we’re doing a promotional event now, it’ll only cost nine hundred and eighty thousand. That’s around a hundred thousand in discount. Furthermore, we’ll give you some amazing gifts, such as a rice cooker and an oven. You can also participate in a lucky draw where you might stand a chance to win a fridge, a motorcycle, or a speedboat,” introduced the salesperson enthusiastically.

“Please give me your name card. I’ll relay the message to my friend and if she’s interested, I’ll contact you later,” said Wu Nian, feeling interested.

“Okay, sure.” The salesperson handed her his name card excitedly. After leaving the shop, she strolled at the dock instead of going back. There were a lot of people selling various seafood, such as octopuses, crabs, fish, clams, and prawns.

A fishy smell lingered in the air while fishermen crowded the place. Due to the timing, there were not a lot of customers there.

Wu Nian wanted to buy a crab. However, when she remembered that the room which she was staying in did not have a kitchen, she gave up on that thought. She strolled by the sea instead, feeling the sea breeze against her face.

She remembered sitting on the beach, enjoying the sea breeze with Gu Mingchen. The sea breeze was gentle and the fire raged in the stone pile. The stew in the pot boiled while the glow of the fire lit up their faces.

Although there were only the two of them there, she did not feel lonely at all. All she felt was a calmness she had never felt before.

Now, she was roaming in a bustling city all alone. Other than a greater sense of loneliness,

she felt on edge as well. She did not know where she wanted to go and if there was a place for her to rest at. Every day was filled with solitude and despair. Just then, an old lady, who was carrying a large basket over her back, staggered and fell onto the ground. She rushed over and wanted to help her out. "Are you okay?" Sitting on the floor, the old woman grabbed her hand and yelled, "Help! Someone knocked me down!" Wu Nian stared at her intently and asked calmly, "Are you sure that you want to do this?" "Ma'am, it's a blind spot here. I'll just insist that you pushed me. I don't want a lot. Just give me two hundred, or I'll make a big deal out of this," whispered the old lady. Wu Nian smirked. "You're scamming others by exploiting their kindness. Even if you lead a good life in this world, you or your children will still suffer due to retribution." "What are you talking about? I'll rip your mouth out!" threatened the old woman menacingly. When Wu Nian studied psychology, she learned that people would act aggressively to conceal their unease or escape from something because they felt unconfident or terrified. Smiling, Wu Nian took out two hundred from her wallet and passed it to the old woman.

The old woman was stunned as she took the money. After leaving, Wu Nian sat under the shade of a tree and stared at the azure sea for a long time until the sun set. When she entered a seafood buffet restaurant, she saw a girl place all the food on the table before snapping a few pictures of it and posting the best one on her social media. Some people lived for others. They could only find their sense of identity through others'

envy and praises.

Wu Nian chose a seat and ate some food. Then, she took out her phone and played My

Talking Hank to pass the time.

Suddenly, her phone rang. When she saw that it was from Liu Yan, she immediately

accepted it.

Liu Yan was silent.

As she rarely acted like that, Wu Nian had a bad feeling. "What happened? Did something

happen?"

"Shen Yiyan will be tagging along for a week for the trip. When he's away, he'll instruct a

guard to constantly stay by my side. I think he knows that I'm planning to leave, what should

I do? The men he sends will definitely be elite," revealed Liu Yan worriedly.

"Don't worry, there'll always be a way out. Shen Yiyan's guards are no exception. I have a

plan, but it might place Shen Yiyan in a dangerous situation. However, the more dangerous it

is for him, the more distracted his men would be and they won't be able to watch over you.

It'll increase the chances for you to escape," said Wu Nian contemplatively.

"Place Shen Yiyan in a dangerous situation?" Liu Yan paused for a while.

"Although he

always forces me, won't his death lead to severe consequences for the country?"

"He'll only be in danger, he won't die."

"Okay, then. I'll probably go on my trip the day after tomorrow. I hope that everything will go

well," prayed Liu Yan.

"It probably will. However, considering how meticulous and careful Shen Yiyan is, he might

confiscate your phone during your trip." Wu Nian made a guess.

"Then what should I do?"



“I know there exists a reagent that can be injected into someone’s arm. A normal detector won’t be able to detect it. Only specialized instruments are able to eavesdrop and stalk the location. Let me contact someone to get it, and we’ll meet tomorrow.”

“Okay. Have you eaten dinner?” asked Liu Yan.

“Yeah, I’m preparing to go back now. Where are you?”

“I’m already at the manor. I’ll see you tomorrow, then.” With that, Liu Yan hung up.

Sitting in the cab, Wu Nian pondered about who could help her.

She could not ask Gu Mingchen for help anymore and she did not want to involve herself

with Su Xuyan, lest he blackmailed her. The only person who could help her was Aaron.

However, she did not know if she could ever repay the favors he had done for her. Hence, it

was hard for her to ask him for help.

Stuck in her dilemma, time passed and she unknowingly reached the Jasmine Spa Parlour.

When she entered the room, she saw that it had been cleaned and the bedsheets had been

changed. It looked like no one had slept in it before.

She tossed her bag on the couch, sat down, and fell into a momentary daze.

Her pride no longer mattered when it concerned her friend’s fate.

Hence, she called Aaron.

“Hey! My grandmother was just talking about you. It’s such a coincidence that you called

now,” said Aaron with a chuckle.

No matter when she called him, he always sounded so cheerful.

Feeling touched, Wu Nian asked, “I have something to tell you. When Liu Yan leaves, there might be some guards following her, and I might not be able to contact her.”

“As long as she comes to Ustrana, it doesn’t matter how many guards she has with her. I’m

still confident that I can save your friend, so don’t worry.”

“But if I can’t contact her, I won’t know where they are.”

Chuckling, Aaron promised her confidently, "I have the God's Eye in Ustrana. Regardless of where they are and what they're doing, I'll be able to find them. Just leave it to me and don't worry about it."

She felt assured after hearing what he said. It seemed like she did not have to feel troubled over how to divert the guards now.

"Thank you, Aaron."

"You're welcome. We're friends, after all."

"Yeah, we're friends." Wu Nian repeated his words before hanging up. Just then, someone knocked on the door.

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Chapter 403 Love

Wu Nian peered through the peephole and saw two men in suits standing in the doorway.

She flinched a little. Having a bad hunch, her hand froze an inch away from the door handle.

"We know you're inside there, Ms. Wu. Fret not, Mr. Shen sent us," a voice rang from the other side.

Her brows knitted into a deep furrow.

Mr. Shen?

They must be Shen Yiyang's men then.

There was no reason for her to hide. She straightened herself and swung the door open. "Is there anything Shen Yiyang wants my help with?"

"It's better if you ask him in person later," one of them replied with a brisk nod. "He'd only sent us to pick you up."

"I understand," Wu Nian answered, locking the door behind her as she stepped out. As soon as she was escorted into the car, the men blindfolded her in one swift yet nonviolent motion. Her belongings were also confiscated.

Wu Nian sat quietly, completely unalarmed by what they did.

Shen Yiyan was never a pushover, to begin with. Beyond that, countless corpses had become his stepping stones in his quest to obtain his current throne. Of course, it'd be no surprise for that man to resort to such ruthless means. She leaned back in her seat, feeling nothing but tranquil.

For someone who had a close brush with death and had forgone all attachments in this world, nothing could ever intimidate her anymore. An hour later, the car began to make a handful of continuous swerves almost every minute. Wu Nian could tell that they were no longer on the city's main roads. They had most likely entered a hidden base beneath ground level. After another ten minutes, the car eventually came to a halt. Her blindfold was then finally removed. A man in a black military uniform opened the passenger door next to her seat. "My apologies for the inhospitable journey, Ms. Wu," he greeted coldly. "Please follow me." "It's alright," Wu Nian answered plainly as she got off the car. She trailed behind the uniformed man closely as they walked past multiple doors in the basement, then stopped in front of one that stood in the deepest end of the hallway. Eight armed guards stood before them. This is probably where he is. After one of the guards knocked on the door, a familiar voice echoed from inside, "Come in." The guards then opened the door and gestured towards Wu Nian. Shen Yiyan sat behind his desk, his eyes fixated on a document laid out before him as two uniformed figures stood quietly across him. Looking up at the sight of Wu Nian at the door, he placed the files aside and crossed his fingers. "Leave us." At his command, the man and the woman bowed respectfully and retreated out of the room, shutting the door behind them.

It was just the two of them left in the vast, luxurious office. Shen Yiyang stood up. With a faint smile, he motioned towards his wine cabinet on the other side of the room. "Fancy a glass? Pick whatever you like."

Wu Nian returned the greeting with an equally placid smile. "Any red will do."

Shen Yiyang walked over to the cabinet and opened a bottle of Lafite. "It seems I've underestimated Liu Yan's friend," he spoke as he poured the wine into two glasses in a flawless, elegant movement.

Wu Nian sat herself down on the couch across his desk. "I didn't expect Yan to be able to provoke you either."

"Strictly speaking, you owe me your life," he replied while handing her a glass.

Wu Nian took it in her hand with a smirk. "I've never planned to stay alive from the beginning."

Shen Yiyang raised a brow. "I have to thank you still. Liu Yan wouldn't have stayed by my side and bore my child if it weren't to save you."

"Surely you knew this, General. I'm trying my best to atone for my mistakes." Wu Nian

glanced at her deep scarlet drink as she swirled it briefly before she downed the entire glass of wine in one gulp.

A cold glint flickered in Shen Yiyang's eyes. "Aren't you afraid that I might go against Gu Mingchen?"

"You've always wanted to, anyway," Wu Nian muttered indifferently.

She rested the glass on the table and continued, "That intention of yours won't change because of me."

Shen Yiyang curled up a corner of his lips. "I've always thought Gu Mingchen was invincible, save for his one weakness, which is you. Now it seems like you're actually the truly

invincible one. Why don't we make a deal?"

Wu Nian stared straight into his eyes. "I don't think there's any business worth discussing between us."

Shen Yiyao placed his glass down on the desk. "I love Liu Yan," he declared coldly.

Wu Nian's heart skipped a beat at these words. Frowning, she gazed at him suspiciously.

"Why else do you think that I'd do anything to keep her by my side, even if it means putting my name at stake once her identity is exposed to the public?" he continued with a firm tone.

"And who else would be spared like she was despite having insulted me thousand times over?"

"Then do you think Su Xuyan loves me?" Wu Nian refuted.

Shen Yiyao pursed his lips. He spoke again after a momentary silence, "You think he doesn't?"

"I don't. All I see in him are possessiveness and destruction. Likewise, these are the only things I see in you but love."

With a sigh, Wu Nian continued berating, "Look around you. Everything here's made of metals and bulletproof materials. Clearly, you're aware of the dangers lurking around you.

Without a doubt, if Yan's identity is exposed, she would be the first to die instead of you. It's obvious who's that brilliant mastermind behind Stephen's murder case. Don't tell me it was one of your subordinates instead?"

At this, Shen Yiyao narrowed his gaze. "I can guarantee you this. She will never be harmed, as long as I'm alive."

"You should know her just as much as I do." Wu Nian sneered before she said, "Yan is innocent but righteous, reckless at times but one of the kindest people I know. With that soft

heart of hers, she'd never been cunning enough to set anyone up as you do."

She then continued, "Besides, she's a free-spirited person who would never succumb herself to anybody's expectations. Look what you've done to her! You stripped away all the dignity she had and gave her a miserable life in return. Being restrained from day to day is already torture for her, let alone having to separate from her own child! The Yan I see now is no different from a helpless canary trapped in a cage, if not worse." Wu Nian glared daggers at the man as she ranted on, "On top of that, she has to carry the image of a mistress! It wouldn't have been so bad if you were a commoner, but you're the president of all people. If her name gets written in history alongside yours, she'd be painted as nothing more than a scandalous woman!"

"That's why Yan would rather lose everything else in exchange for her own freedom," she stated firmly.

Shen Yiyang clenched his teeth as he listened, and a piercing glare burned in his eyes. "In that case, I shall break her wings! At least a canary's life is preserved so long as her master remains standing."

Trembling in anger, Wu Nian leaped from her seat. "She'll hate you for the rest of her life!"

Clank! Shen Yiyang smashed his wine glass onto the ground. As it shattered into pieces in a pool of dark red, he stormed towards Wu Nian and grabbed onto her shoulders. With a fierce glare, he said firmly, "I love her!"

Wu Nian wasn't in the least bit daunted. She glared back at him with just as much fury in her eyes. "You have no right to talk about loving her when you're another woman's husband! You're only destroying her!"

“I’ve never touched my own wife, not even once!” he growled. Loosening his grip on her shoulders slightly, he continued with a somewhat lowered voice, “Liu Yan is the only woman I ever gave my heart to. One day, I’ll take her as my rightful wife. Now isn’t the right time. Admittedly, I haven’t stabilized my position completely at this point. With my responsibilities and family legacy, a careless mistake won’t just ruin me. It could mean hundreds and thousands of lives going down together with me.” Wu Nian’s heart wrenched at the cruel destiny awaiting Liu Yan. “That’s all the more reason for you to not drag Yan into your troubles! It’s unfair to her.” “That’s why I’m trying to work out an agreement with you! I’ll let Liu Yan go in the meantime, but you’ll have to tell me where she is. I will go to her once these problems are settled. I believe there’s no other man who’d love her more than I do...” Shen Yiyang glanced away. A layer of mist clouded his eyes for a moment. “And of course, how could I ever forget Bao? He’s my son. Which other man would care for him if not his own father?” Wu Nian observed him in silence. A conflicting mix of thoughts and emotions rushed through her mind at once, as memories from five years ago resurfaced...

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#### Chapter 404 Battle Of Wits

She had seen countless reunions and separations. She had seen some of the most loving couples putting a bitter end to their marriage after a decade or two. Love sustains a marriage, so they said. But what Wu Nian had learned was that a child could be the most reliable bridge between a husband and wife. A child weighed so much more than a piece of legal paper.

Regardless of how much Shen Yiyan claimed to love Yan, it's undeniable that Bao was their flesh and blood.

Whatever the type of relationship was between two people, whether they're family, friends, or a couple, feelings were feeble.

Although the man in front of Wu Nian appeared to be a tyrant, his willingness to risk everything to keep Liu Yan by his side was a compelling portrayal of his commitment

towards the woman. Plus, the fact that Yan didn't need to hide her stubborn attitude from

him showed just how much affection the usually cold-blooded demon harbored for her.

Perhaps... Yan will never encounter such sheer love again in the future.

Wu Nian simmered down with a sigh. "I can help you, but there're a few conditions I need

you to comply with."

In that instant, Shen Yiyan let go of her shoulders. "Name them."

"First, you're not allowed to see Yan until you're officially divorced."

"Sure," he agreed without the slightest hesitation.

"Second, if Yan finds new love before you're done with your business, you shall not intervene

in her life anymore."

At that, an icy glow flashed across his eyes, albeit it vanished in a blink.

"Alright."

"Third, if you're still the general when you marry her, you must believe in her at all times and

protect her at all costs. With her character, Yan isn't the best at protecting herself from

scheming folks."

"That's for sure. I'll never let her get hurt, even if it means destroying everything. Besides me,

no one is allowed to bully her."

"No, you're not allowed to either."

Shen Yiyan was speechless for a second before he continued, "Fine, I won't bully her. She'll

be the one bullying me instead, will that do?"



“I need you to swear this on your life,” Wu Nian added, staring firmly in his eyes. “That if you can’t fulfill any of the above, your parents shall die a painful death, and you shall be reduced to ruins.”

Shen Yiyao raised an eyebrow in amusement. “That’s harsh.”

“So are you going to do it?”

Raising an arm, he swore, “If I don’t love Liu Yan enough, I shall be reduced to ruins. If I fail

to comply with any of the conditions, my parents shall suffer a painful death. Are you happy with that now?”

Wu Nian nodded. “I’ll get Aaron to inform you of her location once she’s settled down.”

A hopeful spark glimmered in the man’s eyes as his lips curved up into a faint smile. “I’ll

leave that to you then. My men shall escort you home. By the way, you do know what the

things you’re supposed to speak about and what you shouldn’t are, right?”

Folding her arms, Wu Nian replied coldly, “What do you think?”

Shen Yiyao smirked, though seemingly deep in thought. “How did Liu Yan even come across

such a terrifying friend like you?”

“That’s her fortune,” she responded and walked towards the door. “I’ll update you when the

time comes. Don’t you forget what you promised!”

Shen Yiyao closed his eyes for a moment. He then walked ahead of Wu Nian and opened

the door. “Send Ms. Wu home,” he ordered.

“Yes, Sir!” the guards saluted immediately and led Wu Nian towards the exit.

As Shen Yiyao watched the woman’s back diminish into the distance, he beckoned to the

adjutant standing next to him. “Go locate Liu Yan’s destination and deploy twenty-four-hour

surveillance around the location. I’ll never let her escape from my clutches.”

Meanwhile, back at the Jasmine Spa Parlour, Wu Nian glanced at her watch to see that it was already 3 a.m. It should be 8 p.m. in Lightspring now... She pulled out her phone and dialed Aaron's number. "You're still awake?" a warm, familiar voice echoed from the other end of the call. "Aaron, I need you to tell you something. I met with Shen Yiyang just now. He has agreed to let you whisk Yan away on purpose." Aaron was confused. "On purpose? What do you mean?" "You'll take her away as planned, but let her stay in Ustrana first. Don't let anyone kidnap her in the meantime. Wait for another ten days before you bring her to Dartan, and keep me informed of her movements from time to time." "That plan sounds even more exciting than the one before. Why the sudden change, though?" he asked gently. "Shen Yiyang has agreed to set her free until he's gotten rid of his troubles at hand, but I can't trust him completely. I'll give him a fake address first and see what he'll do. If he really holds onto his promises earlier, only then will I reveal Yan's true location to him." Aaron chuckled. "It seems like you're driving the demon out of wits this time. How clever!" Wu Nian smiled. "I'll take that as a compliment." "It's up to your interpretation. By the way..." Aaron hesitated shortly before continuing, "I might need a little help from you as well."

"What is it?" she probed confidently. If it's something she could help with, she would absolutely do it. Wu Nian never liked owing anyone a favor. A pang of guilt shot through her heart as images of various people who had sacrificed themselves for her reemerged in her head. Among many of them, there was Liu Yan, and there was Mu Xiaosheng...

“Grandma’s visiting next month,” Aaron explained. “And since I did mention to her that you’re my friend, I’ll probably need you to spare some time to meet up.” “Don’t worry, that’s something I should do after all! Just fill me in when you’ve confirmed the time of her arrival.”

“Great, thanks!” Aaron’s voice rang cheerfully. “You should go sleep soon. Staying awake at such ungodly hours isn’t good for your skin, you know.”

Wu Nian couldn’t help but let out a chuckle. For some reason, this man could always make her feel comfortable somehow. “Alright then, I’ll see you next month. Goodnight!”

“See you soon. Goodnight.”

At that, Wu Nian hung up the phone and proceeded to take a quick bath. As she laid in bed, she was plagued with thoughts about Gu Mingchen the whole night. Tossing and turning restlessly, her heart ached every second whenever he appeared in her mind.

She flipped on her back towards the other side of the bed and forced her eyes shut. It’s okay. It’ll be over soon. You’ll forget about all these feelings before you know it... As she slowly drifted into sleep, she could feel something warm and wet trickle down her cheeks.

Life is but a brief candle, huh? I’ll get used to it...

When Wu Nian opened her eyes again in a daze, it was already 12 in the afternoon. Dragging her heavy self out of bed, she freshened herself for the day and proceeded to call her friend.

Liu Yan’s flustered voice rang from the phone. “So how was it? I’ve been waiting for your call!”

Following a sluggish yawn, Wu Nian slowly steadied herself before she replied, “Aaron has access to God’s Eye. He said he’ll be able to rescue you once you land in Ustrana.”

“God’s Eye? What on earth is that? That sounds like a load of crap from him!”

She probably snapped a nerve while fretting over this, didn’t she? “I’m talking about that surveillance system that allows him to access the cameras throughout the city,” Wu Nian explained deliberately. “So the moment you arrive, Aaron can track you down quickly via the facial recognition features.”

“Right, now I remember! Gosh, I’ve been losing my appetite and sleep these days. I can feel more and more of my brain cells dying as the day goes by....” As Liu Yan blabbered, she exclaimed all of a sudden, “Oh dear, Shen Yiyao is here again! I have to go. Talk to you later!”

With that, she hung up abruptly.

Wu Nian sighed helplessly.

Though Shen Yiyao might truly love her, it’s only reasonable that Yan found it difficult to accept it within such a short time. Apart from the difference in their status, their relationship hadn’t started well either.

As soon as Wu Nian sat down on her bed, another buzz resounded from her phone.

Hesitating slightly at the unknown number flashed on the screen, she answered cautiously,

“Hello? Who’s on the line?”

“Good afternoon, Ms. Wu! This is the Galactic Voyage Yachts,” a jovial voice spoke. “We

would like to inform you that today will be the last day of our promotional campaign for the

best-selling model which you were interested in earlier. Also, we’re giving out an additional

discount of fifty thousand and a complimentary jet ski. Would you like to place an order

today before the campaign ends?”

“I see. I’ll get one unit then. Please make sure that it’s brand new without any defects.”

“Rest assured, Ms. Wu!” the bright voice chirped. “Our brand has been consistently reliable

for over thirty years. When will it be convenient for you to come to the showroom and make your deposit?"

"I'll come this afternoon."

In the meantime, Zhang Xingyu hung up on a call he had received a minute ago and looked towards Gu Mingchen. "Ms. Wu really did purchase a yacht in her own name. Are you still planning to buy one?"

Gu Mingchen stared into the distance quietly for a while. "I need you to go to Jinyang City and help me do something there," he instructed the assistant.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 405

Chapter 405 Freedom

It was the day of Liu Yan's departure to Ustrana. Wu Nian had come to the airport to see her off.

Holding Wu Nian's hands in hers tightly, Liu Yan shot her a worried look.

"Rong, I know you

tend to keep things to yourself... I won't be by your side anymore, but whenever something's

bothering you, you can write it out as if you're writing me a letter. That'll help make you feel a bit better."

Wu Nian nodded obediently. "Okay."

Tears began welling up in Liu Yan's eyes. She stifled them with a sniff and continued

chokingly, "I'll miss you. Please don't forget me. You'll always be my bestie, even in the next life."

At the sight of her sobbing friend, Wu Nian couldn't hold back her tears any longer. She

nodded and reached out a hand towards Liu Yan's face, wiping off her tears and caressing

her cheek. "Remember to be careful with everything you do and say out there. When you're

angry, try listening to some music and cool off for a few minutes before jumping to

conclusions.”

“I can take care of myself. Let me know when Shen Yiyao finally moves on to another woman, though I’m pretty sure that won’t be long,” Liu Yan added hopefully. “When he’s no longer interested in me, I’ll come back secretly and see you whenever I can.”

Wu Nian lowered her eyelids without a word. Just then, Shen Yiyao’s silhouette came into the distance. “He’s here. Take care now.”

Liu Yan nodded and restrained her expression, fighting back her sorrow. This might be farewell for real. Who knows when I will ever get to see Rong again?

Shen Yiyao approached them in casual strides, a hand in his pocket. Seeing Liu Yan’s reddened eyes, he chided in a seemingly empathetic manner, “What are you crying for? It’s not like you both aren’t seeing each other anymore.”

Quickly sweeping her tears away, she shot him a sidelong glance with an annoyed frown.

“Why bother if I’m upset or not? The sky and the earth are already under your rule, and now you’re trying to control someone else’s emotions too?”

Shen Yiyao pulled her gently into an embrace. “You should be happy you’re going on a holiday. I’m the one who should be upset.”

As he spoke, he turned her around and walked her towards the departure hall.

Liu Yan stared at him, perplexed. “What are you even upset about? You come and go as you please.”

“You really don’t know what I’m feeling sad about?”

Wu Nian watched as the two of them walked off, their voices trailing off into the distance

along with their disappearing backs. She waited until the plane took off, then turned to leave with a heavy heart.

Now all that's left would be to wait for Aaron's news. Guess I should focus on getting my boating license for now.

Wu Nian spent her days ahead traveling back and forth between the training ground and her hotel.

Handling a yacht was much easier than she'd thought. It took less effort than learning to drive a car. Within a week of training, she was granted her license.

Wu Nian knew right away where she wanted to sail to. She'd always yearned to visit that deserted island back then once again. Having acquired everything she needed to fulfill her dreams, all that's left was to set the right coordinates on the yacht's auto-navigation, and then she'd be ready to go.

The day before the journey, she had bought over a week's worth of food and fuel.

Upon checking out of the hotel early that morning, she set out for her long-awaited adventure. It would take eight hours before she'd arrive at the deserted island.

Wrapping herself in a blanket, she stood on the yacht's deck and leaned against the bow, staring at the borderless horizon. The sky was clear, and the sea breeze felt somewhat cooler than usual.

This would be her way of life from now on. A life of solitude in the midst of the vast ocean, far away from bustling cities. She figured she could return to the mainland's shore on occasion to buy necessities and spend the rest of her days on this remote island without a care in the world until the time would come when she could no longer go on...

It was 4 p.m. when the island came into view. However, something didn't feel right. Through

the binoculars that had come as a package with the yacht, she could see a building on the coast. It looked like a residence.

Somebody built a house here? That's strange.

Ten more minutes passed before the yacht sailed close enough to give her a clearer view of the building.

It was a three-story house, enclosed within concrete walls that loomed over two meters.

Outside the walls, a water reservoir and a single concrete driveway sat there, leading

towards a metal gate. Seeing that the gate was locked, Wu Nian speculated that the owner of the house wasn't around.

Who would've thought that someone else had similar ideas of living on this island!

Considering that there was already one house built, it's possible for a second one would appear. She could earn a humble living by teaching the residents here.

She docked the yacht at a fifty-meter distance away from the other end of the shore. After a simple dinner that evening, she laid on a recliner atop the deck and gazed up at the stars above.

Despite being shielded beneath her thick, fuzzy blanket, the night breeze was cold enough to send chills down to her bones.

At last, she's back at the place she longed to be. Loneliness filled her nevertheless. The chilly atmosphere couldn't be more fitting.

That man was no longer here with her.

As she stared blankly at the deep, night sky, Wu Nian let her mind unravel in all kinds of

imaginations – thoughts about her death, about the possibilities of starting over, about

countless what-ifs. Before she could figure out any answers, however, she dozed off into a hazy sleep.



As she drifted in and out of incoherent dreams, Wu Nian felt as if she was being watched by a pair of eyes. At some point, a wave of coldness hit her, as though someone had pulled her blanket off her.

She struggled to snap herself awake. However, she found herself paralyzed, unable to move nor speak amidst the darkness that had enveloped her. After a short while, she gave up.

Whatever. Life or death makes no difference anyway.

Just as she convinced herself this way, her body began to feel light. She felt a swaying and

spinning sensation as if rocked back and forth by the ocean waves. A while later, a sudden heavy force pulled her into the depths and completely engulfed her consciousness.

Her eyelids fluttered open in a daze when squawks of seagulls filled her ears. She felt a

warm tingle of the sunlight upon her cheeks. It was morning. Her head felt heavy, and her

nose was stuffed. Oh, I've caught a cold... She sat up groggily and wobbled back into the cabin to get ready for the day.

Through the cabin window, she could see two wolves wandering on the shore. More of them

then emerged from the forest one by one and joined the pair, and they slowly grew into a pack of twelve.

One of them turned and noticed her. Sensing a potential prey, it howled.

The others then

stopped in their tracks and began to fix their eyes on her figure.

What a scene. If we were ambushed by these wild fellows instead of the masked men back

then, who knows if Gu Mingchen would even stand a chance against them...

She was oddly grateful that at the very least, they hadn't died in such a grim situation.

The wolves stood staring for almost an hour, baring their fangs in her direction once every while, though there was no way for them to reach prey that was too far out on the waters.

They eventually abandoned their bloodlust, lowered their heads, and walked away.

Wu Nian brewed herself some herbal porridge for breakfast.

She tried to run on the treadmill, only to have her head throbbing in pain at the end of the

workout. The agony soon spiraled beyond what she could endure. She thus popped a pill

and went back to sleep. When she woke up the next moment, it was already nearing the afternoon.

To her dismay, the cold had worsened. Her nose was so stuffed that it almost suffocated

her, and she felt shivers from time to time.

Wu Nian couldn't help berating herself. Who in their right minds would've spent a whole

night out there in the cold as she did? You brought this upon yourself.

What a fool! Without

much energy to do anything, she spent the rest of the day watching movies on her laptop

and making more porridge for dinner.

With herself ill, the week hence flew by without much excitement.

Save for the wolves who kept coming back to shore consecutively for five days straight.

They stopped showing up on the sixth day, presumably having decided that their prey would

never come ashore.

On the eighth day, Wu Nian packed up her things and sailed back to the city.

She knew she had to follow up on Liu Yan's situation and Aaron's upcoming visit. Her phone

had been dead silent since there was no signal on the island.

As soon as she arrived back on the mainland in midday, her phone buzzed violently with a

continuous row of incoming messages and missed calls.

Most of them had come from Shen Yiyan and Aaron.  
Wu Nian decided to contact the latter first.  
Aaron's sober voice greeted her almost immediately. "Where have you gone to? You went silent for a whole week out of the blue."  
"My bad," she apologized. "I got my yacht license last week, so I went on a solo trip. There wasn't any signal out there at sea."  
"You're living so freely these days, huh?"  
Wu Nian smiled mockingly at herself. "More like I just decided to dive headfirst into an adventure."  
"Liu Yan arrived two days ago. She's safe so far. I'll send you the address soon. I'm supposed to transfer her in eight days, right?"  
At that piece of news, she heaved a sigh of relief. "That's right. Keep your eyes on her, and don't let anyone take her away," she reminded.  
"I know. And about my grandma's visit, we'll be heading over to A City on the 15th," Aaron added, then paused for a second before he continued in a solemn tone, "There's also something else I need to talk to you about."