#### A Marriage 681

#### **Chapter 681: Confession**

Guan Tang's eyes shone with excitement as she said, "Do you know? Zhuang Ning's boyfriend is Yin Jia's boyfriend as well?"

Jiahui pretended to be shocked as she asked, "You're saying Zhuang Ning's a third party in their relationship?"

Guan Tang waved her hand and said, "What are you saying? What do you mean by Zhuang Ning's the third party? Yin Jia is the third party, okay? Yin Jia snatched another woman's boyfriend away! She used her family background to break up a pair of lovers."

Guan Tang laughed.

Jiahui looked at Guan Tang with a puzzled expression. She did not understand what was so funny about this.

After Guan Tang was done laughing, she said, "How fun! This is karma!"

Jiahui ate her noodles, and after a while, she asked, "Which of you snatched whose boyfriend?"

Guan Tang said disdainfully, "Of course, I snatched hers. What charm does she have to snatch a boyfriend from me?"

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Jiahui knew Guan Tang's crazy talk was about to begin again.

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Peng Peng accompanied Zhuang Ning home. As soon as she opened the door, she saw Ye Cheng waiting for her. Her expression changed immediately, and without thinking, she turned around and walked out.

"Zhuang Ning!" Ye Cheng called out. He reacted quickly; he rose to his feet and hurriedly grabbed her.

Zhuang Ning shook off Ye Cheng's hand, took a few steps back, and asked Peng Peng frostily, "Why is he here?"

Peng Peng hurriedly pleaded on Ye Cheng's behalf and said, "Sister Zhuang Ning, Young Master Ye has something to say to you. I saw that he was really sincere so I let him in."

Zhuang Ning sneered. "Really sincere? How funny. He's the son-in-law of a wealthy family now; what does he have to say to me? Why should I listen to him?"

Peng Peng was at a loss for words. She turned to look at Ye Cheng with a helpless expression on her face.

Ye Cheng lowered his voice and asked, "Zhuang Ning, can you listen to me?"

"No!" Zhuang Ning said without hesitation.

Chills permeated Ye Cheng's heart immediately. He hurriedly said, "Zhuang Ning, please give me a chance. Let me explain."

When Ye Cheng saw that Zhuang Ning's expression seemed to ease slightly, he quickly shot Peng Peng a meaningful look, signaling her to leave.

Peng Peng did not dare to move. Instead, she looked at Zhuang Ning.

Zhuang Ning sneered and said, "Young Master Ye, if you have something to say, then say it. However, my manager has to be here so she can be a witness. Otherwise, if word of this gets out in the future, it won't be good for me."

Ye Cheng smiled bitterly with a helpless expression on his face. "Zhuang Ning, listen to me. I really have no other choice. I really have no feelings for Yin Jia. From the beginning until now, there's only you in my heart!"

Zhuang Ning looked at Ye Cheng and scoffed coldly. "I understand. It's a business marriage. I really didn't expect you to be such a scumbag. You don't love her, but you pretend to love her. Then, you come to me and tell me the person you love most is me. I'm really lucky that Young Master Ye looks at me so favorably. Thank you very much. All I ask is that you leave me alone from now on. Just like during the day, treat me like a stranger. Please let me go. I don't want to be dragged into your business marriage."

As Zhuang Ning spoke, tears rolled down her face, causing Ye Cheng's heart to ache. However, there was a hint of joy in his heart as well. He had never been able to figure out Zhuang Ning's feelings for him. He did not expect his affair with Yin Jia would be able to reveal her feelings for him. As it turned out, she liked him as well. She was just hiding her feelings or testing him previously. Now, due to external issues, her feelings for him had been exposed. The Zhuang Ning in front of him now made it even more difficult for him to restrain his feelings. He thought that she was the best gift that God had given him.

## Chapter 682: Touched

Zhuang Ning cried so pitifully that Ye Cheng felt his heart was going to break. He forcefully pulled her into his arms, ignoring Peng Peng who was still standing at the side. He hugged her tightly as he said in a low voice, "Zhuang Ning, Zhuang Ning, listen to me, okay? I love you. I really love you. Apart from you, I've never loved another woman. Not before, and not in the future. In my life, there's only you.

Zhuang Ning struggled with all her might to break free of his embrace, trembling and sobbing. Exhausted, she finally leaned against him.

Ye Cheng heaved a sigh of relief and silently gestured for Peng Peng to leave.

Peng Peng was very worried. She made all sorts of threatening gestures, warning him to speak to Zhuang Ning properly.

With his eyes, he assured Peng Peng before Peng Peng left.

At this time, Zhuang Ning, who had grown tired from crying, finally calmed down.

The duo sat on the couch and finally had a proper talk.

Ye Cheng explained again that he had no choice. for faster releases read on webnovel.site Zhuang Ning nodded. "Guan Tang told me everything." "G-guan Tang?" Ye Cheng was surprised.

Zhuang Ning glared at him as she reached out for a piece of tissue. As she wiped the tears at the corners of her eyes, she said, "Guan Tang is a good person. I felt enlightened after speaking to her. She put in a good word for you, saying that you have no choice. She said that the Young Miss of the Yin family is used to playing with men. She told me to bravely fight for my love. Don't give up, and don't compromise."

Ye Cheng was secretly shocked, but he still smiled and patted Zhuang Ning's hand. "I really have to thank Miss Guan. I didn't expect her to see things so clearly."

Zhuang Ning glanced at him. "You only treat me as a confidant, right?"

Ye Cheng hurriedly waved his hand. "No, no, no. How's that possible? What do you take me for? Zhuang Ning, I'm serious. I really like you. There's only you in my heart!"

Zhuang Ning turned her head away, ignoring him. Her eyes brimmed with tears again as she said, "To begin with, I'm someone with no one to rely on. I've already done all that I can to reach where I am now in the entertainment industry. I knew how you felt about me, but I didn't dare to let myself think about it. I'm afraid this is just a whim to you. I'm afraid I'll hurt in this relationship. For these reasons, I've been holding back. However, when I saw you with another woman today, I felt as though my heart had been stabbed. As it turns out, it's useless no matter how I try to suppress my feelings. I don't know when it started, but I fell in love with you. I'm really useless."

Zhuang Ning covered her face and wept.

Ye Cheng felt as though his heart had melted when he heard these words. At this moment, he was really willing to die for Zhuang Ning. As it turned out, this was what love felt like.

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When Ye Cheng finally left, Zhuang Ning collapsed on the couch in exhaustion. It was not easy to lie.

At this moment, Peng Peng walked in with a worried expression on her face. She asked, "Sister Zhuang Ning, aren't taking too big of a risk by doing this?"

Zhuang Ning sneered. "Only by doing this will Ye Cheng not suspect anything. He's an arrogant person. How can he easily believe me?"

Peng Peng frowned. "I better arrange for a few more bodyguards to stay by your side."

Zhuang Ning did not object. Instead, she asked, "Any news from Song Ning?"

Peng Peng shook her head. "No. There's nothing. Dr. An seems to have disappeared. Don't you think it's strange?"

Zhuang Ning sat up. "Help me arrange it. I'm going to the Mu family. I have a strange feeling, but I can't tell if it has anything to do with Jiahui. I have to meet them and listen to their plans. Only by meeting them can the plan advance..."

# Chapter 683: Smile

Cheng Che had lost a lot of weight in just three days. If it weren't for Song Ning's acupuncture treatment and Chinese medicine, and if it weren't for his determination, he would have long collapsed before Jiahui was found.

Han Mo and Xiao An had put all their tasks aside and were focused on looking for Jiahui.

Zhuang Ning's visit was a little out of everyone's expectations. She was also shocked when she saw Cheng Che. She looked at Song Ning, puzzled. After Song Ning explained everything to her, she felt that everything was too unbelievable. Her mind was racing as thoughts flitted swiftly through her mind; her thoughts were fleeting, and she could not grasp them. She asked, "Did you call the police?"

Song Ning nodded and said in a low voice, "Mu Chen and Cheng Che's men are probably more efficient than the police. The police have to follow procedures for everything so they're naturally slower."

Zhuang Ning looked at the four computers and piles of paper that covered the huge table.

Xiao An said grimly, "The last person whom Dr. An saw that day was Miss Guan. However, it's really too strange. After the two of them went their separate ways, Dr. An disappeared without a trace. I checked the surveillance footage multiple times, but I really can't find anything."

Xiao An pointed at the screen of one of the computers. The person on the screen was Guan Tang, and Jiahui's back could be seen in the distance. On the blurry screen, the smile on Guan Tang's face could be vaguely seen.

Zhuang Ning's heart skipped a beat. She walked to the front of the computer screen and pointed at it as she said, "This is Guan Tang."

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Everyone looked at Zhuang Ning in surprise.

Song Ning hastily asked, "Do you know her?"

Zhuang Ning looked at Cheng Che. "What does she have to do with Jiahui's disappearance?"

Cheng Che's eyes were sunken. For a moment, he did not react to Zhuang Ning's question.

Zhuang Ning turned to Mu Chen and asked anxiously, "How does she know Jiahui?"

Mu Chen knew that something was amiss. He quickly told Zhuang Ning everything in detail, including Guan Tang's identity.

Zhuang Ning was stunned.

"Zhuang Ning..." Song Ning called out softly.

Zhuang Ning raised her hand immediately and stopped Song Ning from speaking. "Don't talk. Let me think."

There was too much messy information in Zhuang Ning's mind; she did not know how to organize it. She looked at Guan Tang on the computer screen. Although Guan Tang's smile was a little blurry, she was very familiar with this smile. She had been looking at it for an entire night. She was very clear when such a smile would appear on Guan Tang's face. However, she could not connect the dots; she felt as though the answer was just slightly out of her reach.

Zhuang Ning pulled a chair out and sat down. She accepted the glass of water that Song Ning handed her and drained it in a gulp. Alas, the water failed to extinguish the anxiety and sense of urgency in her heart.

Everyone looked at Zhuang Ning. Even the dazed Cheng Che was looking at her with burning eyes.

Zhuang Ning looked at Cheng Che and said slowly, "If you return to the Yin family and become Young Master Yin, Guan Tang will be your fiancee?"

Cheng Che hesitated briefly before he nodded and said in a hoarse voice, "Yes, but I don't want to return to the Yin family."

Zhuang Ning only cared about the first half of Cheng Che's sentence. She said, "So Jiahui is Guan Tang's biggest stumbling block, right? With her around, Guan Tang won't be able to marry you, right?"

Cheng Che did not quite get what Zhuang Ning was trying to say. He said slowly, "She told me that she knew about my relationship with Jiahui. She said our marriage was arranged by our mothers so it doesn't count. She also went to look for Jiahui to explain everything."

Cheng Che trembled before he looked at Mu Chen as though he was asking for help.

## **Chapter 684: Analysis**

Mu Chen and Song Ning could tell that Zhuang Ning knew something. He sat down across from Zhuang Ning while Song Ning sat next to Zhuang Ning.

Mu Chen's voice was solemn and urgent as he asked, "Do you know something?"

Zhuang Ning stared at the smile on Guan Tang's face and shook her head slowly. "I just know that Guan Tang isn't a good person."

Then, Zhuang Ning told them about the matter with Ye Cheng. Then, she said to Cheng Che, "I came here to tell you that your sister has met a scumbag. Ye Cheng's goal should be the Yin family. He's really ambitious. Although it seems like his father is managing the Ye family business, in reality, his father listens to him in everything he does. His mother has been placed under house arrest somewhere. No one knows if she's alive or dead. Ye Xin is locked up in prison. Both father and son are very ambitious. Yin Jia is a proud person; she's no match for Ye Cheng at all. In fact, I'm afraid even the entire Yin family isn't a match for him. Otherwise, he wouldn't be so confident and arrogant."

"However, Guan Tang is definitely not a simple or good person. She looks gentle and virtuous, but she's just pretending. She encouraged me to snatch Ye Cheng back from Yin Jia just because she can't bear to see Yin Jia happy. She said that Yin Jia stole her boyfriend and even caused his death."

When Zhuang Ning saw the shocked expressions on everyone's faces after listening to her words, she was even more certain that something was wrong with Guan Tang.

Cheng Che, Mu Chen, and Song Ning had all met Guan Tang before. Thewoman who was raised by the Yin family was gentle and beautiful. She was the model of a young lady from a wealthy family. She did not speak much, but her manners were impeccable.

Although Song Ning and Jiang Jin had their doubts about Guan Tang, it was only because Guan Tang was hard to read. Guan Tang was calm and composed unlike the others from the Yin family. However, they did not dwell on this matter too much.

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Cheng Che said, "I went to her house. She moved out from the Yin family and is living alone now. She told me that our marriage is no longer valid and that she hopes we can be friends."

Cheng Che looked as though he found it difficult to believe Zhuang Ning's words.

"You went to her house?" Zhuang Ning was surprised.

Cheng Che nodded. "Yes. In order to draw a clear line with me, she moved out of the Yin family. She said her parents passed away early so she was raised by her aunt. Hence, she's been living under someone else's roof since she was young. She said that she's very grateful to the Yin family and that my sister is good to her. She doesn't want to be a hindrance to the Yin family and be the reason for my refusal to return to the Yin family so she moved out. Even when I told her my refusal has nothing to do with her, she insisted on staying outside."

Cheng Che fell silent. Previously, he had thought Guan Tang was quite magnanimous and decided to look out for her more in the future.

Zhuang Ning immediately grasped the main point. "She told you that she was grateful to the Yin family and that your sister is good to her? However, what she told me was that your sister stole her boyfriend and that she hates the Yin family."

Mu Chen reacted quickly. He told Han Mo and Xian An, "Investigate Yin Jia and Guan Tang's boyfriend immediately."

"Understood!" Han Mo and Xiao An went to work immediately on the computers.

Song Ning thought about it for a moment before she said, "So Guan Tang has two faces. No, she has multiple faces. There's a different one in front of you and each of us. They're all different."

Zhuang Ning nodded. "I've only met her once, but she wants to use me to sabotage Yin Jia and Ye Cheng's relationship. Based on this, you can see she's really vicious. I don't believe she can let go of Cheng Che so easily and let Jiahui have him."

Then, Zhuang Ning pointed at the computer screen before she continued to say, "There's also this smile. Whenever she persuaded me and I agreed with her, she would reveal this smile on her face; it was a sort of victorious smile like she got what she wanted. I'm an actress so I believe I'm better than the average person when it comes to reading facial expressions. Hence, I believe when she parted ways with Jiahui, she had already confirmed her victory."

#### Chapter 685: The House

The four of them fell silent. All of them felt chills running up their spines.

Zhuang Ning suddenly recalled something and said, "When I was at her house, I had a very strange feeling. To be precise, her house was very strange. There was a very long wall. When I first saw it, I just dismissed it as the house owner's preference. However, when I went to the bathroom, the sense of something was wrong with the layout of the house grew stronger. Moreover, I found a puddle of water that seeped out from a crack in the wall. When I tried knocking on the wall, I found it hollow. I deliberately poured water at that time and saw the water seeping through the crack."

Cheng Che's eyes widened as he said, "I found her house strange as well. I was only in the living room. I remember thinking the layout was strange as well."

Zhuang Ning picked up a pen and began to sketch the layout of the house on a piece of paper. "I have a very strong perception of space. I feel that something about the layout of her house doesn't make sense. It doesn't match with the outside of the house. I'm not sure, but I strongly feel something is wrong."

After Zhuang Ning stopped sketching, Cheng Che looked at it before he looked at Mu Chen. Then, he muttered, "Although the layout is strange, I don't see what's wrong with it. Brother?"

Mu Chen looked at the sketch. Without raising his head, he said, "Han Mo, find the layout plan of the house immediately."

"Brother, what did you discover?" Cheng Che asked urgently.

Mu Chen shook his head gently. "Let's wait until we see the layout plan. I suspect that there's something else in this room."

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Zhuang Ning looked at Mu Chen. "I have the same suspicion."

The four of them studied the sketch on the table again.

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While Zhuang Ning and Mu Chen shared their thoughts, Song Ning and Cheng Che were clueless.

Finally, Song Ning asked, "So Jiahui was kidnapped by Guan Tang? However, there are no traces at all? How did she do it?"

Everyone fell silent. Indeed, this was the strangest part, but there was also no denying that there was something off about Guan Tang's house.

Suddenly, Xiao An exclaimed, "I found it!"

Everyone looked at Xiao An.

Xiao An looked at the computer and said, "Yin Jia's ex-boyfriend's name was Kang En. He was her senior when they were in university. The two of them met at an alumni gathering. Later, they broke up because of some issues, and three months later, he died in a car accident."

Everyone's eyes were trained on Xiao An, waiting for him to continue.

Such a small piece of information did not explain anything at all. Mu Chen asked, "There's nothing else?"

Xiao An gulped before he said, "After Kang En and Yin Jia broke up, he had a mysterious girlfriend. There's nothing about her at all. Her identity could not be found, and there are no pictures of her."

Zhuang Ning sighed. "Amazing. I'm sure that person is Guan Tang. This makes sense. She stole Yin Jia's boyfriend, but she told me that Yin Jia stole her boyfriend. She even said that Yin Jia caused the man's death. Which part of that woman's words is true? Why do I feel like she's especially good at manipulating people? Her schemes are terrifyingly deep."

"What about the car accident?" Mu Chen asked.

"There's no evidence suggesting foul play," Xiao An replied with a shake of his head.

Song Ning frowned and said, "Why does it feel similar to Jiahui's disappearance? It seems to have no connections to her, but something just feels off."

"I feel the same way," Zhuang Ning said.

# **Chapter 686: Complaints**

Mu Chen fell deep into his thoughts.

Everyone looked at Mu Chen, filled with confusion and questions.

"Young Master, the house layout plan has been found," Han Mo said as he quickly printed out the layout of the house and handed it to Mu Chen.

Everyone gathered around to study the layout plan.

Cheng Che did not understand it at all.

Mu Chen put the printed-out layout and Zhuang Ning's sketch next to each other as he compared them. He frowned as he asked, "Zhuang Ning, is it possible for you to approach Guan Tang?"

Zhuang Ning nodded. "Yes. She thinks we're good friends now."

Mu Chen said, "We have to use extreme methods. Zhuang Ning, think of a way to install two surveillance cameras in her house."

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Everyone was shocked.

Mu Chen said, "This is the only way for us to obtain evidence. Our suspicions now have no basis. Based on the layout plan and Zhuang Ning's sketch, I suspect that a secret room has been built. Since it's a

secret room, it's naturally not easy to find. The only way is to install surveillance cameras in her house. Han Mo, you're in charge of the equipment. Discuss the locations with Zhuang Ning."

Han Mo nodded.

"Xiao An, find all the surveillance cameras near Guan Tang's house and tried to obtain the footages. If she really kidnapped Jiahui, she'd definitely holding Jiahui in her house. The question is how did she bring Jiahui there without leaving any traces behind?" Mu Chen said.

"Understood," Xiao An said.

"Then?" Song Ning asked anxiously.

"Then we wait. We'll see if we can find anything with the footages from the surveillance cameras we install," Mu Chen replied.

Zhuang Ning thought about it for a moment and said, "How about we hide in a pot of flowers, and I'll send it to her house?"

"It's too obvious. It definitely won't work," Song Ning said.

Zhuang Ning sighed. "I can't think straight. It's too scary. Don't you think this woman is terrifying? When I think about the time I spent with her now, I feel chills running up my spine."

Cheng Che sat there in a daze.

Song Ning waved her hand in front of Cheng Che and called out, "Cheng Che! Cheng Che?"

When Cheng Che regained his senses, his eyes were slightly red. "It's been so long. How's Jiahui? Is she being abused? Does she have anything to eat or drink?"

Everyone fell silent. No one had the answers to these questions.

Mu Chen clapped his hands. "Let's act immediately. Don't waste time!"

"What should I do?" Cheng Che asked after he calmed down. He looked rather miserable at this time.

Mu Chen placed his hand on Cheng Che's shoulder and said solemnly, "Cheng Che, you have to pull yourself together. Apart from finding Jiahui, you also have to deal with the Yin family. I heard the Old Master of the Yin family is here. You'll have to meet him sooner or later."

Cheng Che felt helpless. "They're going to say the same thing. They'll tell me to return to the Yin family to inherit the family business, and when I refuse, they'll continue saying the same thing over and over again as though they didn't hear what I said."

Mu Chen looked at his younger brother. He understood his younger brother's feelings very well.

Cheng Che smiled bitterly. "Even if I return, is there a point? Do you think that biological father of mine will easily give up the business he had spent so many years running? What about that ill half-brother of mine? Do you think he'll tolerate my sudden appearance in the family? What kind of good intentions do they have asking me to return to such a complicated environment? I just want to live a peaceful and happy life. Why would I return?"

Cheng Che could no longer hold back his tears as he said, "Right now, I only want to find Jiahui. I don't want to wait anymore. I want to get married immediately! Then, we'll stay with Grandma and live a peaceful and happy life. I don't lack money, and I have my own career. Why should I return to that family? Back then, they agreed they wouldn't acknowledge me. They should keep their promise. Just because they changed their mind, why should I cooperate with them?"

# Chapter 687: Secret War

Song Ning could not help but feel sorry for Cheng Che. "Cheng Che, don't be so anxious. Grandma has already said you'll always be a member of the Mu family."

"Cheng Che, calm down. Think about it. Don't you think that things are very strange? Everything seems to be connected to you. I'm afraid that this matter isn't simple."

Cheng Che was usually smart and quick-witted. However, he was confused and worried about Jiahui now, making him a little slow. Nonetheless, his trust in Mu Chen was unparalleled. He asked, "I understand, Brother. There must be something wrong. Do you mean I have to play along with them?"

Mu Chen nodded slightly. "If we can't see the entire situation clearly, then we might as well go with the flow and slowly unravel the problem bit by bit. One day, we'll definitely obtain the answers we want."

Cheng Che nodded as well. "Alright, I'll listen to you. I'll see what they want for now."

Zhuang Ning asked Song Ning, "What are they talking about?"

Song Ning shook her head slightly. "Don't worry about them."

Song Ning did not need to understand these things. She and Cheng Che trusted Mu Chen. With Mu Chen and Jiang Jin around, nothing could go wrong. Jiahui was a lucky person; she would definitely be fine.

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Before meeting his grandson, Old Master Yin met his future grandson-in-law first. He was very satisfied with the tall and handsome young man in front of him. Hence, he nodded at Yin Jia and said, "Not bad. You have a very good taste."

Yin Jia smiled shyly upon hearing these words.

Old Master and Ye Cheng continued to chat. Whether it was in regard to business or life, Ye Cheng was very insightful, making Old Master Yin very happy.

At the same time. Old Madam Yin watched coldly from the side with a faint smile on her face. After a while, she waved her hand to call for a helper. When the helper came, she leaned forward and whispered a few words to the helper before the helper bowed and left.

Yin Jia was very alert, worried that Old Madam Yin would do something bad again. Her expression turned frosty immediately as she looked at the helper who had just left.

Old Madam Yin saw Yin Jia's unkind gaze and hurriedly said, "Ah, I told her to bring out the good tea that our family brought over from S City. It's much better than the tea here."

Yin Jia said bluntly, "The tea we're having here is the top-grade tea we brought from S City. Didn't you drink the tea, Grandma?"

Old Madam Yin's expression stiffened immediately. Then, she raised her teacup and took a sip before she said in embarrassment, "No wonder it tastes so familiar."

Yin Jia sneered. "My mother is very well prepared. She took care of everyone's preferences. She's famous for being thoughtful and meticulous. It's only natural that she's also taken care of such a small thing like the tea we're having."

Old Madam Yin remained silent despite Yin Jia's mocking words that put her down and praised Guan Ning. She knew it was not wise to refute those words at this moment. She inhaled deeply before she asked with a smile, "Guan Ning has always been like that. Speaking of which, you grew up by Guan Ning's side so you must be just as meticulous and thoughtful as her. I'm just worrying unnecessarily."

Yin Jia replied indifferently, "Yes, I'm a child without a mother. If it weren't because Grandpa feel distressed for me, how could I have gotten to where I am today? Unfortunately, my pitiful younger brother wasn't as lucky as I was."

Old Master Yin and Ye Cheng who were chatting happily could sense there was something wrong with the atmosphere. When Old Master Yin saw that his granddaughter's expression was not quite right, he hurriedly asked, "What's wrong? What are both of you chatting about?"

At this time, the helper brought a pot of tea over.

Old Madam Yin seized the chance and said with a smile, "I asked someone to brew a new pot of tea. Try it. It's the Mao Jian tea I brought from home."

Old Master Yin reached out for a cup of tea. After taking a sip, he said, "It's not bad. It's the kind we're used to drinking at home. Ye Cheng, try the tea as well. Do young people not like tea? My granddaughter drinks coffee every day."

## Chapter 688: Goal

Old Master Yin's gaze was very affectionate when he looked at his granddaughter.

Ye Cheng picked up the teacup and took a sip before he said praisingly, "Good tea."

After setting the teacup down on the table, Ye Cheng continued to say, "I'm usually busy with work so I'd usually have coffee. I only drink tea when I'm home to accompany my father. My father likes Tieguanyin tea so that's what I drink the most."

At this time, a smile appeared on Yin Jia's face. Before the helper served the Mao Jia tea, the tea they were having was the Tieguanyin tea.

No matter what Ye Cheng's private life was like, Yin Jia had already decided on him. In terms of knowledge and understanding, Ye Cheng was the most outstanding person she had ever met. She did not care if Ye Cheng had his own motives; was there a person who did not have any motives? Even she had her own motives. With this, they could be considered even. It was also a blessing to meet a worthy opponent.

Meanwhile, Old Master Yin, who was very pleased with Ye Cheng's words, continued chatting about tea.

Ye Cheng smiled and said, "You're really making things difficult for me. How can my shallow knowledge about tea compare to an expert like you?"

Old Master Yin smiled. "You're already very good. My grandsons wouldn't accompany me to drink tea."

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Upon hearing this, Ye Cheng said smilingly, "Then let Cheng Che accompany you in the future. He's very knowledgeable about tea."

Ye Cheng's expression was very natural and the way he segued into the topic was very smooth as well. It did not feel deliberate or forced. Everyone was stunned by his words, but he looked as though he was unaware of it as he lowered his gaze and took another sip of tea from the teacup. Then, he continued very naturally, "Cheng Che and I, because of Mu Chen, grew up together. Cheng Che used to follow Mu Cheng and me around like a little tail. Mu Chen and I used to quarrel a lot, but Cheng Che had never taken sides. He'd called me Brother as usual. He was very sensible even when he was young. As he grew older, many girls tried to pursue him. He was very gentle, after all. Most young girls like men with a good temperament like him. In this regard, he's superior to Mu Chen and me."

Old Master Yin seemed to be stunned.

Upon seeing this, Old Madam Yin hurriedly asked, "Is that so? Didn't he get bullied often when he was young?"

Old Master Yin looked at Ye Cheng expectantly, wanting to know the answer.

Ye Cheng shook his head before he said with a smile, "How's that possible? Who would dare to bully Cheng Che? When we were young, everyone knew it was okay to challenge Mu Chen and me, but everyone knew that those who dared to challenge Cheng Che would have to contend with me and Mu Chen. When I was young, I was particularly jealous that Mu Chen had such a sensible and obedient younger brother."

A regretful expression appeared on Ye Cheng's face as he spoke.

Old Master Yin was in high spirits and laughed.

Yin Jia relaxed upon seeing this. With Ye Cheng's words, her grandfather of Cheng Che had risen. Then, she looked at the old woman in front of her with a hint of gloating. Although that old woman tried to sabotage her, that old woman could not compete with a few words about Cheng Che's childhood.

Ye Cheng quickly found the opening to Old Master Yin's heart and knew what would pique Old Master Yin's interest the most. He recalled his father had said that as long as they could firmly hold onto the Yin family, the Ning Group would not be a match for them at all. He smiled inwardly, thinking that the goal was not difficult to achieve at all. The only hidden danger was Cheng Che. He had to complete his goal before Cheng Che returned to the family. At that time, Cheng Che would also become one of his chess pieces. Thinking about how he would win against Mu Chen and Cheng Che for once in his life, he almost could not contain his excitement.

# **Chapter 689: Installation**

Guan Tang was not surprised when Zhuang Ning visited her. When Zhuang Ning told her that she had reconciled with Ye Cheng, her eyes were icy despite the smile on her face.

Zhuang Ning, who was clearly in a good mood, told Guan Tang about Ye Cheng's sweet words.

Guan Tang listened patiently in the beginning, but as time went on, she began to grow impatient when Zhuang Ning showed no signs of stopping. Under the pretext of going to the kitchen to get some fruits, she interrupted Zhuang Ning's chatter.

Zhuang Ning looked bored as she looked at small ornaments in the living room. Then, she raised her voice and said, "Guan Tang, these small ornaments you bought are really beautiful."

Guan Tang replied from the kitchen, "You can take whatever you like."

Zhuang Ning smiled and picked the ornaments up one by one to have a look. At the same time, she kept an eye on Guan Tang, who was in the kitchen. Inwardly, she was extremely nervous. Her palms were sweaty as she carefully, and with great difficulty, stuck the thing in her hands onto the standing clock in the corner.

After Zhuang Ning was done, seeing that Guan Tang had yet to come out of the kitchen, she entered the bathroom. After closing the door, she leaned against it and exhaled softly. After a moment, she looked around, she stuck the thing in her hand in an inconspicuous spot near the doorknob, facing the wall where water was previously leaking out.

Subsequently, Zhuang Ning flushed the toilet and washed her hands before leaving the bathroom. She thought to herself that this was too exciting and that her heart was about to leap out of her chest.

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Guan Tang had already returned to the living room with a plate of fruits at this time. She smiled and said, "Do you like my house?"

Zhuang Ning quickly said, "Yes. I really like the small decorative items you bought. You really have very good taste, Guan Tang. I've always wanted to buy a house in the western district. When I buy a house, will you help me to decorate it?"

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Guan Tang smiled. "Of course! I have nothing to do anyway so it's a good way for me to keep myself occupied. Why do you want to buy a house?" Without waiting for Zhuang Nings' reply, she added, "Oh, is Ye Cheng buying it for you?"

Zhuang Ning rolled her eyes before she lifted her chin proudly and said, "I don't need him to buy it for me. It's not like I can't afford it."

Guan Tang nudged Zhuang Ning gently and said, "I forgot that you're a popular celebrity!"

The two women chatted and laughed.

Zhuang Ning's mood was very good. Even when Guan Gang sent her away, she looked very reluctant to leave.

As soon as Zhuang Ning left, Guan Tang threw the glass that Zhuang Ning drank from to the ground. Then, she let out a long scream as she held her head.

At the same time, Jiahui, who was in the secret room, could not help but shiver. Clearly, Guan Tang lost control of her emotions again. She was slightly confused. After all, Zhuang Ning did not say anything upsetting so why was Guan Tang like that?

Earlier, Jiahui had seen Zhuang Ning's small actions when Guan Tang was in the kitchen. With this, she knew that Mu Chen and Cheng Che must have sent Zhuang Ning. It seemed like the two men were already suspicious of Guan Tang. She could not help but feel a hint of pride for having a good taste when choosing a boyfriend.

After Guan Tang vented her suppressed emotions, she cleaned up the fragments of the glass on the floor. Then, she sat on the couch and hugged a pillow before she muttered to herself in a daze, "See? He's a two-timer as well! Men are really unreliable! If she can get Ye Cheng, then I can get Cheng Che as well!"

Following that, Guan Tang dialed a string of numbers on her phone.

...

At this moment, Cheng Che was sitting in front of a computer. As he watched Guan Tang calling someone on her phone, his phone began to ring. He looked at Song Ning and Mu Chen in shock as he said, "She's calling me!"

Mu Chen hurriedly lowered the volume on the computer and gestured to Cheng Che to answer the call.

On the screen, Guan Tang could be seen adjusting her posture on the couch, looking elegant and graceful.

Song Ning felt rather speechless.

After Cheng Che answered the call, he asked calmly, "Guan Tang, what's the matter?"

A perfect and happy smile appeared on Guan Tang's face on the screen. It was completely incongruent with her hesitant voice when she spoke. This sent chills up Cheng Che's spine.

## **Chapter 690: Conjecture**

"Cheng Che, Grandpa is already here. He'll definitely try to meet you. When that time comes, I'm afraid he'll bring up our marriage again. Have you thought about what to say?"

Cheng Che replied without hesitation, "Tell the truth."

The smile on Guan Tang's face vanished, and her gaze turned cold. Nonetheless, her voice was still sweet and gentle as she said, "That's fine as well. I don't think Grandpa will object under such circumstances. However, Grandpa has high blood pressure so try to be tactful with your words. Don't anger him, okay?"

Cheng Che said, "Alright. Thank you for your reminder."

"This is what I should do. After all, this matter concerns both of us. If you encounter any difficulties, you don't have to shoulder them on your own. I'll face it together with you," Guan Tang said in an extremely gentle voice.

Cheng Che fell silent for a moment as though he had been moved by her words. After a moment, he said, "Thank you, Guan Tang."

After the call disconnected, Guan Tang smiled gently as she muttered, "Cheng Che, I'll show you who you're supposed to marry. Apart from returning to my side, you have no other choice."

Following that, Guan Tang rose to her feet and entered the bedroom.

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Cheng Che rubbed his arms as he said, "Brother, this woman is too terrifying."

Mu Chen and Song Ning felt the same way.

Mu Chen asked Han Mo, "How's the investigation going?"

Han Mo did not even look up; his eyes were firmly trained on the computer screen as he said, "Nothing for now."

Song Ning could not help but sigh. It felt like they were searching for a needle in a haystack.

At this moment, Han Mo suddenly called out, "Boss!"

Mu Chen, Song Ning, and Cheng Che, who was standing at the side, hurried over.

Han Mo pointed at Guan Tang on the screen.

In the footage, Guan Tang was slowly pushing a very big suitcase toward the entrance of a building.

"What's the problem?" Song Ning asked in confusion.

Han Mo rewound the video.

After parking her car, Guan Tang dragged the ridiculously large suitcase out of the car with great difficulty.

"What's the problem?" Song Ning asked again, still confused.

Mu Chen said, "She has already moved into her new house at this time. What's in that ridiculously large suitcase?"

"Perhaps, she just has many things," Song Ning replied.

Mu Chen shook his head. "No, it doesn't make sense."

Han Mo quickly retrieved another video and said, "Boss, look."

Han Mo said, "This is the hospital's parking lot. Guan Tang brought the suitcase to the underground parking lot as well. Why would she do that? She could've just left it in her car."

"Something's wrong! We can't believe anything she says at all. We have to find out on our own," Cheng Che said resolutely, feeling spirited now that there were clues.

Very soon, with the video, they constructed a timeline for Guan Tang on that day. Pictures were arranged next to each other.

Everyone was stunned as they looked at the pictures.

Han Mo's voice trembled slightly as he said, "When she brought the suitcase down at the hospital, it's clearly very light. However, when she arrived home, it was clearly so heavy that she was having difficulties moving it. This meant that whatever was in that suitcase was put in there at the hospital."

The answer was very glaring at this moment.

Cheng Che clicked on the mouse, looking at a few videos again. After a while, he said, "If Jiahui was in that suitcase, it means that Jiahui is now in that strange house of hers!"

Mu Chen said calmly, "Calm down. We have to continue observing. We can't act rashly and jump to conclusions now."

## Chapter 691: Found

At this moment, Guan Tang walked out of the bedroom and went into the bathroom.

All the men present in the room averted their eyes immediately.

Song Ning sighed. "Why did Zhuang Ning install the camera in the bathroom? She..."

Song Ning's words came to an abrupt halt as she exclaimed, "Look! There's a secret door!"

Everyone turned to look at the screen in unison. They did not know how Guan Tang opened the secret door, but a wall at the side had opened up. Coincidentally, the camera Zhuang Ning had installed was facing the direction of that wall.

At this time, everyone saw Jiahui who was sitting in front of a table.

Cheng Che leaped up immediately.

On the screen, the wall had already slid close.

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Everyone was silent for about five seconds.

Then, Cheng Che suddenly rushed to the door.

Mu Chen hurriedly grabbed Cheng Che. "Cheng Che!"

Cheng Che struggled as he pointed at the screen. He said incoherently, "Bathroom. Brother, Jiahui... Jiahui!"

Mu Chen held Cheng Che tightly and said, "Calm down! Calm down! We all saw Jiahui!"

Cheng Che said, "Let's save her! Let's go save her. Let's go."

Mu Chen did not release his grip on Cheng Che as he said, "How are you going to do that? Call the police? What are you going to say? Are you going to say we used extreme methods and secretly installed cameras in her house? We can't use them as evidence. If you act rashly now, you'll only alert the enemy! We need to plan properly. Calm down first."

Cheng Che felt as though Mu Chen had doused him with ice water. He calmed down before he said in a trembling voice, "Alright, Brother. I'll listen to you."

Cheng Che could not stop thanking God. He finally found Jiahui. After a moment, he said tremblingly, "Let me see Jiahui."

Xiao An rewound the video and slowed it down as it played.

Cheng Che and Song Ning were staring intently at the screen.

The wall slid open slowly, revealing the room behind it. There was a small bed, a table, and two chairs in the room. There was a bag of potato chips on the table in front of Jiahui.

Cheng Che suddenly sat on the ground limply.

"Hey!" Song Ning hurriedly pulled Cheng Che up.

Cheng Che said with a smile, "She's fine! She's fine! It's good that she's fine! She's really fine!"

How could someone who had been kidnapped eat potato chips if they were not fine?

Mu Chen, Xiao An, and Han Mo were still staring at the computer screen.

Cheng Che muttered anxiously, "Why hasn't she come out? It's been a long time. Do you think she's doing something to Jiahui? Will Jiahui suffer?"

Song Ning had already calmed down completely at this moment. She had seen Jiahui's condition earlier and felt more at ease. She said, "Don't worry, Cheng Che. Unless Guan Tang knows martial arts, Jiahui won't be at a disadvantage. Her combat ability is quite strong!"

Based on Song Ning's understanding of Jiahui, if Guan Tang and Jiahui really fought, Jiahui truly would not be at a disadvantage at all. All their classmates could testify to that.

After an unknown amount of time had passed, the wall slid open again.

Jiahui was still sitting in front of the table. This time, a packet of biscuits could be seen on the table.

Guan Tang stood at the entrance and turned to Jiahui as she said, "Just you wait and see. Cheng Che will be mine sooner or later."

Jiahui was not angry. She waved her hand as she ate and said, "I know, I know. I'll wait and see. You better deal with your sister's fiance first. I thought you don't want them to be together? Break them up. Let me see your skills."

Guan Tang smiled confidently, "Is there still a need for me to break them up? I already have someone doing that for me."

## Chapter 692: Plan

Jiahui asked, "You mean, Zhuang Ning? You're going to use her?"

Guan Tang smiled. "Isn't that great? This saves me time and energy as well."

Jiahui continued to eat as she asked, "If you do that, Yin Jia won't know you're behind it. With this, you'd fail your goal of angering her."

"Well, everything depends on my mood," Guan Tang said lazily.

Jiahui shrugged.

Guan Tang looked very satisfied as she closed the door.

Everyone averted her eyes when Guan Tang was in the bathroom alone again.

At this moment, Guan Tang's phone rang. After listening for a moment, she said, "Alright, Aunty. Send me the time and place. I'll be on time. Yes, I understand. I've already spoken to Cheng Che. Don't worry. He's very soft-hearted so he won't be ruthless."

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After disconnecting the call, Guan Tang made a victory sign at the wall.

With that, everyone knew that Jiahui should be able to see what was going on outside.

Cheng Che looked slightly stunned as he said, "This means, this means that Jiahui saw me when I looked for Guan Tang previously?"

Song Ning immediately asked, "Did she try to seduce you at that time?"

Cheng Che hastily waved his hand. "No, no, no. She only said that we could cancel our marriage agreement and that we should be friends in the future. Then, I, I agreed."

Mu Chen and Song Ning stared at Cheng Che silently.

Even Han Mo and Xiao An stared at Cheng Che silently.

Cheng Che's mind began to spin. Then, he hurriedly said, "Although I did say I'd take care of her as much as I could since she's the daughter of my mother's friend, I made it clear to her that I only love Jiahui!"

Song Ning looked at Cheng Che as she slowly said, "If you really said something that crossed the line, I'm afraid that Jiahui will definitely remember it and make you pay for it in the future. She might have even made a voodoo doll of you and is stabbing it every day."

Cheng Che instinctively took a step back as he brought Song Ning's words to life in his mind. He quickly recalled his words at that time to see if he had said anything outrageous.

'No, no, I couldn't have said anything outrageous. I only have Jiahui in my heart. I don't have any interest in other women. I don't even remember what Guan Tang looks like when I close my eyes. Her face is a blur to me whenever I talk to her!'

Mu Chen and Song Ning laughed when they saw the silly expression on Cheng Che's face as he immersed himself in his thoughts.

At this time, Cheng Che finally realized that Mu Chen and Song Ning had been pulling his leg. He looked a little embarrassed, but it could be seen that his mood had eased.

Song Ning said, "It seems like Jiahui is quite safe. All we need to do is come up with a flawless plan to get her out of that place."

Mu Chen said in a low voice, "This isn't the only problem we have. The Yin family came this time with the intention to bring Cheng Che back. Based on Zhuang Ning's words, the Yin family is now playing a huge game of chess, and the instigator of this game is the Ye family's father and son. Ye He has yet to show up, but Ye Cheng has already entered the family with an unexpected identity."

Cheng Che looked at Mu Chen, slightly surprised. His heart and mind were with Jiahui so he could not think of anything else but her. As a result, there were many things that he had missed. He could only rely on his brother.

Mu Chen looked at Cheng Che and said, "The Yin family should be inviting you out soon. Cheng Che, go and meet Old Master Yin. Xiao An, go with him. Cheng Che, you have to calm down. Treat this as a business deal. Find out the real reason they want you to return so desperately. Have they already arranged your life for you after your return? Try to find out as many things as possible, and try to stall for time as long as you can. Han Mo and Xiao An will be in contact. As long as we've not saved Jiahui, you can't end your meeting with them!"

"Alright!" Cheng Che said.

Song Ning was startled. "You're going to sneak her out? You're not going to the police or do anything else to expose Guan Tang?"

## **Chapter 693: Arrangements**

Mu Chen nodded.

"And then?" Song Ning could not help but ask.

"There's no 'and then'," Mu Chen said.

Cheng Che nodded. "That's right."

Song Ning looked at the duo speechlessly. 'What kind of tacit understanding is this?'

"When Guan Tang returns and finds that Jiahui is gone, she's..." Song Ning trailed off.

Mu Chen smiled and reached out to stroke her hair as he said, "What? Do you think she'll dare to call the police?"

Song Ning was rendered speechless. 'Indeed, can Guan Tang call the police? She's the one who kidnapped Jiahui. Would she dare to call the police and say that the person she kidnapped has gone missing?'

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"Then, what about Jiahui? Would she have to stay hidden after she returns?" Song Ning asked. She could not figure out the two men's plan.

"Stay hidden? Why should she hide? She can live her life as before. Go to work, walk around, show off her love with Cheng Chen..." Mu Chen said.

Cheng Che nodded vigorously.

"Then, we're just going to let Guan Tang go? She kidnapped and imprisoned Jiahui. We can't just let her get away with it!" Song Ning said.

A smile appeared on Mu Chen's lips as he said coldly, "How can we let her get away with it? It's just that using the law to punish her is letting her off too easily. Right, Cheng Che?"

Mu Chen looked at his younger brother after he finished speaking.

Cheng Che's expression was dark as he said, "I'll let her know what hell is like."

Song Ning looked at Cheng Che in surprise. She had never seen him so ruthless before.

Mu Chen reached out and hugged Song Ning. He did not want her to feel troubled about this matter. "Alright, Ningning, go and accompany Grandma. Tell her about this matter. Don't scare her or make her worry. Leave the rest to me. You and Grandma only need to wait for Jiahui's return."

Song Ning was naturally still worried.

Mu Chen leaned down and kissed her forehead before he said, "Trust me, honey. Go and take care of Grandma and our son."

At this moment, Cheng Che's phone began to ring. He took a look before showing it to Mu Chen and Song Ning. "It's the Yin family."

Mu Chen nodded. "Answer the call. Agree to meet with them. I'll make the arrangements immediately. Han Mo, come with me. Xiao An, stay here and monitor the surveillance cameras." After saying that, he patted Song Ning and said, "Be good. Do as I said."

Cheng Che walked and answered the phone.

When Song Ning looked at the two brothers, she felt more at ease. It was good that Jiahui was alright. Mu Chen would definitely bring Jiahui back. She had to hurry up and inform Jiang Jin about this matter.

...

Guan Tang chose a light yellow dress among a thousand choices. She looked even more delicate than a flower.

After leaving the Yin family house, she had more freedom than before. For example, she no longer had to consider the Yin sisters' preferences and did not have to worry if she would unintentionally wear the same thing they were wearing. However, even if they were wearing the same clothes, only the one who looked uglier would feel embarrassed. She promised that she would trample on all of them sooner or later.

After she drew her eyebrows, an idea suddenly appeared in her mind. She picked her phone up and sent Zhuang Ning a message. Then, she smiled as she continued to apply her makeup. She really loved watching the world burn and seeing how ugly everyone's expressions were.

If Zhuang Ning showed up and caused Ye Cheng to feel uneasy, there would definitely be a good show to watch. If Yin Jia could see Ye Cheng and Zhuang Ning's affection for each other, it would be even better. However, with Yin Jia's character, she would likely swallow her anger and endure the disgust to continue dating Ye Cheng.

Guan Tang could not help but laugh. She had to stop applying her lipstick for a moment. She suddenly thought it was not that bad even if Yin Jia and Ye Cheng were not separated. It would be torturous if Yin Jia had to stay in a relationship with a man she could not stand. After all, she had seen Yin Jia heartbroken multiple times. It was much more interesting to force Yin Jia to marry someone despite being unwilling. Yin Jia would have to endure a horrible marriage for the rest of her life.

# **Chapter 694: Cousins**

The venue of the big gathering was chosen to be held at a private restaurant on the outskirts of the city.

Yin Bin had already come to take a look at the venue beforehand. The alfresco area was spacious and very private. The kitchen was set up in a central room. It had a very rustic charm.

As soon as Old Master Yin saw the restaurant, he said, "This restaurant looks good. Not bad, not bad. If there's a chance, I'd like to meet the owner of the restaurant."

Yin Bin quickly said, "I heard this restaurant was founded by a few youngsters as a hobby project. Nonetheless, it's really popular. It takes two months just to make a reservation. We have to thank Old Ye for being able to come here today. He gave up his reservation to us."

Old Ye was naturally Ye He, Ye Cheng's father.

Old Master Yin nodded and said to Yin Bin, "This is the first time I've seen you befriend such a reliable friend. Has he returned from abroad? I really want to meet him."

Yin Bin quickly replied, "Not yet. He said he'll be back in a few days. Ye Cheng is also urging his father to come back soon."

Old Master Yin nodded. "It seems like M City is quite good. You seem to thrive here."

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Yin Bin smiled, feeling rather pleased.

"When Ye Cheng's father returns, you must quickly settle and confirm the marriage between the children. This matter is as important as Yin Xing's return to the family," Old Master Yin said, "Yin Xing can't run away. Sooner or later, he'll have to return to the family. On the other hand, Ye Cheng is different. With such an outstanding young man, I can't imagine how many young women from other families are lining up to marry him. Although our Yin Jia is good, it's best if there's no competition. The relationship between her and Ye Cheng is really good now so you have to strike while the iron is hot."

Yin Bin was so happy and agreed.

After Old Master Yin took a seat, he looked around. He felt rather satisfied. He thought the restaurant really suited the status of the Yin family. All in all, he was in a rather good mood.

Soon after, the other members of the Yin family arrived one after another. Everyone was filled with praises for the restaurant. When they learned that Ye He had given up his reservation to them, they praised Ye Cheng even more. Moreover, whenever they praised Ye Cheng, they could see Old Master Yin's smile widening. With that, everyone continued to praise Ye Cheng.

Ye Cheng and Yin Jia arrived hand in hand.

When Old Madam Yin saw the duo, she said, filled with praise, "Look at this golden couple. They're really compatible."

Yin Jia's expression turned frosty immediately. This was an instinctive reaction. After all, Old Madam Yin would never say such words; even if she did, it was a precursor to something bad. Hence, her guards instantly went up.

Ye Cheng calmly greeted the elders. His gaze paused slightly on Guan Tang's face.

Guan Tang's heart skipped a beat as her face flushed.

Ye Cheng averted his gaze and continued chatting with everyone else.

At this moment, Yin Yi tugged at Guan Tang's sleeve. "Cousin?"

Guan Tang jolted slightly. "Hm?"

Yin Yi looked at Guan Tang strangely, "What's wrong? I asked you when you bought this dress."

Guan Tang hurriedly replied, "Sorry, I was listening to the others so I didn't hear you. I bought this dress last year. Sister said it didn't look good so I didn't wear it."

Yin Yi was even more puzzled. "Then, why did you wear it today? Why did she say it didn't look good? I think it looks very good."

Guan Tang smiled, "That's right. I wore this dress today because I thought it looked good. Today is about your sister and your elder brother. I didn't want to steal the limelight so I wore what she thinks doesn't look good on me."

#### Chapter 695: Support

Guan Tang felt suffocated by Yin Yin's blunt words. However, she could not say anything to the outspoken Yin Yi. She could only grit her teeth and swallow her anger.

Everything was going very smoothly for Ye Cheng. He seemed to get along with everyone from the Yin family, whether it was the young or the old.

Yin Bin and Old Master Yin were naturally delighted.

Yin Jia grew even prouder. She definitely had to marry Ye Cheng! Just because of how brightly he shone in the Yin family, she was determined to make him her husband.

When Cheng Che finally arrived, everyone from the Yin family was already at the restaurant.

When Yin Bin saw Cheng Che, he hurriedly said, "Child, why are you so late? Everyone's been waiting for a long time."

Cheng Che did not reply to Yin Bin. He and Yin Bin were not familiar with each other.

Excitement rose in Old Master Yin's heart when he saw Cheng Che. He forcefully suppressed his excitement and waited for Yin Bin to introduce Cheng Che to him after Yin Bin was done nagging.

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Cheng Che bowed respectfully to Old Master Yin before he took his seat.

Cheng Che was deliberately arranged to be seated next to Old Master Yin. On the other side of Old Master Yin was Ye Cheng.

Ye Cheng reached out and patted Cheng Che's shoulder. "Long time no see, Cheng Che."

Cheng Che looked at Ye Cheng with a puzzled expression. "Why are you here? This is..."

Old Master Yin said solemnly, "This is your sister's boyfriend."

Cheng Che feigned shock as he looked at Ye Cheng and Yin Jia.

Yin Jia looked at Cheng Che gently with tears shining in her eyes.

Then, Cheng Che looked at Ye Cheng and said, "I heard you're dating my company's artiste, Zhuang Ning."

Cheng Che casually dropped his bomb on everyone.

Old Madam Yin's excitement could be heard in her high-pitched voice as she said, "What?! Ye Cheng has a girlfriend?"

Yin Yang and his wife naturally did not forget to speak up as well.

"What's going on? When did our Eldest Young Miss become a third party?"

"Heavens! Our Eldest Young Miss is really pitiful."

Cheng Che looked at Yin Jia with a gaze that was filled with pity. With just a sentence, he caused a huge commotion for his sister. His gaze was slightly dark as he looked at Ye Cheng.

Ye Cheng only smiled helplessly as he said, "Who did you hear that nonsense from? When did I date an artiste from your company? It doesn't matter to me since I'm a man, but you have to think about the reputation of that innocent young woman. If you don't trust me, you can speak to your sister."

Yin Jia remained calm, ignoring the ridicule from the others. "What nonsense are you speaking? I've met Miss Zhuang Ning before. She even spoke to me before. I didn't know you were her boss. This is perfect. You should invite her out for a meal with us one day. It'd be a good opportunity to dispel the rumor."

Cheng Che pitied his sister even more. 'As it turns out, she's willingly putting herself in this position...'

Then, Cheng Che asked Ye Cheng again, "You really didn't?"

Ye Cheng nodded with an earnest expression on his face. "No. Don't worry, I'm not interested in celebrities."

"If you dare to lie to me, don't blame me for being impolite," Cheng Che said bluntly.

Old Madam Yin smiled and said, "It seems like our Eldest Young Master doesn't have a good relationship with Young Master Ye since they were young. Eldest Young Master, Young Master Ye told us that he stood up for you and fought for you a lot when you were young."

Old Madam covered her mouth and smiled, waiting for the tides to turn.

Ye Cheng remained calm as he looked at Cheng Che with a smile.

"It doesn't matter how many fights he fought. If he dares to lie to me, I'll definitely return it to him a hundredfold," Cheng Che said.

This was tantamount to confirming Ye Cheng's previous words about their past. His words were equivalent to supporting Ye Cheng. With this, those who wanted to watch a show had to forcefully restrain their mocking expressions, feeling suffocated.

As for Yin Bin and his immediate family members, they were naturally delighted.

"Don't worry, Cheng Che. When have I lied to you? In regard to this, I won't be inferior to Mu Chen," Ye Cheng replied.

# **Chapter 696: Provocations**

After the manager walked over, Yin Yi said, "Everyone's here now. You can serve the dishes."

"Yes, miss," the manager replied politely. Then, he walked to Cheng Che's side and said in a respectful tone, "President Cheng Che, we're unaware that these are your guests."

Cheng Che leaned back and replied gently, "It's alright. I'm a guest today as well. Charge the bill to me."

The manager bowed in response.

The members of the Yin family looked at Cheng Che in a daze upon hearing this exchange.

Finally, Ye Cheng chuckled and said, "You brat! You hid yourself quite well! Do you own this restaurant?"

Cheng Che replied indifferently, "I started this restaurant with Brother Chen. We didn't expect it to be so popular. A few people insisted on getting involved, and it ended up like this. We don't really care much about it so those people are running this place now."

Ye Cheng smiled. "Amazing! This is such a great business, and both of you didn't even think of including me."

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Cheng Che looked at Ye Cheng and said, "You don't even care about the Ye family business, how do you have time to get involved with our hobby project? Just focus on being a good government servant."

Ye Cheng did not seem annoyed by Cheng Che's words. Instead, he said jokingly, "Clearly, both of you didn't even think about me, but you're still trying to twist the facts."

Old Master Yin was clearly delighted by this discovery. He did not expect his grandson to be so promising.

On the contrary, Old Madam Yin was upset. Earlier, she and her son had spared no efforts praising the restaurant. She did not expect Cheng Che to be the owner of the restaurant. She was incredibly vexed. Seeing that Yin Bin and his family were in high spirits, how could she swallow her anger? Thus, she winked at her son and her daughter-in-law meaningfully.

Kang Ru, Old Madam Yin's daughter-in-law, looked at Yin Yi and asked with a smile, "Yin Yin, is the popular female celebrity your brother mentioned earlier Zhuang Ning?"

Yin Yi did not seem to find anything wrong with the question. She replied, "There's only one popular female celebrity now, and it's Zhuang Ning. No one's more popular than her now."

Seeing that Yin Yi had fallen right into her trap, Kang Ru smiled and continued to say, "Oh, then doesn't this mean that our Eldest Young Miss competed with the most popular celebrity for a boyfriend? The result is a testament to our Eldest Young Miss' charms."

Yin Jia slowly sipped on her wine before she replied calmly, "Zhuang Ning and Ye Cheng have nothing to do with each other. Did Second Aunt not hear it earlier? Will you only be satisfied after you put the label of third party on me?"

Yin Jia did beat around the bush and spoke very bluntly, causing Kang Ru to feel embarrassed.

Yin Yang frowned. "You child, how can you speak like that? Your second aunt is only concerned about you. If you really competed with a celebrity for a man, it'd be an embarrassment to our Yin family."

Yin Jia set her glass down on the table loudly.

However, before Yin Jia could speak, Cheng Che said tonelessly, "So what if Zhuang Ning is a celebrity? Is it the trend now to insult people for no good reason? If you're so good, let me ask you: how much did you donate to L City that suffered from an earthquake a few days ago?"

Cheng Che had switched the topic so quickly that the others instinctively shook their heads in response to his question.

Cheng Che sneered. "So none of you donated? However, Zhuang Ning donated five million to L City."

Lang Ru said unwillingly, "Female celebrities earn money very quickly, don't they? I heard that they earn a few million just by accompanying others to drink. Isn't five million a small amount of money to her?"

Cheng Che's expression changed immediately.

Upon seeing this, Guan Tang hastily said, "Second Aunt, what you've heard are just rumors. Miss Zhuang often donates money and gifts. She's very active when it comes to charity work. She's especially nice. Right, Sister?"

Yin Jia nodded before she said, "Yes, she's very passionate about charity work. Ye Cheng even helped her with her cause. Speaking of which, Ye Cheng can be considered half her boss."

Yin Jia did not look at anyone but Ye Cheng and Cheng Che. It was clear she only had eyes for the two men.

# Chapter 697: Falling Out

Kang Ru and the others were furious. Kang Ru said, "Eldest Young Miss, didn't Young Master Ye say he has no interactions with the artistes from Eldest Young Master's company? However, based on your words, they're now involved in a project?"

This was a blatant provocation.

Ye Cheng frowned before he said, "What's wrong with that? We're indeed working on a project, but we don't have any interactions. This kind of thing is naturally dealt with by my subordinates. There's no need for me to personally get involved."

Cheng Che's gaze swept across everyone as he said, "Can't you see? They're doing their best to destroy your relationship. It's obvious they don't wish for the both of you to be together."

Kang Ru's face seemed to turn purple upon hearing these words. Men usually would not involve themselves in women's petty conversation. She did not expect Cheng Che to speak so bluntly without any consideration. Since Cheng Che had hit the nail on the head, she did not dare to speak anymore.

Yin Jia smiled as tears shone in her eyes. She lowered her gaze as she said, "You saw through their intentions? It's fine. They're only targeting me, not Ye Cheng. As long as I'm unhappy, all of them will be happy."

Ye Cheng hurriedly handed her a piece of tissue before patting her hand. He said gently, "Don't be angry. They're just joking. If you talk like that, you'd be cornering Second Aunt and the others."

Yin Jia wiped her tears and said with an aggrieved expression, "Then what about me when they corner me?"

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Everyone was embarrassed.

Cheng Che coughed lightly before he said, "Since you're unhappy with the Yin family, you can come to me. You still have a younger brother."

Everyone turned to look at Cheng Che in unison.

Old Master Yin and Yin Bin were pleasantly surprised. After all, Cheng Che had acknowledged his eldest sister.

Old Master Yin hurriedly said, feigning anger, "What are you saying? Yin Jia, don't act like a child. Ye Cheng has already said it was just a joke, but you're still taking it so seriously. And you, Cheng Che, what do you mean by your words? The Yin family is also your family. How can you ask your sister to leave?" Then, his expression changed for the better as he turned to Ye Cheng and asked, "When's your father coming back? Help us invite him out for a gathering. We can also discuss your engagement with Yin Jia." Ye Cheng smiled and replied, "Grandfather, my father is trying to finish up with his work as quickly as he can. He said he'll visit you as soon as he returns."

Old Master Yin was overjoyed. He said to Yin Jia, "My granddaughter is the best. She's not petty like other girls."

Yin Jia did not say anything. She had long gotten used to her grandfather's behavior. On the surface, it seemed like he favored her, but in fact, he was really helping Old Madam Yin and her children.

As expected, Old Master Yin did not blame Kang Ru and the others at all.

Old Master Yin said to Cheng Che, "Your sister had a tough life. She was abandoned by her mother when she was young, but she was old enough to understand things at that time. She missed her mother so much at that time that she cried every day. You don't know how difficult it was for her. She thought about you every day as well. She'd always hoped that you'd come home and reunite with the family. Cheng Che, you're not young anymore. I don't need to explain things to you. What's more important than family? Blood is thicker than water. The past should be left in the past. You shouldn't hold any grudges. Although your father was in the wrong, how can you hold a grudge against your own father for so long?"

# **Chapter 698: Thoughts**

Yin Bin's expression was a little unnatural, but he did not say anything. He thought to himself, 'How did everything become my fault? If it weren't for your affair, would we have ended up like this?'

Alas, Yin Bin was not Cheng Che so he could not refute his father's words. He could only accept the blame even if it was not entirely his fault.

Meanwhile, everyone seemed moved by Old Master Yin's words.

Ye Cheng could not help but inwardly praise Old Master Yin. As expected, the older, the wiser. He wondered how Cheng Che was going to reply to this.

The dishes were served very quickly. The dishes looked very appetizing.

At this time, Cheng Che stood up and scooped a bowl of soup for Old Master Yin before he said gently, "Please try this. This is a specialty here. My friend, also an investor of this restaurant, lost his mother when he was young. He had always missed the soup that his mother made him. Based on his description, our chef tried to recreate the soup his mother made. It took more than 100 attempts before the chef finally got it right. My friend named the soup after his mother."

"The first time he tasted the soup, he burst into tears. At that time, he said that the person who loved him most was no longer around and that he had lost the courage to live. However, when he drank the soup, he felt as though his mother was still with him, and he gained the strength to live..."

Cheng Che paused for a moment before he looked at Old Master Yin and said, "His story is really sad, but what about me? I don't have any memories of my mother nor do I have any memories of the Yin family. The first person I know is my Grandma, Old Madam Mu. Grandma personally raised me. Due to her kindness and grace, she's qualified to criticize me."

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Old Madam Yin did not understand Cheng Che's meaning. She could not figure out what Cheng Che was trying to say to Old Master Yin.

Old Master Yin's smile had already vanished from his face. He only picked up the spoon to drink the soup before he finally nodded and said, "Cheng Che, I understand what you mean. I'll personally visit Old Madam Mu. We've met a few times in the past. We're both old now and have experienced many things, I'm sure our thinking is the same. Like I said earlier, what happened in the past should be left in the past. We shouldn't entangle ourselves with the past; we have to move on. After all, the future is the most important. You're my grandson. There's no doubt about that. I won't say anything else."

Then, Old Master Yin raised his glass and turned to Ye Cheng.

Ye Cheng hurriedly raised his glass and clinked it with Old Master Yin. Then, he said to Cheng Che, "Cheng Che, don't just stand there. I understand. However, there's no point in dwelling on the past. You've always been kind and sensible. Don't let the enemies be happy."

Yin Jia was very grateful to Ye Cheng. He seemed to know the right words to say at the right time. How could she not hold onto such a good man?

Guan Tang looked at Ye Cheng thoughtfully. She felt like she had underestimated him. She also did not expect Zhuang Ning to not fall for her trick; Zhuang Ning did not show up to stir up trouble. However, she thought this was also good. Perhaps, she should keep such an outstanding man like Ye Cheng for herself.

Then, Guan Tang shifted her gaze to Cheng Che. She thought that he really suited her taste.

Finally, Guan Tang thought to herself, 'The more men, the better...'

## **Chapter 699: Concession**

Cheng Che remained indifferent. He might not reply to every question, but when he did, he would definitely kill the conversation. Whoever asked him a question would definitely be embarrassed.

Fortunately, there was Ye Cheng to liven up the atmosphere. For this reason, he became the most popular person. He would dispel the embarrassment caused by Cheng Che's answer. Apart from that, he would also interpret Cheng Che's answers and make them sound more reasonable. Naturally, he also did not forget to show off the brotherly love he had for Cheng Che.

Cheng Che also seemed to tolerate Ye Cheng. He did not deny or refute Cheng Che's words when Ye Cheng reminisced about their childhood. In any case, this was enough to lend credence to Ye Cheng's words.

No one could confirm if Cheng Che would return to the Yin family or not, but everyone knew there was no doubt that Ye Cheng would become part of the Yin family.

Gradually, everyone also discovered Cheng Che was very polite to Yin Jia and Guan Tang, and he did not show any dislike to Yin Yi, his younger sister. The three women were very pleased by this.

Old Master Yin was very happy to see Cheng Che being so supportive of his eldest sister, Yin Jia. He was also pleased that Cheng Che was amiable to Yin Yin, showing that Cheng Che was a gentleman. Apart

from that, he could not help but have ideas of his own when he saw Cheng Che's treatment of Guan Tang.

Old Master Yin thought it would be best if Cheng Che married Guan Tang. It would be easier to do things in the future, after all. If Cheng Che married an outsider, who knew if the outsider would be difficult to deal with? He thought that Guan Tang was very wise for choosing to retreat instead of advancing.

Old Master Yin was very pleased and satisfied when he looked at the group of young people in front of him. Everything was going very smoothly. Now that the atmosphere was harmonious, he shot a meaningful look at Yin Bin.

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Yin Bin found the right time and said, "Cheng Che, your grandfather came all the way to M City to see you this time. When do you think it's convenient for you? We'll make the arrangements and hold a ceremony for you to acknowledge your ancestors and return to the family."

Yin Bin's words were not a question.

The atmosphere froze immediately.

Everyone turned to look at Cheng Che in unison.

Cheng Che put his chopsticks down before he said indifferently, "Why are we back on this topic? Isn't it good like that now? When we're free, we can have a meal together. If there are suitable projects, we can work on them together. As for the others, they're not important. I don't want to return to the Yin family. We should all compromise. I feel like I've already made a huge concession. What do you think?"

Old Master Yin's expression darkened immediately.

Cheng Che remained fearless as he met Old Master Yin's gaze.

Old Master Yin said in a deep voice, "Returning to the family will bring you endless benefits. Don't tell me when you have children in the future, their last names won't be Yin?"

Cheng Che smiled. "What's wrong with that? I think the surname Cheng is quite good. I grew up with the surname Cheng, after all."

"Cheng Che!" Yin Bin called out anxiously.

Old Master Yin said angrily, "Your surname is Yin! Your name is Yin Xing! You're the eldest grandson of the Yin family! How can you use your grandmother's surname?"

Cheng Che smiled. "Oh, is that what you care about? If I change my surname to Yin, does that mean I don't have to return to the Yin family?"

Old Master Yin was so angry that he could not speak for a moment.

Yin Bin hastily said, "Cheng Che! You know that's not what your grandfather meant! You're the eldest grandson of the Yin family! Do you know how important this matter is? You should have equal status with Mu Chen, not just an adopted child of his family. You should be more than just his assistant. You're the rightful Eldest Young Master of the Yin family!"

Cheng Che said nonchalantly, "But I don't want that."

#### Chapter 700: Face

Whose stubborn temper did Cheng Che inherit? Who else could it be?

Old Master Yin could not help but feel suffocated. Genes were indeed a miraculous thing. 'That damnable woman was just as stubborn! If she had taken a step back in the past, would we end up like this now?'

Yin Bin could not help but feel anxious. He quickly looked at Yin Jia for help.

Before Yin Jia could speak, Ye Cheng asked, "Cheng Che, how's Old Madam Mu's health?"

Everyone was stunned by Ye Cheng's abrupt change of the topic.

Cheng Che did not reply immediately.

Ye Cheng smiled and continued to say, "You and Mu Chen have always been filial to Old Madam Mu. For his grandmother's sake, Mu Chen did not hesitate to marry someone he found on the streets. You've also been obedient and sensible for her sake."

This was the first time the Yin family had heard about Mu Chen's marriage. Everyone was curious, especially Yin Yi, whose eyes lit up immediately.

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Ye Cheng said slowly, "Since you treat Old Madam Mu so well, you should treat Old Master Yin the same, right? Even if you don't care about blood relations and only treat him as an elder, you shouldn't speak to him in this manner, right?"

Cheng Che did not speak, but everyone could see his expression had eased.

Ye Cheng heaved a sigh of relief inwardly. He had no idea why Cheng Che was giving him so much face today, but he was not going to question his good luck. Since Cheng Che seemed to be tacitly acknowledging him as his brother-in-law, he might as well play his role perfectly. If he became the stepping stone to Cheng Che's return to the Yin family, then the matter between him and Yin Jia would be even more secure.

Ye Cheng turned to say to Old Master Yin, "Grandpa, I've also heard some things about Cheng Che from Yin Jia. It's only normal for Cheng Che to have a knot in his heart. Although he's very outstanding and good at running businesses, he's very pure and kind. I hope you'll give him some time to deal with this matter."

Cheng Che said coldly, "Pure and kind? Ye Cheng, these words are usually used to describe young ladies."

Ye Cheng smiled. "My vocabulary isn't good so these words are all I could come up with. In any case, Grandpa understood my meaning."

Cheng Che glared at Ye Cheng.

Old Master Yin was appeased by Ye Cheng's words. He said, "For Ye Cheng's sake, I'll give you some time. It's fine if you can't figure things out so quickly. Wait for me to visit Old Madam Mu."

Cheng Che said, slightly anxious, "This matter is between me and the Yin family. There's no need to involve the Mu family."

Old Master Yin could not help but frown when he saw how protective Cheng Che was of the Mu family. However, he remained calm and said, "I should go and thank the Mu family."

Cheng Che was about to say something when Ye Cheng interjected, "Alright. Cheng Che, what's wrong with you? Grandpa only wants to visit Old Madam Mu. You only have to convey this to Old Madam Mu. This is a matter between the elders. As a junior, you don't have to interfere."

Cheng Che glared at Ye Cheng and said, "You really have two faces to please everyone."

Ye Cheng smiled as he said, "You stinky brat, how can you say such a thing? Aren't I saying this for your good?"

Ye Cheng acted like an older brother, pleasing Old Master Yin, Yin Bin, and Yin Jia.

Cheng Che wanted to say something but decided against it in the end.

Old Master Yin was even more delighted when he saw Cheng Che seemingly give in to Ye Cheng.

On the contrary, Old Madam Yin was quite unhappy when she saw the good relationship between the future son-in-law and eldest young master of the Yin family. This was not the result she wanted. She looked around the table, and when her eyes fell on Guan Tang, she asked affectionately, "Guan Tang, are you used to living on your own? For the sake of our eldest young master, you even had to move out. How pitiful."