

## **As Agreed 351**

### Chapter 351 - 351: Giving Her A Taste Of Her Own Medicine, Part 2

The elevator finally arrived.

Shu Pan said goodbye to their neighbor Mrs. Lin before she walked into the elevator. Her face felt warm and she didn't dare to look at Gu Shaoting.

On the contrary, Gu Shaoting was very pleased. The term "Mrs. Gu" sounded like music to his ears.

When he heard the neighbor address Shu Pan as "Mrs. Gu", he thought that Shu Pan would correct her. After all, they were divorced. However, unexpectedly, Shu Pan did not.

He couldn't help but secretly rejoice in his heart. He hoped that Shu Pan could slowly feel his intentions.

Tong Fei had been distracted since her disastrous meeting with Gu Shaoting.

The more she thought about it, the more she felt that something was amiss. How did Gu Shaoting know about her deal with Lord Long?

She immediately called Lord Long, "Lord Long..."

Tong Fei intentionally dragged out her sweet voice. She knew what Lord Long liked.

"Babe, what's wrong? Do you miss Lord Long?" Lord Long was still as lecherous as ever.

Tong Fei endured the disgust in her heart and asked tentatively, "Lord Long, how goes the matter I asked you to do?"

“Oh, I got someone to kidnap her and take a few photos. But Tong Fei, why didn’t you tell me that the man behind this woman is so powerful? I don’t know how he found me and asked me to tell him the address. He threatened and bribed me with all kinds of things. I had no choice but to tell him since I’ve already helped you teach that woman a lesson.” Lord Long replied in a reproachful tone.

“Lord Long, I don’t know either. Sorry to have troubled you.” Tong Fei was about to go crazy. So that was what happened. What an idiot!

Was he a pig? Wouldn’t he be admitting that he did it when he told him the location?

This man with a lust-infested brain had probably implicated her...

Gu Shaoting was so shrewd. He wouldn’t have approached her if he wasn’t sure.

“You have indeed! A few of my men were even sent to the police station because of this! I’ve been so anxious.” Lord Long added. .c(o)m

“I’m really sorry, Lord Long.” Tong Fei swallowed her anger and apologized again.

“If you really want to calm me down, let’s get together tonight. How about it?” Chief Long revealed his true nature in less than three minutes.

“Lord Long, this is a critical period. Let’s not meet for now and lay low for a while, okay?” Tong Fei was still very rational. Gu Shaoting was still waiting to catch her in the act.

“Why? Tong Fei, you want to kick me away after using me?” Lord Long said sinisterly. He still had a secret weapon he had yet to use.

It would make Tong Fei obediently agree to everything She’d better not force

his hand.

“No, Lord Long. It’s just that something like this just happened. It’s better for us to avoid arousing suspicion.” Tong Fei became more anxious as she spoke.

“Avoid arousing suspicion? Are you afraid that I’ll implicate you?” Lord Long was starting to act unreasonably.

Lord Long was a little upset. He opened the photo album on his phone, clicked on a photo, and sent it to her.

Tong Fei felt her phone vibrate. Just as she was about to check the message, Lord Long’s voice rang out again, “Tong Fei, you’ve never admired your own nude photos, right? Don’t I have great photography skills? It’s perfect, right?” Tong Fei looked at herself in the photo. She was lying naked on a bed with her

eyes narrowed and her face flushed. Everyone knew what happened just by looking at the scene.

Tong Fei felt as if she had been struck by lightning. When did this hooligan Long Sanwei secretly take this photo?

She stared blankly at the photo on her phone and did not move.

The anger in her heart instantly reached its peak and she stopped hearing Lord Long’s voice on the other end of the phone..

Chapter 352 - 352: Giving Her A Taste Of Her Own Medicine, Part

“Tong Fei, are you still listening? Isn’t it artistic? Don’t you think that it’s a pity that I’m the only person admiring it? This kind of photo should be admired by everyone.” Long Sanwei’s voice was filled with threat. He never believed that he couldn’t tame her. He knew her Achilles heel.

Only then did Tong Fei deeply regret being in cahoots with such a person.

She stood rooted to the spot with her other hand balled into a fist. She felt as if she had been shattered into pieces.

She had worked so hard for so many years. Was her status as a supermodel going to be ruined just like that?

No, absolutely not.

She quickly collected herself and said coquettishly, "Brother Long, you're so annoying. What's so good about the photo? Why don't we meet and talk?"

"Smart girl, I admire people like you. Let's meet at our usual place." Long Sanwei finally smiled. He had been really unlucky lately. With so many worries, he had been a little anxious these past few days.

"Okay, Brother Long. See you later. Don't be late." Tong Fei forced a smile and hung up the phone.

As soon as she hung up, she threw her phone on the bed and tugged at her hair with all her might; she looked like she was on the verge of collapse. She looked at herself in the mirror. She had long lost her former noble elegance.

All because of a man, and one who didn't love her.

Tong Fei smiled coldly. She had no way out now.

In the evening, Tong Fei went out dressed fashionably. She was wearing a bright red, short pencil skirt, with a chiffon top, showing off her long, slender legs. As expected of a supermodel who mingled in the fashion circle every day, her outfit totally accentuated her beautiful curves. She looked very alluring.

Her goal tonight was very clear. She wanted Long Sanwei to delete that photo of her.

Sigh, why was she so stupid back then to want to use him? She had been so naive.

“Brother Long, do you think you can delete the photo?” Tong Fei said coquettishly after they made out.

“I will. Don’t worry, I don’t want your career to be affected either. We’re friends after all. I won’t harm you.” Long Sanwei sounded reasonable.

“Then delete the photo. I’ll be eternally grateful to you.” Tong Fei begged. That photo was a big problem for her.

“Alright, it’s deleted.” Lord Long deleted the photo in front of her. What a stupid woman. Didn’t she know that there was something called backup in this world?

Tong Fei finally heaved a sigh of relief.

“Brother Long, do you know who called you that day?” Tong Fei probed.

“Someone with the surname Gu. He’s probably a rich man to speak so arrogantly. He also knows Master Fu.” Lord Long recalled and felt that something was amiss.

“Will he come looking for trouble?” Tong Fei asked.

“Am I afraid of him? Come all he wants.” Long Sanwei’s tone was arrogant. He couldn’t lose his imposing manner in front of a beauty.

Seeing Long Sanwei’s behavior, Tong Fei was really worried that he would ruin things.

“You really don’t have to worry. Don’t you have me?” Long Sanwei put his arm around her shoulders.

Tong Fei didn’t dare to count on him, but she didn’t show it.

She forced a smile.

She was very worried that Gu Shaoting would find out that she was the one behind all this.

She had seen Gu Shaoting's revenge methods.

Anyway, there was nothing he could do if she didn't admit it. Besides, she had his mother Song Can's blessings. Tong Fei calmed down a lot at the thought..

Chapter 353 - 353: Giving Her A Taste Of Her Own Medicine, Part

Master Fu's men were very responsible. One of them called late at night to report, "Mr. Gu, the person you asked us to keep an eye on went out this evening. She's been at a hotel and still hasn't come out. From the looks of it, she's probably on a date with someone but we don't know who with yet."

Gu Shaoting was out with Shu Pan and Joy the entire day. They were very tired when they got home and were getting ready for bed.

But Gu Shaoting was still worried that it would be unsafe for Shu Pan to go out as long as this matter wasn't resolved.

"Okay, thanks. Let's take action tomorrow." Gu Shaoting didn't want to wait any longer, because he couldn't afford to lose more time.

Not long after Gu Shaoting hung up, Lord Long's right-hand man called and told him that Lord Long and Tong Fei were on a date at their usual place tonight.

Gu Shaoting was even more certain of his decision now.

As it was the weekend, the roads weren't too busy. Gu Shaoting arrived shortly at a high-end residential area.

As soon as he opened the car door, two men in black suits walked up to him. They were both tall and well-built, with no smile on their serious faces.

When they saw Gu Shaoting, they immediately greeted him respectfully and called him 'Mr. Gu.'

One of them then said, "Mr. Gu, she came home this morning and hasn't gone out yet." fre(e)

Gu Shaoting didn't say anything. He just nodded his acknowledgement.

The three of them then got into the elevator.

When they arrived at the 29th floor, Gu Shaoting walked out first and pressed the doorbell. There was only one unit on each floor of the building, so there was no need to look for her unit number.

After a long while, a lazy and impatient voice sounded from inside the house,

"Who is it?"

Gu Shaoting had obviously lost his patience and pressed the doorbell again.

The door was quickly opened this time. "Shaoting? Why are you here?"

Tong Fei was still half-asleep, but when she saw Gu Shaoting, she got a shock and started panicking. Why did Gu Shaoting come to her? He had never come to her place since they knew each other.

He wouldn't come to her place for no reason. Moreover, he seemed angry. It definitely wasn't good.

At the thought of this, Tong Fei tried closing the door but Gu Shaoting was one step ahead of her and held the door with his hand so she couldn't close it.

Gu Shaoting didn't answer her. He just looked back at the two men behind him.

The two men immediately understood and entered Tong Fei's apartment. "What are you doing?" Tong Fei shouted when she saw strangers walk into her home.

Tong Fei was wearing a silk nightgown with nothing underneath. She felt inexplicably nervous when she saw the two burly men.

Gu Shaoting didn't answer her. He walked in without a word and said to the two men, "That will do. Hurry up."

"Gu Shaoting, what do you mean by that? You are trespassing, I can call the police." Tong Fei shouted.

"Call the police? I'm totally fine if you want more people to admire your naked body." Gu Shaoting laughed.

"You... Why are you doing this to me?" Tong Fei said hatefully. Her voice was filled with despair.

"I'm just giving you a taste of your own medicine. Don't you like taking nude photos? That's why I'm letting you take some." Gu Shaoting rarely opened his mouth to explain but he let her know the reason..

Chapter 354 - 354: Hopelessness

"Is it because of what happened to Shu Pan?" Tong Fei suddenly raised her head and looked at Gu Shaoting. Her eyes were filled with tears and her voice was trembling.

"Yes, you know best what you've done. Don't think that I won't find out just because you denied it. Don't do things you don't people to find out." Gu

Shaoting was furious at the mention of the incident. Tong Fei was a vicious



woman.

He would make her suffer what Shu Pan had suffered.

“Haha, so you found out. But since you are so resourceful, why didn’t you find out who the mastermind is?” Tong Fei said sarcastically.

“What mastermind? Aren’t you behind it?” Gu Shaoting snorted coldly.

“Haha, I thought you were so capable. Let me tell you out of kindness then. It was your mother’s idea to take revenge on Shu Pan because she wasn’t happy with her, and all you care about is Shu Pan.” Tong Fei’s goal was to drag Song Can down with her.

“What do you mean?” Gu Shaoting’s face looked like it was covered with a layer of frost now.

“As I said, this revenge on Shu Pan was instigated by your mother. If I call the police and tell them that the mastermind is Madam Song, what do you think will happen?” Tong Fei was like a lunatic now as she stepped unscrupulously on Gu Shaoting’s sore spot.

On one side was his mother who loved him, and on the other side was the person he loved.

“Do you think I’ll let you off just because you said that?” Gu Shaoting felt that Tong Fei was still too naiVe. He would ask his mother about it, but Tong Fei was the one who contacted Lord Long and arranged everything. Did she think she could get away with it?

Gu Shaoting closed the main door and gave the two men a look. He didn’t want to talk with Tong Fei anymore.

“Hurry up.” Gu Shaoting urged again.

The two men each held one of Tong Fei’s arms and dragged her into the bedroom.

“What are you doing? Let go!”

“Gu Shaoting, why are you doing this to me?”

“Let go of me...”

Gu Shaoting was unmoved no matter how Tong Fei screamed or shouted. He just sat on the sofa expressionlessly and quietly looked at the furnishings in Tong Fei’s living room.

“Gu Shaoting, you lunatic. I love you so much. Why are you doing this to me?”

“Stop, don’t touch me. Do you know that what you’re doing is illegal? I’m going to call the police.” Tong Fei shouted.

“Don’t take off my clothes, don’t touch me, you hooligans...”

“Don’t take photos... Sob, sob, get away from me...”

A woman’s strength was ultimately no match for two men. Tong Fei’s voice got softer as it turned from arrogant speech into cry for mercy. .c(o)m

After about 15 minutes, the bedroom finally quieted down.

The two men came out and handed over their phones. “Mr. Gu, everything you want is inside.”

Gu Shaoting took the phones, looked at the photos, and nodded in satisfaction.

“Then we’ll take our leave now, Mr. Gu.” One of the men said.

'Yes, thank you.' Gu Shaoting waited for them to leave before he walked slowly into the bedroom.

Tong Fei had none of her former elegance now. She looked like a frightened little bird as she curled up in a corner of her bed with a thin sheet draped over her body. Her eyes were red and swollen like walnuts.

When she saw Gu Shaoting walk in, she shot daggers at him with her eyes.

"Gu Shaoting, you'll get your retribution." Tong Fei said fiercely. Her voice was hoarse as she had been shouting for a long time.

"Retribution? I'm not afraid because you just got your retribution for your bad deed." Gu Shaoting's expression cold as always..

Chapter 355 - 355: The Interrogation

"I only did it because I love you. Why are you doing this to me?" Tong Fei said in despair.

"Love? Please don't insult love. There's nothing wrong with loving someone, but you can't hurt someone in the name of love!" Gu Shaoting looked at her expressionlessly.

"Shu Pan is the woman I love. Stop plotting against her. I now have nude photos of you. Whether they will be posted online depends on my mood. Let me give you a kind suggestion. It's best if you leave the country and develop your career abroad like before." Gu Shaoting's lips curled into a cold smile.

He walked up to Tong Fei and looked down at her. "Don't even think about asking Lord Long for help. It'll be like asking a drowning man to give you swimming lessons."

Tong Fei was shocked. How did he guess what she was thinking? "In short, watch yourself." With that, Gu Shaoting opened the door and left.

“Ah... Ah... Ah!” Tong Fei was on the verge of collapse as she sat miserably on the floor. She was all alone in her apartment now. She just covered her face and cried.

The scene of the two men tearing her clothes apart and taking obscene photos of her kept playing in her mind.

She couldn't imagine what she had just experienced.

Although she was not born to be the center of attention, she had never suffered such humiliation.

The way Gu Shaoting treated her was worse than killing her. How could he treat her like that?

For the sake of Shu Pan? What was so good about Shu Pan that he had to do that for her?

The more Tong Fei thought about it, the more hatred grew in her heart. She hated them both!

After Gu Shaoting left Tong Fei's apartment, he didn't go straight home to Shuimu Qinghua. Instead, he turned his car towards the old Gu residence.

When he got there, Song Can was home.

“Hey, how are you free to come back today? Why didn't you say something earlier? I could have asked Auntie Wang to make you some soup.” Song Can acted like a loving mother.

“No need.” Gu Shaoting replied coldly.

Song Can saw that something was wrong and asked with concern, “What's wrong?”

Gu Shaoting couldn't help but ask, “Mom, did you ask Tong Fei to get people to teach Shu Pan a lesson?” He couldn't believe that his mother would do such a thing. Although his mother didn't like Shu Pan, she only complained in words.

“Huh? What are you talking about? I don’t understand.” Song Can was shocked. How did Gu Shaoting know? Did Tong Fei tell him? But it couldn’t be because she was the one who arranged everything.

“Tong Fei asked someone from the underworld to kidnap Shu Pan and take nude photos of her. Fortunately, I stopped them in time, or the consequences would be unimaginable. Tong Fei said that you were the one who instigated it.” Gu Shaoting didn’t want to beat around the bush. He wanted to put his foot down today.

“What? Underworld? Kidnap? I don’t know anything about that. I only mentioned that I would teach Shu Pan a lesson so that she wouldn’t be so smug. I didn’t think that it would cause such a big mess.” Song Can was completely flustered now. Why did Tong Fei say that?

She had never thought about kidnapping Shu Pan to do such a thing.

How did Tong Fei know people from the underworld? How could she do such a thing? It was totally out of her expectations. That wasn’t the Tong Fei she knew, or did she really know her at all?

Was Tong Fei trying to put the blame on her, to drag her down with her? To think that she treated her like her own daughter.

One really couldn’t judge a book by its cover.

“Mom, how can you be so muddle-headed? If you don’t like Shu Pan, we’ll just appear less in front of you. How can you do such a heartless thing? I’m so disappointed in you.”

Gu Shaoting never expected his mother to be involved. Although she was unaware of Tong Fei’s actions, he couldn’t forgive her for tacitly allowing Tong Fei to hurt Shu Pan..

Chapter 356 - 356: So Flattered

“Shaoting, Mom really didn’t know. I don’t like Shu Pan, but I never thought of teaching her such a lesson.” Song Can found it difficult to defend herself.

She suddenly felt that Tong Fei had set her up.

Tong Fei was too infuriating. She had always treated her well. How could she do this to her?

She was simply driving a wedge between her and her son.

“Mom, let me make myself clear today. I love Shu Pan. Whether you agree or not, I’ll be with her even if she hasn’t agreed to get back together with me. Please stop making things worse.” Gu Shaoting said firmly.

Song Can sat on the sofa like a rooster that had just lost cockfight. She never imagined that was how her son saw her.

“Mom, please spare a thought for me and your granddaughter Joy.” Gu Shaoting pleaded, hoping that his mother would change after this incident.

Song Can just sat there, clueless about what to do next.

Gu Shaoting left after saying his piece.

At home, Shu Pan was playing house with Joy. The two of them were having such a good time that they didn’t even notice Gu Shaoting’s return. Gu Shaoting deliberately cleared his throat before Shu Pan turned her head.

“You’re home.”

“Yes, what have you been busy with today?” Gu Shaoting asked casually.

“Nothing much. I’m going back to work tomorrow, so I just tidied up a little at home.” Shu Pan said as she helped Joy keep her toys.

Gu Shaoting frowned but didn’t say anything, because he knew that even if he said it, Shu Pan would still insist on her opinion.

The next day, Shu Pan woke up very early. The morning sun streamed through the windows into the house, making time seem especially quiet. She was in a daze for a long time before she snapped out of it.

Gu Shaoting woke up early too so he could drop them off – Joy first, and then Shu Pan.

On the way, Gu Shaoting reminded Shu Pan again to be careful and to wait for him to pick her up after work.

Shu Pan nodded helplessly. Things were still unclear, so it was better to be careful.

She hadn’t been in office for a few days and felt a little unfamiliar.

“Shu Pan, you’re finally back. Are you alright now?” Tang Wei shouted excitedly as she walked into the office and saw Shu Pan.

“I’m fine. Thank you for your concern.” Shu Pan smiled. She felt much more relaxed after she saw everyone’s friendly faces.

“You’re so lucky. You get to rest for so many days just because you weren’t feeling well.” MO Lan said jealously when she saw Shu Pan.

“Ignore her. Some people just can’t stand seeing others do well.” Tang Wei pulled Shu Pan to her desk.

When their director saw Shu Pan, he quickly walked over and asked, “Shu Pan, are you alright? Why don’t you rest for a few more days at home?”

Shu Pan felt so flattered. Why was her director so nice to her?

Was he nice to her because he thought that she and Gu Shaoting were in some kind of relationship?

Shu Pan felt slightly embarrassed. It was better not to explain. Explanation would just lead to more confusion.

“Thank you for your concern, Director. I feel fine.” Shu Pan replied.

“Okay then. Come find me if you have any questions.” The director left after he said that.

Shu Pan was soon deep at work.

Meanwhile, as soon as Gu Shaoting sat down in his office, He Ming pushed the door open and entered.

“How did it go yesterday?” He Ming offered to handle the matter but Gu Shaoting said he would do it himself.

“Good. It went very smoothly.” Gu Shaoting nodded. He leaned back in his chair, looking relaxed.

“Did you post the photos online?” He Ming didn’t know what Gu Shaoting was up to.

Gu Shaoting’s lips curled into a cold smile. His voice was as cold as the mid -winter ice as he said, “Not yet.. Don’t you think it’s more interesting to keep her hanging and make her worry every day?”

Chapter 357 - 357: Keep Them Hanging



“People in the entertainment industry are most afraid of such scandals. You’ve already got her Achilles heel. I reckon she won’t dare to do anything rash anymore.” He Ming agreed.

“That’s hard to say. We’ll see.” Gu Shaoting felt that one should never judge a book by its cover. He had already misjudged Tong Fei.

“Is Shu Pan okay now?” He Ming felt that it would be difficult for a woman to recover from such a thing. She would at least be a little traumatized.

“She looks fine but she’s still very scared inside. She’s been having nightmares.” Gu Shaoting sighed. There were faint dark circles under his eyes.

He didn’t even dare to fall into deep sleep nowadays. As soon as he heard Shu Pan stirring, he would get up to comfort her, just like a loving mother.

“Take it slow. Shu Pan seems to have changed her opinion of you after this incident. She relies on you now.” He Ming teased, hoping that his good friend would finally get his girl back.

“Yeah.” Gu Shaoting nodded as he casually tapped his fingers on his desk.

“Oh, then what about Lord Long? Do you need to talk to him?” He Ming suddenly thought of this person.

“Do you think it’s necessary?” Gu Shaoting raised the pitch of his voice.

“A local hooligan like him doesn’t have a code of conduct. I’m worried that he would cause trouble again.” He Ming had always been a thorough person.

“Don’t worry, I’ve already called Chief Han. The entertainment venues under

Lord Long’s name have been reported to be hiding drugs. They will all be shut down soon. He’ll have enough things to worry about.” Gu Shaoting looked like he already knew what would happen.

This was just a warning to Lord Long. Gu Shaoting wasn't about to let him off.

He'd just keep him hanging for a while.

"That would be for the best. You don't have to get your hands dirty." He Ming chuckled. As expected of Brother Ting, his execution skills were top-notch.

"Yes, I wouldn't want to dirty my hands by dealing with such a person." Gu Shaoting said with disdain.

"Alright, your matter is almost settled. I'm going to take the next two days off. It's my Empress Dowager's birthday. We used to celebrate with a family meal but I don't know what got into her this time that she wanted to host a banquet." He Ming said helplessly.

He Ming's mother had always objected to hosting birthday banquets because she felt that it was too troublesome.

But she suggested it this time, saying that she wanted to invite some relatives and friends to celebrate with her.

He Ming couldn't help but feel curious. He asked his mother why she changed her mind this time. Who knew that her answer almost made him vomit blood...

His mother said righteously that he didn't have a girlfriend before despite his age. If she invited relatives and friends to celebrate her birthday, everyone would just focus on why He Ming wasn't married.

She was already upset about his lack of marriage, so she didn't want to make things difficult for herself.

But things were different now. He Ming had a girlfriend now. She wanted everyone to meet Xiaomeng at her birthday banquet.

She was excited just thinking about it. Her wish of having grandchildren would probably come true soon.

He Ming really wanted to roll his eyes. So, it was his fault that his mother couldn't entertain guests before? Was it a heinous crime to not have a girlfriend?

What a sin. It seemed that he had been an unfilial son.

"Good, make it grand. Make the old folks happy. Just let me know if you need any help." Gu Shaoting stood up and patted He Ming's shoulder.

After He Ming left his office, Gu Shaoting walked to the floor to ceiling windows. He also wanted his family to live in harmony but why was it so difficult?

Because of Shu Pan's incident, there was now a barrier between him and Song Can which he still couldn't get over.

He didn't dare to imagine the consequences if Shu Pan found out that Song Can had tacitly agreed to the kidnapping and obscene photo-taking..

Chapter 358: A Bestie Get-together

He Ming planned his mother's birthday banquet meticulously. He strove for perfection to please the old lady.

He hadn't seen Xiaomeng for the past two days.

Ye Xiaomeng wasn't feeling relaxed either. She had been nervous since He Ming's mother phoned her personally and invited her over for dinner this weekend.

He Ming said that it was his mother's birthday this weekend and she was very enthusiastic this time and invited her friends and family to celebrate with her. He Ming didn't dare to tell Xiaomeng that the main reason his mother was hosting a birthday banquet was because of her. fre(e)

He didn't say anything because he was afraid that it would give her unnecessary pressure.

Soon, it was Saturday. The sun was shining brightly and there was a soft breeze. It was a good day to go shopping.

However, Ye Xiaomeng still slept until 11 O'clock. She washed up quickly as soon as she got up and ate two slices of bread to pad her stomach. She then called Shu Pan to ask if she was ready to go out.

Shu Pan had sent Joy back to Lotus Town yesterday, so she was free today for some shopping, eating, and drinking.

Shu Pan and Ye Xiaomeng wandered aimlessly in the largest shopping mall in Bin City.

"Girl, what do you think I should get He Ming's mother for her birthday?" Ye Xiaomeng asked in desperation. She had no idea at all.

She had the same problem when it was He Ming's birthday.

"The best birthday present for her is you packaging yourself as her daughter-in-law." Shu Pan teased. It was indeed not easy to buy gifts for elders.

"Stop it. I'm serious." Ye Xiaomeng slapped Shu Pan's arm.

The gift had to be just right. After all, it would be embarrassing to show up with a petty gift in front of so many relatives and friends.

"Why don't you get her gold jewelry? Gold retains its value." Shu Pan suggested. Gold jewelry was probably sincere enough as a birthday gift.

“That works.” Ye Xiaomeng felt that it was a good idea. No one disliked gold, right?

Hence, the decision was made happily despite Xiaomeng’s heartache when she thought about the money she would have to fork out.

Trading pearls for wisdom. That was Xiaomeng’s mentality now.

Inside a branded jewelry store, Shu Pan and Ye Xiaomeng looked at rings, bracelets, bangles, and so on.

In the end, they decided on a bracelet.

It was a gold bracelet carved with elegant patterns, which would look good on any elderly or middle-aged woman.

After the bracelet was gift wrapped, the two of them were hungry and quickly walked to a hotpot restaurant.

They had already made reservations at the hotpot restaurant. It was a popular restaurant and tables were hard to come by.

“I ordered a mixed soup base. You order the ingredients.” Shu Pan handed the menu to Xiaomeng.

“Okay. Duck intestines, tripe, wagyu beef, enoki mushrooms...” Ye Xiaomeng rattled off more than ten dishes in one go without even catching her breath. They were all hotpot essentials.

It was obvious that she was an experienced foodie.

The two of them had known each other for more than ten years. They were like family to each other.

Xiaomeng was a very important friend in Shu Pan's life.

When they were students, they often hung out at all kinds of restaurants. Shu Pan's life was hard in the past few years, so she rarely went out.

But things were different now. They could finally eat and drink together again. After Xiaomeng ordered the dishes, she sat down opposite Shu Pan, picked up her teacup, took a sip of tea and then stared at Shu Pan.

She stared at Shu Pan for a long time before she said, "Girl, you really scared me this time. You must be more careful in the future."

Sometimes, it was a real blessing to be able to sit and eat together.

"I'm sorry for making you worry." Shu Pan said apologetically. She really made everyone worry.

"But why do I feel like you are a little different after the incident?" Ye Xiaomeng stared at Shu Pan again.

"How am I different?" Shu Pan felt that she was the same and Ye Xiaomeng was making a fuss over nothing..

Chapter 359: I Care About You

"Your smile is so radiant and genuine. You're just short of a 'I'm in love' sticker on your face." Ye Xiaomeng's voice was quite loud, and people around them looked over.

Shu Pan's face flushed as she chuckled. "What are you talking about? My dear Miss Ye, can you please pay more attention to your image?"

"It's true. I heard from He Ming that your incident scared Gu Shaoting to death. He's never seen him panic like that before." Ye Xiaomeng's expression was a little exaggerated when she said that. Shu Pan couldn't help but smile.

A gentle smile that made people feel very comfortable.

Seeing Shu Pan's "in love" expression, Ye Xiaomeng was genuinely happy for best friend.

Shu Pan had so many suitors, but none of them seemed to be able to move her, except for Gu Shaoting.

Perhaps it was because of deep love that she hurt so deeply.

Ye Xiaomeng suddenly called Shu Pan's name and said with a serious expression, "Panpan, you must be happy. Although Gu Shaoting has hurt you before, I support you getting back together if he can protect you for the rest of your life. After all, no one is without mistakes. Moreover, he's Joy's father. This kind of blood relationship can never be broken."

"I know, Xiaomeng. I can see his sincerity. I will slowly try to let him in, especially after this incident. It feels like a rebirth. You don't know how I felt in that moment of despair. I thought to myself, if I survive, I will let go of everything. The rest of my life is not long. I really should cherish it." Shu Pan said emotionally.

Finally, they could start eating. Shu Pan picked up the cooked food and put it in Xiaomeng's bowl. The two of them chatted and laughed as they ate.

Halfway through the meal, Gu Shaoting called.

Shu Pan was stunned. "Excuse me for answering this call."

Ye Xiaomeng waved her hand. Gu Shaoting's voice was as deep and sexy as ever when he said, "Why aren't you home? Where are you now?"

It sounded like a reprimand, but Shu Pan knew that he was concerned about her. She replied gently, "I'm eating hotpot with Xiaomeng outside." After a short pause, she heard Gu Shaoting say, "Where?"

“Haidilao on Guilin North Road.” Shu Pan paused before she continued, “You don’t like hotpot anyway. Have you eaten?”

“Um, I haven’t eaten yet. You guys continue. Eat more.” Gu Shaoting hung up after saying that.

Shu Pan didn’t give it much thought and continued eating.

“Girl, you guys are still in the early stages of your relationship and you are already stuck together? I didn’t expect Gu Shaoting, the CEO of a corporation, to be so diligent.” Ye Xiaomeng was shocked.

“No, he’s just asking. Isn’t your He Ming way clingier?” Shu Pan checkmated Ye Xiaomeng.

Just as they were about done with their meal, Gu Shaoting came looking for them.

Shu Pan thought that she was seeing things. Why was he here?

“Why are you here? We’re almost done.” Shu Pan said.

“It’s okay. I’m here to pick you up. I just ate something to fill my stomach.” Gu Shaoting had nothing to do anyway. He wished that he could stick to Shu Pan every day.

Gu Shaoting saw that they were about to leave, so he asked for the bill and paid it.

Ye Xiaomeng saw that and said deliberately, “Sigh, if I knew that someone was paying, I would have ordered more and picked the expensive ingredients.”

“It’s okay. Come and eat again when you have time. I’ll pay for it.” Gu Shaoting would do anything to make Shu Pan happy, let alone buying her hotpot meals with her best friend.

“You’ll be stuffed to death. Let’s go.” Shu Pan gave Ye Xiaomeng a gentle shove.



“You’re already the lady of the house?” Ye Xiaomeng raised her eyebrows before they left the restaurant together.

The two of them had eaten to their heart’s content. Ye Xiaomeng was also happy, but her troubles were coming soon..

### Chapter 360: Mrs. He’s Birthday Banquet, Part 1

Mrs. He’s birthday banquet was scheduled for Sunday. Ye Xiaomeng woke up very early that morning and put on light makeup. This kind of occasion called for a lady-like outfit, so she chose a light-colored striped dress in a prim and proper style.

Ye Xiaomeng checked herself out in the mirror repeatedly, feeling very satisfied. As many of He Ming’s relatives and friends would be at the banquet, she didn’t want to leave them with a bad impression of her.

He Ming didn’t sleep at Xiaomeng’s last night because he had to put up party decorations at home.

But he would be there to pick Xiaomeng up later. Therefore, Xiaomeng wanted to get ready first, change into the dress, and check herself out in the mirror.

The person in the mirror looked delicate, pretty and domesticated. Ye Xiaomeng was all set and just waiting for He Ming to arrive.

But she was feeling a little nervous. After all, she and He Ming had never faced so many people together since they started dating.

She felt like the proverbial ugly daughter-in-law who must eventually face her parents-in-law.

When He Ming arrived and saw Xiaomeng's outfit, emotions surged in the depths of his gaze.

"You look so beautiful today." He Ming's voice sounded a little hoarse.

"Just today?" Ye Xiaomeng challenged him.

"Always, but you are especially beautiful today." He Ming couldn't help but hug Xiaomeng, trying to steal a kiss.

"So, you like me dressed like this?" Xiaomeng felt a flock of cartoon crows cawing as they flew over her head.

"You have the Mrs. He look today." She looked virtuous and very different from her usual self.

"You're so glib. Let's go now. Auntie is probably waiting for us." Ye Xiaomeng dragged him to go, afraid that he would have other ideas.

This person did not care when and where they'd have sex. Ye Xiaomeng didn't want him to smudge her makeup.

"Actually, we have time. There's no hurry." He Ming teased.

Ye Xiaomeng pushed him out the door.

In the car, Ye Xiaomeng couldn't help but ask, "Who have you invited?"

"Just our relatives and a few of my mother's friends." Gu Shaoting answered while driving.

"Are you feeling nervous? Like the proverbial ugly daughter-in-law who must meet her parents-in-law?" He Ming joked when he saw her restless look.

“You’re ugly. Your whole family is ugly.” Xiaomeng felt that this man asked for a scolding sometimes. He knew that she was nervous, yet he still teased her.

“It’s just a matter of time. Don’t be nervous. I’m here.” He Ming squeezed Xiaomeng’s hand as they waited for a traffic light to turn green.

When they arrived at the He residence, there were already many people there. Mrs. He was busy entertaining the guests, afraid that she would neglect any one of them.

Xiaomeng carried her gift for Mrs. He and followed He Ming in. Everyone looked at her curiously.

Suddenly, He Ming turned his head, reached out to hold her hand and walked forward.

“He Ming, let go.” Ye Xiaomeng was shocked by his sudden action. She was not used to holding hands in public.

She felt like a circus animal being watched.

“Come, let me introduce you to my relatives.” He Ming didn’t care about Xiaomeng’s complaint and continued to hold her hand.

After Mrs. He spoke to one of the guests, she saw Xiaomeng. “Xiaomeng, you’re here.”

She was smiling so brightly that she was all teeth and no eyes.

“Happy birthday, Auntie.” Ye Xiaomeng handed Mrs. He her birthday present.

“Silly child, you shouldn’t have.” Mrs. He liked Ye Xiaomeng even more after seeing how sensible she was.

Although He Ming's hand was wrapped around Xiaomeng's, she felt a stare from the crowd shooting at her like an arrow.

That gaze followed her the entire time. Xiaomeng wanted to see who it was, but she never got the chance.

He Ming dragged her around the party venue, and she felt her face numb from smiling.

He Ming also noticed Xiaomeng's odd behavior, so he stopped and found a place for her to sit down..