A Marriage 481

Chapter 481: Revenge

Ye Xin grew even more flustered. "You... What do you want?"

Liang Zhou smiled. She tossed the phone in her hand to the side and sat down across from Ye Xin. The smile on her face slowly disappeared as she said, "Being young is great, isn't it? Because you're young, you can do whatever you want. You're filled with righteousness and always think you're right." Ye Xin did not understand what Liang Zhou was trying to say nor did she know how to respond.

Liang Zhou sneered and said, "I really wanted to slap your face a few times to vent my anger, but seeing your pathetic state now, I feel that it's enough. Moreover, I don't want to dirty my hands anymore."

Liang Zhou rose to her feet before she continued to say, "The doctor said that you shouldn't always cover up the wounds on your face. It's not good to keep the burns constantly wrapped up. Let me help you remove the bandage."

Ye Xin knew that something was not right so she instinctively shrank back. Liang Zhou had a firm grip on the wheelchair, preventing her from leaving. She could only scream in panic. "What are you doing? What do you want to do?"

Liang Zhou swiftly removed the bandage on Ye Xin's face. She was not gentle at all and did not care if Ye Xin was in pain or if the wounds would bleed.

Ye Xin screamed in pain.

After Liang Zhou was done, she threw the bandage away and pushed Ye Xin to the floor-to-ceiling mirror near the entrance.

Ye Xin's face was scarred. Some of the scars were pink and some were dark red. Her flesh was puckered as well. There was even blood seeping out from some parts of her face. Upon seeing this, she screamed and closed her eyes.

Liang Zhou grabbed Ye Xin's hair and forced Ye Xin to look up. She said harshly, "Shut up! Stop screaming!"

The sharp pain made Ye Xin fall silent immediately. She looked up at Liang Zhou, terrified.

Liang Zhou sneered as she looked at Ye Xin''s reflection in the mirror. She said, "You're most proud of your face, right? Look, now that it's ruined, what else do you have? Ah, wait, even without your appearance, you still have your licentiousness!"

Liang Zhou let go of Ye Xin's hair and moved to stand in front of her.

Ye Xin reached out to touch her head as she asked, "Why are you acting crazy?!"

"Crazy? Me?" Liang Zhou looked at Ye Xin in disgust. At this moment, she had calmed down and restrained her anger. She said, "When I was young, I made a mistake as well. I didn't consider my sister's feelings and stole her husband. When she found out about our affair, she took her own life. At that time,

Iwas really afraid, but I didn't regret it. In my eyes, love was more important than anything else. My sister's suicide had nothing to do with me so I didn't blame myself at all. I lived my life filled with pride until one day, I saw the man I loved my entire life hugging another woman. If we follow convention, that woman should address him as 'father-in-law'. Do you know how I felt at that moment?"

Liang Zhou tilted her head back, refusing to let her tears fall. She continued to say, "The heavens are fair. I destroyed my sister's marriage, stole her happiness, and caused her death. Now, it's my tun. It's karma. You're my punishment. I experienced Liang Zhen's pain bit by excruciating bit. However, I'm not like my sister. I won't take my own life nor will I allow myself to swallow the bitterness in vain. I'm someone who will seek revenge for the smallest grievances. I won't let go of anyone who has wronged me! I won't let you or Mu Qing go.. I'll make all of you feel pain!"

Chapter 482: Madness

Liang Zhou's eyes were bloodshot as she said, "I'll never let go of those who wrong me! I won't use my death to punish you. My sister used her death to torture me for a lifetime. I won't do that. I want to live to see you suffer. I want to make you suffer as I've suffered. No, I want you to suffer even more!" Liang Zhou's smile was vicious and terrifying.

Ye Xin was thoroughly frightened.

At this moment, a soft melody suddenly rang in the air.

Liang Zhou was briefly stunned. When she picked up her phone to see who was calling, a smile appeared on her face. She did not answer the call. Instead, she took out a bundle of thick rope and firmly tied Ye Xin up before she taped Ye Xin's mouth up. After she was done, she clapped her hands and admired her work. Only then did she pick up her phone and return the call.

"Hello? Gao Wen? I'm sorry. My phone wasn't with me earlier. Why did you call me?" Liang Zhou's voice was gentle and pleasant to the ears, but her gaze, when she looked at Ye Xin, was frosty and filled with mockery.

Ye Xin tried to speak, making muffled noises in hopes of alerting Gao Wen.

Liang Zhou placed her index finger against her and made a hush gesture. Then, she made a gesture of slitting her throat.

Ye Xin fell silent immediately as she glared at Liang Zhou.

Liang Zhou's voice was filled with all kinds of emotions as she said, "Is that so? Really? You might not be aware of this, but over the past few days, the Old Madam has been extremely happy. I have no idea why as well. She's organizing so many banquets and has asked for my help. Mu Qing is so busy that I haven't seen him at all so I have no choice but to take everything on myself. I'm sorry there's nothing I can do for you now. Why don't you look for Master first and see what she has to say?"

After a pause, Liang Zhou sighed and said, "Don't be anxious. Calm down. Huh? What did you say? Ye Xin disappeared? How's that possible?"

Liang Zhou glanced at Ye Xin and smiled arrogantly as she spoke.

Ye Xin's eyes burned with fury. She really wished she could reach out to strangle Liang Zhou to death.

"Don't worry. Stop crying. Hurry up and call your son first. After all, he's in the Public Security Bureau. He's definitely more capable than us when it comes to searching for Ye Xin, right? Otherwise, just look for Master and ask for guidance. Yes, yes, alright. I'm really sorry I can't get away now and help you."

After disconnecting the call, Liang Zhou smiled sweetly at Ye Xin as she asked, "Look, the whole world is looking for you. Aren't you proud?"

Ye Xin was sweating profusely at this moment.

Liang Zhou did bother waiting for Ye Xin to reply before she dialed a string of numbers on her phone again. When the call connected, she said, "Hubby, where are you? The Old Madam is going to host a banquet. Come back quickly and help me. Don't you think this is a sign that the Old Madam is gradually accepting me? Hm? Why are you so busy? Alright, alright, I'll look after the Old Madam. Remember to look after yourself."

After the call ended, Liang Zhou smiled and asked, "When you're with him, did you say I'm a foolish woman?" Her smile vanished as she continued to say, "Indeed. I was a fool when it came to love. I don't ask for status or wealth; I only want the man I love to treat me wholeheartedly. Alas, I've sinned so karma has come to look for me. Karma sent you, you filthy woman, to destroy my marriage with him and also my life! I lived my entire life sustained by my love for him, but everything is just a joke. In his eyes and your eyes, my love is just a joke!"

After calming down, Liang Zhou wiped her face before she said, "It doesn't matter... Since you want me to go to hell, I'll drag all of you down to hell with me!"

Chapter 483: Troubles

'Mu Qing was anxious. He felt as though he was sitting on pins and needles. Song Ning was still alive, and Ye Xin had gone missing. The situation had suddenly veered out of control.

Ji An had sent news that Ning Dong had found someone to cause the car accident. He was unaware of the plan. When Ning Dong asked him to look for a few people with criminal records, he assumed Ning Dong wanted to deal with Ning Zhe. Who knew Ning Dong would target the Young Madam of the Mu family instead?

Ning Dong had targeted the Young Madam of the Mu family due to her burgeoning relationship with Ning Zhe. Threatened by her return, Ning Dong decided to strike first.

However, after the car accident happened, the Young Madam of the Mu family mysteriously disappeared. When Ji An rushed over, the police had already arrived. Even the identities of the two drivers had already been discovered. There was no way to salvage the situation.

Ji An had no choice but to withdraw immediately to avoid trouble. In the end, he could only report to Mu Qing and ask Mu Qing to send people to look for the Young Madam of the Mu family.

When Mu Qing heard the report, he was so angry that his hands began to tremble. He knew he had made a mistake this time. He did not expect a brat like Ning Dong would actually be so vicious and decisive. He would not care if Ning Dong had acted against someone else, but why did it have to be Ye Xin?

Ye Xin with her pig brain actually thought she could gain support from Ning Zhe but ended up being targeted instead.1

At this moment, Mu Qing seemed to have forgotten that Ye Xin had only returned to the Ning family house and ran to Ning Zhe at that time because she had caught him with another woman. After all, if she did not catch him with another woman, she would not have felt a sense of crisis and desperately searched for a backup plan.

'Mu Qing was extremely frustrated. He wanted to search for Ye Xin, but he did not have any clue at all. Ye Xin was like a ticking time bomb now. He would not have peace until he found her. Hence, he was panicking.

At this time, his phone suddenly rang. It was Du Tong.

"Sir, the other members of the Mu family want to see you."

'Mu Qing inhaled deeply before he asked, "What's the matter?"

Du Tong hesitated for a moment before he said, "There's a problem with our project."

'Mu Qing's heart sank immediately.

"Sir, the people from the tax bureau made a request to check our accounts. When those from the Mu family caught wind of this, they thought it might have something to do with Mu Chen so they're all panicking now," Du Tong said.

'Mu Qing said angrily, "It's just an account check. Why are they panicking? What did Mu Chen say to them? There's no problem with our accounts! We don't have to be afraid of an investigation!"

Du Tong hesitated for a moment before he said, "Sir, I think you should come back first. I can't hold them back. They're all clamoring to see you, saying you lied to them and that they want justice."

"Justice?! Justice my as*! If there's justice in the world, the Mu Corporation would be mine now!" Mu Qing roared before he disconnected the call in a huff.

He really did not understand why things would be so difficult. It was as though he was cursed. After he returned to the country, nothing had gone smoothly. It was like his son, Mu Chen, was born to oppose him. He could not help but gnash his teeth in anger when he thought about his son.

In the end, he had no choice but to suppress his anger and order the driver to send him back to the company. He had to appease those people from the Mu family. Without them, he would not be able to return to the Mu family. He would definitely not let Mu Chen get away with foiling his plan again! His mind was in a mess, filled with distracting thoughts. He forced himself to calm down and closed his eyes to rest. He knew he could not be anxious; it would affect his judgments and decisions, after all.

At this moment, the driver suddenly braked.

'Mu Qing was propelled forward and his forehead hit the front seat.

"Tm sorry, sir!" the driver apologized anxiously.

"What happened?" Mu Qing asked as he suppressed the fire in his heart.

"A-a pedestrian suddenly ran the red light. I-I... I couldn't brake in time," the driver stammered.

"You hit someone?" Mu Qing suddenly sobered up.

The driver lowered his head silently..

Chapter 484: Car Accident

'Mu Qing was furious. "Then, why are you still here? Why don't you go down and have a look?"

As Mu Qing spoke, he pushed the car door open to have a look. This place was close to the downtown area. He would be in big trouble if he ran into members of the press.

The driver had gotten out of the car as well. As he helped the person, whom he had knocked down, up, he kept saying, 'I'm sorry, Im sorry."

The person who had been knocked down did not say anything.

'Mu Qing sighed inwardly. He thought that when it rained, it really poured. He was even targeted by petty scammers now.

'Mu Qing was just about to instruct the driver to give the other party as much money as the other party demanded when the other party suddenly raised her head.

'Mu Qing exclaimed in shock, "Madam Ye?!"

Gao Wen was in a daze. She did not react at all.

'Mu Qing hurriedly walked over and asked, "Madam Ye, where are you going? Do you need me to send you there?"

Gao Wen slowly regained her senses. She wondered why the man in front of her looked so familiar.

As though he could read her thoughts, Mu Qing hurriedly said, "Madam Ye, Im Mu Qing, Liang Zhou's husband. Jiang Jin is my mother."

Liang Zhou's name seemed to bring Gao Wen back to life, and her senses returned to her immediately. She asked tremblingly, "Mr. Mu? Mr. Mu, where's Liang Zhou?"

'Mu Qing frowned. He did not know where Liang Zhou was so he did not have an answer for Gao Wen. He could only say, 'My mother is hosting a banquet so Liang Zho is helping my mother out." Tears streamed down Gao Wen's face as she said, "My daughter, Ye Xin, is missing! I can't find her at all! I need Liang Zhou to help me think of a solution!"

'Mu Qing rolled his eyes inwardly. What kind of solution could Liang Zhou come up with?

He knew Liang Zhou and Gao Wen had a close relationship. Moreover, it seemed like Liang Zhou was not lying when she said Gao Wen was not in good spirits.

Previously, Ye Xin had said that Gao Wen mysteriously recognized her and even did a DNA test. At that time, Ye Xin had accused Liang Zhou of orchestrating the entire thing. When he returned to see Liang Zhou at that time, he had also discovered the change in Liang Zhou.

At this moment, a thought suddenly appeared in his mind. Then, he said, "Madam Ye, since Ye Xin is missing, Liang Zhou will definitely help you to think of a way. Why don't we see if youre injured first? Should I ask my driver to send you to the hospital? Or do you want me to send you to our house to wait for Liang Zhou?"

Gao Wen said without hesitating, "TI wait for Liang Zhou at the house!"

'Mu Qing nodded. 'Alright. I'll get someone to send you there. Are you injured?"

Gao Wen quickly shook her head. "No, no, I'm fine."

'Mu Qing helped Gao Wen into the car and instructed the driver to drive Gao Wen to the house. Then, he hailed a cab and left.

His instincts told him that Gao Wen might be useful.

After dealing with the Mu family members, Mu Qing was mentally and physically exhausted. He knew Mu Chen must have started his counterattack, but he was helpless. His son was too good at playing dirty tricks.

He thought about everything carefully and felt that he did not make any mistakes. He could not figure out what went wrong.

1

After that, he thought about Liang Zhou's earlier phone call. He assumed she was at the Mu family house so he decided to pick her up. After all, now that Jiang Jin valued Liang Zhou, it meant that he would have many uses for Liang Zhou.

At this time, Liang Zhou and Song Ning were coaxing the baby to walk back and forth between them. The two of them were not far from each other so the distance was not far. With that, the baby soon lost interest.

The duo brought the baby out to the balcony on the second floor, looking at the helpers who were busy. Song Ning said softly, "Thank you for protecting my son. I haven't had a chance to properly thank you."

"The baby is my little lucky star," Liang Zhou said softly. Coincidentally, the baby was looking at her and smiling at this time. She quickly returned the baby's with a big smile of her own..

Chapter 485: Family Bonds

"Thank you for giving me a chance and not interfering in my work," Liang Zhou responded softly. Song Ning remained silent.

"Song Ning, I know I've hurt Mu Chen and the Old Madam. No matter how much I atone for my sins, it won't be enough. Sometimes, there's no turning back once you make a mistake," Liang Zhou said with a bitter smile on her face. Then, she said in a low voice as though she was talking to herself, 'One should

be responsible for one's actions, right? I'll bear the consequences and responsibility; I won't shirk it. Moreover, I wont be lenient to those who wronged me either."

Song Ning knew Liang Zhou was referring to Ye Xin. Hence, she said, "Everyone has their own way of doing things. Although I wont interfere or stop you, I don't want you to hurt yourself either." Liang Zhou smiled. "Song Ning, if there's a next life, I'll definitely be a good person. Only with a good heart can I have the courage and strength to face challenges and changes."

Song Ning could tell Liang Zhou was completely different from before. Liang Zhou's blind superiority and self-righteousness had all disappeared.

At this moment, Sister Yu waved at them from below, gesturing for them to come down.

Song Ning kissed her son on his face before she placed him in Liang Zhou's arms and said to the baby with a smile, 'Go downstairs with Grandma to look for Great-grandma. Mommy is going to look for Daddy."

Then, Song Ning smiled at Liang Zhou and tured around to leave without saying another word.

Liang Zhou held the baby in her arms ina daze. She really wished she had another pair of hands so she could hold the baby even more carefully. This was the third time she was holding the baby.

The first time she held the baby was when he was born. She had carried him to escape from the sea of fire. The second time she carried him was when she stole Ye Xin's hair. At that time, Sister Yu had helped her extricate herself from a sticky situation and kindly let her hold the baby for a while. During those two times, she had felt instinctively nervous. After all, even if Jiang Jin and Sister Yu's attitude toward her had changed, she did not dare to take the initiative to hold the baby. She knew she was not worthy. No matter how arrogant she was in front of Ye Xin, she felt inferior in front of the Mu family.

Now that Song Ning casually placed the baby in her arms and did not treat her as an outsider, she was at a loss. Song Ning even walked away without saying anything. This kind of trust was truly overwhelming. When the baby saw that Liang Zhou was only holding him and not moving, he stretched his hands out and touched her face. Then, he called out, "Grand... ma.."

The baby's voice was like a spring breeze to Liang Zhou. Tears fell down her face immediately.

The baby looked at her curiously and reached out to touch her eyes.

Liang Zhou hurriedly wiped her tears away and said softly, "Baby, let's go and find Great-grandma."

Liang Zhou carefully carried the baby downstairs as though she was holding a priceless treasure. Her mood was indescribable at this moment.

Jiang Jin was slightly surprised when she saw Jiang Jin carrying the baby downstairs. When she saw Liang Zhou's stiffness and nervousness, she understood immediately. She said with a smile, 'It must be tiring for you to carry him. He's getting heavier and heavier that I can't even carry him anymore. I don't dare to carry him either. Im afraid I'd drop him."

Liang Zhou looked at the baby with barely concealed affection as she said, "To be able to carry him is also a kind of happiness..."

The baby held onto Jiang Jin's neck with one hand and said in a childish voice, "Milk... milk.." Then, he looked at Jiang Jin and said, "Great... gran... Great-gran!"

Jiang Jin smiled. 'Little brat, how can you just shorten words on your own? You might not be aware, but he's very smart. He only calls out to us when he sees us eating."

Sister Yu chimed in, "He's already so observant at such a young age. When he grows up, he'll definitely be even more outstanding than his father."

'When Mu Qing entered the house, this harmonious scene was the first thing he saw. He did not expect Liang Zhou would be able to carry the treasure of the Mu family. After all, everyone knew the baby was the life of the entire family..

Chapter 486: Seeking Approval

'Mu Qing really did not expect Liang Zhou to be able to gain the approval of the family without his help. Now, he was the one who was unwelcomed.

'Mu Qing strode forward with a smile on his face as he asked, "Why is everyone so happy?"

Everyone's smiles froze immediately, making Mu Qing feel extremely uncomfortable.

Finally, Jiang Jin said with a smile, "The baby is now the focus of the family. The happiness of the day is naturally brought by him."

'Mu Qing smiled and extended his hands to Liang Zhou, clearly showing his intention to hold the baby. However, Liang Zhou acted as though she did not understand his intention. Instead, she handed the baby to A Nuan who was standing at the side. Then, she smiled as though nothing happened and said, "The baby is changing every day. This is the most fun time."

After A Nuan held the baby in her arms, she retreated to the side.

'Mu Qing's smile turned frosty as he looked at Liang Zhou with dissatisfaction.

Liang Zhou pretended to be obtuse and said with a smile, "All the Madams you invited over for the banquet are so envious of your grandson and granddaughter-in-law's filial piety..."

Jiang Jin nodded. "I'm old now. It's time for me to enjoy being cared for by my grandson."

Meanwhile, Mu Qing quickly stepped forward to help make tea.

Upon seeing this, Jiang Jin said, "You can leave these things to Liang Zhou. Her skills aren't inferior to yours."

'Mu Qing, and even Liang Zhou, were stunned.

'When Liang Zhou regained her senses, she hurriedly stepped forward to brew a pot of tea. She said lightly, "To be able to gain the Old Madam's approval, I must have done something right in my past life."

Jiang Jin did not look at her son. Instead, she looked at Liang Zhou as she said with a sigh, "Don't blame me for being ruthless. People are selfish, after all. I chose my grandson so it's only natural that I have to consider him. Life is so difficult. One has to constantly make difficult choices. It's difficult to have things both ways."

'When Liang Zhou's tears fell on the back of her hands, she quickly wiped them away before continuing to prepare the tea. Her head was lowered as she said, "Old Madam is right. I have to thank you and Young Master for helping me. As for... As for other things, I should bear them myself."

Jiang Jin looked at Liang Zhou. Liang Zhou had lost a lot of weight recently. She could only imagine the bitterness in Liang Zhou's heart. Alas, this was Liang Zhou's choice and Mu Qing's fault. After a brief silence, she finally said, "A Yu, before Liang Zhou leaves, remember to give her the bird's nest that Cheng Che brought back. She has to nourish her body."

Liang Zhou's tears fell like rain again.

'Mu Qing was slightly confused by the conversation that held deep implications. In the end, he cleared his throat and said with feigned reproach, "Mom is so good to you; why aren't you thanking her?"

Liang Zhou forced herself to control her emotions as she picked up a teacup and presented it respectfully to Jiang Jin.

'Mu Qing was perplexed and frustrated as he looked at Liang Zhou and Jiang Jin. 'Is she crazy? Does she think my mother will accept this gesture?

Contrary to Mu Qing's expectations, Jiang Jin reached out and took the teacup. After taking a sip, she nodded.

Liang Zhou smiled as tears brimmed in her eyes. "Thank you, Old Madam. Since I don't have anything else to do, I'll take my leave first."

Jiang Jin said casually, "Alright. When you're free, you can come over. The baby likes you very much. His father is as busy as always, and Song Ning is returning to the hospital as well. With you around, our burdens will be lightened."

Liang Zhou said respectfully, "I'l definitely come to visit the baby."

'Mu Qing was very surprised. He really wondered if the woman in front of him was really Liang Zhou. He wondered if someone had done the same thing as him and replaced Liang Zhou with another person.

While Liang Zhou prepared to leave, Mu Qing was sitting on the couch in a daze.

Upon seeing this, Jiang Jin asked, "Aren't you going to send Liang Zhou back?"

Only then did Mu Qing regain his senses. He said, "Mom, we'll take our leave first then."

Then, Mu Qing reached out to place his hand around Liang Zhou's shoulders.

Liang Zhou stiffened briefly, but in the end, she did not struggle. When she reached the entrance, she turned back to look at everyone with a smile. However, her eyes were filled with longing and reluctance. She had to remind herself that she should not be too greedy for this warmth and happiness. She knew it was best for her to stay far away from the Mu family. The best gift she could give them was to not cause them any trouble.

Chapter 487: Casual Conversation (1)

'Mu Qing personally opened the car door for Liang Zhou. It was rare for him to be so gentle. His voice was filled with delight as he said, "I didn't expect you to get along with my mother so harmoniously. She even drank the tea you served her. This is a form of acknowledgment."

Only when Mu Qing saw Liang Zhou's lack of response did he realize her mood seemed to be a little low. He asked with a frown, 'What's wrong?"

Liang Zhou forced herself to perk up as she said, 'I'm just a little tired."

'Mu Qing nodded. "You've been here since morning?"

'Mu Qing had not been home for a long time and knew nothing about Liang Zhou's daily activities or whereabouts.

Liang Zhou nodded nonchalantly and did not say anything else.

'Mu Qing closed his eyes to rest. His mind was a mess. He had too many matters waiting for him to deal with. He needed to appease the relatives of the Mu family so he could only fork out some money to do so. The most important thing now was to find Ye Xin. He could not let others find Ye Xin first. Moreover, Ye Xin might still have some uses left in her. Until the last moment, he could not let go of any chances.

All of a sudden, he opened his eyes and asked, "Liang Zhou, did Madam Ye look for you recently?"

Liang Zhou, who was lost in her thoughts, was slightly slow to respond. It was as though she did not know who Mu Qing was talking about. After a moment, she finally said, "Oh, Madam Ye. That's right. She's looking for her daughter. Before this, she said her daughter disappeared from the hospital and asked

for my help to look for her daughter. However, the baby and the Old Madam are my first priority, after all. I told her I couldn't help her for the time being since I was busy helping the Old Madam. Moreover, I don't want to get involved in her affairs. After all, her mental state is a little strange. One moment she insisted that our Young Madam is Ye Xin, and the next moment she said Ye Xin is in the hospital. Tell me, which part of her words make sense?"

Liang Zhou sounded tired, and a hint of complaint could be heard in her voice.

'Mu Qing gleaned many pieces of information from Liang Zhou's words alone. His expression turned solemn immediately. Then, he asked, "Did Madam Ye say that Ye Xin was injured and in the hospital?" Liang Zhou nodded. "Yes."

"How did she get injured?" Mu Qing asked.

Liang Zhou looked at Mu Qing strangely. However, she still replied, "She said that Ye Xin had met with a car accident and was seriously injured. She said something about Ye Xin's face being disfigured. Later, she told me Ye Xin went missing from the hospital. That's when she asked me to help her search for Ye Xin." Then, as though she just recalled something, she said, 'Ah, she told me to ask for help from Master, but I forgot. Ive been too forgetful recently. Mu Qing, why dont you help her look for her daughter? This concerns human life, after all."

'Mu Qing patted her shoulder lightly and said, "Don't worry. I'll get someone to look for her." Liang Zhou looked at Mu Qing happily when she heard his words.

On the contrary, the frown on Mu Qing's face did not ease. He asked, 'Why does she keep insisting that Ye Xin is Song Ning?"

Liang Zhou said in a hushed tone, 'When she attended the previous banquet at the house, she took the opportunity to steal the Young Madam'ss hair for a DNA test. She thought that if Ye Xin was truly impersonating the Young Madam, she would bring the secret to her grave to protect her daughter's happiness. Like I said, her mental state is a little unstable. How pitiful. Mu Qing, you have to help her."

'Mu Qing recalled Ye Xin's previous words and found that everything lined up. It seemed like Gao Wen was aware of everything. He thought that Gao Wen might be useful as well. When he returned, he would have to ask her in detail about what had happened...

Chapter 488: Casual Conversation (2)

Since Mu Qing sent Liang Zhou home, he could not leave immediately. He was on tenterhooks as he pretended to ask about Liang Zhou's well-being.

Liang Zhou pretended not to notice his restlessness and spoke about her time at the Mu family house.

'Mu Qing could only force himself to patiently listen to her since he strongly felt that Liang Zhou would definitely be helpful to his grand plan. When he excused himself to go to the bathroom, he sent a message to Lin Liang, another one of his assistants, asking her to come up with an excuse to get him out of the house.

When Lin Liang arrived at the house, he feigned reluctance as he said goodbye to Liang Zhou. Although Liang Zhou did not seem like she was finished talking, she acted very sensibly. She told Mu Qing that he should prioritize his work.

Mu Qing really felt like Liang Zhou had been reborn. If she had been like this in the past, would it not save him a lot of trouble? After all, it was not cheap raising so many women outside, and the cost of raising Liang Zhou was relatively low.

Mu Qing had sent Gao Wen to the villa.

At this moment, Gao Wen sat on the couch, feeling restless. There were too many traces of Ye Xin in this place.

The style of the furniture, the decor, the cosmetics that littered the table, and even the brands of the bedroom furniture were Ye Xin's favorite.

Gao Wen's sense of unease rose as she wondered about Ye Xin's whereabouts.

The entire matter was too unbelievable and shocking.

She wondered how Ye Xin had managed to replace Song Ning in the first place. She blamed herself for not thinking about this earlier. She only thought about the consequences of Ye Xin impersonating Song Ning, but she did not think about where the real Song Ning was or how Ye Xin managed to impersonate Song Ning.

'When she recalled the Mu family's attitude toward Ye Xin, she could not help but wonder if the Mu family was already aware that Ye Xin was an impostor. They treated Ye Xin so badly, and it was definitely

not for no reason. Most importantly, Song Ning had returned to the Mu family out of the blue, but Ye Xin was gone.

'Where could Ye Xin go? She was injured, and her face was so badly burned that the doctor said she would definitely need plastic surgery. Where could she have gone?

Gao Wen's tears had been flowing day and night. She hated herself for being so helpless. Now that things had escalated to this point, who else could help her?

Her husband and son did not believe her. Even she did not know if this was real or if she was hallucinating.

At this moment, Gao Wen suddenly leaped up from the couch. She heard a noise outside. It was Mu Qing!

When Mu Qing entered, he did not wait for Gao Wen to speak before he said, "I'm sorry to have kept you waiting."

Gao Wen did not know what to say, slightly confused. She only smiled stiffly.

'Mu Qing invited Gao Wen to take a seat.

As Lin Liang poured a glass of water for them, Mu Qing said, "Madam Ye, let me be straight with you."

Gao Wen nodded, looking like a frightened bird.

"Madam Ye, did you see Song Ning in my house?" Mu Qing asked. To outsiders, he would refer to the Mu family house as 'my house', but he did not dare to say such arrogant words when faced with the Mu family.

Gao Wen nodded slightly. She was distant and wary.

In order to make Gao Wen lower her vigilance, Mu Qing decided to bring up Liang Zhou. He said bluntly, "I heard from Liang Zhou that you suspect Song Ning is Ye Xin?"

Gao Wen was shocked. However, on second thought, she thought it was not surprising that Liang Zhou had told Mu Qing about this matter. After all, Liang Zhou loved Mu Qing so much that Liang Zhou had devoted her life to Buddhism and even became a vegetarian. With these thoughts in mind, she nodded in response to Mu Qing's question.

Mu Qing sighed in relief inwardly. He was worried Gao Wen would be difficult to deal with. Clearly, that was not the case..

Chapter 489: Clues

"Madam Ye, Liang Zhou is now with my mother at the family house so it's inconvenient for her to see you now. Why don't you tell me what's going on? Liang Zhou has told me to do my best to help you. With that, I can't let others deceive you," Mu Qing said, using Liang Zhou to cheat Gao Wen's trust. Gao Wen perked up immediately upon hearing these words. She was clearly very touched as she said, "I really have to thank Liang Zhou. I'll never be able to repay her kindness to me in this lifetime!"

'Mu Qing remained silent for a moment. After all, in his eyes, the sisterhood between women was just plastic. After all, he did not see Liang Zhou reciprocating Gao Wen's feelings. Nevertheless, he went with the flow and said, "Yes, Liang Zhou is very kind. She treats her friends' problems like her own. She said your problem is very complicated and that no one would believe you even if you told others about it. She told me to keep an open mind when I listen to you and to do my best to help you."

Gao Wen was so touched that tears welled up in her eyes again. She wondered what she had done right to meet such a wonderful and kind couple like Liang Zhou and Mu Qing. She no longer hesitated and recounted everything that happened recently. She told him about how he had met Ye Xin, why she was suspicious, and how she confirmed her suspicion. However, she hid the part where Liang Zhou helped her to steal Ye Xin's hair. In her opinion, if Mu Qing found out that Liang Zhou had helped her in this manner, it would definitely affect Mu Qing and Liang Zhou's relationship.

'Mu Qing listened carefully to Gao Wen's words. His palms were already drenched in sweat. As it turned out, Ye Xin had long exposed herself, and he was completely unaware of it. No, even Ye Xin herself was unaware of it.

He had spent half of his life refining the skills of scheming and winning people's hearts. He had dealt with many people and had never made a mistake. He did not expect he would actually fail at the hands of an ignorant girl like Ye Xin.

He blamed himself for being careless. He thought a girl at Ye Xin's age should know how to act; there was no need for him to arrange everything in detail. With her intelligence, he did not think there would be a problem. As for her arrogance, it was indeed problematic. However, it could be solved by saying it was due to the changes in her hormones after giving birth. With that, she could even attract his mother's sympathy and stop his son from asking too many questions. He thought that after a period of time, when their relationship was even better, he would be able to push his own agenda forward. Alas, Ye Xin was an idiot through and through.

After listening to Gao Wen, he quickly grasped the main point and asked, "Madam Ye, do you still have the results of the DNA test?"

Gao Wen nodded. "Yes, I do. Ye Xin had been determined to continue with her impersonation of Song Ning so I wanted to fulfill her wish and destroy the evidence. However, I couldn't bear to do so and kept it instead."

Mu Qing could not help but break out in cold sweat when he heard this. Ye Xin really had nothing she could do well. Back then, she had said she had threatened her mother with her own life so her mother agreed to destroy the evidence. In the end, her mother still kept the evidence. He sighed lightly, not knowing if he was lucky or unlucky.

"Do you need the test result?" Gao Wen asked tentatively.

"Yes." Mu Qing nodded slightly.

Gao Wen's expression was one of eagerness as she said, "Mr. Mu, can you help me look for Ye Xin first? She's seriously injured so I'm even more worried about her. Her wounds can't be left untreated!"

Upon hearing that, Mu Qing hurriedly said, "Of course. I'll immediately assign people to look for her. Please list out the places you think Ye Xin might be at so we can act more efficiently."

Gao Wen nodded, heaving a huge sigh.. "Xinxin, wait for Mommy to save you!"

Chapter 490: Analysis

Liang Zhou set the remote control down on the table as she looked at the furious Ye Xin and said indifferently, "See? This is the man you love deeply. You think Mu Qing is mature, steady, knowledgeable, and wealthy, right? In fact, he's just a sanctimonious pr*ck."

"Old Madam Mu has been in the business world for so many years, and she has a very discerning eye. Mu Qing is her biological son. If he's truly talented, do you really think she wouldn't allow Mu Qing to join the Mu Corporation? Instead of choosing her son, she supported her young grandson. What do you think of that?"

Liang Zhou scoffed before she continued to say, "Only fools like us would believe Mu Qing's words. Old Madam Mu loved her daughter-in-law so much that she turned against her son. However, despite all the rumors Mu Qing spread, she didn't refute or deny them. This was a gift from a mother to her son."

Liang Zhou smiled bitterly. In fact, these words were not said for Ye Xin but for herself. "I've been Mu Qing's shield for more than ten years. Everyone thinks that he chose love over wealth. They say our love is true. However, he, in order to achieve his goals, spent all these years cultivating the image of a doting husband."

Then, she looked at Ye Xin and asked with a mocking smile, "Don't you feel a sense of accomplishment? Such a doting husband still fell into your temptation in the end?"

The wounds on Ye Xin's face made her look even more ferocious at this moment.

Liang Zhou continued to say, "In fact, he treats all women the same. It's fine as long as the women are easy to use."

Ye Xin's expression seemed to please Liang Zhou. She laughed and said, "When I figured this out, I was as sad as you now. Women shouldn't think too highly of themselves and overestimate their importance in men's hearts. After all, there aren't many people like Song Ning who can meet a man like Mu Chen. You and I are definitely not one of those people."

Ye Xin glared at Liang Zhou as she asked through gritted teeth, "What do you want to do?"

Liang Zhou bluntly said, "I don't want to do anything, You don't have the qualifications to be the Young Madam of the Mu family. Song Ning is back so you should leave now. I asked Mu Chen to let me deal with you, and he agreed. That's all."

Ye Xin's eyes widened. "M-mu Chen knows?!"

Liang Zhou sneered and looked at Ye Xin in disgust. "In your eyes, is Mu Chen really that brainless? Let me ask you. You've been in the Mu family for so long, Has Mu Chen ever touched you?"

Ye Xin did not reply.

Liang Zhou continued to say, "Let alone sleeping with you, I don't think he even kissed you or hugged you, right?"

Seeing Ye Xin's lack of reply, Liang Zhou knew she had guessed correctly. Hence, she said derisively, "I really don't know what kind of brains all of you have to come up with such an idea. Mu Chen and Song Ning are deeply in love with each other. They understand each other with just a glance. Do you think you can emulate that with Mu Chen? Mu Chen has been suspicious of you since the very beginning."

Ye Xin shook her head and said angrily, "Nonsense! Impossible! If he really saw through me, with his temper, how could he tolerate it?"

Liang Zhou replied without any hesitation, "That's because he had yet to find Song Ning at that time and was afraid of putting her in danger."

Ye Xin fell silent.

Liang Zhou did not stop there. She continued to say, "Since Mu Chen didn't know if Song Ning was safe, he could only force himself to feign civility with you. This includes the Old Madam. Do you know Song Ning places a lot of importance on the Old Madam's health? I heard she would check the Old Madam's pulse every morning and night. The Old Madam's dict is also controlled by Song Ning. Have you ever showed that you care about the Old Madam's health?"

Ye Xin's body trembled violently.

Liang Zhou sneered. "Fool! Mu Qing is also brainless to use a stupid woman like you to achieve his goals!"

Chapter 491: Ning Dong

Liang Zhou paused for a moment before she said, "Since Mu Qing has never truly loved anyone, he will never be able to understand Mu Chen's feelings."

Ye Xin asked tremblingly, "Y-you're... You're saying that they've long seen through me?"

Liang Zhou nodded. She said casually, "That's right. Think about it carefully. Think about their treatment of you. Look at how they treat Song Ning now. This includes the baby."

"Liar! They're all liars!" Ye Xin cried out, unable to suppress her emotions that burst out like a flood. She kept hitting her hands against the armrests of the wheelchair. As it turned out, she had been a fool for so long. She acted every day, and they watched the show every day. She thought she had deceived everyone, but everyone was, in fact, looking at her like a jumping clown. As for the man she had given her heart to, the man whom she thought would love her for the rest of her life, the man whose age she did not despise, he actually only treated her as a tool and had never loved her.

Ye Xin wailed loudly, no longer caring about the wounds on her face.

Liang Zhou looked at Ye Xin with an expression of pity on her face. However, she quickly shook off that feeling. Ye Xin had brought this upon herself, after all. Did Ye Xin show any mercy when she hurt Song Ning?

Liang Zhou walked to the balcony and looked at the villa across from her through the binoculars. She watched, sneering, as Mu Qing and Gao Wen spoke at length. Until now, Mu Qing had not given up; he was still determined to turn the tables and drag Mu Chen into hell. How could he treat his biological

son in this manner? Indeed, there was no one Mu Qing loved, not even his mother or son, in this world except for himself. Some people were truly worse than animals.

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Ning Dong was feeling vexed. The perfect car accident he had spent so much money to orchestrate ended in a failure. Ning Xia did not die and had even returned to the Mu family to look after her husband and her son. He could not understand why her life was so tough. Could it really be true that she was born to oppose him at every turn?

Apart from that, Ji An had found out about this matter as well. He was worried about how he should explain that he had another helper to Ji An. If he did not explain himself properly, he might lose Ji An's trust. Since Ji An was still useful, he could not sever his ties with Ji An yet.

Ning Dong let out a long sigh. For now, he would have to think of a way to maintain Ji An's trust. As for Ning Xia, he would have to take that matter slowly.

Apart from that, he also had to focus on Ning Zhe. Ning Zhe was the root of all these problems, after all. As long as Ning Zhe did not give up his position, he would not be able to make a name for himself.

Ning Dong was still lost in his thoughts when a helper knocked on his door. "Young Master, Master wants to see you."

"speak of the devil."

Ning Dong smiled, stood up, and stretched his limbs before he went to see the 'emperor'.

As soon as Ning Dong walked into the study, he saw a few boxes of wild ginseng on Ning Zhe's table.

Upon seeing Ning Dong, Ning Zhe waved to him and said excitedly, "Come, come. Help me see which one I should give away as a gift."

Ning Dong stepped forward and glanced at the boxes of wild ginseng before he asked, "Dad, why do you have so many boxes of wild ginseng?"

Ning Zhe said nonchalantly, "They're given by Ye Cheng. There's something he needed my help with. I didn't expect him to send so many gifts in advance. He's a good man who knows what's good for him." Ning Zhe's eyes were trained on the boxes of wild ginseng as he praised Ye Cheng. After a moment, he asked, "Which one do you think I should give away?"

Ning Dong wiped away the dejected expression on his face as he looked at the boxes of wild ginseng and asked, "Who does father want to give it to?"

"The Old Madam of the Mu family," Ning Zhe replied without any hesitation.

Ning Dong frowned.

Ning Zhe sighed. "Now that your sister is in the Mu family, she has to curry favor from everyone. Apart from the Old Madam, there's also that experienced old helper by her side. There's no disadvantage in being nicer to them. We can also show our sincerity with this gift. We have to consider your sister, after all."

Ning Dong felt slightly reluctant upon hearing these words.

Chapter 492: Stabbed

"I's a blessing to them that my sister married into their family. Why does she still have to curry favor with them?"

Ning Zhe was very gratified when he looked at the indignant expression on his son's face. Nevertheless, he said sternly, "What kind of childish talk is this? You're no longer young so you should understand the way of the world. You and your sister share the closest bond. In the future, you'll have to look out for each other. It's good that you feel sorry for your sister."

After that, a smile appeared on Ning Zhe's face as he said, "After the holidays, you can officially join the board of directors to learn the ropes."

Ning Zhe deliberately feigned hesitance as though he was not very confident before he said, "Thank you, father."

Ning Zhe was very satisfied with Ning Dong's reaction. Then, he continued asking for Ning Dong's opinion on the boxes of wild ginseng.

'When Ning Dong finally left the study, he saw a helper bringing in a bowl of Cordyceps sinesis soup, and his eyes glinted coldly.

At the same time, Ning Chun drank the bow! of soup as he watched Ning Chun putting away the boxes of wild ginseng.

Ye Xin stared at the villa across from her with a blank gaze.

Xiao Yu, the helper, glanced at Ye Xin before she finally left.

As soon as the door closed, the corners of Ye Xin's lips curled up in a cold smile as she gently pulled her hands out of the rope that bound her.

In fact, she had already loosened the rope yesterday. Initially, she planned to launch a sneak attack on Liang Zhou when Liang Zhou was unprepared before escaping. However, Liang Zhou did not draw close to her at all. It seemed like Liang Zhou loathed to even stand close to her. Moreover, she did not dare to recklessly due to the injuries on her leg. Apart from Liang Zhou, she would also have to contend with the young and strong Xiao Yu. Hence, she endured patiently, waiting for a suitable opportunity to present itself. Now that Xiao Yu had left, her chance had finally arrived.

Ye Xin carefully rose to her feet and gently moved her legs. Since she had not moved her legs for quite a while, they were quite weak. Nonetheless, it was not a problem for her to move.

She supported herself against the wall as she slowly moved until her legs regained more strength.

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'When she finally stopped to rest, she was already near the kitchen.

The kitchen was neat and clean.

After thinking about it for a moment, she slowly entered the kitchen. She picked a long boning knife from the counter, checking the sharp blade.

At this moment, Liang Zhou's surprised voice rang from Ye Xin's back.

"What are you doing here?!"

Ye Xin slowly turned around, holding the knife in her hand. She smiled as she said, "I've rested enough. Why don't you come over here?"

Liang Zhou calmed down and said, "Put the knife down."

Ye Xin disregarded Liang Zhou's words as she played with the knife in her hand.

"L said, put the knife down!" Liang Zhou said again.

Ye Xin smiled. The smile looked strange and vicious on her wound-riddled face. "What are you going to do if I don't put it down?"

Liang Zhou rushed over, furious, trying to snatch away the knife.

Ye Xin's smile remained on her face as she moved her hand and stabbed Liang Zhou's abdomen.

Liang Zhou's eyes widened as she looked at Ye Xin. Then, she looked down at her abdomen.

Ye Xin's face remained expressionless.

"You're crazy!" Liang Zhou said, still in shock.

Ye Xin laughed and said fiercely, "You didn't expect this, did you?!"

'Then, Ye Xin pushed Liang Zhou back and forcefully pulled the knife out.

Blood spurted out immediately.

Liang Zhou clutched her stomach and fell into a pool of blood. The expression of disbelief was still etched on her face as she looked at Ye Xin.

Ye Xin said hatefully, "All of you are so self-righteous! Do you think that I'm at your mercy? I won't let any of you get what you want! As long as I'm not having a good time, none of you are allowed to have a good time as well! Let's all go to hell together!"

Then, Ye Xin spat on Liang Zhou who was convulsing on the ground before she dragged her injured leg and walked out with the knife..

Chapter 493: Shock

Ning Zhe was shocked when he looked at the woman in front of him who was wearing a mask and a hat, covered up tightly.

Earlier.

He had come to negotiate a project today. Since the headquarters of the Ning Corporation was nearby, he only brought Ning Chun with him.

'When there was an interval during the meeting, he had come out to have a breath of fresh air. Recently, his health had not been very good. He was always dizzy and very uncomfortable.

Ning Chun had been worried about his health and insisted that he go to the hospital for a check-up, but he wanted to wait a little longer. After he dealt with the company's affairs and Zhuang Ji, he would be able to rest.

Ning Zhe loosened his collar and asked irritably, "Still no news from Qi Hui?"

Ning Chun nodded. "Qi Hui said there's something strange about Zhuang Ji. In fact, Young Miss had only been given shallow tasks. After all, Young Miss doesn't understand Zhuang Ji at all. In fact, Zhuang Ji's management is tightly guarded."

Ning Zhe frowned. "Didn't Ning Xia say that Zhuang Ji has been handed over to her? Is it Old Madam Mu?"

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Ning Chun shook his head. "Qi Hui said that all decisions are made by An Ran in Zhuang Ji. Things aren't as simple as Young Miss has said."

Ning Zhe frowned. "How can this be? Ning Xia isn't someone who's easily fooled!"

Ning Chun thought about it for a moment before he said tentatively, "Master, don't you think the Young Miss is a little strange? With her personality, what do you think she went through to actually return to the family?"

Ning Zhe's expression darkened. Although he was displeased by these words, he knew Ning Chun's words were not without reason.

Back in the present.

Ning Zhe watched in shock as the woman kneeled in front of him.

"Father!" the woman called out in a hoarse voice.

Ning Chun instinctively moved to stand in front of Ning Zhe to shield Ning Zhe and pushed the woman away.

Ye Xin rose to her feet and moved to kneel in front of Ning Zhe again. She sobbed as she said, "Daddy, it's me!"

Ning Zhe stopped Ning Chun who was about to push Ye Xin away again. "Xiaxia?"

Ye Xin hurriedly nodded.

Ning Zhe looked around his surroundings before he hurriedly pulled Ye Xin to her feet. Then, he asked anxiously, "Why are you dressed like this? Did you come here to look for me?"

Ye Xin did not say anything and hurriedly nodded again.

'When Ning Zhe and Ye Xin got into the car, Ning Zhe told Ning Chun to bring them home.

As soon as the car started moving, Ye Xin threw herself into Ning Zhe's arms and cried loudly, "Daddy!"

Ning Zhe looked at Ye Xin in confusion. "What happened? Xiaxia? I've been worried about you. Qi Hui said that you didn't go to Zhuang Ji at all and that you weren't answering her calls. Do you know she's completely alienated in Zhuang Ji? It's the work of that An Ran. Was An Ran sent there by the Old Madam? With An Ran around, you won't be able to obtain Zhuang Ji. Xiaxia, you must listen to Qi Hui. With Qi Hui's help, you'll be able to regain full control of Zhuang Ji."

Ye Xin continued sobbing as she said, "Daddy, don't worry about Zhuang Ji for now. You should be worried about me! I've been harmed so I can't return to the Mu family for now."

Ning Zhe was further confused.

Ye Xin reached up and removed the mask from her face.

Ning Zhe was so shocked and frightened that he jumped back against the car door.

Ye Xin hurriedly put on the mask again as she cried even harder than before.

Ning Zhe took a long time to recover before he finally asked, "Xiaxia, what... What's going on?"

Ning Chun, who was sitting in the passenger seat, was shocked and confused... "Y-young... Young Miss, didn't the reporters take pictures of you, Young Master Mu, and the baby yesterday? Your... Your face..."

Chapter 494: Seeking Justice

Ye Xin's tears fell like the rain as she said, "Daddy, Mu Chen has had a change of heart. He has fallen in love with someone else, but for the sake of the Mu Group, he can't divorce me. After all, he doesn't want people to say he's like his father, having an affair while he was married. It would affect the Mu Group's reputation, after all. For that reason, he actually sent that woman to get plastic surgery to look like me. After that, he orchestrated a car accident to kill me!"

Ning Zhe and Ning Chun were stunned.

Ye Xin continued to cry her heart out as she said, "I was lucky and managed to survive the accident. However, my identity has now been taken over by another person. Daddy, you have to help me! You're the only person who can help me now! Otherwise, I'll definitely die!"

Ning Zhe and Ning Chun were so shocked by this unbelievable story that they could only look at Ye Xin with their mouths agape. For a moment, it seemed as though they were frozen.

Finally, Ning Zhe said angrily, "Ning Chun, turn around! Go to the Mu family house now!"

"Yes, Master!" Ning Chun said as he hastily told the driver to turn around.

Upon hearing this, Ye Xin was inwardly happy. She continued adding fuel to fire as she said, "Daddy, apart from you, no one else believes me! I just found out that they've planned this for a long time. M-Mu Chen has long found another woman outside. I'm the only one in the family who was unaware of what was happening, Daddy, you must help me!"

Ning Zhe said through gritted teeth, "The Mu family has gone too far! I won't let them off so easily!" Then, he turned to Ye Xin and said reassuringly, "Xiaxia, it's alright. Calm down! I'll definitely seek justice for you. Even if you divorce him, it's not a big deal. You still have Zhuang Ji! We won't let the Mu family off so easily!"

Ning Zhe's heart was filled with Zhuang Ji at this moment, and yet, Ye Xin could not see it. She was only concerned about how she could return to her original position. She had already changed her face to look like Song Ning so she could only continue to live Song Ning's life. She would not allow Song Ning to quietly assume her life without anyone knowing. As long as she was unhappy, no one was allowed to be happy!

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Since both families lived in Cloudy Peak, their houses were not too far from each other. The driver had driven quickly as so it did not take long before they arrived at the Mu family house.

Ning Zhe got out of the car angrily as Ning Chun followed behind him. Ning Zhe was about to call Ye Xin down from the car when Ning Chun stopped him and said, "Master, why don't we go in and have a look first? Young Miss looks like

Ning Zhe understood Ning Chun's meaning immediately. Hence, he quickly said to Ye Xin, "Xiaxia, wait here for a moment. Daddy will go inside to have a look at the situation firs

Ye Xin nodded and said eagerly, "Daddy, why don't you test that woman? You'll be able to see how cruel and vicious all of them are!"

Ning Zhen nodded before he walked into the Mu family house angrily with Ning Chun in tow.

Jiang Jin was in the living room, playing with the baby.

The baby's face was red as he walked around the living room. A few helpers surrounded him, making sure he would not fall and hurt himself. When he saw Ning Zhe, he tilted his head to the side curiously. It was obvious he did not recognize Ning Zhe.

Upon seeing this, Ning Zhe felt like his heart was about to melt. He quickly reached out to carry the baby. Contrary to his expectations, the baby avoided his hands.

The baby walked stumblingly toward Jiang Jin before he threw himself into Jiang Jin's arms.

Ning Zhe stared at the baby. The baby resembled Song Ning a lot, after all. He was his grandson.

How could Jiang Jin not understand the thoughts in Ning Zhe's mind? Nonetheless, she held the baby's little hand up and said softly, "Good boy, say, 'Elder Ning'.."

Chapter 495: Question

The baby called out obediently in a childish voice, "El... Elder Ning!"

Ning Zhe smiled. "Ah, that's wrong. You should call me Grandpa!"

Ning Zhe walked over happily.

The baby looked away. He obviously did not understand that Ning Zhe was his grandfather.

Ning Zhe smiled at Jiang Jin and said, "Old Madam, the baby should call me Grandpa."

Jiang Jin did not stand up. She gestured for Ning Zhe to take a seat and called for someone to serve tea before she slowly said, "Chairman Ning, I still have to respect Song Ning's wishes in regard to how the baby addresses you."

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Ning Zhe's expression did not change as he said, "Song Ning has already returned to her family house and has made amends with me. Old Madam is aware of this so why won't you allow my grandson to call me Grandpa?"

Jiang Jin calmly said, "Chairman Ning, you're probably like us and encountered an impostor. The daughter that made amends with you... Are you sure she's Song Ning?"

Ning Zhe's displeasure was written all over his face as he said, "Old Madam, what do you mean by that? Song Ning's my only daughter. Do you think I won't be able to recognize my daughter? Old Madam, are you sure your granddaughter-in-law is really your granddaughter- in-law?"

Jiang Jin nodded. "Chairman Ning, I dare to bet with you on this matter. I will never mistake someone else for Song Ning. Song Ning is the granddaughter-in-law I love. I know her temperament very well so I won't mistake someone else for her."

Ning Zhe said angrily, "Old Madam, don't be too arrogant!"

Jiang Jin looked at him and continued to calmly say, "Chairman Ning, I've been with the Mu family for three generations. If I can't even recognize my daughter-in-law, then I truly have lived my life in vain. Song Ning lived a tough life in the past, but I won't blame Chairman Ning for it since it's your family affairs. However, since Song Ning married Mu Chen, she's a member of our family. I'll take full responsibility for her as an elder. If you hear anything different from what I said, I hope you'll use the wisdom you gained after being in the business world for so long to make a judgment. Don't be deceived by others and hurt Song Ning again."

Ning Zhe seethed with anger as he said, "Old Madam, I've always respected you as an elder, and I've always respected your talent and capability as well. I thought that since I've reconciled with my daughter, we'll have a good relationship as in-laws. I didn't expect you to be so muddle-headed and stubborn.

Hence, don't blame me for being rude."

Jiang Jin looked at Ning Zhe with an expression of pity as she said, "Chairman Ning, are you so sure of yourself?"

Ning Zhe said confidently, "Of course! I know my daughter best!"

Jiang Jin said lightly, "Chairman Ning, aren't you insistent you're right because of Zhuang Ji? After all, if you're right, then Zhuang Ji will fall into your hands. Chairman Ning, it's fine to be ambitious, but you can't be too greedy."

Ning Zhe's face turned purple. He rose to his feet and said, "It seems like the Mu family has no intention of acknowledging my daughter! Then, let's wait and see! I won't let my daughter suffer any grievances!"

Jiang Jin rose to her feet as well and said, "Chairman Ning, do you really know Song Ning, During the years after she left home, she endured the most difficult time in her life alone. Why would she suddenly reconcile with you? Have you thought about the reason?"

Ning Zhe stopped in his tracks and said without turning back, "Blood is thicker than water! Is there even a need to think about it?"

Jiang Jin did not say anything else. She only shook her head as she looked at Ning Zhe's back. There was no way to wake up someone who was insistent on pretending to be asleep.. How could Ning Zhe not know what Song Ning was like? He was only pretending to be obtuse and refused to see the truth because the lie was beneficial to him!

Chapter 496: Return

'When Ning Zhe returned to the car with a livid expression, he met Ye Xin's expectant's gaze.

"Daddy!"

After getting into the car, Ning Zhe said to the driver, "Drive!"

Ye Xin tugged on Ning Zhe's sleeve and asked, "Daddy, what did they say? Did you see that fake Song Ning?"

Ning Zhe scoffed before he gently said, "Xiaxia, don't be afraid. With Daddy around, it doesn't matter even if you divorce Mu Chen. However, we can't let go of the things that belong to us. Zhuang Ji is yours so we must get it back! The Mu family better not have designs on it!"

Ye Xin's expression turned nervous as she asked, "Daddy, they don't want to acknowledge me, do they?"

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Ning Zhe patted Ye Xin's hand and comforted her. "Don't worry. The most important thing now is to heal your injuries. The Mu family will have to give us an explanation. I won't let you suffer!"

Ye Xin tightly clutched the hem of Ning Zhe's shirt as she gritted her teeth silently. No matter what, she had to hold onto Ning Zhe and return to the Mu family. She was already Song Ning so she had to be Song Ning forever. Only Ning Zhe could help her now so she had to firmly hold onto him.

After that, Ning Zhe sent Ye Xin to a private hospital for a plastic surgery consultation.

Although the professor and Jiahui had yet to return, Song Ning's return to the hospital made her senior brothers very excited.

No one knew Song Ning had lived a hellish life for more than a year. Alll of them thought she had taken an extended maternity leave due to physical and emotional reasons. Although she had not been able to attend the doctoral graduation ceremony, fortunately, she had completed her doctoral thesis before she gave birth. Hence, her graduation was not affected.

At this time, Yang Yi, her senior brother, patted her shoulder and said, "Mu Chen is finally willing to let you out. If he still doesn't return you to us, Du Feng and I planned to bring a group of seniors to fight him for your release."

Du Feng said jokingly, "Two of our juniors actually signed up for boxing classes because they were afraid they wouldn't be able to beat Mu Chen and Cheng Che. They're also worried Jiahui will receive the same treatment in the future. It's better to learn earlier so our chances of winning in the future will be higher."

Song Ning looked at her classmates who were like family to her. Her heart was warm, and she felt the bitterness in her heart fading away.

At this moment, a senior from another department asked nervously, "Song Ning, I heard that you didn't want to be a doctor anymore. Is it true?"

Song Ning smiled. "How's that possible? I'm not a businessman; I'm a doctor."

The senior clutched her chest and said, "You really frightened us. We were wondering about what happened to you. You're one of the top students, after all. I wonder if it's the juniors who spread this rumor?"

Everyone chuckled.

They continued chatting, Some of them asked about the baby and some asked about the family. They laughed and laughed until the nurse had to remind them to return to their duties. With that, they reluctantly dispersed.

Song Ning returned to her duties with ease and began to meet patients. It was as though everything had returned to the past.

Her seniors wore their white coats and spent most of their time in the hospital, treating and saving patients. They were unaware of how ugly and vicious the outside world was.

After more than a year, Song Ning felt as though she had been reborn. Although she was kind, she was not a fool. As a mother, she had to be strong. From now on, she was determined not to let anyone hurt her or her family no matter who they were.

She knew very well things had just begun. Those who hid in the shadows had yet to show their fangs..

Chapter 497: Reporting to the Police

The doctors were wholly focused on their duties, unaffected by the disturbances outside. Their heads were lowered as they spoke to their patients.

"Did you feel dizzy when you woke up this morning?"

"How long have you felt like this?"

"Granny, you have to listen to the doctors."

"Song Ning, can you check the pulse?"

Since Song Ning's return, everyone was in a particularly good mood. They felt much more relaxed and happy when they worked.

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At this moment, a man's deep voice rang from the entrance.

"Excuse me, who's Song Ning?"

The voice drowned out the other voices in the large consultation room, attracting everyone's attention.

'There were four police officers and a group of reporters standing at the entrance, holding their cell phones and cameras. All of them wore solemn expressions on their faces as though they were facing a formidable enemy.

Everyone in the consultation room was stunned and instinctively turned to look at Song Ning.

Song Ning stepped forward at this moment and said, "I'm Song Ning."

"We're from the police station. Someone has reported you for identity theft. Please come with us," a middle-aged man said solemnly. His gaze was piercing and cold.

'The young policeman next to the middle-aged man stepped forward, ready to put the handcuffs on Song Ning.

Yang Yi strode forward at this moment and stopped the young policeman. "Do you have an arrest warrant?"

'The young policeman was stunned before he said, "We only want to bring her back for questioning."

Yang Yi raised his voice as he said, "Since you're only bringing her back for questioning, it means you haven't confirmed if she's guilty of the charges or not. If that's the case, why must you handcuff her like a criminal?"

'The young policeman said, "We're only doing our duty."

Yang Yi calmly said, "Then show us your identification."

'The young policeman reluctantly brought his badge.

Yang Yi snatched it and said, "Du Feng, take a photo. We have to have evidence as well."

'The young policeman hurriedly said, "You're obstructing our duty!"

Yang Yi asked, "Sir, do you want to arrest all of us too?"

The young policeman was so angry that his face turned red.

At this time, the middle-aged man stepped forward and pulled the young policeman back. Then, he said to Song Ning, "Doctor Song, can you please follow us back to assist with the investigation?"

'The middle-aged man's tone was much more polite now.

Yang Yi looked at Song Ning worriedly.

At this time, Du Feng returned to the policeman's badge and said, "Song Ning, I'll go with you. Assisting in the investigation is different from a conviction. Senior brother, call Mu Chen. His family should have their own lawyers."

As Du Feng spoke, he removed his white coat and handed it to the intern next to him.

Song Ning stopped Du Feng who was clearly agitated. She said, "Senior brother, calm down. You're still on duty, and we have so many patients now. I'll go with the police so help me to call Mu Chen and the lawyer."

Following that, Song Ning calmly removed her white coat before she said to the policemen, "Let's go."

At this moment, one of the reporters loudly asked, "I heard you're not the real Young Madam of the Mu family! I heard you stole her identity! Who are you exactly?"

Song Ning looked at the reporter and said in a loud and clear voice, "Who did you hear it from? Do you have evidence? If you have evidence, then show it or you can hand it over to the police. What do you mean by shouting like this? Are you trying to mislead the public? You're making a huge commotion in the hospital, causing the patients to feel uneasy. I'd like to ask you, what's your motive?"

At this moment, one of the patients said to the reporter, "Are you here to sabotage Dr.. Song?"

Chapter 498: Public Opinion

The patient said, "Which rival hospital are you from? Are you pretending to be reporters to cause trouble? It's because of shameless people like you that doctor-patient relationships are so tense!" "They're saying that Dr. Song is pretending to be someone else? Do you have any brains? Can you even pretend to be a doctor?"

'The patients were very indignant. They argued back and forth with the reporters, causing the atmosphere to turn tense.

At this moment, the middle-aged man said gloomily, "Dr. Song, if this goes on, it won't be good for both of us. Why don't you come with us to clarify the matter?"

Song Ning smiled lightly as she asked, "Officer, did you bring the reporters here?"

'The middle-aged man's expression turned unsightly. He turned and looked at the policeman behind him meaningfully.

Following that, the policeman immediately said, "Everyone, please calm down! Dr. Song is going to assist us with the investigation. When the results are out, we'll announce it to everyone." Then, he turned to Song Ning and said, "Dr. Song, please come with us. Let's not get in the way of the patients' treatment."

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Song Ning nodded before she turned to say to Yang Yi and Du Feng, "You guys continue with your work. I'll be back soon."

Song Ning's calmness stunned the policemen and the reporters. If she was an impostor, how could she be so calm? Was she innocent or was she pretending?

At this moment, a patient loudly said, "Dr. Song, it's possible to pretend to be someone else, but it's impossible to pretend to be a doctor! We'll wait for your return!"

Song Ning turned around and bowed to the patients. "Please wait for my good news."

Despite the patients' opinions, the public denounced the Mu family. They criticized Mu Chen, the Chairman of the Mu Group, for abandoning his wife and colluding with his lover to replace his wife. They said he was a liar and was vicious.

'There were even people saying that Mu Chen bribed the hospital to allow his lover to become a doctor. With that, Song Ning's medical skills came into question.

There were even relatives of the Mu family who confirmed that Song Ning had behaved strangely after giving birth. She was completely different from her dignified and magnanimous self.

Everyone condemned the vicious mistress who went so far as to get plastic surgery so she could replace the legal wife and enter a wealthy family. They were delighted when they heard the wicked and scheming woman was exposed and had been brought to the police station. Everyone wanted to see her fall and be imprisoned for her crimes of pretending to be the wife of a rich man.

All kinds of eye-catching headlines appeared on the hot searches.

Currently, everyone wholeheartedly believed the Young Madam of the Mu family was an impostor. As it tuned out, the Chairman of the Mu Group was a sanctimonious and hypocritical person.

He publicly declared his love for his wife in the past and had done many touching things for her. It was like a fairy tale, causing many people to feel envious. Even when Song Ning's past was exposed and she firmly refused to acknowledge the Ning family, he stood by his wife and supported his wife. Following that, the couple even had a child. Coupled with Song Ning's medical skills and charitable deeds, the couple received many people's blessings and was very popular.

'Who knew, in the end, everything was fake? Song Ning was not Song Ning but an impostor? More shockingly, Mu Chen tried to get rid of his wife so his lover could replace his wife. To let his lover change her appearance and take over his wife's life, was this not treating human lives like grass?

With this, everyone thought Mu Chen was vicious and heartless.

Chapter 499: Wild Theories and Rumors

Eventually, the police went to the Mu Corporation to bring Mu Chen to the police station to assist with the investigation as well. Just like the woman who pretended to be Song Ning, he went to the police station before he left with the lawyer.

A large number of reporters waited outside of the police station, competing to ask their questions.

Meanwhile, Mu Chen and his lawyer entered and left the police station with dark expressions on their faces, not saying a word at all.

The police, when questioned, replied with a, "No comment."

This caused everyone to speculate even more. This was especially true for the media who made it their responsibility to speculate and come up with many theories and rumors.

First, they said they were certain Song Ning was an impostor. The reason for this was the silence from the Mu family. After all, if the accusations were fake, the Mu family would have already released a statement refuting the accusations.

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Their second theory was that the Mu Corporation's staff had been working overtime to deal with the damage.

Third, the media said that other elders of the Mu family had convened for a meeting and were prepared to hold a press conference to denounce the woman who pretended to be the Young Madam of the Mu family. After all, this matter was a disgrace to the Mu family; how could they tolerate it? Fourth, Mu Chen had cheated on Song Ning when she was pregnant. While Song Ning was pregnant, his lover had undergone plastic surgery. They waited until Song Ning was giving birth before they did a switch. Alas, the fake was a fake and exposed herself in the end.

Fifth, Mu Chen was too conceited. He thought he would be able to deceive everyone forever. It was the Mu family's misfortune that someone like him was chosen to take over the Mu Group. His father, Mu Qing, garnered a lot of sympathies. After all, his father had conceded his position to his son only for his son to drag the family down.

Sixth, rumors of the Chairman of the Ning Group frantically searching for his real daughter were rife. He had announced that he would let Mu Chen and the Mu family go for harming his daughter. With all these rumors flying, everyone wondered where Song Ning went.

Ning Xia's fan club and other volunteers even began to form teams to search for Song Ning. They handed out flyers everywhere.

Ning Zhe had reported the matter to the police, believing the police would definitely seek justice for his daughter and help him look for his daughter.

This incident was like a spark that ignited a prairie fire.

The second target of the public condemnation was the police of M City. They were scolded for not doing their job. After all, all the evidence had pointed to Song Ning being a fake, but they still released her on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence.

Everyone was eager to watch the show and find out what happened.

Every day, the media, volunteers, and idlers would gather outside of the police station to gather information.

The police would wear business-like expressions on their faces and reply with a, "No comment."

The Mu Group's public relations department was abnormally quiet. They did not do anything at all to deal with the matter. This caused business parts and clients of the Mu Group to grow anxious. After all, the Mu family had yet to release even one statement. In their opinion, even if the Mu family had to lie, they still had to release a statement. It was much better than keeping quiet.

On Song Ning's side, doctors and old patients all spoke out for Song Ning. After all, how could medical skills be faked? They firmly believed Song Ning was the real Song Ning. Alas, their voices were drowned out by the public.

Even those who remained neutral could not help but sigh that it was over for the Mu Group. After all, the share price had plummeted greatly. The shareholders cursed Mu Chen for this huge tragedy... 1

Chapter 500: Interview

What happened with the Mu family was unfortunate, but luckily, they had Mu Qing.

At this moment, Mu Qing was being interviewed. He had previously accepted an exclusive interview.

He was dressed in an expensive suit as he sat in front of the camera and discussed the economic prospect of M City with the host. He had the demeanor of a scholarly businessman.

At the end of the interview, the host switched to a more casual topic. He asked, "Mr. Mu, back then, everyone said you left the Mu family because of love. It's said that you chose love over wealth. It's such a moving story. Can you tell about the journey of your heart back then?"

'Mu Qing smiled elegantly as he replied, "That's all in the past. What's there to talk about? Speaking of which, I feel really sorry for my mother. I was young and impulsive, making my mother, who had worked hard to raise me, sad."

The host exclaimed, "So it's true that you chose love over wealth!"

'Mu Qing looked at the camera and smiled as he said, "It's not like that. At that time, Mu Chen had already shown that he was highly talented. I'm very carefree and love challenges so I don't like being boxed in. Moreover, I had confidence in my son's ability. At that time, I thought it would be a good experience for him to directly immerse himself in the family business. It was an alternative way of education that I chose."

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The host sighed in admiration. "You are truly a great father."

Mu Qing smiled bitterly. "It's a pity that Mu Chen doesn't think so. Back then, his mother committed suicide due to depression, and he has resented me since then. I have no way of explaining this matter to him so I can only... let him be, hoping he'll come around."

The host nodded in agreement. "All parents love their children and never stop thinking about their children. For the sake of your son, you even agreed to the Old Madam's suggestion of never intervening in the family business again?"

'Mu Qing nodded solemnly. "A man must keep his word. Since I returned to the country, I've been focused on my own matters. Apart from visiting my mother, I've not meddled in the family business."

The host praised, "You're really a filial son."

'Mu Qing smiled and did not say a word.

The host asked tentatively, "Then what are your thoughts about the recent news that the Young Madam of the Mu family is an impostor?"

Mu Qing immediately frowned. He seemed hesitant as he said, "This is Mu Chen's personal affairs. I think he should know the truth best. I have a good impression of Song Ning. She's very sensible and was worried about the strained relationship between Mu Chen and me. She worked hard to mediate between us..."

'Mu Qing suddenly trailed off.

The host immediately asked, "Are you talking about the Song Ning of the past or the current Song Ning."

A conflicted expression appeared on Mu Qing's face before he said, "The past. I can't lie."

"In other words, you're saying the current Song Ning is a fake, right?"

'Mu Qing smiled awkwardly. "I think you should ask Mu Chen about this. It's inappropriate for me to speak about this matter. I'm only worried about my mother now. She's old now, but she still has to worry about her grandson. I really don't know what to say."

'The host nodded and said in an attempt to comfort Mu Qing, "Don't worry. Your mother will be glad to know you care about her so much. Some people say that the Mu Group is in a dangerous situation now. I'm afraid that apart from you, there's no one who can turn things around."

'Mu Qing quickly shook his head and said, "You're exaggerating. I'm not so capable. Moreover, everything I know, I learned from my mother. With my mother around, there won't be any problems. Everyone, please rest assured and don't be swayed by rumors. Moreover, we're all people. How can we not

make mistakes? Mu Chen's still young so I hope everyone will be more tolerant and understanding,"

After the interview, Mu Qing's popularity soared, and he gained a lot of fans...