

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 121

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Bai Rong's heart soared. "What are you doing here?"

"Just passing by. I need to return to the neighboring city to handle a couple of things." Gu Mingchen explained.

No wonder Zhou Min had gone shopping on her own and even rejected any company. She must have known that Gu Mingchen was coming.

"I have made significant progress and have already started making my move on the people behind the antiques scheme. One step at a time, I will soon be able to apprehend those at Xingzheng Construction Company and they will eventually lead me to Lu Liangcheng. Once I catch him, I might even be able to solve the case of the village massacre."

"Zhou Min has reported to me. I think that even if someone accuses Lu Liangcheng, he might still not confess to the massacre. It is a choice between jail and the death sentence and he will not be so stupid as to willingly choose the latter by confessing. Unless we are able to find those gold bars." Gu Mingchen said logically.

"Hopefully we are able to find the evidence soon and put him behind bars. Have you eaten yet?" Bai Rong asked worriedly.

Gu Mingchen tapped her nose, saying, "I wanted to see you, but I must leave soon."

Disappointment crushed Bai Rong like a boulder.

Even if he had not eaten, he was still unable to eat with her.

"You don't have to specially drop by next time if you are in such a rush. I understand that you are busy."

Gu Mingchen smiled.

It took him four hours to rush back, and he would only be able to stay with her for an hour or so. Yet, he did so happily. She was worth it.

"You have lost weight, please eat more. Some things cannot be rushed. Take your time. Now that we are sure there's a problem with Jinyang City, the calmer you are, the more frantic those wrongdoers will be." Gu Mingchen advised rationally.

"I know I am too anxious."

"I came here bearing good news as well. It is unexpected yet reasonable." Gu Mingchen said, chuckling.

"What good news?"

"Do you remember how I got a bad feeling about the security chief?" Gu Mingchen reminded her.

"Yes, I do. He was really suspicious and seemed to be in cahoots with the security captain." Bai Rong nodded in agreement.

Gu Mingchen handed her a photo which depicted the security chief receiving a briefcase full of money from a man wearing sunglasses.

"Who is that man and why is he giving money to the chief?" Bai Rong asked, puzzled.

"He is the manager of Xingzheng Construction Company." Gu Mingchen revealed.

Bai Rong was shocked at the revelation. "Lu Liangcheng must have felt guilty so he sent Xingzheng Construction Company's manager to get rid of me, but the manager passed the task to the security chief instead and got him to frame me. But why did they not just kill me directly?"

"They would not dare to kill you without knowing who you worked for. Besides, your father being Xing Bachuan must have made them wary. They tried to frame you not only to impede your investigation but also to find out who your supporter is by seeing who came to your rescue." Gu Mingchen patiently laid out the facts.

"They sure are meticulous. However, this picture alone is not enough to prove the connection to the curator's murder or their attempt to frame me." Bai Rong frowned in frustration.

"Remember what the security chief said to the security captain back then? There were warning signs between the lines so I sent someone to protect the security captain's wife. Just as I suspected, someone tried to kidnap her. Those people are now in custody. When they were shown this photo, they admitted that they had been sent by the security chief. When the couple was reunited today, the security captain also admitted to having been instigated by the security chief with the promise of two thousand as a reward." Gu Mingchen elaborated.

"This should be enough to apprehend the security chief. As long as he testifies against the manager at Xingzheng Construction Company as the one behind the incident, this case should be solved soon!" Bai Rong exclaimed excitedly.

She never expected that he had done so much for her in a mere five days.

"Now is not the right time yet. You have to be patient and wait till we find evidence linking Xingzheng Construction Company to Lu Liangcheng. Otherwise, it would be hard to prove Lu Liangcheng's involvement."

Bai Rong nodded. "Since Lu Liangcheng has been engaged in such illegal activities, his finances would be shady. As long as we find out where he's been hiding the money or antiques, we should be able to get him."

"My people have been shadowing him for a few days but he is tremendously cautious. He never attends business gatherings nor partakes in any vices so it is hard to find any weaknesses."

"No." Bai Rong cut Gu Mingchen off, an idea hitting her like a meteorite. "There is something he's interested in and it's neither treasures nor antiques. Do you remember that treasure map from before? I think we can use it to lure him out."

"Smart girl. I will arrange for my men to work on that and update you within a week."

Bai Rong pressed her lips together as she fell silent.

"What's wrong?" Gu Mingchen asked as he pulled her into his arms.

"I was just thinking about how I wanted to be a prosecutor so that I can fight for the little guy. However, not only did I not accomplish anything these five days, I've even alerted the enemy. If not for you, I might have to take years to catch Lu Liangcheng. Dreams are nice but reality is a wake-up call." Bai Rong said, dismayed.

Gu Mingchen smiled sweetly. "It is the same whether I do it or you. Tang Xiaojiu's death involves the both of us and since we promised him, we have to work hard together for our common goal."

"Actually, my motivations are not pure. I want to rise through the ranks by gaining as much success as possible." Bai Rong admitted truthfully.

"That sounds perfect. No matter what it is that you desire, I will do my best to get it for you. I want what you want. I think this works out well, with you in the light while I remain in the shadows. When I retrieve the

evidence, I still need you to process it lawfully. Being able to work alongside you like this gives me great joy.”

Bai Rong pondered his words for a moment and he seemed to be right.

This meant that her decision was right and she could not help but smile.

Gu Mingchen bent down and captured her lips in a kiss.

Bai Rong dodged and cleared her throat. “The room is being watched.”

“I have already turned it off.” Gu Mingchen grinned. “What were you thinking?”

Bai Rong, who thought they were going to make love again bashfully replied, “Nothing?”

“Less thinking, more action.” He scooped her up and headed for the bathroom....

The happy days were glorious yet fleeting.

Gu Mingchen only stayed for a while but it was already dark by the time he left.

The needle on his speedometer never dipped below 160.

Bai Rong heard someone knocking on the door. Assuming it was Zhou Min who had returned, she went to open it without second thought.

She found Su Xuyan standing there instead, with that devilishly charming smile of his, but his eyes betrayed the bitter malice within.

Bai Rong tried to quickly shut the door but Su Xuyan muscled his way in.

Su Xuyan looked at Bai Rong with an odd expression and his gaze penetrated deeply into her. “Bai Rong, do you know who violated you three years ago?” He asked expressionlessly.

Bai Rong was stunned for a moment and glanced at Su Xuyan. “Who?”

Hope fluttered in her heart.

Perhaps my child was taken away by his father...

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Su Xuyan entered and fell lazily onto the sofa. He turned his mystifying eyes towards Bai Rong and murmured, "What will you do after finding out the identity of that person?"

"Tell me who he is!" Bai Rong lost her cool, her eyes pricking with tears.

She deserved to know where her child was.

Su Xuyan smirked. "Sleep with me first?"

Bai Rong picked up the fruits from the coffee table and hurled them at Su Xuyan, shrieking, "Get lost!"

Su Xuyan grabbed her hand, his grip as tight as a vice and yanked her down to his side. "You were willing to sleep with Gu Mingchen, so why not with me? How is he better than me? Do you know how many women he has slept with before you?"

"At least I know that I will be the last!" Bai Rong retorted. She could not sit idly while Su Xuyan insulted Gu Mingchen.

"How could you be the last? What about Su Wanning? They are already engaged. Snap out of it Bai Rong, you can never be together with him."

Bai Rong struggled to free herself.

But Su Xuyan held on firmly, unwilling to release her.

Out of ideas, Bai Rong bent down and bit into his arm as hard as she could.

Su Xuyan gritted his teeth, his face white with anger as he spat out, "Gu Mingchen was the one that raped you."

Bai Rong looked at Su Xuyan dazedly. Her eyes looked frighteningly like bottomless, soulless pits.

Su Xuyan glanced at the bite marks she left on his arm.

"You must be lying." Bai Rong refused to believe him.

"Believe it or not, all you have to do is ask Gu Mingchen in order to find out the truth." Su Xuyan replied confidently.

"That is not possible."

"Why do you think you are so special to him? Can you not feel how he is trying to compensate you?" Su Xuyan harshly rebutted, pulling away his hand from Bai Rong.

Bai Rong's shoulders crumpled as her eyes began welling up. Overwhelmed with emotions, she drew her brows together tightly.

Su Xuyan put his arms around her shoulders.

Bai Rong instinctively pushed him off, maintaining a two-meter gap between them, her face white as a sheet.

"Bai Rong, you are extremely smart. How do you think you managed to attract Gu Mingchen's attention? He has dozens of prettier girls flitting around him every day. Do you really believe that it was your personality that sealed the deal?"

Bai Rong could only stare at him blankly.

"Gu Mingchen likes friendly, energetic and positive girls. He said so in his journal, which was why he fell for Zhou Hailan. Do you think you fit the bill? Frankly, you are the total opposite."

Every word uttered by Su Xuyan struck Bai Rong heavily.

The news tore her apart. She stumbled onto the couch; her legs having lost all strength.

Su Xuyan stood in front of her, his shadow blocking her entirely.

"Now you should understand. He is only nice to you because he hurt you in the past and thinks that even the pain I caused you is because of him. You should have been able to tell by now how responsible he is."

Bai Rong's gaze fell.

Su Xuyan squatted before her and took her icy hands in his.

She could only sit there, still as a statue, wholly lost in thought.

"Bai Rong, I know I betrayed you in the past, but so did you. That makes us even now, right? I still want to be with you so please give me another chance. I promise to cherish you this time." Su Xuyan implored softly.

Bai Rong turned her gaze towards Su Xuyan and tearfully replied, "if you and your girlfriend had not kidnapped me and left me to die in the wilderness, do you think I would still have met him?"

"I was just trying to scare you. I did not anticipate that you would run away." Su Xuyan tried to explain.

"Was it wrong of me to have run away?" Bai Rong shot back as her gaze steeled. "Being someone so capable and resourceful to have found the man that raped me, what about my child then? Where is he?"

"I thought you aborted that child? Did you actually give birth to him?" Su Xuyan asked, shakily getting to his feet as he stared at Bai Rong.

Bai Rong averted his gaze.

From the beginning, she had thought that it was Su Xuyan who had stolen the child and it was only after that she realized Su Xuyan had always assumed the child to have been aborted.

The events were too coincidental.

Initially, although Bai Bing had been admitted to the psychiatric institution, Bai Rong never stopped trying to free her.

When Su Xuyan realized she was pregnant, he was adamant about her aborting the child.

Using that as her leverage, Bai Rong got Su Xuyan to help.

She went to the hospital and was pacing back and forth in hesitation when she encountered a student who wanted to keep her miscarriage a secret.

The student then wrote Bai Rong's name down as her own and the doctor handed that miscarried child to Su Xuyan as proof.

It was only then that Su Xuyan agreed to bail Bai Bing out.

Bai Rong brought her mother out for a walk while Su Xuyan followed without question.

Bai Rong then had the child outside and less than a week later, the baby had been snatched.

The incident deeply affected Bai Bing as well and she lost control, injuring a person. Ever since, she had been confined to the psychiatric hospital, never to be let out again.

"Speak." Su Xuyan demanded in rage.

"The child is mine and I wanted to give birth to him because I knew I could take care of him." Bai Rong shouted.

"No wonder you were depressed during that time. I thought that it was over the loss of your child whose father is a rapist. I never thought that despair was because the child had been stolen."

Bai Rong was distressed.

She never should have mentioned the child to Su Xuyan. What if he harmed the child?

She felt incredibly upset.

Zhou Min returned. Seeing Bai Rong sitting wordlessly on the sofa as though in a stupor, asked, "What happened?"

"Which neighboring city is Gu Mingchen in?" Bai Rong asked as tears blurred her vision.

"How would we know about matters regarding the chief?" Zhou Min replied, ever cautious.

"I got it." Bai Rong picked up her phone to call Gu Mingchen. "Will you make it back in time if you turn around now?"

"It will be rather difficult because I have an appointment tonight. I will try to rush over tomorrow." Gu Mingchen replied while glancing at his watch.

"No need. Go ahead and finish what you have to do. What city are you in now?" Bai Rong asked.

"I am in the neighboring Jiangye City, why?" Gu Mingchen sensed that Bai Rong's tone was off.

"Nothing much, see you tomorrow." Bai Rong hung up on him.

Gu Mingchen was presently still on the highway. He had an important task to complete that night and Bai Rong did not want to affect his mood.

Bai Rong slung her bag around her shoulder and said to Zhou Min, "I am taking leave tomorrow so please help me inform the prosecutor's office."

"Where are you going? Let me go with you." Zhou Min asked, concerned.

"I am going to meet your chief. Nothing will happen and I will be returning right afterward." Bai Rong knew that Zhou Min would be reporting to Gu Mingchen either way so it was better to keep things to herself for now.

She left and headed for the bus station, purchasing a ticket that would bring her to Jiangye City. Her bus was the last one that day so she would only reach her destination at 10.30 p.m.. While waiting, she ate a sad dinner of instant noodles.

Then, she put herself up at a motel nearby the bus station.

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She tossed and turned the whole night, barely sleeping a wink.

Her mind kept bringing her back to three years ago.

She was dashing out of the room when someone forcefully pulled her back.

He was as strong as an ox and easily flipped her over, clamping a hand over her mouth and like a wild beast, pushed himself into her violently without any warning.

It vastly differed from Gu Mingchen's gentle caresses that always made sure she was comfortable and made her want him even more.

He had infinite patience, a completely different species from that man of three years ago.

While she was being violated, she caught sight of Su Xuyan in a parked car not far off, entangled with that woman.

As the pain was too much for her to take, she passed out. When she awoke, she was still lying on the ground in the middle of nowhere and the perpetrator had already disappeared into the wind.

Gu Mingchen was a man with a strong sense of responsibility.

She refused to believe that he was the one that had violated her.

Could this all be part of Su Xuyan's scheme?

At 8 a.m., Bai Rong lay in bed, resting after breakfast.

I am already in Jiangye City and am staying at the Jiangye Motel near the bus station. She texted Gu Mingchen.

Gu Mingchen's call came in three hours later.

Bai Rong shot up, immediately picking up.

I will be there in half an hour. What is your room number? Gu Mingchen sounded drained.

Bai Rong's heart ached.

The last thing she wanted to do was cause him trouble but this matter was of utmost importance to her.

She had to get her answers from him directly.

302. She replied.

Okay.

Sure enough, she heard someone knocking at her door exactly half an hour later.

When she opened the door, she saw Gu Mingchen standing there with a strained smile, looking disheveled and obviously exhausted.

"Did you just finish your work?" Bai Rong asked.

"Yes. There was a small issue yesterday but it is of no concern. What happened? It must have been important for you to make your way here overnight." Gu Mingchen asked uneasily.

"Did you stay up all of last night?" Bai Rong asked slowly, slightly incredulous.

"It is fine. During past assignments, there were times where I stayed awake for weeks at a time. Have you eaten? If not, shall we grab a bite together and talk more then?" Gu Mingchen reached out to take her hand in his.

"Are you busy this afternoon?" Bai Rong asked.

"I have something on at 4 p.m. so you have me for the next five hours." Gu Mingchen calmly replied.

"If I had not come, did you plan on driving back to see me, then returning after an hour again?" Bai Rong furrowed her brows. She already knew the answer.

"I would have engaged a driver and napped during the ride. I would have been able to be by your side the moment I awoke. Nothing sounds better."

Bai Rong's heart panged with happiness and trepidation.

There was no way that Gu Mingchen was that man from three years ago.

"Go and grab some sleep and I will order food delivery. Rest well and I will call you when the food arrives. A rested mind is a productive one." She said as she clicked on the food delivery application on her phone.

Gu Mingchen turned to look at her and softly said, "Rong, I cannot tell you how happy I am that you came."

Bai Rong paused and turned to face him.

"This way, I know that I'm not the only one who cares about this relationship." Gu Mingchen smiled broadly.

Bai Rong's heartbeat quickened and she clutched her phone even tighter than before as she faltered, wondering whether to ask him or not.

The nicer he was to her, the harder it was for her to pose the question.

"Come accompany me for a bit." Gu Mingchen wrapped his arms around her and pulled her onto the bed, letting his eyelids fall.

Bai Rong lay in his embrace, resting her head on his shoulders.

She could feel the warmth from his body emanating out, penetrating her skin, being absorbed into her body.

"Gu Mingchen, no matter how bad you treated me in the past, I forgive you. However, from now on, I hope you can be honest with me about everything other than military affairs, alright?" Bai Rong whispered.

She waited for his reply but received none.

She shifted to face him and found him seemingly asleep.

His beautiful features drew her in, and she could not believe that they belonged to that man who scarred her forever.

Forget it.

If it was really him, he must have had his reasons. Perhaps it was part of a mission.

If it was him, he would have brought her child out the moment his parents objected.

But, he had not, which proved that her child was not with him.

His mission was extremely perilous and she did not want to burden him any further.

She carefully circled his waist with her arms and let sleep claim her as well.

They had been sleeping for an unknown amount of time when she was awakened by Gu Mingchen's body shifting.

He checked the time and realized that it was already 4 p.m.. "Rong, I have to leave now. I will arrange for someone to send you back to Jinyang City."

"Sure. Please focus on work and do not worry about me. I have Zhou Min protecting me and also the team you arranged to assist me, so there is nothing to worry about." Bai Rong assured him, sitting up.

He kissed her forehead. "I will rest after I'm done with what I need to do."

"Okay."

Bai Rong climbed aboard the car. Her driver was a stranger that donned the Armed Police uniform.

As they drove along, Bai Rong peered at this strange city.

This strange city seemed to become more familiar by the second, knowing that he was there.

Out of the blue, the driver slammed the brakes.

The impact caused Bai Rong to fall forward onto the seat in front of her. "What happened?" She wondered as she looked out the window.

"I think I accidentally hit someone. I will go and check." The driver said as he got out of the car.

Bai Rong heard a loud noise and before she could react, she found herself surrounded by masked, armed men.

"Who are you?" Bai Rong demanded in shock, her mind processing possible theories at lightning speed.

Could Gu Mingchen's parents have found out about them?

Or is this the doing of Su Wanning?

"What do you want from me? I can give you all the money I have on me, just let me go." Bai Rong rambled as she panicked.

"Shut up." The man in the pig's mask commanded as he pressed a handkerchief to Bai Rong's nose.

She tried to hold her breath but it was useless and she soon passed out.

She woke up to a loud buzzing and blinding lights.

She blinked a few times, trying to adjust her eyes but closed them again.

Her hands and feet had been bound to the table.

"Do you dare make a move on Gu Mingchen's woman?" A bald, fat man uproariously teased.

He pointed a gun at a bearded man challengingly. "If you have the guts to take her, I will believe that you are the chief, else do not try to fool me."

"Since she is Gu Mingchen's woman, I must have a good taste. Bring her to the room." Another figure with a husky voice barked.

"If you want to do it, do it here and now. Unless you are a spy from the military?" The bald man roared.

The bearded man came and stood before Bai Rong.

He had small eyes behind thick spectacles and a forest of a beard that covered most of his face. He picked up a knife.

Bai Rong's mind was blank other than the single thought about how frighteningly sharp the blade looked.

"Do not come over here. Do not touch me." Bai Rong squeaked out.

This reminded her too closely of what happened three years ago.

The bearded man brought the knife down and sliced through Bai Rong's bonds deftly.

Bai Rong swung with all her might and her palm connected deafeningly with the bearded man's face.

The bearded man snapped and threw her forcefully onto the bed.

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Bai Rong tumbled onto the wooden boards loudly.

She watched as the bearded man peeled off his suit and shirt, exposing the undershirt beneath.

He had a deep gash on his arm that her medical knowledge told her was inflicted only the day before.

He lunged towards her like a hunter after its prey.

Bai Rong trembled in fear. "Stay where you are, do not come near me."

He continued to inch towards her.

She did not want to die.

She still wanted to be with Gu Mingchen.

However, she would rather die than be defiled.

She did not know how she was going to face Gu Mingchen after that.

Bai Rong turned and scooted backwards.

Before she hit the wall, the man grabbed her and crushed her body against the bed.

The woman tried to wriggle out of his grip with all her might but was not able to move as the man had her legs pinned.

She froze, then let out a powerful shriek.

He had started unbuttoning her pants and pulled it down.

In a flash, she wrenched an arm free and drove her hand into his gaping wound. Blood erupted from the injury and started to flow steadily down his arm.

He used both hands to hold her arms down and overlooked her.

Bai Rong fixed a murderous gaze on the man.

She was not even afraid of death, much less this man.

She mustered all the strength she had left and head-butted him.

He dodged and she took the opportunity to grab the dagger he had abandoned on the side of the bed.

Without thinking, she held the blade to her neck.

The bearded man yanked the dagger away and managed to subdue her with one hand. He ripped her pants, used them to lash her wrists together as he lifted one of her legs and forced himself in without any warning.

Bai Rong screamed, brimming with tears as she remained motionless, at a complete loss.

She was absolutely humiliated and was falling down the pits of despair, praying for death.

She bit down on her tongue.

Suicide by biting one's tongue was caused by a combination of overwhelming pain from the numerous blood vessels being broken as well as excessive loss of blood.

It was better than doing nothing.

If she died now, at least she could preserve the image Gu Mingchen had of her.

She would not be able to face him after this anyway.

The bearded man noticed what Bai Rong was trying to do and terror flashed across his eyes as he pressed down on her chin, forcing her mouth open. Her tongue had already been injured and blood was streaming out of her mouth.

He frowned and captured her lips with his.

Bai Rong screamed again, struggling with all she had and, in the scuffle, knocked the back of her head.

He pressed his forehead to hers and whispered into her ear, "Rong, it is me, Gu Mingchen. This room is being watched. I will explain everything to you once we get out so for now please just act like you have fainted."

This was a severe blow to Bai Rong and her heart skipped a beat as she closed her eyes.

Her mind was a mess.

She had been so certain that Gu Mingchen could not have been the man that raped her three years ago but the recent events seemed to tell a different story.

He could have been carrying out a mission like he was now.

But, given his responsible nature, why did he not look for her afterwards?

She wanted to spill everything. If it really was him, he should know about the existence of their child.

Who knew, maybe he could help find the person who snatched their child.

Gu Mingchen took a long time before managing to release.

He wanted to shield Bai Rong's body from the cameras but was afraid of coming across as suspicious so he begrudgingly let a bit show through.

He sat on the edge of the bed, resting.

The bald man strolled in while applauding. "Only the chief could be so daring and ferocious. You totally knocked her out. How was Gu Mingchen's woman like?"

"She is hot enough for my taste. Let her stay here with me tonight. I can still go for a few more rounds." Gu Mingchen crooned hoarsely.

"No problem. At least she will be of some use before we get rid of her." Baldy threw a cold look in Bai Rong's direction.

"What will be the point if she dies? I think we should let Gu Mingchen have a look at his woman after I am done with her. That would be fun." Gu Mingchen's tone was just as frigid.

"You are right. Trust the chief to have all the best ideas. I am sorry that I suspected you. I was the one who planned for your assassination yesterday, so I have to see for myself that you are willing to harm her to ensure that you are not a spy. You passed the test yesterday but my boss is still unsatisfied. Moreover, the men we stationed near the bus station caught sight of Gu Mingchen going to meet this woman and here you are appearing suddenly. I have sent the video to my boss and he trusts you now since you were willing to go this far. I will bring you to meet him tomorrow. Tonight, have fun with this woman." Baldy explained.

"Get someone in here to tend to my wounds. I need to relax in preparation for tomorrow's important operation. Do not come and bother me tonight." Gu Mingchen ordered.

"Yes, I understand. Please enjoy yourself. I will be just upstairs so give me a shout if you need anything." Baldy winked as he exited.

One of Gu Mingchen's men came in to tend to his wounds.

Gu Mingchen glanced at Bai Rong. "This woman is too aggressive, do you have anything that will make her more docile?"

"Of course. But I'll have to go out for a while. I'll get some drugs." Gu Mingchen's man replied.

"Be careful not to let yourself be spotted. After tomorrow's operation, I will send some women to you too."

"Thanks boss."

"While you are at it, get some rope as well. These pants are so crass." Gu Mingchen added.

"Understood." Gu Mingchen's men left.

At the same time, Baldy was watching the surveillance footage in the control room.

"Boss, there's no problem with him, right?" One of Baldy's men asked as he watched the screen as well.

"Everything seems fine for now. Watch them carefully tonight and if all is well, we will bring him to the big boss tomorrow." Baldy said sternly.

In Gu Mingchen's room, Bai Rong had put the pieces of their circumstances together.

Gu Mingchen had been carrying out a mission lately.

Baldy must have been worried that Gu Mingchen was a spy from the military and had captured her to test him.

She wondered how she should act after she supposedly regained consciousness so as to not arouse suspicion. She decided to continue keeping her eyes shut.

Bai Rong was pricked with guilt as her thoughts drifted to Gu Mingchen's injuries.

She had only hurt the man as she was unaware that it was him at the time.

In her semi-conscious state, she slowly drifted back to sleep.

Gu Mingchen lay beside her and sent out a text.

"Boss, the chief just texted someone!" One of Baldy's men exclaimed excitedly.

"Have you intercepted it yet?" Baldy looked towards his lackey who was at the computer.

"Yes. He texted: Got to play with Gu Mingchen's woman today. How are things going on your end? If Gu Mingchen catches me, I will be dead for sure. Boss, what should we reply?"

"Leave it, lest we expose ourselves." Baldy answered.

"I do not see anything wrong with him." Baldy's lackey analyzed.

"Keep watching them. The goods are with the big boss, so it is extremely important we are certain there's nothing fishy about him before we bring him to the boss. Everything has to be perfect." Baldy was very careful.

"Yes." The subordinates answered while Baldy yawned and continued watching the screen.

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Bai Rong did not know how much time had passed when she awoke and found Gu Mingchen next to her.

She frowned.

If she was to pretend not to know Gu Mingchen, she should be trying to sneak out right now.

Fearing that Baldy's men might be stationed outside the door, that exit was not an option.

Things would only become worse if she were caught.

The woman deliberately touched Gu Mingchen's hand to make contact with him.

His eyes instantly shot open and grabbed her hands, pinning her to the bed.

"Let go of me." Bai Rong demanded but her tone clearly lacked some of its previous shrillness.

Gu Mingchen popped a pill into Bai Rong's mouth.

"What did you just feed me?" Bai Rong's eyes widened in shock.

He stopped her from talking by pressing his lips on hers.

She knew that the man would never do anything to hurt her.

He must be trying to save her.

However, the fear of uncertainty set in and exacerbated her already shot nerves.

She started to feel unusually warm.

Gu Mingchen propped her legs onto his shoulders and took her once again.

Throughout, she remained clothed.

Baldy cleared his throat while staring at the footage. "Damn it, he is having all the fun while I can only watch. I need to go and find a woman for myself now."

"Should we keep watching them?" His subordinate asked a bit sheepishly.

"That is up to you." Baldy put his suspicions to rest and drove away.

When he heard the sputtering of the engine downstairs, Gu Mingchen finally let his tight nerves relax slightly.

Ten minutes later, his phone sounded once before falling silent.

One ring meant that the camera was still on but they were no longer being watched.

He needed to keep Bai Rong in his room to keep her safe from the multiple beasts prowling outside.

Bai Rong was still feeling the drug's effects and her body still felt wobbly. She continued drifting in and out of consciousness as she lay motionless on the bed.

Gu Mingchen tied her up and found a blind spot from the cameras. Lowering his voice, he said, "At 10 a.m. tomorrow, I will be taken to see their boss and you will be taken hostage. I will have two of my men stay by your side so do not be afraid."

Bai Rong did not even have an ounce of strength in her and could only blink in acknowledgment.

"Please bear with it for one night. I discovered that Miller is their boss and he was the one who set off the bomb during the Gray Wolf military drill. He now possesses huge quantities of Weapon of Mass Destruction and has to be stopped." Gu Mingchen elaborated.

Bai Rong understood, so she blinked once more before letting her eyes fall shut again.

Gu Mingchen handcuffed their wrists together before drawing a blanket over them.

She clutched his hands as tightly as she could.

He squeezed her back even stronger.

In the morning, someone knocked at their door.

Gu Mingchen's eyes flew open and looked towards Bai Rong.

She furrowed her brows and Gu Mingchen taped her mouth before she could say anything.

It was safer if she stayed silent than to run the risk of her saying the wrong things.

He handcuffed her to the bed and went to open the door.

“Chief, Did you sleep well last night? We should be setting off soon.” Baldy checked out Bai Rong with his beady, disgusting gaze.

“Keep her with us for now. I will let you have her once I get bored of her.” Gu Mingchen said gruffly.

“Have not had your fill yet after a whole night?” Baldy teased playfully.

“She is Gu Mingchen’s woman, after all. I need to take full advantage of her at least. Five and Six, you better keep your eye on her. If I find out that she escaped under your watch, there will be hell to pay.” Gu Mingchen barked out his command.

“Yes boss.”

“I need to change.” Gu Mingchen headed for the bathroom to wash up and change his clothes. He glanced at Bai Rong one last time before leaving.

Bai Rong knew that he was in greater danger than she was.

When his mission was done, she would be able to escape too.

Before then, she was probably in unspeakable danger as well.

Time trickled by and her nerves remained tightly wound.

Three hours later, she heard the sounds of bombs being set off continuously.

Five barged in and undid her knots.

“Is he okay?” Bai Rong pressed; her anxiety had reached critical levels.

“You need to leave now.” Five replied, breaking into a sprint and dragging Bai Rong behind him.

His solemn expression did not help soothe her at all. “What happened? Where is Gu Mingchen? Is the mission completed yet?”

“Stop asking, you do not have to know. You just need to focus on getting out of here.” Five coldly replied.

Bai Rong pulled her arm from his grasp. “Where is Gu Mingchen now?!” She could hear her voice ringing with frenzy.

"I do not know. I was told to get you out of here. The chief has already retreated and will be contacting you when he has a chance. Please leave with me now and do not cause the chief any more trouble." Five harshly beseeched.

Bai Rong figured he was right. If she was found by Baldy, she would become nothing but a burden to Gu Mingchen.

The pair sped away and were on the road for five hours.

Five raced all the way to Jinyang City.

Bai Rong kept her phone on her the whole time awaiting Gu Mingchen's call.

It was three hours later when they reached Jinyang City but there was still no news from Gu Mingchen.

The woman had a bad feeling in her gut.

By right, Gu Mingchen should be safe one hour after the bombing. Could something have happened to him?

"Are there any colleagues you can contact? I need to know if he is okay." Bai Rong begged Five.

She was met with stony silence.

Her temper started to flare and she dialed Gu Mingchen's number.

"Sorry, but the person you are trying to reach is currently unavailable."

She felt totally helpless. "I am begging you to ask before I go insane with worry. All I need to know is that he is safe and I promise to leave you alone after that."

Five shot her a look and coldly served her with, "Military matters are confidential. The chief will contact you when he can."

Bai Rong knew it was pointless to continue trying.

She looked out the window, still overcome with worry.

Fifth left immediately after seeing Bai Rong back to the hotel's entrance.

Zhou Min was in the room when Bai Rong entered.

The former was taken aback by Bai Rong's unkempt state. "What happened?"

Bai Rong felt a glimmer of hope ignite as she clutched Zhou Min's shoulder imploringly. "Are you able to get in touch with Gu Mingchen now?"

"I can try." Zhou Min sensed that something was going on with Bai Rong and decided it was best to try and do as she said.

Bai Rong stared at Zhou Min anxiously.

"No one is picking up. Usually, this would mean that the chief is in the middle of something and it's not convenient for him to answer. Maybe he is in a meeting or carrying out a mission." Zhou Min explained.

"In a meeting? That's not possible because he knows that I am looking for him. He should have let me know when he completed the mission because he knows that I am worried. There is no way he is still in the middle of the mission as it has already been three hours since the explosions." Bai Rong murmured under her breath.

"Let me check with our teammates. Please try to calm down." Zhou Min began to look distressed as well, rapidly pressing buttons on her phone.

Gu Mingchen remained missing. It was as if his whereabouts had been deliberately concealed and no one heard from him.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 126

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Bai Rong sat on the sofa as she waited throughout the night for Gu Mingchen to contact her.

She didn't dare sleep as she was afraid that she would miss his call.

In fact, she couldn't fall asleep even if she wanted to anyway, as she was unable to relax until she heard from Gu Mingchen.

Three days passed by without any movements and Bai Rong lay weakly on the sofa looking at her phone.

She hadn't eaten at all, and Zhou Min was getting worried, "Bai Rong, eat something and get some rest. I'll watch the phone for you. As soon as the chief calls, I'll let you know immediately. If you were to fall ill, the chief would be upset."

Bai Rong kept quiet as she stared at the phone with an empty look in her eyes.

"Actually, no news is also good news, right? Come, eat some." Zhou Min knelt in front of Bai Rong.

"Something must've happened to Gu Mingchen. He wouldn't just leave me hanging like this if he's fine." Bai Rong said with certainty.

It was unusual in itself to have no news at all after three days.

Zhou Min was also convinced that something had happened to Gu Mingchen, "How about you try calling Chief's parents? They must know what's going on."

Zhou Min's words seemed to have reminded Bai Rong, and there was a glimmer of hope in her eyes.

At that moment, she could care less about being with Gu Mingchen and only wished for his safety.

She rang to Song Xiyu, who answered the phone.

"Hello, this is Bai Rong." Bai Rong sat upright nervously.

"Yes, I know." Song Xiyu's voice sounded very calm.

"I would like to know if Gu Mingchen is alright." Bai Rong asked directly.

Song Xiyu went silent.

"I just want to know if he's alright." Bai Rong frowned as she was afraid that Song Xiyu wouldn't tell her.

Song Xiyu took a deep breath, "He had accomplished his mission excellently. He annihilated the enemy and destroyed all their dangerous weapons. But his head was injured from the battle and he fell into the sea. He nearly drowned while trying desperately to swim back to shore, and is now in a critical condition due to prolonged hypoxia."

Bai Rong's tears fell immediately upon hearing that.

She knew something had happened to him.

"Has his conditions stabilized yet?" Bai Rong sobbed as she asked.

She would not continue living all by herself either if he had died.

“Yes, but he has lost a lot of his memories as his brain has sustained severe injuries. I think he probably doesn’t recognize you anymore. Perhaps this is a good opportunity for you, as you are safe now that he is gone from your life completely.” Song Xiyu said softly.

Bai Rong went blank.

It felt like she had seen the most beautiful scenery in the world, but it was getting further and further away from her.

She found it regrettable, but perhaps it was the best possible outcome.

Song Xiyu hung up, while Bai Rong stood completely still with an empty look in her eyes.

“Bai Rong, what happened? Don’t scare me like that!” Zhou Min grabbed hold of Bai Rong, but the latter pushed her away and walked out of the room.

Bai Rong didn’t know where she wanted to go either, but she just didn’t want to stay in the room and do nothing at all.

Zhou Min followed Bai Rong as she was worried something might happen to her.

Bai Rong wandered around aimlessly until it was dark, and sat on a stone bench.

The moon was shining brightly and the sky was filled with stars.

She had gone from having nothing at all, to having Gu Mingchen in her life.

It had been a very pleasant and sweet dream, but it was about time for her to wake up from it and face reality for what it was.

Anyone who wouldn’t wake up from their dreams would only end up losing their minds.

At the very least, he was still alive and would live a better life without Bai Rong being a burden to him and slowing him down.

He would be able to focus entirely on working towards a bright future with no worries, while Bai Rong would also continue to live a normal life without him.

Things would finally go back to the way they should've been.

Bai Rong went home, had dinner and went to bed.

She returned to work the next day and had barely spoken at all ever since. Apart from that, everything else went by normally.

Zhou Min received a call two weeks later, and her face was pale as she knocked on Bai Rong's door.

Bai Rong opened the door.

"Bai Rong, Chief has returned to the unit. He was awarded a medal this morning for his successful elimination of the terrorists in his previous mission and has now been promoted to lieutenant general."

Bai Rong was calm after hearing what Zhou Min said, as it was all within her expectations.

"However, according to some reliable sources, Chief has lost a part of his memories, so we can't go back anymore." Zhou Min frowned.

"What do you mean you can't go back anymore?" Bai Rong was confused.

"When Chief helped you pick out a team of soldiers from the Special Forces back then, we were placed under his direct orders and our files were temporarily deleted from the military database. Right now, only the Secret Service has access to our files, but it is a very secretive organization and none of us know where it is. Since Chief has lost his memories, we can't go back anymore." Zhou Min hung her head in despair.

"Who else is involved apart from you?" Bai Rong realized the gravity of the situation.

She had doomed a team of soldiers.

She could care less about what happened to herself, but she was worried about the soldiers.

"There are two who are currently negotiating with the antique dealers; two who are following Lu Liangcheng 24 hours a day; and two more who are investigating the manager of that construction company. There are seven of us in total. I'm fine as I still have my salary, but they have nothing. No direction, no goals... What should they do?" Zhou Min was also at a loss.

"This all started because of me. Don't worry, I'll find a way for all of you to return to the unit." Bai Rong said as she made a call to Song Xiyu, who answered the call after five rings.

"What is it?" Song Xiyu asked.

"I'm sorry to bother you, Mrs. Gu. Chief Gu had sent a secret team on a mission before his accident. Their files were deleted and only the Secret Service has access to it. I think we should let them return to their unit." Bai Rong tried to keep her tone polite so as to not stress Song Xiyu out.

"The Secret Service of every country is independent and no one knows where they are located, not even myself nor Mingchen's father. I'm afraid there isn't much I can do to help. How many of them are there? How about I pay them five hundred thousand each as compensation? They don't have to return to the unit anymore, and you won't have to call me again either." Song Xiyu said neatly.

Bai Rong went silent.

"There are seven people in total. Since Madam Song wishes to compensate them with money, let's pay them a million each." Bai Rong said calmly.

"Understood, I feel that seven million is good enough as well. We've helped you out before, so we're even now. I'll have the money transferred to your account in a bit. That's all." Song Xiyu hung up.

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"What did she say?" Zhou Min asked worriedly.

"She said the archives of every Secret Service unit are different and only the person-in-charge knows where it is, not even Gu Mingchen's father. She will pay each of you a million as compensation instead." Bai Rong said.

"So, this means we won't return forever?" Zhou Min frowned.

"Maybe Gu Mingchen will regain his memories someday. Or maybe you could sign up for the military unit again as fresh recruits. I'm sure you will succeed with your excellent performance." Bai Rong advised.

Zhou Min lowered her gaze. She, who was capable, strong, and unbeatable, was dispirited in an instant, "I'll discuss this with them."

"Good luck." Bai Rong said apologetically.

They had ended up like this because of her, and she was plagued with guilt but couldn't do anything about it.

Glory was the most important thing to a soldier, and this had just discredited all of their previous accomplishments.

She would be upset as well if she were in their shoes.

Bai Rong closed her room door and lay on the bed, but she didn't sleep a wink.

Morning came, and she went through her morning routine as usual.

When she opened the door, she saw Zhou Min with six soldiers standing there waiting for her.

Bai Rong was shocked and looked at Zhou Min, "What happened?"

"We had a meeting last night and have arrived at a decision. Our previous mission was to find the killer of the Tangqian Village massacre. It has not been completed yet, so we will continue with it. The chief has forgotten about us now, so we will follow your orders from here on." Zhou Min said on behalf of the soldiers.

Bai Rong looked at their faces.

They were staring at her with expressionless faces, but there was a powerful aura emanating from each of them.

It was very terrifying for a person to lose their life goals, so she could not reject their decision.

"We'll do our best together." Bai Rong encouraged them.

"We do not fear blood, sweat and hardship. We move forward firmly towards a goal!" The seven soldiers said in unison.

Bai Rong felt her spirits rise upon hearing that as she had finally found a purpose to go forward after living each day aimlessly like a zombie in the past two weeks.

Gu Mingchen might have forgotten about her and those comrades of his forever, but they would not forget their duty.

As such, she should take responsibility over them.

Life went on in an orderly manner.

Gu Mingchen had completely left her life, and there was no opportunity nor possibility of them meeting ever again.

She hardly received any news on him either due to the special nature of his job.

At the end of this year, they finally found Lu Liangcheng's lover after a long period of monitoring, tracking, and establishing connections.

She was the younger sister of the boss of Xingzheng Construction Company, while the manager of that construction company was her younger brother.

"Ms. Bai, we now have conclusive evidence to prove that the manager of Xingzheng Construction Company has a relationship with the person who smuggles the antiques. There is also evidence which shows that Lu Liangcheng and Ye Nuan have an abnormal relationship. Should we take action now?" Zhou Min asked cautiously.

"Lu Liangcheng sells the land to the Xingzheng Construction Company at a normal price, who then excavates cultural relics for smuggling. This act has no direct relationship with Lu Liangcheng. His records are clean, and him staying over at Ye Nuan's place isn't good enough to prove that they are having an affair. If we were to ambush them now without finding Lu Liangcheng's treasury beforehand, we would only alert them of our presence. Send the intimate photographs of Lu Liangcheng and Ye Nuan to his wife and continue to observe them." Bai Rong instructed.

"Roger that. Ms. Bai, will you be going back home for New Year?" Zhou Min asked worriedly.

Bai Rong paused and shook her head, "Let our comrades go home and reunite with their families."

"Got it." Zhou Min responded and headed out.

Bai Rong went out to the balcony and looked up at the sky.

The moon was shining very brightly as the cold wind grazed her skin. Bai Rong could feel her face go numb from the cold.

What could Gu Mingchen be doing right now?

Busy working?

Or has he already reunited with his family?

A knocking was heard on the door.

Bai Rong tidied her clothes as she looked out the peephole and saw a hotel staff holding a bouquet of roses.

She opened the door cautiously, and Su Xuyan stepped over from the side with a smile, "Long time no see, Bai Rong."

"And I'd prefer to keep it that way."

Bai Rong closed the door coldly, but Su Xuyan pushed it open, "I have news on Gu Mingchen. Don't you want to hear it?"

"No. I want to rest now and my roommate will be back soon. Please pardon my lack of hospitality." Bai Rong said decisively.

"Gu Mingchen has regained his memories." Su Xuyan said.

Bai Rong paused and looked at Su Xuyan.

"He is able to recall up to five to six years ago, till the point when Zhou Hailan lost her life from that incident. Do you know what this means?" Su Xuyan said with a cold smile.

Bai Rong didn't want to listen and tried to close the door but Su Xuyan forced his way in.

"This means that the most painful thing for him is not parting with you, but with Zhou Hailan." Su Xuyan continued.

"Are you done?" Bai Rong was losing her patience.

"Don't you think you're very lucky? He refused to marry Su Wanning because he's still suffering from the pain of losing Zhou Hailan." Su Xuyan said sarcastically.

"Su Xuyan, you've said it yourself before that it's impossible for me to be with Gu Mingchen. I am nothing more than someone who refuses to wake up from my dreams. From here on, I don't want to know anything about him, be it good or bad." Bai Rong looked away as she sat on the sofa.

Su Xuyan sat in front of her and his gaze softened, "Are you going home for New Year?"

"That's not my home. I only went there to make my job easier."

“There are other ways to make your job easier without having to rely on Xing Bachuan. For example, continue being my wife. I promise you can get whatever you want. Why continue to suffer alone in this terrible place?”

Bai Rong was amused by his suggestion.

“Su Xuyan, have you perhaps fallen in love with me?” Bai Rong asked.

Su Xuyan lowered his gaze, “I have not touched another woman since our divorce. I will compensate you for all that I owed you in the past. I swear on my father’s name that I am telling the truth this time.”

Bai Rong said calmly, “Su Xuyan, find a good woman and spend your life with her. Have a child of your own with her and enjoy a happy life. We are not suitable for each other and I don’t believe in love anymore. I will continue to spend the rest of my life being single.”

“What if I tell you that I have found your child who was taken away from you?” Su Xuyan observed Bai Rong’s expression.

Bai Rong stood up in surprise and asked him a few questions at once, “You’ve found my child? Where is he? How is he now?”

“That child belongs to you and Gu Mingchen. Would you go back to Gu Mingchen with the kid if you find him?”

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Bai Rong had never thought about that.

Would Gu Mingchen acknowledge the child if she brought his son to him?
Would Gu Mingchen’s parents acknowledge the child?

Would Gu Mingchen be disgusted with her since he no longer remembered her?

What would she do if they refused to acknowledge the child?

Her mind went blank for a moment and she couldn’t answer his question.

Su Xuyan snorted and said coldly as he stood up, “Relax, I didn’t find your son, so it’s absolutely impossible for you to be with Gu Mingchen.”

Su Xuyan turned and walked towards the door, while Bai Rong stood there with her gaze fixed on his back.

She felt that Su Xuyan had found her son and just didn't want to tell her.

She was afraid that he would hurt her son, and cried out in panic, "If you have found my son, I will marry you. I won't look for Gu Mingchen as it is impossible for us to be together even if I have his child. They would not acknowledge my son anyway."

Su Xuyan turned around and smirked at Bai Rong, "In that case, I'd better try my best to find your son. I hope you won't go back on your promise."

Su Xuyan left the room, while Bai Rong slumped back into the sofa and closed her eyes as she wondered where her child with Gu Mingchen was.

Her phone rang and she answered when she saw that it was Liu Yan.

"Rong, are you coming back for New Year?" Liu Yan seemed to have caught a cold as her voice sounded nasal.

Bai Rong had not planned on going back, but her friends and her mother were still in A City, so she should go back and visit them.

"Once the prosecutor's office lets us go, I'll come back and treat you to a meal. We'll have a reunion!" Bai Rong said softly, "I miss you, Yan."

"I miss you too! Oh, by the way, I'm currently working as a doctor in the Special Forces Military Base. I saw Gu Mingchen yesterday, but he doesn't seem to recognize me anymore." Liu Yan was confused.

"Yan, it's over between him and I. Please don't mention me in front of him ever again." Bai Rong said.

"I'd need a chance to meet him for that to happen anyway. He's a lieutenant general now and is always busy with meetings. The only time I get to see him is when he gives speeches on stage. Besides, there are many rules in the military and he has so many people around him all the time, so I can't get close to him anyway."

"Is he doing alright?" Bai Rong asked without realizing.

"He's doing quite well ever since he got promoted after his injuries from his last mission. Did he get some brain injury or something?" Liu Yan guessed.

"I think so. It's good that he's finally back on track in life, and I have returned to mine as well." Bai Rong said calmly.

Except, she had left her heart with that man.

"We'll talk when you get back. I have so many things to tell you. Can't wait to see you again!" Liu Yan said and hung up.

Bai Rong lay on the sofa and cradled herself with both arms as she felt an inexplicable sadness and loneliness in her heart, as if she had lost an important part of her.

On the eve of the start of the three-day long holiday, the director of the prosecutor's office treated everyone to dinner.

Bai Rong's inactivity in the past six months was the greatest achievement for the director.

"Ms. Bai, are you coming back after New Year?" The director asked.

"I should be, but I don't know when I will be reassigned back there, as that depends on the higher-ups. I would probably be reassigned soon."

"You're a responsible person, Ms. Bai. I really wish for you to be a permanent part of our team." The director complimented.

Bai Rong smiled, "Let's all work hard together."

She had drunk a lot tonight as she was in a bad mood.

Halfway through the meal, Bai Rong went outside to get some fresh air. She arrived at the garden and looked at the trees.

The wooden signs that she had written together with Gu Mingchen had long since been covered by others.

It felt very childish, now that she thought about it.

The more beautiful a promise was, the sadder it made her current situation seem.

She wanted to find her wooden sign and throw it away, but there were too many there and she soon found herself deep inside the pile of signs.

"Go, and don't let anyone come here. I want to be left alone."

A familiar voice was heard.

Bai Rong paused and looked towards Gu Mingchen who was standing in front of the trees.

He had a cold, distant and merciless look on his face.

“Who’s there?” Gu Mingchen realized there was someone behind the tree, and looked towards it.

Bai Rong was stunned to encounter Gu Mingchen there. When she snapped out of her shock, she walked away from the wooden signs with her eyes downcast and explained, “I hung a wooden sign on the tree once. I’m just looking for it as I don’t want it there anymore.”

Gu Mingchen didn’t even look at her in the eye as he waved her off.

Bai Rong felt her heart sink when she realized that he had completely forgotten about her.

Her mind went blank and her heart felt heavy as she slowly walked outside.

She turned around to look at Gu Mingchen when she got to the entrance and saw that he had hung a wooden sign on the tree. The words on the sign read: I miss you, Hailan.

Bai Rong felt as if a sharp knife had plunged straight into her heart as her body felt weak and she had to grab onto the door to stabilize herself.

Her tears fell as she looked at Gu Mingchen, feeling frustrated at how her body and heart had betrayed her.

It felt so painful that she wanted to get out of there as quickly as possible.

Bai Rong ran out of the building, stumbling all over the place.

She didn’t know what she did wrong.

She had loved Su Xuyan and wanted to live a happy life with him but he had never appreciated her.

She had loved Gu Mingchen and wanted to be with him but she didn’t even have the right to.

All she had wanted was a home that she could return to but all she got was being hurt time and time again, each time worse than the last.

She wondered if God didn't want her to live anymore as she looked at the oncoming traffic and walked towards it.

However, the cars all avoided her as they drove right past her without even stopping.

She looked around aimlessly as her tears continued to flow down her cheeks.

Moments later, she regained some of her senses and reminded herself that she shouldn't trouble others even if she were to kill herself.

With that in mind, she slowly walked back to the hotel and lay on her bed with a throbbing pain in her chest.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 129

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Bai Rong couldn't fall asleep and ended up watching videos throughout the night.

The programs she watched ranged from Chow Xingxing's film *Journey*, to all sorts of comedic reality shows, and lastly, a movie titled *Hua Mulan*.

Hua Mulan had experienced all sorts of battles and lost many friends during the twelve years she spent on the battlefield.

She had fought side by side with prince Wen Tai and won the war, but Wen Tai ended up marrying Princess Rouran for the sake of peace and became a king, while *Hua Mulan* spent the rest of her life being single.

She felt her heart hurt even more as she finished the movie, and stared off into space as she sat on her bed.

She was thinking about her future and the things she should do and wondered how nice it would be if she could forget everything and start over.

In the morning, Bai Rong looked at the dark circles on her eyes as she was brushing her teeth.

She tried her best to forget everything that had happened last night as life had to go on and she had things that she needed to do.

She applied some makeup to cover the dark circles around her eyes as well as some lip gloss to brighten up her appearance.

Everyone seemed especially lazy at work after their reunion dinner the night before.

Bai Rong continued to sort through the letters and documents to keep herself busy so that she would not have time to feel sad.

At 10 a.m., the director came looking for Bai Rong with a serious look on his face, "Bai Rong, there's someone here to see you."

"Who is it?" Bai Rong figured it was someone important, judging from the expression on the director's face.

She couldn't think of anyone who would be looking for her, and followed the director to his office.

There was an emotionless man standing at the door and Bai Rong could tell that he was a soldier.

She wondered if Gu Mingchen's parents had found out about her encounter with him in the garden last night, as she pushed the door open and went in nervously.

Gu Mingchen was seated in the director's chair with an upright posture and a stern look in his eyes that seemed to penetrate her soul.

Bai Rong was confused as to why Gu Mingchen would look for her.

"It's you?" Gu Mingchen was equally confused.

Bai Rong clenched her fists nervously and lowered her gaze as she tried to calm herself down, "Did you need something from me, Chief?"

"I was having dinner with an old comrade of mine last night, and he mentioned your name." Gu Mingchen said coldly.

She figured it was probably the director from the armed forces unit.

"What did he say?" Bai Rong asked.

"He asked about the status of the matter which I was handling previously and if you had tried contacting me. He also told me that he found it strange that you are still at the prosecutor's office. Have I ever tasked you with anything?" Gu Mingchen asked with a confused look on his face.

Bai Rong felt that this was the best chance for Zhou Min and the others to return to their unit.

They would probably be gone from her life after she told him about it, but she couldn't be so selfish.

"There was a solo mission that you led. The files of several Special Forces members were deleted in order to assist you in carrying out the secret mission, but you've forgotten about it since you lost your memories."

"I had a solo mission?" Gu Mingchen frowned as he stared at Bai Rong.

"Although you have lost your memories, you have a secret archive where you can find all their data and files." Bai Rong continued.

"How about you? Were you sent by me as well?" There was a hint of confusion in Gu Mingchen's eyes.

"No." Bai Rong felt her heart ache, "We've met a couple of times, and you let me participate because you thought I was more suited for a supportive role. I am not from your military base."

"Where are those soldiers now?" Gu Mingchen asked sternly.

"You probably wouldn't believe me if I told you, so it's best if you look them up in your archive. They are still waiting for you to take them back in." Bai Rong's eyes teared up a little as she shifted her gaze down to hide her sadness.

What is the meaning of life?

I have worked so hard but got nothing in return. I might as well not do anything if sadness and despair are all that awaits me.

After Bai Rong left the director's office, Zhou Min dragged Bai Rong to the courtyard behind the prosecutor's office and kept her volume low as she asked, "Bai Rong, was it Chief who came to see you today?"

"Yes, it was Gu Mingchen."

"Did you tell him about us?" Zhou Min gripped her hand anxiously.

"I did and he will go look it up in his archive. He should be contacting you guys soon." Bai Rong looked longingly at Zhou Min.

The latter let out a smile, "That's great! We can finally return to our unit! Luckily we didn't give up!"

Bai Rong felt her eyes tear up again, "Zhou Min, what do you think is the relationship between Gu Mingchen and I?"

Zhou Min paused and said, "You're a couple, right?"

Tears flowed from Bai Rong's eyes as she remembered the lyrics to a song that went, I have loved you, so I feel sad when I think about it.

Gu Mingchen's gaze had felt cold and distant, and she held no place whatsoever in his heart.

Gu Mingchen's career was developing very well without her being a distraction around him.

Telling him about their past would only cause him trouble, so she had decided to let go completely.

She didn't want sympathy nor compensation from him.

"Zhou Min, I want you to remember now that Gu Mingchen and I are no longer a couple. We just had some encounters before and participated in some missions together. That's all." Bai Rong said.

Zhou Min observed Bai Rong's teary eyes, "Chief may have forgotten about you, but he'll fall in love with you again if you give yourself a chance. Don't give up just yet." Zhou Min comforted her.

"He's better off forgetting about me. We were never meant to be together to begin with anyway, so this counts as a form of release for me as well. Just tell him what I said if he ever asks you about me. I think he will contact you guys soon as your data will be in the archives. He might even have you transferred away. Even if he doesn't, he probably wouldn't let you follow me around anymore either. I'll treat all of you to a meal tonight as a reunion dinner as well as to celebrate your chance at returning to your unit." Bai Rong said calmly in order to hide her sadness.

Zhou Min was a little upset, "What will you do after we leave?"

"Ignorant people are fearless and tend to say crazy things. I used to think that my life would take a huge turn for the better after cracking this huge case on the village massacre. However, living a lifestyle surrounded by danger and yet being able to always turn the situation in one's favor is something that only exists in novels and television.

I've taken things I shouldn't have, and messed with those I couldn't afford to. This has proven that it's pointless to dream big if one doesn't have the capabilities to live up to it. I will return to my life and do what I can. Don't worry, everyone has their own life to live." Bai Rong said calmly with a look of darkness in her eyes that seemed to cut off the rest of the world.

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 130

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Zhou Min felt sad, "How about I request for you to continue being in charge if the chief wants us to continue with the mission?"

"Putting me in charge would only slow you down. Your job would be a lot easier if Gu Mingchen leads the team with his wide connections and high authority. This discussion ends here. Come over for dinner tonight." Bai Rong turned and walked towards the prosecutor's office.

She saw Gu Mingchen at the entrance and kept her head low as she stood aside.

He left while escorted by a group of soldiers without even looking at her, just like how she didn't look at him as she returned to her office.

At night, Zhou Min summoned everyone for dinner at their secret hideout.

Bai Rong and Zhou Min were the chefs, while the rest bought beer, peanuts, pork head meat, fried yellow croakers, marinated chicken wings, beef and other cold dishes.

They started drinking and chatting away, their bonds strengthened from their fate of being abandoned together.

Bai Rong served up the dishes one after another.

"Ms. Bai, your cooking is amazing! Whoever marries you is a lucky man!" A soldier teased.

Bai Rong smiled, "Such things depend on fate. You can't stop something that's fated from happening, and you can't make something happen if it isn't fated."

"Heh, that's probably just because your standards are too high. I think it's better to find someone who shares similar views and can stay by your side. You would end up with nobody if you set your standards that high."

"That makes sense." Bai Rong played along.

"What are you talking about? Someone as excellent as Bai Rong must find a man that is of decent standards." Zhou Min scolded him.

"Hehe, I just wanted to see if I stand a chance, that's all." The soldier laughed.

"You sure are full of wishful thinking." Zhou Min cut him off directly.

"Then do you think we'd make a good match, Zhou Min?"

"Go screw yourself."

"Hahahaha!"

Bai Rong felt a little better as she watched them fooling around with each other.

As the light above her shone on her beautiful face, she realized that a person would be happier if they desired less and were easily satisfied in life.

In fact, she didn't want much either. All she wanted was a family, a husband that loved her and a child of their own. She didn't need a life of luxury, and was content with a simple and peaceful life.

However, even that seemed to have become a luxury for her now.

She wasn't dissatisfied with her life, but she didn't know what else she wanted as she had no desires...

Halfway through the dinner, Zhou Min's phone rang.

She answered the phone after seeing that it was an unknown number, while Bai Rong looked at her.

Zhou Min had an excited look on her face but there was also a hint of sadness in her eyes, "Yes, I am the person-in-charge of Operation Antique. Yes, the men are with me. Alright, I'll report back tomorrow. Thank you for taking us back. I will do my best!"

Everyone went silent as they listened to her on the phone.

Zhou Min was a little excited after she hung up and told her comrades, "They've recovered our data and restored our files! We can finally go back! We are told to report back tomorrow!"

"Oh? That's great!"

"We can finally go back to doing some big jobs again!"

"I miss my bed, the training grounds and my squad leader!"

Bai Rong smiled as she saw them dance around happily while singing their military anthem.

Zhou Min left very early the next morning.

Bai Rong opened her eyes as soon as she heard the sound of the door shutting, and stared blankly at the ceiling as she felt she had lost another piece of her heart and was even more lonely now.

After Zhou Min left, Bai Rong applied for leave at the prosecutor's office and went straight home.

She traveled by train instead of plane. As it was the New Year holiday and the trains were fully packed, the woman was not able to book a sleeper or even a seating space. She was only able to secure a standing ticket.

People of all ages were carrying baggage of all sizes.

Some of the passengers were staring blankly out of the window; some were eating instant noodles; some were chewing on chicken feet; and some were sleeping.

Some of them looked happy; some were talkative; some looked gloomy; and some kept their heads low as they were on their mobile phones. There were even some who had expressions that Bai Rong couldn't identify.

Bai Rong wondered what they were thinking about as nothing had really changed for her.

She was still single, employed and had Liu Yan as her friend as well as a mother to look after.

The only thing different was that she had lost her heart.

"Have a seat, you've been standing for a long time." A man in a suit stood up and spoke.

Bai Rong smiled slightly, "Thanks, but I'm not tired."

"Where are you headed to? You haven't got much luggage with you. Are you a student?" The man asked politely.

A student?

Bai Rong recalled her life as a student.

She was a hardworking, busy and poor student who had to study hard in order to earn a living and get a better job.

Life was tough for her as she had no one else to rely on, but she was full of hope and continued to work hard.

She shook her head, "I'm not a student."

"Hmm, so you work in Jinyang City and are going back home then?" The man guessed.

Bai Rong stopped talking and took her phone out, while the man returned to his seat.

Bai Rong scrolled through her list of contacts but wasn't sure who she wanted to text.

After giving it some thought, she decided to text Liu Yan.

"Yan, I'm taking a train back in advance. I'll probably arrive around 6.45 p.m.. Let's meet up for dinner tonight. It'll be my treat."

Liu Yan replied almost instantly after she sent that text, "Alright, call me when you arrive. I'll pick you up at the station entrance. Love you!"

Bai Rong smiled slightly after reading Liu Yan's message.

Liu Yan was still as affectionate as ever, but Bai Rong put her phone away as she didn't know what else to say in response to that.

"I can tell your fortune. Would you like to try it out?" The man tried to strike up a conversation again.

Bai Rong looked at him as she thought, Fortune telling is nothing more than having some knowledge on psychology. I had studied some psychology before too. Well, we wouldn't remember each other after getting off the train anyway.

"Alright, you can tell my fortune." Bai Rong said softly.

The man looked Bai Rong in the eyes and said, "You've been dumped."

"You could say that." Bai Rong laughed, "If you're that good at guessing, then why did you guess that I was a student earlier?"

"It would make you appear younger that way. School days are the best days in life, and most girls like it when others think of them as students."

Bai Rong looked back at him as she analyzed his attire and mannerisms, "You're working and have been divorced without a child."

The man was surprised, "Is that your situation too?"