A Marriage 231

Chapter 231: Arrangements

As soon as Mu Qing saw Jiang Jin, he fell to his knees and kowtowed to her. He called out with tears brimming in his eyes, "Mother!"

Since Mu Qing did not discuss anything with her before they came to see Jiang Jin, Liang Zhou did not know what was happening. She was stunned when she saw Mu Qing kneeling and kowtowing. After a fleeting moment of hesitation, she hurriedly kneeled behind Mu Qing and lowered her head as well.

Jiang Jin sighed when she saw the hints of white hair at the back of her son's head. She gestured for Sister Yu to help her son up.

Sister Yu stepped forward and helped Mu Qing to his feet. "Sir, please sit down and have a talk with the Old Madam..."

Mu Qing looked at Sister Yu gratefully, but he remained kneeling in front of Jiang Jin. "Mother, I was wrong..."

After he spoke, he reached out for his mother's hand and placed them against his face. His tears dripped on Jiang Jin's hand as he began to cry.

Jiang Jin's hand froze for a moment, but she did not pull it away. Her son really knew her very well. In this life, it seemed like the mother and son were destined to engage in a battle of wits and courage. After a long time, she finally sighed and stroked her son's head as she said, "Get up and talk..."

Sister Yu handed Mu Qing a towel to wipe the tears off his face before she cleaned Jiang Jin's hand.

Mu Qing and Liang Zhou took a seat next to each other on the couch as Sister Yu helped Jiang Jin into a more comfortable position.

After that, Jiang Jin bluntly said, "Mu Qing, after this incident, you should give up. Mu Chen's schemes are far superior to yours so don't bother with all your petty tricks..."

Mu Qing lowered his head; his expression was one of shame.

Jiang Jin continued to say, "As the saying goes, 'The young surpasses the old'. You should feel proud that your son is so capable..."

Mu Qing's hands that were resting on his lap tightened for a moment upon hearing these words.

"It's your own fault that you're in this situation today. I can't be bothered to delve into the matter since we know who's at fault..." Jiang Jin said. From the beginning to the end, she did not bother looking at Liang Zhou at all.

Mu Qing's head lowered another few degrees.

"I won't bring up matters of the past; let them stay where they belong in the past. You're my son so I can't be ruthless; you know this very well. Mu Qing, if you still consider me your mother, settle down

quietly in M City and don't have any extravagant thoughts. I hope my grandson won't be the only one present during my funeral; I want my son to be present as well. I don't want us to have regrets in our hearts..." Jiang Jin slowly said.

Mu Qing looked at Jiang Jin in shock before he hurriedly fell to his knees with a thud.

"Mother, I'm unfilial! I promise to stay by your side to take care of you!"

Liang Zhou's eyes lit up immediately. Did this mean they could return to the Mu family?

Jiang Jin continued to say, "Although I said you should settle down quietly in M City, it doesn't mean you can return to the family home. Just like the other descendants of the Mu family, you'll be given a place to stay. Just come and visit me regularly, and we'll consider that as you fulfilling your filial duties..."

Mu Qing's figure stilled for a moment before he replied in a low voice, "Don't worry, Mother; I understand. I'll visit you regularly, and I'll try to avoid Mu Chen as much as I can so as to not make him unhappy..."

Jiang Jin nodded, satisfied.

On the contrary, Liang Zhou's heart was brimming with discontentment and unwillingness. She had thought she and her husband would be allowed to return to the family, but the latter half of Jiang Jin's words had crushed her expectations completely. In the end, she still had to avoid Mu Chen and his wife. Although her husband was the eldest son of the Mu family and was part of the main branch in the Mu family, her husband was treated like a distant relative of the Mu family! What right did Mu Chen have to force them to this position?

After a brief pause, Jiang Jin said again, "You can't interfere with the Mu Group's affairs. Don't think about returning to the family. You can start a new business if you want. You're about to become a grandfather. Think about it, you've destroyed your relationship with your son; do you want to do the same with your grandchild as well? Do you want your grandchild to hate you as well? If you really care about the family, why don't you make some good memories with your grandchild to make up for your past mistakes?"

Mu Qing was stunned, but he immediately nodded. "I understand. I'll do my best to make up for my mistakes back then.."

Chapter 232: Rebuke

Liang Zhou looked at the mother and son in shock. She did not dare to speak nor did she know what to say. Her brain was still processing the mother and son's words. What did Jiang Jin mean by asking Mu Qing to make up for past mistakes? Was she the past mistake they mentioned? Her brain was buzzing as she tried to figure out what was happening.

Meanwhile, Jiang Jin nodded in satisfaction after listening to Mu Qing's reply. Then, she looked at Liang Zhou and said, "Liang Zhou, don't bother Song Ning anymore. Liang Zhen is watching from three feet above your head..."

Liang Zhou could not help but shrink back in fear.

"Technically, this is Mu Qing's fault, and it has nothing to do with you. However, you're Liang Zhen's sister, and what you did was intentional; it wasn't an accident. Back then, I'd said many good and bad words. Whether you listen to them or not isn't any of my business. I don't want to waste my energy arguing with you..." Jiang Jin slowly said, "You've been by Mu Qing's side for so many years so I can see the depths of your feelings. Like I'd said before, because of Liang Zhen, you won't be able to enter the Mu family for the rest of your life. This is a fact that can't be changed. You shouldn't complain since this is the path you've chosen for yourself. I only have two requests for you: one, don't harbor ill intentions toward the Mu family; two, don't hurt the members of the Mu family. If you're able to do these things, I'll naturally wish for you and Mu Qing to grow old together; I love my son after all. However, if you can't do these things, then don't blame me for being merciless..."

Jiang Jin did not mince her words and spoke very bluntly to Liang Zhou.

Liang Zhou did not even dare to breathe heavily and could only lower her head. She had never won a battle with the old lady in front of her. The old lady's momentum and aura were so strong that they suffocated and suppressed her. No matter what preparations or response she thought up in advance, they would vanish as soon as she faced the old lady. However, who knew where she found her courage at this time; she actually looked at Jiang Jin and asked, "Old Madam, can you tell me why you dislike me so much?"

Tears streamed down Liang Zhou's face when she asked this question; this had been the demon in her heart for many years. She said through her tears, "If Mu Qing and Liang Zhen's love was true, I wouldn't have been able to move him no matter how hard I tried. It's clear they don't have a good relationship, but why do you blame everything on me? Old Madam, after so many years, you should know I'm sincere toward Mu Qing, right? However, you still won't acknowledge me as your daughter-in-law or let me address you as Mother. Don't you think you're too cruel to me?"

Liang Zhou cried bitterly as she fell to the ground.

Mu Qing nudged Liang Zhou, trying to stop her, but she was unmoved. She was determined to get an explanation today.

Jiang Jin looked at Liang Zhou coldly, but her voice was calm as she said, "Liang Zhou, you always seem to forget about your other identity.

Jiang Jin looked at her with cold eyes, but her tone was calm. "Liang Zhou, you've always forgotten that you have another identity."

Liang Zhou raised her head slightly, not understanding Jiang Jin's meaning.

Jiang Jin's voice hardened as she continued to say, "You forget that you're Liang Zhen's biological sister. If Mu Qing had cheated with someone else, there was a possibility that person might not have known he was married and fell for my scumbag son. If that was the case, that person would be blameless. However, Liang Zhou, not only did you know he was married, but you also knew he was your sister's husband. Even then, you disregarded ethics and family ties and unscrupulously destroyed your sister's marriage. Moreover, you were originally supposed to marry Mu Qing. You were unwilling at that time and did not hesitate to implicate your younger sister. You pushed your sister into the fire pit twice. Liang

Zhou, not only did you kill your sister, but you killed your sister's heart as well. Liang Zhou, do you not feel any guilt at all?"

Although Liang Zhou's head was lowered, she could see Jiang Jin's chest heaving up and down heavily. She bowed and said, "Old Madam, I admit my mistakes. I owe Liang Zhen. I don't have the chance this life, but I'll repay her in the next life. However, life is short. I hope you can take pity on me and let me use the rest of my life to atone for my sins to Mu Qing and Mu Chen. Mu Chen is my nephew after all..."

Upon hearing these words, Jiang Jin lost her temper.. "Are you trying to disgust Mu Chen to death?"

Chapter 233: Keeping an Eye on You

Sister Yu hurriedly supported Jiang Jin. "Old Madam, please calm down. Let's talk about this peacefully..."

Jiang Jin held onto Sister Yu's hand as she glared at Liang Zhou who was kneeling in front of her, trying to calm down. "To Liang Zhen, you leaving her son alone is enough to atone for your sins. Don't think I'm unaware of what you did to Song Ning. In this world, if you don't want people to know about your bad deeds, it's best if you refrain from doing any bad deeds at all. From now on, I'll keep a close eye on all of you until the day I die. Mu Qing, take your woman and leave!"

Mu Qing lowered his head again as he said, "Mother, don't be angry. I'll make sure to keep an eye on Liang Zhou, and I won't let her cause any trouble."

After Mu Qing finished speaking, he pulled Liang Zhou to her feet and dragged her away without any hesitation.

Jiang Jin's chest rose and fell violently as she pointed at the couple's retreating backs. "Up until now, you still don't know how to repent!"

Sister Yu hurriedly patted Jiang Jin's back. "Don't get angry; calm down. This is all within expectations. Why are you getting so worked up? Have you forgotten what the Young Madam said? If you want to take care of your grandchild, you have to take care of your health!" After she finished speaking, she handed Jiang Jin a glass of water.

After Jiang Jin drank the glass of water, she gradually calmed down. "I'm going to call Cheng Che and tell him to keep an eye on those two. I won't allow them to cause any more trouble. Both of them are heartless and inhumane!"

"Alright, alright. You can speak to Young Master Cheng Che. Don't get angry. You know what's at stake. Don't get agitated..." Sister Yu patiently coaxed Jiang Jin.

...

Cheng Che had been busy for days and nights due to the overhaul that the Mu Group underwent. When Mu Chen told him about his plans, he had been terrified; the plan was incredibly risky.

When Cheng Che voiced his concerns, Mu Chen patted his shoulders and said, "Don't worry, we'll definitely succeed..."

Cheng Che gulped and asked, "Brother, I just want to know where did you get your confidence from?"

Mu Chen smiled. "I got it from you. With such a good brother like you around, how can I not feel confident about our success?"

Cheng Che almost fell down when he heard Mu Chen's words. He thought to himself resolutely, 'Alright, for the sake of Brother's trust in me, I can only fight with my life to ensure our success!'

Therefore, Cheng Che's workload increased exponentially. In the end, he simply ate and slept in the office. He finally understood why Mu Chen had added a lounge to the office when the office was being renovated. Mu Chen even added a bed and a wardrobe; as it turned out, Mu Chen had already planned to squeeze him dry! Mu Chen even provided three meals a day and snacks for him from the Mu Group's six-star hotel. Alas, he was so tired that nothing tasted good.

Fortunately, although his brother was heartless, his sister-in-law was good to him.

...

After Song Ning did not see Cheng Che for a few days, she had said a few words of concern. This made Mu Chen very unhappy.

Mu Chen said shamelessly, "Since I'm here, who will do those jobs if he doesn't work?"

Song Ning chuckled. "So you decided to squeeze your brother dry and dump all the workload on him?"

Mu Chen said, "If his wife is pregnant, I'll definitely eat and sleep in the office and work overtime. Alas, he's not married so he can't blame me for this!"

After he finished speaking, he placed his hand on Song Ning's belly and asked, "Is the baby good today? Do you feel alright?"

Mu Chen only had Song Ning in his heart and mind now. Everyone and everything was placed at the back of his mind.

Song Ning placed her hand over his hand and said, "Don't worry. The child is very obedient and didn't make a fuss..."

Mu Chen said proudly, "I knew it. The child must be a little princess. She's beautiful and obedient. Even at this age, she knows how to care for her mother. It's natural she didn't make a fuss. When she's born, Daddy will definitely reward her and give her everything she wants."

Song Ning could not help but worry about her child's education. With a father like Mu Chen spoiling the child, it would be difficult to educate the child..

Chapter 234: Cliché

Song Ning felt the only way she could help Cheng Che was to make him delicious food. If Cheng Che continued to work in such a manner, she was afraid he would fall sick.

At this moment, Jiahui took a seat next to Song Ning and said with a frown, "Ningning, can you help me take a look at my analysis of this pulse reading? I showed the professor my analysis yesterday, but he was not satisfied. Can you help me have a look to see what's wrong?"

Upon seeing Jiahui, Song Ning raised an eyebrow; an idea formed in her mind. What was important to Cheng Che: the food or the person delivering the food?

"Song Ning?" Jiahui waved her hand in front of Song Ning when she saw Song Ning lost in her thoughts.

When Song Ning regained her senses, she pushed Jiahui's hand aside. She did not look at Jiahui's pulse analysis, but she asked seriously, "Did you stay up late last night?"

Jiahui instinctively looked around for a mirror. "Why? Do I have dark circles? Are they very obvious? Do they look bad?"

Song Ning handed a mirror to Jiahui. After looking into the mirror, she heaved a sigh of relief. "It's fine, it's fine. Fortunately, I was born beautiful..."

Song Ning smiled and patted Jiahui's hand. "Should I have a look at your tongue?"

Jiahui obediently stuck her tongue out to let Song Ning have a look.

After looking at Jiahui's tongue and checking Jiahui's pulse, she said, "You've tired yourself out recently. Take some medicinal herbs and decoct them..."

Jiahui nodded quickly in agreement.

Then, Song Ning continued to say without raising her head, "Grab more of the medicinal herbs and bring them to Cheng Che..."

"What's wrong with Cheng Che? Has he been staying up late as well?" Jiahui asked in confusion.

Song Ning raised her head before she leaned back against the chair and sighed. "Cheng Che has been so busy recently that he doesn't even have time to go home. He's been sleeping in the office every day. Something big happened in the Mu Group previously so he's busy dealing with the aftermath. Since Mu Chen is worried about me, most of the workload fell on Cheng Che's shoulders. I heard from Mu Chen's secretary that Cheng Che often stays up all night..."

Jiahui blinked her big eyes and said, "He should take his time. If he can't finish the day's work, he should just finish it the next day. Why does he have to stay up all night?"

Song Ning felt helpless as she looked at her obtuse friend. "Hey, when you can't figure out what's wrong with the pulse analysis, why did you stay up all night? Why didn't you continue looking at it the next day?"

"I..." Jiahui could not refute Song Ning's words.

At this time, Yang Yi, the two women's senior, happened to walk past them as he was getting a glass of water. When he overheard their conversation, he asked nonchalantly, "Song Ning, what does that young man, Cheng Che, see in Jiahui?"

Upon hearing these words, another one of their seniors, Du Feng, said with a sigh. "I've been wondering about this as well. Could it be that he likes obtuse women like Jiahui?"

Song Ning really wanted to applaud her seniors for being such good teammates.

Jiahui said indignantly, "Hey, what do you mean? What's wrong with me? How am I obtuse?"

Yang Yi shook his head; Du Feng shook his head as well. Then, both of them said in unison, "Not only are you obtuse, but you're heartless as well!"

Following that, both of them slid their chairs closer and high-fived each other before they returned to their respective desks and continued working.

Song Ning could not help but laugh.

Jiahui complained to Song Ning, "Song Ning, look at them? What do they mean? How am I obtuse and heartless?"

Song Ning said with a smile, "I think our seniors are right;

Jiahui widened her eyes and said, "Song Ning, you traitor! Don't think that just because you're pregnant with my godchild, I don't dare to bully you!"

Despite Jiahui's words, Song Ning knew Jiahui only seemed fierce outwardly, but inside, she was weak. Finally, she looked at Jiahui solemnly and asked, "Cheng Che treats you so well, but you're so indifferent. If you're not heartless then what are you?'

Jiahui was briefly stunned by Song Ning's words. Her face flushed red, and she hurriedly looked away as she mumbled, "What does that have to do with me? What can I do anyway?"

Song Ning pulled Jiahui's chair over and made Jiahui face her, her back facing the two seniors. "Let me ask you, Jiahui, do you hate Cheng Che?"

Jiahui shook her head. "I definitely don't hate him.."

Chapter 235: Help

"Cheng Che has been pursuing you for so long. Are you satisfied with him?" Song Ning continued to ask.

Jiahui blushed and did not reply.

Du Feng raised his head and said, "I think she must be satisfied with him. Otherwise, with her temper, if she's dissatisfied, she would've kicked him away from the very beginning!"

Yang Yi chimed in, "That's right. For Jiahui, if she doesn't object, it means she's satisfied. Song Ning, it's best if you don't ask her these questions. If you continue asking, she'll definitely object for the sake of objecting. This fool still hasn't gone through puberty."

Song Ning smiled. "It seems like the two seniors know Jiahui very well..."

Jiahui said stubbornly with a face as red as an apple, "That's not true. I... I don't like him..."

"Alright, since you don't like him, I'll ask Grandma to arrange a blind date for him. With Cheng Che's qualifications..." Song Ning deliberately trailed off.

Du Feng said, adding fuel to fire, "Song Ning, you should just make an announcement in the hospital. I promise doctors and nurses will be lining up to go on blind dates with him. His qualifications are good after all. If that Little Fool doesn't want him, we can find a suitable candidate from the hospital.'

Upon hearing these words, Jiahui said angrily, "Du Feng, will you die if you don't speak?"

Du Feng shrugged. "What's wrong? We're all having a discussion about Cheng Che. He's a good man. He has been pursuing you sincerely, but you're still unmoved. I don't know what kind of person you're looking for. Be careful you don't miss out on a great man. Otherwise, you'll regret it when he finds another person..."

"Mind your own business!" Jiahui said fiercely.

Song Ning reached out for Jiahui's hand and said, "Alright, alright, you don't need Senior to mind your business; you mind your own business. As for Cheng Che, I've gotten familiar with him, and Mu Chen can vouch for his character as well. However, it all depends on you; you can't force yourself in matters regarding feelings after all. Saying that, if you ask me, I think you should give him and yourself a chance... Why don't you give it a try?"

"How?" Jiahui finally asked tentatively.

Song Ning smiled. Jiahui was such a simple person. She said patiently, "It's my day off tomorrow. I plan to cook something delicious for Grandma and Cheng Che. I definitely can't count on Mu Chen to deliver the food to him. He'll definitely eat it. So, why don't you deliver the food to him? Although Cheng Che works during the weekend, the other employees won't be around so you won't feel self-conscious. You can deliver the medicinal herbs and food to him and take the chance to look at his working environment as well. What do you think?'

Jiahui nodded, accepting Song Ning's suggestion.

Seeing this, Song Ning could not help but remind Jiahui. "Jiahui, relationships aren't complicated. Just follow your heart. The most important thing is the feeling between the two of you..."

Jiahui fell deep into her thoughts, mulling over Song Ning's words.

...

The next day, Jiahui arrived early in the morning at Cloudy Peak. When she saw Song Ning, she explained her early arrival. "I remembered something when I went back yesterday. You're pregnant; what if you exhaust yourself cooking? If Mu Chen finds out, won't it be a disaster? I came over so early so I can help you. You can just watch from the sides and find two people to help me."

Song Ning smiled and led Jiahui into the kitchen. "It's great that you're here. Sister Yu is at the hospital so I can't really handle everything by myself. Moreover, the helpers aren't very skilled at decocting medicinal herbs..."

Jiahui sighed in relief inwardly when Song Ning did not question her words. She obediently followed Song Ning into the kitchen.

The two young women chatted happily as they worked together.

Song Ning did not mention Cheng Che and found other topics to speak about.

With that, Jiahui's nervousness seemed to dissipate.

After everything was ready, Song Ning asked the chauffeur to drop Jiahui at the company before dropping her off at the hospital.

After dropping Jiahui off, Song Ning thought to herself, 'Cheng Che, this is all I can help you with.. The rest will have to depend on you...'

Chapter 236: Meeting

Song Ning walked into Jiang Jin's ward with food in hand and a smile on her face.

After Song Ning placed the food on the table, Jiang Jin inhaled deeply and happily called out, "Yu, come and eat. The food smells so good. The food Ning Ning cooked is the best."

Sister Yu rushed over to help Jiang Jian, and Song Ning handed a set of cutlery to her. She asked curiously, "Young Madam, why are you so happy today?"

Jiang Jin looked at Song Ning before she said, "She's happy every day. I think my grandchild will be a cheerful child. The child definitely won't have an expressionless face like their father."

Song Ning could not help but laugh when she heard these words. Jiang Jin always spared no effort in criticizing Mu Chen. After a while, she said, "Grandma, I made food for Cheng Che as well..."

Jiang Jin nodded as she drank the soup. "Mm, he must be exhausted recently. Did Mu Chen send the food to him? Is he really willing to give the food his wife made to someone else?"

Song Ning smiled. As expected, the person who understood Mu Chen most was still his grandmother. Then, she said, "Grandmother, Jiahui sent the food to him..."

Jiang Jin was visibly energized upon hearing these words. She put down the spoon in her hand and asked excitedly, "Really? Ningning, are you serious? Cheng Che, no, I mean, did Jiabui agree to be his girlfriend?"

Song Ning shook her head gently before she said with a smile, "Jiahui is a blockhead; how can she be so easily enlightened? Cheng Che has been so busy recently that no one has seen him at all. All I did was arrange for a chance for them to meet. As for whether anything will come out of it, it depends on them. I can only help them up to here..."

Jiang Jin nodded and said with a smile, "Cheng Che is a silly boy. If he can't even seize the chance here, even the gods won't be able to help him. Jiahui is really slow as well. Well... all we can do is wait for the good news."

Sister Yu nodded. "That's right. Let's wait for the good news."

...

Jiahui looked around curiously after she entered the Mu Group's building. The environment she was most familiar with since she was young was the hospital and the people dressed in familiar white coats. She had never entered the world of the business elites.

The Mu family's chauffeur dutifully led her to the elevator and swiped the access card before sending her to the top floor where Cheng Che's office was located alone.

Jiahui carried the food container and walked out of the elevator. She strolled along the corridor, poking her head into rooms with open doors. This was a novel experience for her after all.

Cheng Che had barely slept for two to three hours when dawn broke. At this time, he was still lying on the couch. His hair was disheveled, and his black-rimmed glasses were still sitting on the bridge of his nose. When he looked up, he fell into a daze when he saw a young girl dressed in a pastel yellow woolen skirt and a beige coat walking toward him from the corridor. The girl was holding a thermal container that he was very familiar with. Was the container not from the Mu family?

Cheng Che rubbed his eyes. 'Am I hallucinating from exhaustion? Why am I seeing Jiahui?'

This was the first time Jiahui had seen Cheng Che in this state. Every time they met in the past, he was always neatly dressed without a hair out of place. Whether he was dressed in formal or casual attire, he was always stylish and neat. However, the person in front of her right now was dressed in rumpled clothing, and his glasses hung askew on his face. She found his current appearance adorable, silly, and funny.

With one hand holding onto the food container, she instinctively reached out to touch his glasses, wanting to check if they were real glasses or if they were just for aesthetic purposes.

Cheng Che instinctively leaned back and called out hesitantly, "Jiahui?"

Jiahui nodded and smiled. "Cheng Che, you look so funny.. You look like a college student who'd stayed up all night studying for an exam... No, actually you look like you just stepped out of an anime series..."

Chapter 237: Deliberate

Cheng Che's face was a little red. He asked, flustered, "You... Why are you here?"

Only then did Jiahui remember the purpose of her visit. She hurriedly handed the food container to Cheng Che and explained, "Song Ning is going to accompany Grandma today so she doesn't have time to send you food. I'm helping her to send you food..."

Cheng Che's eyes lit up as he took the food container from Jiahui. "Then have you eaten?"

Jiahui nodded. "Song Ning and I ate at home."

Cheng Che's brain cells finally woke up at this moment. He invited Jiahui into his office before he said, "Wait for me. I'll be done in a moment..."

Cheng Che seemed to have broken the Guinness World Record for showering and changing in record time. He left the black-rimmed glasses on since Jiahui said he looked like an anime character. Although he did not know which anime character she was referring to, based on her reaction, she seemed to like that anime character.

When Cheng Che appeared in front of Jiahui again, he regained his handsome Young Master appearance that Jiahui was familiar with.

Jiahui helped him set up the table before she looked around the office. When she saw the documents littered all over his desk and the floor, she asked, "Are you working overtime alone?"

Cheng Che shook his head as he ate. "How is that possible? I'm not made of iron; I can't possibly handle so much workload alone. Brother Chen has been working overtime as well. There's also an entire floor of staff who're working downstairs..."

Jiahui nodded. It seemed like Cheng Che was not the type to claim all credit for himself.

Cheng Che pointed at the food and said, "Sister-in-law's cooking is really delicious."

Jiahui said, "Song Ning and I cooked the food today..."

Upon hearing this, Cheng Che hastily said, "You can cook as well? You're really amazing and outstanding!"

Jiahui blushed when she heard Cheng Che's words.

Cheng Che asked curiously, "Why did both of you learn to cook? Didn't you say girls nowadays don't necessarily have to be skilled in housework? Or do all girls studying Chinese Medicine have to learn to cook?"

Jiahui explained, "Our family has been practicing medicine for generations. Since food plays a part in our health, our family pays great attention to diet. Every child in my family has to learn how to cook. It's the same for Song Ning. Her grandfather was a widely known expert."

Cheng Che nodded, impressed. Then, after chewing on a piece of rib, he averted his eyes as he asked, "Then, do your parents want you to marry a doctor in the future?"

Jiahui coughed, flustered, before she replied, "My father's requirements are very low. He just wants me to find someone who will treat me well..."

Cheng Che's eyes shifted back to Jiahui's cute and round face. After swallowing the food in his mouth, he adjusted the glasses on the bridge of his nose and nervously asked, "T-then what do you think about me?"

Jiahui was stunned by Cheng Che's straightforward words, and her face flushed red immediately.

Cheng Che grew more confident as he said, "Jiahui, I've liked you for a long time. I hope you can be my girlfriend."

Jiahui blushed, remaining silent.

Cheng Che continued to say, "I'm 26 years old. I have a Master's degree and studied abroad for two years. Currently, I'm working for the Mu family. I'm an orphan so Mu Chen and Grandma are my family. I have a house, a car, and a little savings. I don't have any bad habits, and I have a wide range of interests. Uh, if there's any skill you like me to learn, I'll try my best to learn them. As long as you agree to become my girlfriend, I'll work hard to be worthy of you."

Jiahui did not know how to respond to Cheng Che's unique and direct confession.

Cheng Che stared at Jiahui intently and asked, "Can you accept me? I've liked you since the moment I saw you. Grandma likes you as well. Grandma said if I fail to make you my girlfriend, she'll kick me out of the house and disown me..."

Cheng Che used both the hard and soft approach. Mu Chen had told him that he should not hold back from using all kinds of methods to ensure his success. This applied to work, which yielded great success, so it should be effective when pursuing a girl as well..

Chapter 238: Success

Jiahui felt her face burning as she mumbled, "I... I'll have to seek my father's approval first..."

Cheng Che put down the cutlery in his hand and said excitedly, "Really? Then why don't you bring me to meet your father!"

Jiahui looked at Cheng Che's excited expression, stunned. She stuttered, "N-now?"

Cheng Che nodded. "That's right. It's better to do it now; we shouldn't delay this matter..."

Jiahui looked at the documents scattered around her and said hesitantly, "Then, your work..."

Cheng Che hurriedly rose to his feet. "It's fine. Work isn't as important as a girlfriend. Work will always be there. However, if I fail to seize the chance, my girlfriend might not be there anymore. Let's leave now. I'll need to make some preparations before meeting your father..."

"But... you haven't finished eating..." Jiahui reminded him.

"It's okay. I'm done eating. With a girlfriend, I can even skip my meals!" Cheng Che said as he began to pack his things.

Cheng Che went into the lounge and deliberated over what to wear. Initially, he wanted to change into something more formal, but in the end, he decided it was best to be casual and natural. He removed his black-rimmed glasses as well; after all, just because Jiahui liked it, it did not mean her father would like it.

After Cheng Che was done, he grabbed Jiahui's hand. "Let's go!"

Jiahui resisted the urge to shake Cheng Che's hand off. She pointed at the container and cutlery on the table and said, "I have to clear the things..."

Cheng Che did not even look at the table as he said, "No need. These things aren't important now..."

Before leaving, Cheng Che picked up a marker and wrote on a piece of paper.

The content read: I'm meeting my in-laws today. Please don't look for me. Even if the sky falls, please don't contact me!

Below these words, he drew an arrow before he added the words 'This way to Chairman Mu's office!'

Then, he closed his office door and pasted the piece of paper on the door.

Jiahui laughed when she saw the content on the paper. "Isn't it bad for you to do this?"

Cheng Che nodded in satisfaction as he looked at the piece of paper stuck on his door. Then, he replied seriously, "What's so bad about this? It's great!"

Jiahui giggled. "How do you think Mu Chen will react when he sees this?"

Cheng Che pulled Jiahui toward the elevator as he said with a huge smile on his face, "He'll want to skin my alive"

Jiahui said, "You can still smile knowing that?"

Cheng Che maintained the smile on his face as he said, "It's fine. Grandma will protect me. If she finds out I skipped work to meet my girlfriend's parents, not only would she not blame me, but she'll praise me and push the work to Brother Chen. In our family, romantic relationships are very important!"

Jiahui could not tell Cheng Che was an orphan at all; it did not seem to leave any psychological shadow on him. He was optimistic and cheerful; his personality was very good. Her eyes shifted down and landed on Cheng Che's hand that was holding onto her hand; her hand felt warm.

At this moment, Jiahui suddenly calmed down as she recalled Song Ning's words telling her to follow her heart.

In fact, she had taken time to reflect and discovered that she liked Cheng Che a lot. However, she did not know how to date.

Song Ning had gotten married to Mu Chen first before slowly getting to know him. In the end, things turned out very well for her.

Jiahui thought since she and Cheng Che were starting from the beginning, things should be fine for them as well.

With these thoughts in mind, Jiahui closed her fingers around Cheng Che's hand and said, "Let me tell you; my father is very difficult to deal with! You have to be careful!'

Cheng Che looked at Jiahui attentively as he asked, "Then, can you tell me more about your father first?"

"Why?" Jiahui smiled.

Cheng Che lifted their interlocked hands and said, "This is your first time bringing a boyfriend home, right? I have to make a very good impression!'

Jiahui seemed enlightened by these words. She nodded. "You're right. I can't let my father laugh at me!"

Cheng Che nodded vigorously.

Jiahui said seriously, "Cheng Che, you have to do your best for me today! Let that stubborn old man see how outstanding my boyfriend is!"

Cheng Che nodded vigorously again. Spring was in full bloom in his heart...

Chapter 239: Out of the Woods

Ye Xin was finally out of the ICU.

During this time, Gao Wen had aged visibility. She did not care about anything except for her daughter.

Although the recovery period would be long, at least, Ye Xin's life was no longer in danger.

Gao Wen was naturally overjoyed. As long as Ye Xin's life was not in danger, everything would be fine. She called Ye He and Ye Cheng, urging them to hurry to the hospital to visit Ye Xin. After all, this was like Ye Xin returning from the gates of hell.

Ye He arrived very quickly.

When Ye Cheng arrived, he saw his father holding his comatose sister's hand.

Tears brimmed in Ye He's voice as he called out his daughter's name.

It was a very touching scene.

After discovering that secret, Ye Cheng secretly did a paternity test as well. Fortunately, he was his father's son. He had sighed in relief when he saw the results. At this time, he could not help but feel uncomfortable when he saw his father's love for his sister.

Since he was a child, his parents had always been biased toward his sister. If his father found out about the secret, how would his father feel?

Ye Cheng no longer dared to think about this matter when he imagined his father's reaction.

Gao Wen greeted Ye Cheng warmly and said, "Ye Cheng, come and say a few words to your sister. The doctor said she'll wake up in a few days. It'll help if we talk to her more..."

Ye Cheng moved to the front of the bed and looked at his sister whose face was swollen due to the medicine. His heart was filled with mixed feelings.

Ye Xin had been vain since she was young and placed a lot of importance on beauty. She was indeed beautiful. Among the Ye family's younger generations, she was the most outstanding one since she was young. Due to this reason, she was incredibly arrogant.

She was also Ye He's pride.

Who knew there was something so ugly hidden beneath the surface?

Ye Cheng's mind wandered to Ning Zhe, that old fellow, who was also lying in the hospital. He could not understand what was so good about Ning Zhe or what his mother was thinking. Every time he thought about this, he would feel so repulsed.

Gao Wen called out softly, "Xinxin, your father and brother are here to see you. You have to quickly wake up. We're all waiting for you to go home. My baby, you have to quickly wake up..."

Ye He chimed in, "That's right. My darling daughter, hurry up and wake up. Daddy will accompany you to Milan to watch the fashion show. There are many beautiful pieces this season. You'll definitely like them!"

Ye Cheng's phone rang at this moment. He hurriedly left the room, leaving the scene that was very difficult for him to accept, to answer the call.

"Xiao Ye, it's me." A gentleman's voice rang from the other end of the line.

"Director Zhu," Ye Cheng said respectfully.

"Do you have time now?" Director Zhu asked politely.

"Yes, Director Zhu. How can I help you?" Ye Cheng asked readily.

Director Zhu sounded happy as he said, "Come over now. I'll send you the location. There are a few important figures I want you to meet. You have to seize the chance..."

"Yes! Thank you, Director Zhu!" Ye Cheng left immediately without informing his parents. He only glanced at the window to the ward as he walked off.

Chen Chen hurried after Ye Cheng. "Young Master Ye, where are you going?"

"Director Zhu invited me to a dinner party. I'll drive myself; you can return to the company first. If there's anything, send me a message. Keep an eye on the Mu Group as well..."

"Understood," Chen Chen replied in a low voice.

"How's Ning Dong?" Ye Cheng asked.

"He has been participating in the meetings in the Ning Group. Su Tong has already reached out to the shareholders," Chen Chen reported.

"Keep an eye on him. If any of the shareholders of the Ning Group sell their shares, buy all of them immediately regardless of price. Investigate all of the shareholders' backgrounds and target the weak ones. You know what to do..." Ye Cheng said coldly.

"Yes. Don't worry, Young Master Ye," Chen Chen replied..

Chapter 240: Regaining Consciousness

Su Tong was in a great mood when she visited Ning Zhe at the hospital.

She had just attended this week's board meeting. In her opinion, managing a company was similar to managing a family. There was no important difference between the two.

She had been elated when she looked at her son, dressed in his suit and tie, sitting in the meeting room. She could already imagine the day where he could sit in the chairman's seat. At that time, the Ning Group would belong to her and her son. How wonderful.

Over the past few days, she had also heard about the Mu Group during the board meeting. Initially, she had been gloating over the Mu Group's misfortune; she had hoped the Mu Group would go bankrupt so that wretched girl would be left with nothing. However, later she heard that not only was the Mu Group fine, but it had even risen to new heights. Her heart could not help ache when she heard that; why was that wretched girl's life so good?

Su Tong looked at Ning Zhe who was still lying on the bed, unconscious. She looked away in disgust and brought her phone out to call her beautician. She had planned to go to the beauty salon to get a beauty treatment before resting.

At this moment, Ning Chun opened the door and strode into the ward. He said respectfully, "Madam."

Su Tong said haughtily, "You came just in time. I have something to do so I need to leave first. Help me look after Master."

"Understood." Ning Chun's expression remained the same from beginning to the end. Whether it was the time when the pair of mother and son were trying to curry favor with him or now, when they were bossing around, his attitude remained the same.

Su Tong had been discomfited by this in the beginning, and as time passed, she no longer thought much of it.

Ning Chun stood at the door and watched Su Tong get into the elevator before he returned to the room and locked the door. Then, he said to Ning Zhe who was lying on the bed, "Master, it's safe now."

Ning Zhe stirred. His movements were stiff when Ning Chun helped him up and put two pillows behind his back to make him feel more comfortable. After he stretched his limbs, he said, "Ah, I have to think of another way soon. It doesn't feel good to keep lying down."

Ning Chun hurriedly said, "Why don't you let everyone know you've regained consciousness. It's not a good idea to keep pretending."

This time, Ning Zhe did not object to it. "Alright. We'll do it in another one or two days. It's more convenient when you're around..."

Subsequently, Ning Chun briefly reported the recent events in the company.

Ning Zhe nodded as he listened. Everything was under control. "Chun, thank you for your hard work."

Ning Chun hastily said, "Master, this is my duty."

Then, Ning Chun recounted the recent incident in the Mu family and the Mu Group from the beginning until the end.

Ning Zhe said with a sigh, "Ah, he's still young so he has guts. If it were me, I wouldn't be able to make such decisions. Chun, Mu Chen is someone trustworthy whom we can cooperate with..."

Ning Chun nodded. All of a sudden, he saw a dark silhouette against the curtain of the window. He swiftly rushed outside to see what was going on.

"Ning Chun, come back!" Ning Zhe called out from inside the room.

When Ning Chun returned he said, "Master, from the looks of it, it seems to be the Young Master..."

Ning Zhe's expression was slightly unsightly as he said, "Summon the doctor here. Just say that I regained consciousness. This way, even if he saw something, we can still cover it up."

Ning Chun thought about it for a moment. This was the only choice left.

The doctors and nurses came in a flurry and did a series of tests now that Ning Zhe officially 'woke up'.

Throughout the entire process, Ning Chun was the only one by Ning Zhe's side.

When Su Tong walked into the room in a leisurely manner, she said with a sigh, "I really wonder when these days will end..."

"What's wrong? What kind of days are you referring to?" A deep voice rang from the bed.

Su Tong let out a scream and spun around, running out of the room..