

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 141

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If she was still the old Bai Rong from 3 years ago, she would've stuttered nervously at his straightforwardness. There was nowhere for her to hide from Gu Mingchen's pressuring gaze.

But now, she was already able to face his probing gaze calmly.

"Is this thought bugging you badly, Chief?"

Gu Mingchen's deep eyes flickered as he tried to ascertain the change in expression of the girl before him.

There was none.

The girl remained a cordial but distant smile without showing any change in her emotions.

"Is that true?" Gu Mingchen asked back instead, his gaze darkening further.

"The past is long gone with the wind, so why should you care about it now? Together or not, in love or not, it's meaningless now. Maybe it's just a one-sided yearning from my side. But as time passed, any unrealistic yearnings and desires of mine were now long buried within that turbulent past." Bai Rong replied in a self-mocking manner.

"Don't try to beat around the bush with me. I just need to know one thing; were we in love before?" Gu Mingchen suddenly turned serious, his expression sharp and cold like the chief he was.

Bai Rong paused for a while before spitting out her simple answer clearly, "No."

"It's just a simple yes and no question, for what did you tell me all that nonsense then? Did you think I have the time to listen to your nags?" Gu Mingchen glared at her as he felt inexplicable anger surging within him.

Bai Rong knew she had made a major mistake in the context of psychological studies. She shouldn't have spoken so much in the first place, as the chances of saying the wrong things might have risen the more she talked. "Sorry."

She was just desperate to hide herself. Trying too hard to hide her guilt and diffidence with her eloquence.

After the conversation, Gu Mingchen turned to look out of the window.

It was still raining as the heavy raindrops hit on the window panes loudly.

Bai Rong also turned towards the window. Throughout the journey, none of them spoke as the tension thickened between them. The car was filled with crushing heaviness, just like the heavy rain outside. It was a very uncomfortable ride for the both of them.

Finally, the car reached the psychiatric hospital. Desperate to escape from the heavy atmosphere, Bai Rong swiftly got down from the car.

Gu Mingchen's subordinate helped her to unload her luggage and passed her an umbrella. The girl did not reject the caring offer and nodded gratefully before heading inside with her luggage.

Gu Mingchen's brooding gaze lingered on the girl through the rearview mirror until she was gone from his sight. By the time he removed his gaze from the mirror, his face was all clouded over with unreadable emotions.

Bai Rong signed her attendance at the counter and met with the doctor treating her mother. After understanding Bai Bing's condition, only then she went to meet her mother.

Three years ago, Bai Bing would mutter words to herself while hugging her pillow. Back then, she was still able to smile occasionally, just that she couldn't recognize anyone.

Now, she was still hugging her pillow like the last time, but her eyes were now empty and unresponsive as she stared into the thin air with an unfocused gaze. Her expression was also dazed and void of emotions, unlike her previous expressive self.

The doctor in charge mentioned that Bai Bing already lost muscular control of her bowels and suffered from incontinency. Most of the time, she would be lying on bed lifelessly and only sit up occasionally.

Fortunately, Su Xuyan had employed two caretakers to look after her, that was why she looked clean despite having bodily disorders.

Bai Rong sat in front of her mother, but Bai Bing's pupils did not move at all, as though she didn't see anyone sitting before her.

"Mum, I'm Bai Rong." Bai Rong called out to her mother gently.

Bai Bing remained unresponsive.

"How's Xing Bachuan doing?" Bai Rong asked.

This time, Bai Bing slowly turned towards her daughter.

Bai Rong's lips twitched at the sight, her eyes reddening slightly.

Xing Bachuan was the only person who mattered to her mother now.

She bet that to Bai Bing, her daughter was simply a redundant existence.

"He's fine. We danced together yesterday." Bai Bing replied firmly.

"What song did you dance to?" Bai Rong tried to speak in a light tone, her fingers rhythmically tapping the table.

"We danced to the Red Danube. It was already late evening. The beautiful sunset colored the sky in a glorious red. Underneath the beautiful sky, he placed my hands in his as he held my waist. With light steps, we swayed slowly to the music. Simply swaying, and swaying." A happy smile showed on her previously blank face.

"Oh, I can see the two of you. You look so stunning! Both of you look so loving together. I see that he gave you a box and you opened it. What's in there?" Bai Rong asked and retracted her tapping hands.

"It's a diamond ring! He proposed to me. He finally proposed to me! Oh, I feel so happy now!" Bai Bing stood up enthusiastically.

Bai Rong stood up as well and went behind her mother. "Not just one ring. Inside contained another ring too. What's the meaning of this?"

"What's the meaning of this?" Bai Bing made a throwing gesture as she jumped backwards in fright.

"Wait, he proposed to me twice." Bai Bing blurted in a daze.

"Proposed twice? Were you divorced with him?" Bai Rong asked.

"Divorced?" Bai Bing panicked at the term; her eyes full of horror as she covered her head. Then, she muttered to herself with a furious expression, "It's that b****! You s***! How dare you snatch my husband! I'm going to kill you!"

Bai Bing turned to her daughter fiercely and clamped her hands down on Bai Rong's neck.

But the girl was unfazed by the dangerous situation. "You won in the end. Xing Bachuan proposed to you again."

Bai Bing paused. "Yes, he proposed to me again. He told me he had divorced that s***!"

She then turned to her daughter with a confused gaze. "Who are you?"

Bai Rong smiled faintly. "Mum, I'm back. I'm your daughter, Rong."

"Rong? You're Rong? Where have you been? I've not seen you for such a long, long time." Bai Bing held onto her daughter's hands.

The force of her grip was strong. Bai Rong felt jolting pain coming from her hands due to her mother's tight grip. "Mum, I'll be by your side now. Believe me, days will get better for us. I have confidence to let dad come back to you."

"Really? Your dad will want me back?" Bai Bing cupped her own face, her dubious words overflowing with surprise.

"Don't forget you were the most beautiful lady last time. He even fell out with his family just to marry you back then. As long as you clean yourself and dress up properly, you're still the most beautiful lady in the world." Bai Rong encouraged Bai Bing with a smile.

"Yes, that's right! I need to take a bath now; I must wash my dirty hair. I need to put on make-up later!" Bai Bing sobbed out of overwhelming hope and happiness.

Bai Rong sat back down and tapped the table again. "Do you need my help?"

"No need. I'm not a child anymore. I can clean up on my own." Bai Bing grabbed her clothes and entered the bathroom.

Bai Rong lifted her lips into a gentle smile and walked towards the window. Her eyes were clear as crystal as she looked out at the unending heavy rain.

The doctors and nurses were totally stunned by the change.

Throughout the past year, Bai Bing never spoke a word and had problems taking care of herself. But now, she could get her own clothes and bathe herself without any help!

Was this the power of family love?

Once she was done bathing, Bai Bing came out of the bathroom and let her daughter dry her hair with the hairdryer. Then, Bai Rong helped her put on beautiful make-up and took a picture of her mother.

Bai Bing was happy with the photo. "Send it to your father."

"Don't need to rush just yet." Bai Rong kept her phone and held her mother's hands. "Mum, I don't think you're at your best now. We must hit the target at the first shot, otherwise I'm afraid we can't achieve what we want."

"Then what should I do now?" Bai Bing asked her daughter.

"You need to exercise, eat well and read more books. Continue this lifestyle for a year and make the best out of yourself. I'll handle the rest."

"Alright. You must help me with this." Bai Bing pleaded.

Her daughter bored her gaze into her firmly. "I will definitely help you."

Bai Bing talked a lot about her past. Unlike her dazed self, her thoughts were clear and she was not the least bit confused.

Bai Rong sat aside and listened to her stories patiently.

After a long time of talking, Bai Bing was finally tired and spread the bedsheets on her own before climbing up to sleep.

Bai Rong came out of her mother's room, only to run into Mu Xiaosheng by the door.

The man at the door smiled as he spoke, "I came here to ask for my senior's help and heard someone saying there's an extraordinary hypnotherapist here. I was curious and rushed over to check out, and it turns out to be you! Indeed, your hypnotherapy skills are out of the world. Welcome back, Bai Rong. You returned at just the right time to help me settle a very urgent problem."

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"Heh." Bai Rong snorted lightly. "I don't think I'm interested to hear that urgent problem of yours now."

Mu Xiaosheng paused in surprise.

However, the girl's smile became wider as she pointed to the lift with her chin. "I'm just joking. I've promised to work at your place for five years once I'm back, of course I'm always ready to help with your work."

"You're getting playful now. I'm really happy for you." Mu Xiaosheng replied in a gentle voice.

Bai Rong did not respond to his words as she pressed the lift.

"I was quite worried before that. I heard that the university offered you to stay as their lecturer. Even the FBI also asked you to work for them. The cases you solved back in America have shaken the world and made you famous. I thought you don't even want to be back anymore." Mu Xiaosheng sighed in relief.

"I'll never break my promise to you, but I have a condition to discuss with you first. Since I'm working for you, you can pass me any task and work, but I don't want to work in your office as I plan to start up my own clinic. Am I allowed to do that?" Bai Rong requested.

"Of course you can! I did not sponsor you much back then. Never have I thought you will turn out to be this outstanding! I'm already highly satisfied and grateful for your willingness to help me."

"Thanks. Now tell me what's troubling you and how can I be of help." Bai Rong asked.

"This case involves a highly-ranked government official, that's why the police were asking for information and help from my side. If I can't solve this case, I'll be in serious trouble." Mu Xiaosheng explained.

"Brief me in detail then. I'm free until tonight. Let me treat you to a meal." Bai Rong replied leisurely.

Mu Xiaosheng noticed that the girl had changed a lot compared to 3 years ago.

Three years ago, she was a depressed girl drowned in hopeless despair, which gave her a lifeless appearance.

Now, she radiated the charm of a knowledgeable lady with polished eloquence and manners. She was much more attractive to him than before.

Together, they went to a famous hotel in A City and dined at the hotel's restaurant after Bai Rong checked in.

"Should I arrange for your accommodation?" Mu Xiaosheng asked in concern.

"No need. I'll buy a house when I'm free. Now tell me the details of your case." Bai Rong had a sip of lemon water and took out her pen and notebook.

"The deceased is An Qi; she was a 53 year-old woman. Her younger brother is General An from the Ministry of Defense; and her husband is Song Jianren, the Deputy Minister of Finance, who's 54 this year. Both of them are influential figures within the government and their own ministries. On the day of the murder, the deceased had a mahjong gathering in her house. One of the other people present was Xiong Daini. Her brother-in-law is Su Zheng, Deputy Commander of the CCDI, and her son is Su Xuyan, the owner of a listed company. Her family is equally influential with a strong political background that cannot be simply messed with. On that day, Xiong Daini was sitting on the East, while An Qi sat on the West, which was her favorite seat. Sitting on the South was Chang Ruyan, wife of the A City's Governor, while sitting on the North was Miao Yu, daughter of An Qi's classmate. She's currently working in the finance department at the Ministry of Finance. An Qi had previously introduced this girl to her nephew, hence she's also the future daughter-in-law of General An." Mu Xiaosheng explained the relationship of the people involved.

With a straight face, Bai Rong recorded the seating positions of those involved, as well as their identities and relationships.

Never had she thought that she would come across these people in such a situation after 3 years.

"Other than those at the mahjong table, who else were present in the room? How did An Qi die?" Bai Rong inquired calmly.

"There were two housemaids, a butler and two bodyguards present in the room. Song Jianren's elder sister, Song Xiyu also visited them on that day."

Bai Rong's eyes flickered at the name. "Song Jianren is Song Xiyu's younger brother?"

The girl was surprised by the connection. She was never familiar with Gu Mingchen's family relationships.

"Yes. Song Xiyu's husband is Gu Tianhang, deputy commander of the military council, and her son is Gu Mingchen, chief of the Special Forces military base. He's the youngest general in the country and a popular candidate for the commander-in-chief position. All of them are strong political and military figures. Just this morning, General An ordered for this case to be solved within a week, that's why the police came to ask for

my help. I know that the stakes are high for this case and I dare not start on it yet, hence I tried asking for my senior's help. That dude does not dare to take over this case either." Mu Xiaosheng explained.

"Those involved are the wealthy and powerful. A minor slip will land you in a disastrous situation. You shouldn't have taken over this case in the first place." Bai Rong judged rationally.

Mu Xiaosheng sighed helplessly. "I am the dean of the research institute. The police sent the highest order by the General to the institute, so there's no way I can say no to that! My senior can reject me because I invited him privately. But for the institute, there's no way to reject it."

"I can only tell you that I'm taking over this case because I promised to work for you. But some of them may not want me to be involved. You better be prepared for this scenario." Bai Rong cautioned.

"Why?" Mu Xiaosheng asked in confusion.

From his words, Bai Rong could see that this man knew nothing about her.

"Xiong Daini was my ex-mother-in-law and Chang Ruyan is my stepmother. As for Song Xiyu... we have feuded in the past. So do you think these people will cooperate with me? That's why I say I can only try my best."

Mu Xiaosheng was rendered speechless.

"So you're Su Xuyan's ex-wife! Everyone says that there's a woman Su Xuyan loves deeply and she transformed his life completely. Because of this woman, he changed his flirty lifestyle from fooling around to distancing himself from women. That woman he loves, is it you?" Mu Xiaosheng was shocked by the revelation.

Bai Rong suddenly recalled Su Xuyan's words from 3 years ago. Be it three, ten or even thirty years, I'll always wait for you.

Her eyes dimmed at the memory. "Time is a useful solvent when it comes to diluting and washing away our feelings. However, it's utterly useless when it comes to wound healing. Hence, once I had a bad fall on a man once, I'll never allow myself to fall for the same person again."

"You deserve a better man." Mu Xiaosheng smiled in comfort.

Indeed, he had thought of making Bai Rong his, especially after that time she came to ask him for help. He had always imagined all sorts of romantic moments he would have with her. After all, he was a charmingly handsome man who was equipped with powerful status, identity and knowledge.

But now, all he had towards the girl was heartfelt admiration and respect. He no longer dared to harbor any inappropriate thoughts towards the strong woman.

“Let me continue explaining the case then. There are a few things to take note here. A power failure happened around 10.30 p.m. that day. After it happened, the butler brought one of the housemaids to get the candles while one of the bodyguards went to check on the cause of the power failure. Then, Xiong Daini took out her phone and switched on the torchlight, only to find An Qi already lying dead on the floor.”

“From the beginning of power failure to the time Xiong Daini lit up the place, how long was the time interval? What was the cause of death?” Bai Rong interrupted Mu Xiaosheng.

“That’s exactly the most suspicious and inconceivable part of the case. The time interval was just 10 seconds. An Qi was killed by a silver needle that pricked into her temples, which was previously soaked in poison. The inconceivable part is how did the poisoned needle prick into her temples so accurately in the pitch-black darkness? And the weird part is that everyone did not move from their seats at all. The power failure was caused by the fuse that broke for no reason. Judging from the weirdness and how fast and coincidental the events were, I cannot help but think that this incident was planned by the Grim Reaper himself!” Mu Xiaosheng still couldn’t come to an explainable conclusion regarding this case.

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“Do you have any clue on this case now?” Bai Rong asked as she closed her notebook.

The waiter began to serve their meals as they talked.

“If I have a clue, I wouldn’t go all the way to ask for my senior’s help. I’m so confused now and I can’t see where this is leading to. But I have a deadline to meet, thanks to General An’s orders. This is mission impossible for me.” Mu Xiaosheng replied helplessly.

Bai Rong smiled comfortingly at his frustrated words. “Everything will work itself out eventually. Let’s visit the crime scene after we finish eating. Is that fine?”

“Should be fine, since it’s official business. I’ll make a call to the chief of police later; he must be under greater pressure than myself. I expect Mr. Song to not be at home around this time. Things will be easier without him around.” Mu Xiaosheng replied.

"Why will it be easier without him?" Bai Rong blurted nonchalantly.

"Nobody likes their home to be ransacked by some random stranger, be it for business purposes or not."

"Oh, I thought his character is hard to handle." Bai Rong suddenly recalled that pregnant woman she met on the plane. "Does An Qi have any children?"

"Yes, a son, also working in Gu Mingchen's base. He should be a lieutenant or something. He had rushed right back after his mother's death." Mu Xiaosheng replied.

Bai Rong nodded in understanding. She did not inquire any further on Gu Mingchen's family members and relatives. It was none of her business anyway.

It was still raining cats and dogs with no signs of stopping even after they finished their fulfilling dinner.

The police chief sent 3 of his most capable cops to accompany Bai Rong and Mu Xiaosheng to the crime scene.

It was only then did Bai Rong find out that An Qi stayed in the same area as Gu Mingchen, Su Xuyan and Su Zheng.

The rain was still very heavy, hence the girl was unavoidably wet even with the umbrella.

The first thing that greeted them at the main door was a nicely designed porch. On the steps of the porch, a dozen sets of disposable shoe covers were neatly arranged beside an umbrella stand.

"The porch is nicely designed. Which company's work is it?" Bai Rong asked.

"Not done by any company. It was designed by Mr. Song himself." The housemaid answered respectfully.

Bai Rong turned to Mu Xiaosheng, who smiled in reply, "Mr. Song is indeed a man with great attention to detail."

"He is a man with acute observation skills and is careful with his work; He's a kind and easygoing gentleman, yet he's also a perfectionist in his work. As a charming man possessing great EQ and holding a high-ranking position, Mr. Song must be a man greatly favored by young girls." Bai Rong deduced.

"Yes, the young lady is right! Mr. Song is indeed just like how you've described!" The housemaid replied in surprise.

"Wow! That's awesome! How did you do that? I could only deduce he's a detailed person, but you can manage to get so much out of these!" Mu Xiaosheng wowed in admiration.

"I deduced from the design of the porch, and the intuition of a woman." Bai Rong replied while putting on the shoe covers.

The maid opened the door for them.

Gu Mingchen was also there. He was sitting on the sofa with a cigarette between his fingers. Through the smoke, the chief turned to look at Bai Rong, his expression blurred and unreadable.

Right behind him stood 2 soldiers and across him sat a young man with a certain likeness to him. Bai Rong guessed that must be An Qi's son.

The maid approached Gu Mingchen and bowed before reporting, "Young Master Gu and Young Master Song, the cops have arrived."

Song Yi turned to Bai Rong with reddened eyes. "Please find out the murderer as soon as you can."

Bai Rong remained quiet while Mu Xiaosheng answered with a smile, "We'll try our best."

The moment he landed his eyes on Gu Mingchen, the psychologist was momentarily stunned in recognition.

Young Master Gu? Isn't he the chief of the Special Forces military base and popular candidate for the future commander-in-chief?! It's the mysterious yet legendary Gu Mingchen!

The man's dashing looks and extraordinary mien were highly distinguishable. It was an unforgettable appearance for a man although Mu Xiaosheng only had a momentary glance of him 3 years ago.

Now he finally understood why Bai Rong said she had feuded with Song Xiyu.

Since Gu Mingchen was Song Xiyu's son, did that mean Bai Rong had some sort of unusual relationship with Gu Mingchen?

Mu Xiaosheng was thunderstruck by the fact and turned to Bai Rong in shock.

However, the girl was alarmingly calm as she asked Song Yi in a formal tone, "Can I look around?"

"Sure. Aunt Bao, please bring this lady to look around the house." Song Yi instructed.

Bai Rong proceeded to the crime scene. The mahjong table was located in the southernmost region of the living room.

"The one on the East was Xiong Daini; on the West was An Qi; on the South was Chang Ruyan and on the North was Miao Yu. The needle was pricked on the left side or right side of her temple?" Bai Rong asked while observing the mahjong table.

"Left." Gu Mingchen answered deeply.

Bai Rong turned around to see Gu Mingchen standing beside her, his eyes staring broodingly at her. He was standing so close that the girl could see her reflection in his dark eyes.

Hailan, I miss you so much. The line flashed across Bai Rong's mind and struck her heart painfully like a harsh blow.

The girl averted her eyes and walked towards Mu Xiaosheng who was 2 meters away. "The time interval between the power failure to An Qi's death was only 10 seconds and no one moved from their place at all. Logically speaking, only Miao Yu had the possibility of murdering An Qi within such a short time."

"But jabbing a needle with one hand is not easy, especially jabbing it into the temple under a pitch-black condition. I don't think it's her. You haven't met her before; she's a slender and weak-looking woman. Plus, she had also slit her right wrist before, so I don't think she has the strength to drive the needle into a person's temple." Mu Xiaosheng explained.

Gu Mingchen lowered his gaze on Bai Rong's wrist. She had an old wound on her wrist as well. The scar had turned white but did not vanish at all, hence it could be clearly seen.

Bai Rong's injured wrist ran cold at the mere mention of wrist-slitting. "Let's check the room."

Aunt Bao opened the door at the corridor and explained respectfully, "This is Madam's room."

There was a 1.8m by 1.8m bed inside the room. A pillow and a neatly folded blanket were placed on the bed.

Right beside the bed was a nightstand and a dressing table loaded with all sorts of make-up and facial products. Bai Rong had a look at a few cosmetics and placed them back after that.

Then, she proceeded to open up An Qi's cabinet. Her gaze landed on a few boxes containing slimming belts from different brands. After checking through the belts, her lips curled slightly upwards in understanding.

The girl then pulled out the cabinet drawer. It contained a mixture of things, including some flu medicine, 3 photos, plasters for muscle aches, a romance novel, socks and some weight-loss supplements.

Bai Rong took out the photos and examined each of them.

The first photo was taken in Bali. The slightly plump An Qi was smiling happily into the camera as she posed a victorious sign.

The second was taken during a military parade which her son had taken part in. Under the bright sunshine, the young man was smiling cheerfully in his military uniform. His pointy teeth were clearly shown in the picture.

The last photo was the oldest of them all. It depicted a tall and well-built man hugging a young-looking An Qi, still a slender teenager at that time. Her beauty was at her peak with her sweet smile that could rival the blooming flowers around her.

"Can you let me know if you have any important discovery?" Gu Mingchen voiced out.

"My boss will report to you." Bai Rong answered without turning back.

The chief closed the gap from behind. The girl could feel his imposing presence behind her, causing her back to stiffen up.

The man took the photos from her hand and glanced through each of them. Then, his brooding eyes turned to the girl as he spoke, "I just checked your background. So you're now a renowned psychologist in America and an expert in crime scene investigation..."

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"Three years are enough to change a lot of things, including work, interpersonal relationships, love relationships and living environment." Bai Rong replied flatly and distanced herself from him.

Gu Mingchen grabbed her hand and pulled her roughly towards him.

Bai Rong did not expect his move and crashed straight into his muscular chest. The familiar scent of the chief rushed to her nostrils.

Bai Rong's embarrassment turned into rage and she pulled out her hand before giving Gu Mingchen a hard slap. The slap was so loud that it resonated in the empty room.

Three red fingerprints appeared on his face. The man narrowed his eyes as he stared at the flustered girl coldly.

Bai Rong knew she had overreacted and lowered her eyes.

"Are you afraid of me?" Gu Mingchen locked his eyes on the girl before him, trying to study her expression.

Bai Rong turned to him and explained calmly, "A person's overreaction is usually related to unpleasant experiences. I was raped before, so I really, really detest people touching me. My apologies if my reaction offended you."

Gu Mingchen's deep eyes darkened at her answer. Being raped before was usually a past that all women were desperate to hide, yet she could simply mention it nonchalantly like she was not the one who experienced it.

Either she was totally over it, or she was purposely tainting herself in front of him.

Bai Rong nodded and turned to the door where Aunt Bao was waiting. "Please bring me to Mr. Song's room."

"Alright. This way please." Aunt Bao brought her upstairs.

The girl turned towards Mu Xiaosheng in frustration and lowered her voice. "Follow me closely, please. You're here to solve a case, not to be a decoration."

Mu Xiaosheng touched his nose guiltily. He had seen Gu Mingchen enter the room and he knew better than to intrude on their personal space. How would he have the guts to enter at all!

Aunt Bao opened the door to Mr. Song's room. The room was exceptionally clean and a whiff of perfume lingered within. His study was very neat with three perfectly stacked books and a nicely arranged calligraphy set. A scroll holder full of calligraphy drawings sat in the middle of the desk.

Bai Rong took out the drawings and went through them briefly. The drawings ranged from calligraphy writings to ink wash painting. Some of them were in fact poems written by Song Jianren himself. Each of these paintings was properly stamped by the artist at the lower right end. The name on the stamp was Master Niki.

Hanging at the head of the bed was Song Jianren and An Qi's wedding portrait.

Bai Rong opened the nightstand drawer, which only contained a cologne and nothing else.

The girl proceeded to check the cabinet.

Like what she predicted, Mr. Song was a man with great attention to detail. His clothes were nicely arranged and differentiated according to its style and function. One compartment was for suits, while the other was for blouses. All the clothes were also arranged according to the season; be it clothes for winter or for summer, all of them were perfectly categorized neatly like that at a boutique.

"Aunt Bao, can I ask you a few questions?" Bai Rong requested politely.

Aunt Bao was afraid of saying the wrong things. However, she was faced with the cops so she couldn't reject Bai Rong. With a trembling voice, she asked, "What do you need to know?"

"Let's find somewhere quiet to talk. Don't be nervous and just say anything you can remember."

Aunt Bao nodded. "Let's go to the reception room on the second floor."

Aunt Bao led the way ahead while Bai Rong turned to one of the cops. "Get Young Master Song as well. I'm going to ask both of them together."

"Alright."

Aunt Bao opened the door to the reception room. A fruit bowl containing fresh fruits and an ashtray were placed in the middle of the coffee table. Beside the fruit bowl was a wine glass containing new cigarettes to entertain the guests.

Bai Rong sat on the sofa and took out her pen and notebook.

At the same time, both Song Yi and Gu Mingchen entered the room. The atmosphere in the room turned heavy with the presence of the chief.

Bai Rong's gaze met with Gu Mingchen's ink-like eyes, which stared into her imposingly. The girl really disliked his intrusive dark gaze, which looked like a lurking beast aiming to pounce on her.

"How's your parents' relationship?" Mu Xiaosheng asked Song Yi.

"Pretty good. My dad is a family man who cares for the family and was very considerate of my mother. Many people were envious that my mum married a good husband like him. On the other hand, my mother was a loving and optimistic woman. Being the kind-hearted person she was, many people around her greatly favored my mum's jovial character." Song Yi answered firmly.

"How often are you at home?" Bai Rong asked again.

"It's pretty strict in the military. All of us are only allowed to be out for half a day every Sunday, so I spend most of my time with my comrades in the army." Song Yi replied.

"That means you don't come back often. When was the last time you returned?" Bai Rong continued.

"Last month, I think. Last month my mum hurt her ankle. My dad even took leave to accompany her. They were a very loving couple." Song Yi answered truthfully.

Bai Rong turned to Aunt Bao once she was done with Song Yi.

Aunt Bao hung her head low while her hands fidgeted with the sides of her apron nervously.

"I believe Madam Song must be a very kind woman. She was warm-hearted and compassionate with a casual character, hence she has never treated you like a housemaid or an outsider. I believe you also want us to catch the murderer, right? She will thank you for helping, so don't be nervous and tell me what you know." Bai Rong comforted Aunt Bao in a gentle tone.

"Madam was such a nice person! She had always been lenient towards the servants. Last time when I had a family emergency, Madam gave me 200k without a second thought when she came to know about that! Who on earth would be so cruel to murder our kind Madam!" Aunt Bao replied emotionally, her eyes rimmed with red circles.

"Did Madam Song show any unusual behaviors? Like locking herself in her room for long periods of time." Bai Rong inquired.

"Since the last time she injured her leg, her mood was never really good." Aunt Bao replied.

"Then before she hurt herself, was she in a very great mood? So good that she spent all her money on various cosmetic products, shopped for beautiful clothes, went for facial therapies and even went for exercise and dance classes to lose weight?"

Aunt Bao was surprised by her deductions. "How did you know that?"

Bai Rong smiled in understanding. "How many times did Mr. Song come back in a week?"

Aunt Bao paled at her question and glanced at Song Yi.

"What do you mean by that? My dad comes back every day no matter how late he finished his work." Song Yi answered with a frown.

"A month ago, Mr. Song would come back only 2 to 3 times a week. Only this month he began to come back every day, but his mood was pretty foul. Am I right?" Bai Rong immediately asked.

Aunt Bao's surprise deepened further. "How did you know all these?"

Song Yi widened his eyes and locked his glare on the psychologist. "What's the point of you telling me these? What are you trying to say?"

Bai Rong smiled faintly as she looked back at Song Yi calmly. "Nothing, I'm just asking randomly. Thank you for your cooperation and we shall take our leave."

Bai Rong got up and was prepared to leave when Song Yi stood up anxiously. "Explain this!"

"You just need to know that your parents love you very much. That's all." Bai Rong continued striding towards the door.

"Please have a seat and explain your deductions in detail." Gu Mingchen voiced out.

However, Bai Rong did not turn around.

"Do you know that I can ask the police chief to bring you to my base with a phone call? I don't want to trouble myself with that."

Upon hearing his words, Bai Rong turned to him with a bewildered expression. What an autocratic man he was! So domineering that she always had no idea what to do with him.

“Chief, are you interested in me?” Bai Rong asked directly.

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“I’m engaged.” Gu Mingchen answered heavily, his expression unreadable.

Bai Rong’s heart plunged at the answer as the aching pain stabbed at her momentarily.

It had been 3 years since Gu Mingchen was engaged to Su Wanning, yet they were still not married yet. Was it because he had not gotten over Zhou Hailan?

Bai Rong lowered her eyes and sat back on the sofa.

Since he had openly informed her of his engagement, it meant that he intended to stay a distance from her as well. So why should she purposely stay away from him out of guilt?

“What I’m going to say next is just my deduction. I apologize in advance for anything wrong.” Bai Rong warned beforehand.

“Just say it. Be quick.” Song Yi replied impatiently, his brows in a deep frown as he stared intently at the psychologist.

“Your mother is an easygoing person on the surface. However, she was actually emotionally sensitive. She merely hid that side of her behind her optimistic façade. She was a compassionate woman with a kind and young heart.” Bai Rong deduced.

“Yes, you’re right. Please continue.” Song Yi rushed.

“Your father is a refined and graceful gentleman of genteel upbringing. He’s from a noble family that greatly emphasized good manners and behavior, hence he was groomed to be a talented perfectionist with great attention to detail. However, he’s not a well-mannered person deep down. He’s very strict and values his dignity more than anyone. When he’s angry, he acts like a totally different person, which is the exact opposite of his graceful self. All these while, he has been trying very hard to hide this side of him.” Bai Rong continued.

Song Yi pursed his lips in displeasure. "The first part is correct. As for the second part, from where did you deduce my father to be that type of person? That sounds like nonsense to me."

"Your father always prepares many sets of shoe covers for the guests. From the way he places the shoe covers at the most obvious place on the porch, I can deduce that he dislikes people visiting his house. However, out of his good manners, he did not mention his dislike nor outright decline the visits of guests."

"The most he can do is to take measures to maintain the cleanliness of his house. Psychologically speaking, people who dislike visitors also dislike visiting others. They may be easygoing on the outside, but they're internally wary of others. This type of person tends to be selfish of their own feelings, which is a behavior that contradicts your father's upbringing. Hence, he has to suppress his dislike within him."

"In contrast, your mother was a casual and passionate lady who loved to socialize around. She was greatly favored by people due to her kind and generous character, hence she was always in reception of many visitors. Your father had to further suppress his dislike in order to not disappoint your mother. His stress and suppression can be obviously seen in his artwork."

"Your father is a great artist whose skills are good enough to channel his feelings into his drawings. If you look through his artwork, you can see that he tends to include elements of depression into his art, which causes the lack of harmony in his perfect drawing. For instance, in one of his landscape paintings, the beautiful mountains were hidden between the clouds like the lofty heavens. However, he added a few people at the bottom left of the initially lofty drawing. Although it's just a few strokes, it clearly depicts a man trying to enter the heavens for enlightenment, yet he's blocked by a few other men. This drawing is a very clear-cut reflection of his true feelings." Bai Rong analyzed.

"Don't tell me you think my dad murdered my mum. He was out entertaining the American ambassador and was not at home!" Song Yi replied in displeasure.

Bai Rong just smiled faintly. "Your parents did not have a proper sex life for at least five years or longer. Possibly more than 10 years."

Song Yi was a young man after all and couldn't help but blush at the statement. "Their relationship was very good though."

Gu Mingchen gazed at Bai Rong broodingly, his eyes as dark as the blackhole that could swallow everything.

Bai Rong deliberately ignored his deep gaze and continued, "During his younger days, your father fell in love with your mother's adorably cheerful and exuberant character. From the old pictures, your mother was obviously a gorgeous lady when she was young. However, like all ladies who gave birth, your mother's initially slender figure was unavoidably lost after giving birth to you. Being the perfectionist he is, your father began to dislike your mother's plump figure. After that, he got bored of your mother and was slowly tired of the trivial things family life brought. These were all factors that caused him to no longer sleep with your mother. Later on, your father turned to despise the fact that he had to live under the same roof with a fat and haggard-looking old woman who only spent her free time on the mahjong table. From his artwork and calligraphy, we could tell that he only came back 2 to 3 days a week and he only returned out of responsibility plus his perfectionist attitude. Being a sensitive woman, your mother was quick to notice his disgust and planned on losing weight. The process was very tough for her. No matter how hard she tried to exercise and cut down her food intake, she did not have much success due to her aging body condition and her cravings for good food. She then gave up on the endeavor until she found out that your father had a mistress outside. This mistress was as beautiful as an art piece and was slender as well. She was also from a noble family and was brought up with good manners like your father. Unlike your mother who spent her time on mahjong, this lady is a knowledgeable woman who loves history and shares your father's interest in calligraphy painting. Your mother was saddened by the heartbreaking fact, yet she did not tell anyone of her problems. She still maintained her jovial appearance and only cried behind everyone's back. She loved her husband very much and was willing to endure everything in silence to not ruin his career. Then, she tried to change herself and slowly picked up good habits like jogging, swimming, and even went to the gym. Due to her foul mood, she had a very bad appetite. Coupled with her gym practices, your mother swiftly cut down a lot of weight. Within this 1 year, she attracted another man who was very much younger than her. Both of them had an affair and even slept together. This affair was later discovered by your father after she injured her ankle. Your father wanted to come back to her but it was all too late for your mother. With all the hurt and betrayal that came with her disappointment in love, your mother decided to divorce your father. From this deduction, the possible murderers of your mother could be your father, your father's subordinate, your father's mistress, her own brother, or herself. Try to check her social media accounts and her phone. You should be able to track her boyfriend and find out something." Bai Rong concluded her lengthy explanation.

Song Yi stood up anxiously at her explanation. "Are you making up a story? I did not ask you here to create such an absurd tale for a murder case! This is about the life of my mother and I'm not allowing you to slander nor tarnish my mother's reputation."

"All these deductions are based on your mother's cosmetics, accessories, and the difference in dressing style compared to last time. However, what

I said was indeed just a deduction and not a fact. If you want to know the truth, you can either ask your father, or wait for the results of our investigation.” Bai Rong stood up once again.

“If I find out that you’re telling nonsense, I’ll definitely teach you a lesson for this.” Song Yi warned fiercely.

Bai Rong was not the least bit mad at Song Yi as she eyed him with a faint smile. “Your relationship with your mother has been very, very good. As for your father, you had a romantic relationship that ended because of his interference. Hence, you have a love-hate relationship with your father.”

Song Yi stared at the girl in surprise. “You investigated me?”

“No, I did not. I saw the bracelet on your wrists with the word ‘Li’ on it. I guessed that it must be a gift from your ex-girlfriend and you love her very much. When I mentioned your mother, your eyes were filled with shock, heartache and anger. However, when I mentioned Song Jianren, aside from hatred, your eyes were also filled with mockery, disgust and abomination.” Bai Rong explained.

Song Yi pursed his lips wordlessly, unable to retort to any of her deductions.

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Gu Mingchen called out to her and she could not refuse him.

Psychology was about figuring out one’s thoughts through one’s words, facial expressions, body language as well as mannerisms.

That would work on ordinary people, but some were very good at concealing their true emotions and body language to the point that they could not be read accurately.

That was exactly the kind of person Gu Mingchen was.

He used to be hot-blooded, irrational and impulsive three years ago, but had now matured and turned into someone cold, assertive and dominant.

In other words, he had become like a true king.

Bai Rong followed Gu Mingchen as they walked towards the study room on the first floor.

"Close the door." Gu Mingchen said as he sat on the sofa and sent a text on his phone.

He then placed his phone on the coffee table and Bai Rong felt even more stressed as she sat in front of him across the table.

She made eye contact with the man as he stared at her, and they both sat there in silence.

Bai Rong kept quiet and maintained an expressionless face as she stared back at him.

She couldn't back down as whoever broke eye contact and looked away would seem guilty now.

They ended up staring at each other for ten minutes, and it was so silent that they could hear each other breathing.

Gu Mingchen smirked, "Don't you have anything to say, Ms. Bai?"

"Chief Gu, you are a very calm and collected person who understands yourself very well. I have no direct relationship of interest with you, nor are you the investigator of my case this time. If I make a mistake in my analysis of you, you would think that I am a hoax and look at me scornfully; If my analysis is correct and exposes the secrets that you have kept hidden deep inside, you would feel uncomfortable and silence me because you find me too dangerous to let live. So, I think it's better for me to stay silent. What do you think, Chief Gu?" Bai Rong asked.

"You sure are being very cautious. No matter what you say, I will forgive you and will not go after you." Gu Mingchen said as he leaned back lazily against the sofa.

His posture indicated that he was very relaxed and was indeed just having a harmless and casual chat with her.

However, just because he was harmless did not mean she had to tell him everything.

Bai Rong smiled slightly, "Aren't you busy today, Chief? Why do you have so much time to do all these childish things?"

The casual expression on his face vanished as Gu Mingchen shot her a stern look and sat up straight while keeping his gaze focused on her.

"Start talking now. If you make a mistake, the fact that you have slandered my uncle and aunt as well as caused my cousin psychological trauma alone

is enough to get you locked up in jail forever." Gu Mingchen said in a commanding tone that meant he wouldn't take no for an answer.

Bai Rong noticed the change in his tone and realized that he wasn't joking, so she began her analysis, "There is a very dark spot in your heart."

Gu Mingchen snorted but his expression remained unchanged, so it was difficult to tell what he was really thinking.

"Keep going!" Gu Mingchen said.

"There is a part of your memory that is lost." Bai Rong lowered her gaze as she didn't want him to read her.

"This memory makes you feel conflicted and lost. You have been searching for an answer these past few years, but realized that there are people stopping you from doing so. Those people are your family. Therefore, you have been hurt before. As the pain got worse, you became numb to it." Bai Rong continued.

"Do you know why I had you analyze me?" Gu Mingchen stared at her intensely.

Bai Rong had a bad feeling about it.

Could he actually want me to treat him?

She stared at Gu Mingchen in shock and he laughed as he said, "I heard that you are a genius in the field of psychology and are among the best in hypnosis. Having heard your analysis, it seems like the rumors about your capabilities are indeed right. You guessed it correctly. I want you to treat me and help me regain my lost memories."

Bai Rong teared up a little and said without hesitation, "I refuse."

Gu Mingchen got up and pressed both his arms against the sofa on each of her sides as he stared closely at her, suffocating her with the intensity of his presence.

"I'm afraid you cannot refuse." Gu Mingchen said tyrannically.

Bai Rong looked at him in confusion.

Although Gu Mingchen still seemed as cold as he used to before, it felt like he was a different person now.

Back then, he might have seemed cold on the outside, but he was actually warm and soft on the inside. Now, even his breath on her face felt cold.

“Why can’t I refuse?” Bai Rong asked.

Gu Mingchen lifted her chin and leaned in closer, “You may feel free to try if you don’t believe me.”

Bai Rong understood it clearly now. He was a candidate for commander-in-chief and could easily have her dead without anyone knowing.

So, she decided to not resist him, “I’ll try, but I must remind you, chief. Those who don’t want you to regain your memories the most are your parents. I’m afraid there is nothing I can do if they wish to stop me.”

“I’ll have someone come pick you up every week and I won’t contact you directly either. They won’t find out.” Gu Mingchen promised as he stood up, “I’ll send you home now.”

“There’s no need for that. My colleague will send me home.” Bai Rong refused his offer.

“They left long ago. It’s hard to get a cab in this heavy rain here. Do you wish to spend the night here?” Gu Mingchen asked.

Bai Rong stood up and nodded, “In that case, thank you, Chief.”

The rain splattered heavily on the car, while Bai Rong looked out the window.

She seemed calm, but was actually feeling restless like the rain outside.

The driver stopped the car suddenly.

“What’s wrong?” Gu Mingchen asked.

“There’s a traffic jam up ahead, sir. A lot of cars are turning around as the water levels are too high.” Lieutenant Song reported.

“Head over to Sky Resort. Also, get someone to solve this problem immediately.” Gu Mingchen ordered.

“Yes, sir.”

Bai Rong frowned, “Chief, you can drop me off here. I’ll hail a taxi.”

“With such heavy rain out there and the flooded roads ahead, there won’t be a single taxi around here. Not even a bus would make it over here, judging by the condition of the traffic jam.” Gu Mingchen said without looking at her.

Bai Rong was getting annoyed as she hated others making decisions on her behalf, “I can walk back myself.”

“Are you not afraid of being washed away by the current?” Gu Mingchen said coldly.

“I’m not that weak.”

Gu Mingchen glared at her, “You sure talk a lot of crap. I said we’re going to Sky Resort and that’s exactly where we’re going. It’s not like I’m going to eat you up or anything, so why are you so afraid? Once the road is cleared, I’ll have someone send you home.”

Bai Rong was left speechless.

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She felt that she would come across as doubting his character if she insisted, which might anger him further, so she decided to look out the window in silence instead.

She felt uneasy out of her fear of the unknown as well as how everything was out of her expectations.

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

“Rong, where are you now? I’ve snuck out of work! I’ll come pick you up since the rain is so heavy.” Liu Yan said triumphantly.

Bai Rong felt like she had received timely support and said, “Head over to Sky Resort now. I’ll be waiting for you there. Call me when you arrive.”

“Alright, see you later! Love you!” Liu Yan hung up energetically and Bai Rong breathed a sigh of relief.

Gu Mingchen remained expressionless as he said to Lieutenant Song, “Such heavy rain makes it a suitable condition to train the willpower of our soldiers. Arrange for an emergency training in ten minutes. Also, have all the medical staff on standby in the office for the safety of our troops.”

Bai Rong was speechless as she felt that Gu Mingchen was doing it on purpose.

Is his hearing that sharp that he overheard their conversation?

Seemed like he knew about her relationship with Liu Yan and she didn't want to get her friend in trouble.

"Don't conduct the emergency training, it's too dangerous." Bai Rong protested softly.

Gu Mingchen looked at Bai Rong, "Cultivating the ability to resist danger today is to prepare them to survive the dangers they come across in the future. Does Ms. Bai have any complaints about the way we do things in the military?"

Bai Rong was at a loss for words as she was shocked at how heartless and cruel Gu Mingchen had become.

She looked out the window angrily.

Soon after, Liu Yan called, "Damn it! That crazy chief is having the soldiers carry out an emergency training in such bad weather conditions and I have to be there as well! How inhumane can this guy be?! Thankfully you didn't get together with him..."

Bai Rong felt nervous as she didn't want Gu Mingchen to know about their past and interrupted her, "Yan, there's no rush! Take your time, I'm not planning on leaving anymore after coming back, so we can meet up anytime!"

"I guess that'll have to do for now. You have no idea how strict Gu Mingchen is! I don't even dare to talk loudly at the military base because of him! Alright, I'll talk to you later." Liu Yan said and hung up helplessly.

Before Bai Rong put her phone away, Gu Mingchen turned around and placed his arm next to her as he stared at her, "What did she mean by that just now?"

She could feel his breath on her face with every word he said and tried to calm herself down.

Gu Mingchen had heard it, so denying it would just come across as covering up.

She smiled slightly, "Literally what it says."

"Have we..." Gu Mingchen continued to stare at her as he slowly said, "Slept before?"

Bai Rong didn't expect him to be so direct, so she turned away to avoid eye contact.

Gu Mingchen understood and said calmly, "So we have slept before."

Bai Rong didn't know how to respond and just closed her eyes as she took a deep breath.

She had learnt from her studies of psychology that one mustn't lie out of guilt when the mind was unable to think clearly, as a single lie often led to an endless amount of lies to cover up the first lie.

Bai Rong looked at Gu Mingchen, "There was nothing worth remembering about the chief's techniques and performance."

Gu Mingchen frowned and lifted her chin, "What did you say?"

"Isn't it interesting how she said it was great that I didn't get together with you? Of course, if that made you angry, then maybe I should say that your techniques and performance were amazing and stunning instead, Chief."

Gu Mingchen frowned deeper as he felt uncomfortable with her smile. He let go of her chin and sat up straight as he looked in front.

Bai Rong rubbed her face.

Gu Mingchen kept quiet and the atmosphere in the car felt ice-cold.

She wouldn't initiate conversations either as it would expose her guilty conscience.

The secret to living a long life was to be cautious with one's words and actions, after all.

They finally arrived at Sky Resort.

Lieutenant Song came over to Gu Mingchen with an umbrella, but the latter looked at Bai Rong and said, "Use it for her."

"Yes, sir." Lieutenant Song walked over to Bai Rong.

Bai Rong looked at Gu Mingchen who was walking into the heavy rain and felt a slight warmth in her heart as her eyes teared up a little.

Even though he had lost his memories and had changed a lot, he still retained his warm heart.

Bai Rong felt uneasy and turned away as she took a deep breath to calm herself down before walking towards the resort entrance with Lieutenant Song.

Gu Mingchen had gone in first and placed a few pairs of slippers at the doorstep.

They were all for men and were of bigger sizes, which meant that she could be the first female to have come here.

Even if she wasn't, it didn't seem like women visited the place frequently.

Bai Rong lowered her gaze as she put on the slippers and went inside.

Gu Mingchen was pouring himself a drink and asked without looking at her, "Do you prefer coffee or fruit juice?"

"Water is fine." Bai Rong said.

Gu Mingchen handed her a glass of water and she took it over with an expressionless look on her face.

"Tell me, how do you charge your patients?" Gu Mingchen asked in a formal tone.

Bai Rong took a sip and placed her glass down, "When I was in America, I charged two thousand per hour."

"Reasonable, I'll pay you once a month. Let's begin now." Gu Mingchen walked towards the study room.

Bai Rong looked at him and felt it was better that way, as they would not owe each other anything by keeping things professional between them.

She followed him into the study room.

It was very neat and tidy with a huge variety of books.

She saw a lot of warship models on his desk as well as a book on military affairs with a pen between the pages.

His habit of making notes while reading hadn't changed.

Bai Rong sat in front of him.

“Begin.” Gu Mingchen said.

“What do you think your problem is?” Bai Rong asked softly as she gently knocked on the table.

“I’ve been having a lot of dreams about a woman in the past three years. I’ve never been able to see her face clearly, but she’s always there. I thought she was my girlfriend at first, but later found out that it wasn’t her.” Gu Mingchen said in confusion.

“How did you find out that it wasn’t her?” Bai Rong asked.

“She was in pain and shouted herself hoarse.” Gu Mingchen looked at Bai Rong’s hand, “I saw that she had also lost a pinky finger.”

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Bai Rong paused and looked at Gu Mingchen as she tried to spot signs of him lying on his face, but found nothing.

He was more difficult to read than she had imagined.

Has he been dreaming of me all this time?

Has he ever missed me?

Even if I have decided not to look back and to cleanse my heart of desire, my heart is still hit hard.

“We met once three years ago on a train. When you saw me back then, you were unsettled by my pinky finger. Dreams are not necessarily memories. They could be something that we accidentally remembered. There was a mentally ill patient who talked about her own horror story. She talked about how her husband’s lover was called Sang Xue, and his illegitimate daughter was called Meng Yu. However, in reality, Sang Xue was her own daughter’s name, while Meng Yu was the name of her daughter’s classmate. The woman in your dreams had a pinky finger missing, and your subconscious mind felt that it was me. In reality, it might not actually be me.” Bai Rong explained.

“Alright, begin the treatment then.” Gu Mingchen sat on the chair.

Bai Rong composed herself and treated Gu Mingchen like any other ordinary patient.

"Three years ago, your memories ended in that accident." Bai Rong started making conversation.

"How did you know my memories ended in that accident?" Gu Mingchen squinted his eyes in confusion as he stared defensively at Bai Rong.

Bai Rong realized she had misspoken, "We knew each other from before, right? I know things about you."

"Alright, go on." Gu Mingchen said rationally.

"Can you tell me in detail about the last thing in your memories?" Bai Rong asked.

Gu Mingchen had a dark look in his eyes, "Carnage, despair, suffering."

Bai Rong shifted her gaze downwards as she felt that she was the suffering that Gu Mingchen was talking about.

That's why he had forgotten about her existence.

Since he had chosen to forget her, why was he trying to remember her now?

Doing so would just be a burden for the both of them anyway.

Bai Rong stopped knocking on the table, "If your girlfriend were to give you a box, what would you hope to find inside?"

"There is no if." Gu Mingchen said coldly.

"Chief Gu, you have very powerful insights and strong willpower, so you are difficult to get hypnotized. For clients like these, I will usually have them take a pill. Most of the time, they are unaware that they have taken it and it will lower their defenses which makes them easier to hypnotize. However, I feel that you would become even more defensive if I were to give you a pill for no reason." Bai Rong retrieved a white bottle from her bag and took a pill out of it before holding it in front of Gu Mingchen.

Gu Mingchen stared at her, and she smiled, "Are you afraid of me poisoning you? This is your territory. If I poison you, I won't make it out alive either. I don't want to die just yet."

Gu Mingchen held her hand and ate the pill directly from her palm.

Bai Rong felt like an electrical current shot through her body and pulled her hand back.

She felt something wet on her hand, and quickly wiped it on her shirt.

Gu Mingchen stared at her with displeasure as he kept the pill in his mouth before swallowing it with some water.

“Now, you may begin. And remember, mutual trust is important.” Gu Mingchen said in a dominant tone.

Bai Rong took her phone out and played some gentle music.

“It is a sunny morning and a gentle breeze grazes your cheeks, bringing with it waves of delicate fragrance. You take a deep breath and feel refreshed as you pass by the garden of roses and arrive at a meadow. The grass feels soft and comfortable on your soles. In the distance, you see the figure of a girl. She is dressed in a white gown as she sits barefooted on the grass. You slowly walk towards her...” Bai Rong said softly, and slowly looked towards Gu Mingchen.

Gu Mingchen had already fallen asleep as he leaned back on the chair with a stressful frown on his face.

Bai Rong said with a sad look in her eyes, “The girl you saw looks very pretty, just like the one in your imagination. She asks you to rest with her for a while. You lie down on the grass and immerse yourself in the fragrant scent of nature and fall asleep bathing in the warm sunlight.”

Gu Mingchen’s frown gradually relaxed as he fell into a deep sleep.

Bai Rong stood up to grab a blanket and placed it on his body.

She then walked towards the window and looked outside.

It was still raining very heavily and the trees were dancing wildly in the strong winds.

Bai Rong’s phone rang, and she quickly silenced it and went out of the room. She answered the call after shutting the door behind her, “What is it?”

“Is it convenient for you to talk right now?” Mu Xiaosheng asked.

“Yes, go ahead.” Bai Rong walked towards the main entrance.

"We've launched an investigation according to your advice and found An Qi's lover. He's a fitness coach. He had just learnt about An Qi's death and is devastated. He said she had given him a box and told him to hand it over to the police should they come looking for him as it would keep him safe. Do you want to come have a look at it?" Mu Xiaosheng said.

"Sure, I'm on my way back to the hotel. Bring him to the hotel with the box." Bai Rong said as she put on her shoes and opened the door.

Lieutenant Song and his men were standing guard outside, their faces expressionless like statues.

Gu Mingchen's subordinates were really well-trained and disciplined indeed.

Lieutenant Song was confused when he saw Bai Rong and asked, "Where's the chief?"

"He's resting, don't disturb him as he probably hasn't slept well in a long time. Is it convenient to have someone send me back to the hotel?" Bai Rong asked.

Lieutenant Song checked the study room and only let his guard down when he saw that the Chief was really resting.

He returned to the entrance and said to Bai Rong, "Ms. Bai, you sure have some skills. The chief has been bothered by nightmares constantly and often suffered from insomnia. I'll have someone send you back right away."

Bai Rong nodded, "Thank you."

The soldier drove slowly due to the heavy rain and Bai Rong only arrived at the hotel after an hour.

Mu Xiaosheng and the others were already there by the time she arrived.

"What took you so long? I thought you left long ago." Mu Xiaosheng scolded.

"The road was flooded, so we got stuck in a bad traffic jam." Bai Rong looked at the fitness coach.

He was very handsome and fit and his eyes were red from crying, "Is An Qi really dead? How did this happen? We were just fine before!"

"Let me see the box." Bai Rong said.

The fitness coach handed a box over to Bai Rong.

She opened it, and there was only a photograph inside.

Bai Rong had seen that photograph inside An Qi's bedside drawer before.

It was a picture of Song Jianren and An Qi when they were young.

Song Jianren had one arm wrapped around An Qi's waist, and they were both smiling brightly.

"Does this picture mean that Song Jianren was the one who killed An Qi?" Mu Xiaosheng was confused.

"This means An Qi had committed suicide." Bai Rong deduced.

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"That makes sense too. Only she herself can find her temple so accurately in the dark. However, I'm afraid our hypothesis alone won't be sufficient to convince the general, and would only make him feel like we're not taking him seriously." Mu Xiaosheng said worriedly.

"Let's go ask Song Jianren what this photograph means to him. I think we should be able to get some evidence from him." Bai Rong said.

"Why do you think so?" Mu Xiaosheng was confused.

"An Qi had prepared to kill herself a few days in advance. She had planned it very carefully and delicately. She chose to kill herself, but was worried that it would get her fitness coach in trouble. The message that she had left behind for us must have some use." Bai Rong deduced.

"If she chose to commit suicide, then why did she have to go through so much trouble? Couldn't she have gone with a simpler method like slitting her wrists instead?" The police asked.

Bai Rong paused as she felt a throbbing pain on her wrists, but maintained her facial expression anyway.

"Because she still has hatred in her heart." Bai Rong said softly, "If my guess is correct, Miao Yu should be the woman that her husband was cheating on her with. An Qi wasn't left-handed, yet she had jabbed the needle into her left temple with her left hand. So, she was clearly trying to get Miao Yu in trouble."

"If she wanted to frame Miao Yu for it, then why would she leave behind evidence that she killed herself? That doesn't make sense." Mu Xiaosheng said.

Bai Rong smiled, "She wasn't trying to frame Miao Yu. She just wanted to cause her some trouble, that's all. Although An Qi was kind, sensitive and loved her husband, that doesn't mean she was a complete pushover. When she was alive, she had to care for her husband's pride, so she could only keep all her sorrows to herself. When she died, she was just throwing a tantrum for once, like a child."

"You're right." The fitness coach said, "Miao Yu really is the woman that An Qi's husband was cheating with. He bought Miao Yu a villa and they would often stay together. An Qi knew all about it and had just kept quiet about it. She was a kind woman. I kept telling her to get a divorce and I would marry her afterwards as I love her. But she said she was worried about the pride of the Song family, Gu family as well as herself if she did. Her husband and son would become the laughingstock of others, so she couldn't get a divorce."

The fitness coach got a little emotional, "Last month, An Qi had twisted her ankle. I went to look after her but that b*stard Song Jianren said she was cheating on him with me and forced her to get a divorce. An Qi and I never even had sex before. I got angry, so I brought up his affair with Miao Yu. Song Jianren was afraid of his affair being exposed, so he quickly changed his attitude. He brought An Qi home and looked after her every day, refusing to let me see her. A few days ago, An Qi came to me and handed me this box. I sensed something was wrong from the way she spoke, but when I called her, her phone was switched off. And now she's killed herself..."

Bai Rong felt uncomfortable after hearing that.

The kind of romance that hurt the most was not a young and wild one; but the kind that was lost throughout the years as one's beauty faded with age.

"Let's go see Song Jianren." Bai Rong told Mu Xiaosheng.

"He's a b*stard!" The fitness coach said and ran off.

Song Jianren wouldn't allow them to meet him at his office and chose a café instead.

Bai Rong and Song Jianren were the only ones in the café.

She placed the photograph on the table and pushed it towards Song Jianren, "Do you want to know how your wife died?"

"An Qi was a nice person and was kind to everyone. I can't imagine anyone who would want to kill her." Song Jianren frowned.

Bai Rong smiled sarcastically, "Her death is a form of salvation for you. You know how she died, but you're worried about it being connected to the secret you are trying to hide."

Song Jianren got angry, "What the hell are you talking about?!"

Bai Rong continued, "To her, her death was out of love and blessing. I would like to ask you, Mr. Song, did you wish for a romantic and perfect woman who would give you her all, or one that you knew would destroy you?"

Song Jianren paused and stared at Bai Rong.

"Some people have a graceful heart, while some only have a graceful appearance. Only one with a graceful heart can see another's, while those without can only see the graceful appearance. Tell me about the story behind this picture, won't you?" Bai Rong shifted her gaze to the photograph.

Song Jianren looked at the photograph and was deep in thought but refused to talk.

"Are you starting to doubt An Qi's love now, or have you already lost your ability to love another person?" Bai Rong asked.

Song Jianren looked at her, "She once said that whenever she gets angry, she'd write down her thoughts on a piece of paper and place it into a metal box. She would then hide the box under this wooden table."

"Take us there now. Her will should be in there. It might just be her final message for you." Bai Rong stood up.

Song Jianren frowned, "I wish to go through it first, as it is my personal item."

"So you still don't trust her till the very end, eh? Hmph." Bai Rong snorted at him scornfully.

An hour later, they retrieved the metal box that An Qi had hidden.

Bai Rong held a black umbrella as she stood aside and watched Song Jianren open the box.

There was a letter on the top, with a tiny, locked metal box underneath.

A note was found glued to the top of the tiny metal box, and on it were the words, Dearest Ren.

"It's locked with a password." Bai Rong glanced at the tiny metal box, then stared at Song Jianren, "She tried to protect you till the very end of her life. She's probably in heaven right now."

Song Jianren was trembling as he retrieved the letter from the box.

He wanted to make sure she didn't expose his secret.

The letter wrote, Ren, I'm very ill. I'll have to leave ahead of time, so I can't take care of you anymore. I'm sorry. Thank you for taking good care of me. Marrying you is the luckiest thing that has ever happened to me in my life. Son, I'm sorry, but mama has to go now. Mama will miss you the most as I haven't seen you get married and haven't been able to help look after your kids for you. But, I am sick, so I must die in order to be free. I'm sorry. I'm very sorry. Brother, Ren has been very nice to me. My death has nothing to do with anyone. I hope that you will live a happy life and find a wife to look after you soon! I'll be going now. If heaven exists, I will be looking after you from there. Love, An Qi.

Bai Rong put the letter back into the envelope and handed it over to the police.

The people involved in this case were all high-ranking officials, so a suicide was the most ideal and peaceful ending for it.

She looked at Song Jianren and saw that the gentle and sophisticated man had broken down and was crying his heart out while looking at the metal box in his hand.

Bai Rong wondered. If she really died from her suicide attempt back then, would Gu Mingchen cry over her death the same way when he regained his memories?

You Owe Me, My Love Chapter 150

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She had read a phrase from a book once that went like this, A powerful woman keeps a man's heart; A kind woman keeps a man's pride; A smart woman keeps her own pride.

An Qi was a kind woman.

Even though she had lost all hope in a man like Song Jianren, perhaps his tears right now would have been sufficient to satisfy her as she was simply too kind.

A person's happiness wasn't determined by the amount of money they had nor their social status and power, but their desire.

A person who was easily satisfied would easily find happiness, whereas a person who was hard to satisfy would find it difficult to be happy.

Bai Rong's phone rang and she answered with a smile as soon as she saw it was Liu Yan.

"Rong, where are you now? The training is finally over. Gu Mingchen truly is the devil. Me coming to work here in the army was a mistake! Not only have I not found a boyfriend, I'm becoming more and more like a man now!" Liu Yan complained.

Bai Rong laughed, "Let's meet at Shuiyue International. I'll head over now. Once I decide on a place for dinner, I'll let you know."

"Alright, see you later!"

As Bai Rong put her phone away, she realized that the chief of police had been standing next to her.

"Thank you, Ms. Bai. We wouldn't have solved this case this quickly without your help. We even thought that it would end up being unsolved instead." The chief of police laughed as he thanked her.

"It was nothing, really. I'm also working at the research institute anyway, so you don't have to thank me, chief."

"Ms. Bai, your name is well-known internationally. I'm going to host a celebration party tonight. Would you be free to attend it?" The chief of police extended an invitation.

"I've just returned from overseas today and have a friend to meet, so I won't be attending the party. Thank you for your kind invitation, chief." Bai Rong nodded.

"In that case, I'll have someone send you over."

Sometimes, rejecting someone's offer too much would only cause more trouble for oneself. Not only would accepting offers appropriately protect their pride, it also helped to build a friendly relationship between the parties involved.

“Alright.”

Bai Rong was the first to arrive at Shuiyue International and walked into a café with a nice ambience.

On the stage, a beautiful and graceful girl in a white dress was playing a beautiful tune on the piano.

She texted Liu Yan the location and sat inside a private room.

There was a curtain at the door of the room which she could look outside from.

Soon after, Liu Yan had rushed over and looked happily at Bai Rong, “Rong, you look amazing! You’re so much more beautiful than before right now! Even I’m falling in love with you!”

Bai Rong smiled, “My beauty is nothing compared to your heroic and valiant look. That’s a woman’s true colors.”

“Hahahaha, a woman’s true colors, eh? I like the sound of that!” Liu Yan hugged Bai Rong.

Bai Rong felt her eyes tear up as she felt the warmth that she had longed for.

“Rong, I’ve missed you so much!” Liu Yan said with a slight sniffle.

“Yan, I’ve missed you too!” Bai Rong said softly.

“You have no idea how much of a jerk that Gu Mingchen is! He never looks at me in the eye whenever we see each other. He is all lovey-dovey with Su Wanning, however. They keep showing their affection for each other publicly every day! I really want to slap him! Honestly, he’s even more of a scumbag than Su Xuyan! Su Xuyan hasn’t had a single scandal throughout these three years and even asks me often about how you are doing.” Liu Yan said.

Meanwhile, Bai Rong maintained a neutral expression and no one could tell what she was thinking.

The waiter served up some wine, steak Foie Gras, vegetable salad and some snacks.

Bai Rong twirled the wine glass elegantly in her hand, while Liu Yan was hungry and wolfed down her steak and took a big gulp of her wine, “Do

you think it's still possible between you and Su Xuyan? I think he's trying to turn over a new leaf."

"Time heals all wounds, but the scars remain and the pain is unforgettable. Men are like textbooks, and Su Xuyan has taught me sadness and anger, but I no longer wish to return to that relationship." Bai Rong said coldly and took a sip of her wine, her long earlobes making her seem a lot more intellectual and sensible.

Liu Yan looked admirably at Bai Rong and propped her chin on her hands as she said loudly, "Rong, you seem a lot more sophisticated ever since you studied psychology overseas!"

Bai Rong laughed and tapped Liu Yan on the forehead, "I feel like I'm a walking source of wisdom right now. Hahahaha! Actually, about 60% of it is faked."

"I don't think you're faking it. It's coming from within you. I feel like my male hormones are coming out too as I spend so much time at the military base."

Bai Rong laughed at Liu Yan's comment once again.

They drank quite a lot as they chatted and Bai Rong paid the bill in the end.

As they walked out hand-in-hand with smiles on their faces, a tall man stood in front of Bai Rong.

Bai Rong squinted as she raised her head to look at him.

It was Su Xuyan and he was staring intensely at Bai Rong's cheeks that were red from drinking, "Rong, you're back!"

"Heh!" Bai Rong laughed, "It's better to miss than to meet."

"And it's better to forget than to miss!" Liu Yan shoved Su Xuyan aside as she continued Bai Rong's sentence.

Su Xuyan grabbed Bai Rong by the arm, "You're both drunk and it's raining heavily outside. It's hard to get a cab now, I'll send you two home."

"Mr. Su, you have an appointment with Mr. Zhang of Qingtian International." His assistant reminded.

"I'll come back later." Su Xuyan frowned as he dragged the two by the arm into his car.

"Where do you live?" Su Xuyan asked.

Bai Rong knew he would've guessed where they lived by the next day anyway, and she should be prepared to face everything now that she had returned.

"A City International Hotel." Bai Rong said.

Su Xuyan started driving while Bai Rong called Mu Xiaosheng on her phone, "My friend and I are drunk. Pick us up at the hotel entrance."

"Who are you calling?" Su Xuyan seemed unhappy.

"My superior." Bai Rong said and closed her eyes.

The moment Su Xuyan stopped his car at the hotel entrance, Bai Rong had gotten out of the car before he did, and Mu Xiaosheng came over as soon as he saw them.

"Please send my friend here to the Special Forces military base. She has to work early tomorrow morning." Bai Rong nodded towards the car.

"Alright, sure." Mu Xiaosheng sat next to Liu Yan.

Bai Rong was still somewhat concerned and said, "Don't you dare think about taking advantage of my friend, or I won't forgive you."

"I know." Mu Xiaosheng said.

Bai Rong looked towards Su Xuyan who had been staring at her, and said, "Sorry to trouble you."

"I'll contact you later." Su Xuyan said and drove off.

Bai Rong stumbled towards her own room and a black figure came running towards her as soon as she opened the door.

She was pinned against the wall. Before she could react, she felt his warm body pressed against hers as he spoke, "Do you know how I handle women who toy with me? What kind of doctor leaves right after making me fall asleep like that?"