

Big Shot 181

Chapter 181: I'm Alright, Don't Be Angry

"No matter what sort of woman she is, since Ah Si... likes her, and she's married to Ah Si, let's just... accommodate her."

"Hmph."

"Alright, alright, don't be so loud. Ah Si might hear us when he comes."

Qiao Mianmian was speechless as she heard their conversation.

Should she quietly leave?

Wasn't this too awkward now?

What a terrible coincidence that she heard all of it.

It sounded like the people in the private room found her to be too timid and vulnerable and weren't very fond of her.

Especially that man who sneered and scoffed. He seemed especially against her.

Yan Shaoqing addressed him as Fourth Bro...

So, he must be the one that Mo Yesi said was a hygiene freak?

Although she hadn't seen him, Qiao Mianmian could already tell that this man wasn't easy to get along with.

She'd heard everything that was being exchanged inside. Obviously, the man beside her heard all of it too.

Qiao Mianmian turned around and saw Mo Yesi frowning. His expression had darkened and his lips were pursed. He looked like he was about to lose his cool.

She quickly tugged at his sleeves, and when he looked at her, she shook her head. "I'm alright, don't be mad. I believe your friends don't mean any harm. They just haven't met me and don't know me."

Qiao Mianmian didn't want Mo Yesi to be in conflict with his friends over her.

They already didn't have a good impression of her.

If she became the reason they fought, they'd really detest her.

She didn't want that.

Mo Yesi looked at her for a bit longer. He seemed to have the same considerations as his expression softened a little.

But he still didn't exactly look happy.

He squeezed her hand a little.

A moment later, he softly went “Mm” and pushed open the door.

The voices ceased immediately.

All the heads inside turned to face them.

At that moment, Qiao Mianmian felt like a caged animal in the zoo, with visitors peering curiously at her.

She felt oddly self-conscious.

Qiao Mianmian sat directly opposite a man in a dark purple shirt. He had an ear stud on one ear, his long hair was bunned up, and his fringe draped over his forehead.

He had a rather pretty face. In fact, his features were even more beautiful than many girls.

Those charming, pretty eyes seemed to say that he was a playboy.

Seated beside the man in purple was a man clad in a white top and white bottoms.

He was also an outstandingly handsome man, but he appeared to have a little darker and deeper air around him.

The man in white seemed so cold, Qiao Mianmian shuddered when she first saw him. She even had goosebumps.

He was almost like a terrifying creature.

A snake!

That was what the man in white seemed like to her—a brutal, cold-blooded venomous snake.

Chapter 182: I’m Alright, Don’t Be Angry

Before Qiao Mianmian managed to size Shen Rou up, the man in purple suddenly stood up with his eyes wide.

The man looked astonished. “Second Bro, this is S-Sis-in-law?!”

Yan Shaoqing had so many thoughts rushing through his head.

The only exclamation that could describe his emotions now was “oh damn”.

He knew that this Sis-in-law was still a young student.

But...

Yan Shaoqing looked at Qiao Mianmian’s youthful face and couldn’t help but think “oh damn” over and over.

She was way too young!

Was she even of age yet?

She looked like a 16- or 17-year-old college student.

Second Bro... couldn't be so terrible as to lay his hands on an underage girl, right?!

That would be too much.

Even though they were best buddies since they were kids, he couldn't approve of such brute behavior!

Mo Yesi's eyes deepened and his arm encircled Qiao Mianmian's waist when he saw Yan Shaoqing checking her out.

The man looked at Yan Shaoqing with warning eyes. "Have you seen enough? You haven't even greeted your Sis-in-law, where are your manners."

Yan Shaoqing was speechless.

How did this mean he had no manners?!

Also, why did Second Bro's eyes look so scary?

It was almost as if... he treated him as an enemy.

When he looked at Second Bro's possessive expression, Yan Shaoqing quickly shifted his gaze away from his woman.

"Cough. Um, hi, Sis-in-law." Yan Shaoqing extended his hand and smiled. "I'm Yan Shaoqing, Second Bro's... good friend. We used to live in the same compound."

Both Mo Yesi's and Yan Shaoqing's grandfathers were soldiers, so both of them lived in the military district compound when they were younger.

"H-Hello, I'm Qiao Mianmian."

Yan Shaoqing seemed friendly and approachable. Qiao Mianmian's impression of him wasn't too bad.

She extended her hand too.

But just before Yan Shaoqing managed to grab her hand for a handshake, a slender hand intercepted.

Yan Shaoqing was speechless.

You don't have to be like that!

It's just a handshake.

You can't even allow that?

Second Bro's being way too possessive.

He makes me seem like a pervert who'd take advantage of her!

Mo Yesi ignored his wronged expression and held Qiao Mianmian's hand. "Third Yan is the third in line among the few of us. You can address him as Third Yan the way I do."

He went on to introduce the other two in the room. "That's Fourth Bro, Gong Zeli, the fourth in line among us. You can just call him Little Fourth."

Gong Zeli looked up in shock and dissatisfaction.

That underaged girl was going to call him Little Fourth?!

He couldn't accept it.

He furrowed his brows and was about to say something, but Shen Rou nudged him discreetly.

Gong Zeli pursed his lips and looked away.

"Hello, Mianmian. I'm Shen Rou."

The woman beside Gong Zeli stood up and proactively introduced herself. "It's nice to meet you."

Chapter 183: Shen Rou Felt a Sense of Enmity Towards Her?

"We're all good friends of Ah Si, and I grew up with him as well. I heard both of you are married? Congratulations!"

Shen Rou sized Qiao Mianmian up while talking to her.

She didn't feel good about what she saw.

Yan Shaoqing had told her that she was a student, but he didn't say that the girl was so beautiful.

Although she still looked a bit too young and tender, her features were extremely attractive.

And her skin was so fair she was practically glowing.

Shen Rou lived in an area with strong sunlight and ultraviolet light.

Even though she applied sunscreen lotion every day and wasn't too tanned, she appeared a lot darker when comparing herself to this girl.

That girl had a pretty little face and lush long hair. She had a nice and clean aura about her.

Shen Rou was pretty, educated, and had a rather good background.

No other girl in her social circle was more outstanding than her.

This made her a little proud, and she hardly looked up to other girls.

But this Qiao Mianmian...

This was the first time in Shen Rou's life where she felt threatened, and also... jealous.

She had to admit that this girl's looks were definitely comparable to hers, all things aside.

In fact... this girl looked even better than herself.

Girls were always quick to pick up the subtleties in interactions, and Qiao Mianmian was able to sense the hostility in Shen Rou's eyes almost immediately.

She was slightly stunned.

Shen Rou felt a sense of enmity towards her?

Where was it coming from?

“Hello, Miss Shen.” Qiao Mianmian shook her hand politely.

When she reached out her hand, she felt as if Shen Rou had stolen a glance at her hand. The next moment, the hostile look in her eyes dissipated slightly.

“You don’t have to be so formal with me.” Shen Rou smiled and sounded rather nice and approachable. “You’re Ah Si’s wife, that makes us your good friends too. You can call me by my name, or Rou Rou will do.”

Shen Rou glanced at her other hand discreetly while talking and then smiled even more widely.

Qiao Mianmian was confused about what she was to look at.

What exactly was Shen Rou trying to see?

...

They were all seated.

The waiter then came over with the menu.

It was a welcome gathering for Shen Rou, so she took a look at the menu before placing the order.

When she was done, she handed the menu to the waiter and smiled at Mo Yesi. “Ah Si, I ordered your food for you. We haven’t met in just a year, I suppose your tastes haven’t changed?”

Qiao Mianmian wasn’t sure if she was being too sensitive.

She felt as if Shen Rou was trying to flaunt how close she was to Mo Yesi.

A woman’s intuition was very accurate.

Mo Yesi looked up and faced her.

Shen Rou smiled and rested her chin on her hand, casually saying, “I remember when you used to come over to my house. My mom would always prepare chopped chili pepper fish for you. She said you loved it.

“I didn’t like that dish initially, but after having it with you so many times, I started liking it too.

“I actually missed that dish when I was overseas. I thought I had to ask you out for a meal of that when I return.”

On that note, she smiled again. “I wonder what the chopped chili pepper fish at this restaurant tastes like.”

Chapter 184: He Didn’t Use to Be Like This

Yan Shaoqing, sitting beside her, frowned a little.

Gong Zeli put his glass down and said coldly, "I'm going to the washroom."

He then strode out of the private room quickly.

Yan Shaoqing looked at Shen Rou, then at Mo Yesi and Qiao Mianmian. His brows were even more furrowed now.

If Qiao Mianmian had just been speculating before this, she could confirm her guesses by now.

Shen Rou was being deliberate.

Qiao Mianmian understood Shen Rou's hostility now.

She... liked Mo Yesi?

Besides this reason, she could think of no other.

But Mo Yesi didn't seem to know about this?

Qiao Mianmian intuitively glanced at the rest of them but realized that Mo Yesi was looking at her.

He smiled warmly and held her hand. "Are you hungry yet? What would you like?"

"I..."

Before Qiao Mianmian could respond, he got the waiter to hand them the menu.

"Order a few dishes that you like." Mo Yesi stuffed the menu into her hands. "Third Yan is paying for tonight. Don't go easy on him, you can pick the expensive dishes."

Yan Shaoqing was speechless.

He really forgot about his buddies once he was married.

What an ingrate.

Qiao Mianmian was speechless.

Mo Yesi saw how stunned she looked and gave her a pat on the head before saying sweetly, "Order my share too."

"Uh..."

Qiao Mianmian glanced at Shen Rou, who had practically gone pale. She quietly said, "Hasn't Shen Rou ordered some for you? I-I don't even know what you like."

She felt like Mo Yesi was being deliberate too.

He hadn't even said a thing since Shen Rou's string of sentences.

And now he was making her order his food.

Was he trying to give Shen Rou a slap to the face?

Mo Yesi smiled. "Whatever you order, I'll take it. I like whatever you pick for me."

With that, Shen Rou's expression fell even more.

This was not all.

Mo Yesi then looked up at Shen Rou and said casually, "People change. I don't like eating chopped chili pepper fish anymore."

Qiao Mianmian was speechless.

Was he trying to anger Shen Rou to death?

This was too embarrassing for her.

Weren't they childhood friends, did he have to do this?

"Oh, r-really? I thought... you still liked it." Shen Rou's fingernails dug into her palm as her smile stiffened.

It was extremely evident that Mo Yesi was protecting Qiao Mianmian.

At this point, Shen Rou felt aggrieved and upset.

She knew Mo Yesi well.

He had never been the sort to care about others' feelings, much less protect them.

He was a cold person and tended not to be overly intimate even with close friends.

She had known him for over 20 years and was rather "special" compared to all other women in his life.

But this special treatment was nothing compared to what this girl had.

He didn't like to be in contact with women and would even have an adverse physiological response.

But Qiao Mianmian could touch him.

And he actually defended Qiao Mianmian so openly, when it was never in his character to do so.

He'd embarrassed her for this girl he'd barely known for a while.

He never used to be like this.

Why did he change entirely after he got married?

Chapter 185: Best If They Met up Less

"Cough, um... Sis-in-law, Second Bro is right, just order what you like. I'm treating tonight!" Yan Shaoqing immediately tried to liven up the place given how tense the atmosphere was. "Just look at the expensive dishes and forget about the cheap ones. If you order the cheap ones, you'd be embarrassing me!"

Qiao Mianmian was speechless.

She knew that Yan Shaoqing was trying to make things less awkward, so she played along. "Mm, hahaha, I won't go easy on you, then."

With that, she buried her head into the menu.

She ordered a few dishes before Mo Yesi looked at the menu and asked for an ice-cream to be added to the order. "Don't you love to eat ice-cream? You like having one after meals, don't you? Is strawberry alright?"

Qiao Mianmian said, "... Sure."

Shen Rou, sitting opposite the both of them, felt a dagger to her heart as she watched their interaction.

"Excuse me." She took a deep breath and stood up abruptly. "I need the washroom."

She hurried out of the private room.

Yan Shaoqing sighed softly as he saw her leave.

He was afraid things would change for good.

In the past, Mo Yesi used to be cold and distant to every woman. As such, Shen Rou wasn't too upset even if he didn't like her.

But now...

He was married and he pampered his wife so much. It was definitely painful for Shen Rou, who'd liked him for over a decade.

Yan Shaoqing felt that it was best if they met up less in the future.

Otherwise, Shen Rou would only feel worse.

...

Shen Rou's tears rolled down her cheeks the moment she left the room.

Before this, she was banking on the fact that Mo Yesi didn't actually like this girl that much.

She thought he was only being with her because he didn't have an allergic reaction towards her.

And when she saw that Qiao Mianmian wasn't wearing a ring, she was sure of her suspicions.

In fact, she was so elated for a while.

As long as Mo Yesi did not like that woman, it didn't matter even if they were married.

Most marriages between rich families were more of a transaction, anyway.

Only a small handful of them was based on true feelings.

Perhaps she would marry a man she didn't like in the future too.

If he didn't like Qiao Mianmian, he wouldn't touch her. That would mean that their marriage wouldn't last.

As long as he did not like Qiao Mianmian...

Nothing was too late.

But the way he protected her and looked at her with warmth and love... it didn't seem like he didn't like her.

On the contrary...

Mo Yesi would only act this way because he liked and cared about her.

This was a fact Shen Rou couldn't accept.

She could accept that Mo Yesi was married to another woman, but she couldn't deal with the fact that his heart was already with another woman.

How could he!

She'd been by his side for over 20 years. If he liked anyone, it should be her!

What was that woman even worth!

"Rou Rou?"

She heard a shocked voice coming from behind her.

Shen Rou looked up and saw the man calling her.

Seeing that she was crying, the man was stunned, and then his expression darkened.

He walked towards her and asked with a frown, "What's wrong?"

"I'm fine." Shen Rou wiped her tears away and forced a smile. "I accidentally got something in my eye."

Chapter 186: Take It That I'm Begging You

Gong Zeli looked at her deeply.

"Who bullied you? Is it Ah Si, or the woman he brought here? What did they do to you?"

"It's nothing to do with them." Shen Rou bit her lip. "Stop speculating, I'm really alright. Don't bother about me, go in and join the conversation."

With that, Shen Rou was about to leave.

"Go in with me." Gong Zeli grabbed her hand and scoffed. "I want to ask Ah Si if that woman is more important than all of us."

He was about to drag Shen Rou into the private room with him.

Shen Rou immediately got flustered. "Zeli, let go of me. Listen, it really isn't what you think it is. Don't create trouble!"

"You're already out here crying, and you're still defending him?"

Gong Zeli looked at her with a dark expression. "You like him that much?"

Shen Rou was caught off-guard. She looked at him blankly for a few seconds and her tears came gushing again.

“Rou Rou, you...” Gong Zeli stopped in his tracks.

“Zeli, take it that I’m begging you.” Shen Rou pleaded with him. “I just returned, I don’t want to cause so much trouble. I just want us to sit together and have a nice meal.”

“Could you let this go on my account?”

Another tear rolled down her cheek when she was done talking.

Gong Zeli pursed his lips and clenched his free hand.

Shen Rou tugged at his forearm. “Zeli, please...”

A moment later.

Gong Zeli nodded reluctantly.

He coldly said, “I can agree to it. But can you tell me why you’re crying? Who did this to you?”

“Well...” Shen Rou didn’t know what to say.

Gong Zeli waited for a while and scoffed when she still didn’t answer him. “Alright, you don’t have to say anymore. I know what happened.”

“Zeli, don’t let your thoughts run wild. Nobody did this to me, it was I who thought about some unpleasant stuff, so...” Shen Rou smiled, but it was a sad smile. “It has nothing to do with any of them.”

“Go on in, I need the washroom.”

Shen Rou turned away and left.

Gong Zeli stood rooted to the ground as if deep in thought.

...

The meal had commenced.

As the only “outsider” of the group, Qiao Mianmian spent most of the time being occupied with eating.

She wouldn’t start a conversation with anyone if she didn’t have to.

It was natural that this bunch of close childhood friends had never-ending things to talk about.

Most of the time, it was Yan Shaoqing starting on a new subject before the rest chimed in.

Yan Shaoqing was a lively and bubbly person. With him around, they could rest assured that there wouldn’t be awkward silences.

He could practically speak all day and all night.

Hence, the atmosphere around the dinner table was pretty hyped up.

In the group, Mo Yesi and Gong Zeli spoke the least. They added a sentence or two just once in a while. But even as Mo Yesi spoke little to others, he always had a lot to say to Qiao Mianmian.

He'd proactively speak to her occasionally.

And he made sure to take care of her feelings.

Chapter 187: How Could She Back Out Willingly

Knowing that she was usually shy by nature and that this was her first time meeting his friends, she was bound to feel a little awkward. Hence, he would get some food for her or talk a little to her every few minutes.

Qiao Mianmian was practically just eating the food he scooped into the bowl.

Yan Shaoqing was pleasantly surprised by his thoughtfulness. "Tsk, if I didn't see this for myself, I wouldn't even believe it. When has Second Bro ever taken care of someone so well?"

He turned to Gong Zeli. "Fourth Bro, you've been a close buddy to Second Bro for so many years. Has he ever scooped food for you?"

Gong Zeli glanced at him coldly.

Yan Shaoqing did not wait for his response. "Well, at least, I've never had such treatment before. Sis-in-law, this is your exclusive treatment. You don't know how Second Bro views everyone else around him.

"But now, he has you. Sis-in-law, all of us are so envious of you. Miss Diva Shen, isn't that right? You never had this treatment from Second Bro when you were younger, right?"

Yan Shaoqing said this on purpose.

He wanted Shen Rou to recognize this fact, and not to have any more inappropriate wishes in the future.

And this was because he knew Mo Yesi too well.

If Shen Rou could adjust her attitude and mindset in time and treat Mo Yesi like a friend or a brother, they could still maintain their friendship.

But if she continued to have other intentions...

Yan Shaoqing did not want to see them fall out after being friends for so many years.

Shen Rou tightened her grip on the wine glass and looked up at Yan Shaoqing.

She looked a little angry.

Yan Shaoqing looked her straight in the eye and smiled. "Right, you haven't had this treatment before too. And Second Bro has the cheek to say he sees you like a biological sister. He didn't even treat his sister so well before. Sigh, Second Bro is putting love about his friends."

"Y-Yeah." Shen Rou smiled stiffly.

She knew what Yan Shaoqing was trying to do.

But she had liked Mo Yesi for a full 20 years.

How could she let it go so easily?

And why should she?!

It was she who knew Mo Yesi first. She definitely had stronger feelings for him than this new girl did.

Besides him, she didn't have room in her heart for anyone else.

She'd even decided that if Mo Yesi was to remain a bachelor his whole life, she'd not get married too.

She would remain by his side this way, quietly in the background.

It was clear to her that she couldn't possibly like another person, ever.

All her time, her feelings, her liking had been for him.

Under such circumstances, how could she back out willingly?

Qiao Mianmian had been eating quietly the whole time and was shocked at being addressed.

She looked up and smiled at Yan Shaoqing. "... Oh, is it?"

"Of course!" Yan Shaoqing smiled. "Sis-in-law, you can't possibly think that Second Bro is this thoughtful to everyone around him. Let me tell you. Before you came along, I've never seen Second Bro treat anyone with such concern and gentleness. Really!"

He even raised his volume to make his point.

"He isn't even this nice to Aunt Mo. If Aunt Mo was around today to see this, she'd definitely be jealous!"

Chapter 188: Was His Second Bro... Jealous?

"Get on with your eating. So much food and it still can't stuff your mouth."

Yan Shaoqing felt someone kicking his leg under the table.

It was Mo Yesi.

"Hey, Second Bro, you're so gentle to your woman and so rough with your brother here. Isn't this contrast too much!" Yan Shaoqing whined.

He lost his image with that pouty look.

Qiao Mianmian couldn't help but laugh at him.

And her laughter had him lock his eyes on her.

He was just pouting and grumbling a moment ago, and now he was looking at Qiao Mianmian blankly.

Yan Shaoqing suddenly understood why his Second Bro liked this young Sis-in-law.

Wow, Sis-in-law really looked beautiful when she smiled.

She even had a dimple!

He really liked girls with dimples, they were just adorable.

Few people knew that Young Master Yan, who often announced that he liked sexy beauties, actually had an eye for lolicons instead.

His favorite type of women weren't the provocative, glamorous belles, but the sweet and pure lolicons.

Girls with huge eyes, a small mouth, fair skin, dimples, a ponytail, and standing around 1.56 meters in height were his favorite.

He found them terribly difficult to resist!

Although Qiao Mianmian's height wasn't that of a lolicon, and her appearance wasn't exactly fitting as well... her smile and those dimples were enough.

At that moment, Yan Shaoqing felt as if he was looking at his first love.

His heart was racing wildly.

"Hey, Second Bro, why'd you kick me again! It hurts!"

He felt pain rush up his calf just as he was enjoying the "scenery".

This time, Mo Yesi kicked him harder than before.

He was just short of sending him tumbling to the floor.

Yan Shaoqing rubbed his shin and snapped at him.

Mo Yesi looked at him expressionlessly. "Then keep your eyes to yourself before I gouge them out."

Yan Shaoqing was speechless.

He'd just taken a few more looks at his Sis-in-law.

Wait, was his Second Bro... jealous?

Since when was his Second Bro such a person!

On the other side of the table, the wine glass in Shen Rou's hand was almost shattering under her force.

"Ah Si."

She took a deep breath and maintained a presentable smile. She asked in the most casual tone possible, "When are you and Mianmian planning to hold your wedding? I can make time for it in advance."

Qiao Mianmian choked on her juice and coughed incessantly.

Why did she bring the wedding up!

She hadn't even thought about holding a wedding.

Wouldn't a wedding mean a public declaration of their relationship?

"Don't gulp it down too fast." Mo Yesi patted her on the back, and only when she regained her breath did he reply Shen Rou. "I'll see what Mianmian thinks. She'll call the shots."

This response startled Shen Rou slightly.

She clenched her jaw. "Haven't Aunt Mo and Uncle Mo hurried both of you?"

Mo Yesi looked up slowly.

When his dark eyes met Shen Rou's, she felt fear. She felt exposed to him.

Before he said more, she quickly added, "What I mean is, since both of you are married, Aunt Mo and Uncle Mo definitely would hope for you both to hold your wedding soon, right?"

Chapter 189: Feed me

Mo Yesi looked at her for a few seconds and then smiled. "They don't know about our marriage yet."

"What?" Shen Rou feigned astonishment. "You haven't told them? It's a major milestone, how could you..."

"Mianmian isn't ready."

Mo Yesi turned to face the girl beside him and patted her on the head. "I'll take her home only when she's ready."

"Before that, if she doesn't wish to go to my house yet, then we shan't go."

He didn't sound especially gentle, but it wasn't hard to detect the affection in it.

He made it very clear.

Regardless of the matter, he would respect Qiao Mianmian's decision.

They'd do it her way.

How much did a man like Mo Yesi have to love her for him to pamper her this way?

Especially when he had always been used to making decisions on his own.

It had always been others compromising and going along with his say, never the other way around.

Even Yan Shaoqing and Gong Zeli were surprised to hear him say that, let alone Shen Rou.

Shen Rou asked this because she thought that Mo Yesi wasn't ready to take Qiao Mianmian home to his parents.

She wanted to let Qiao Mianmian know this.

But Mo Yesi's reply was a slap to her own face.

"Oh, i-is it?" Shen Rou's voice shook.

“Mm,” Mo Yesi replied simply.

At this point, the waiter entered with a serving of ice-cream.

He had ordered it for Qiao Mianmian.

Mo Yesi received it and handed it to her. “Don’t eat too much, lest you get an upset stomach.”

Qiao Mianmian was speechless.

She really wanted to say, Chairman Mo, can you not treat me this well?

It’s really stressful!

She’d felt the weight on her shoulders ever since she realized that Shen Rou liked Mo Yesi.

How could she not feel pressured? She was sharing a table with a woman who saw her as a love rival!

And yet Mo Yesi was overtly showing her so much concern. Qiao Mianmian felt as if she could see the daggers in Shen Rou’s eyes.

Just like... at this exact moment.

She took a bite of the ice-cream and immediately heard the man beside her chuckle. “Is it good?”

“Uh...” Qiao Mianmian swallowed the ice-cream and said, “It’s pretty good.”

It was such a high-class restaurant, how could anything be subpar?

“Mm.” Mo Yesi nodded. “Let me try some.”

Qiao Mianmian was speechless.

“Y-You want to try some?” She looked up at him.

Mo Yesi raised a brow. “I can’t?”

“Of course you can.”

But didn’t he say he wasn’t really into desserts?

And she’d never seen him have them before.

“Then let me try some,” Mo Yesi repeated.

“Oh, okay.” Qiao Mianmian had no idea why he was so interested all of a sudden, but she handed the spoon to him anyway.

But Mo Yesi did not take the spoon. Instead, he smiled alluringly and looked her in the eye. “Feed me.”

A coughing fit ensued.

Yan Shaoqing accidentally spat the red wine he was drinking.

Gong Zeli, sitting beside him, was on the receiving end of it. His prim white top was dotted with maroon drops.

Gong Zeli's expression instantly darkened as he turned towards him with a murderous look.

"Cough! Fourth Bro, I-I didn't mean it."

Chapter 190: I'll Send Rou Rou Back

Yan Shaoqing had gone red from choking on his drink, and his eyes were getting teary as well. He was trying hard to catch his breath as he said, "But don't you find this f**king strange? Just look at Second Bro, it's like he's f**king possessed or something.

"Can you even believe that he's still the same Second Bro we know?"

"What the hell is an ice-cream? I've played with him since we even learned how to crawl, and I've never seen him like this. He said he didn't like dessert!"

Shen Rou's expression turned a little more nasty with each statement from Yan Shaoqing.

When he was done, Shen Rou had bitten her lip so hard it was almost bleeding. Even the smile she'd feigned for the greater part of the time was gone.

That's right, Mo Yesi never ate desserts.

She'd made desserts for him before, but he hadn't even taken a bite. He had told her he didn't like them.

So, she stopped preparing them for him altogether.

But he just said he wanted to eat the ice-cream.

Just because the ice-cream was for Qiao Mianmian? Just because Qiao Mianmian liked it? Was that why he wanted a bite of it too?

The ball of jealousy grew and rose inside her.

She placed the wine glass on the table heavily and stood up all of a sudden.

The rest of them were rather shocked by her actions.

Yan Shaoqing turned around and looked a little concerned. He was afraid she'd do something irrational.

He called out to Shen Rou, partly as a form of reminder. "Rou Rou."

Mo Yesi looked up at her as well.

"I'm a little unwell."

Shen Rou took a deep breath and kept her emotions grounded in her heart. She tried her best to maintain rationality and to force an unnatural smile. "I'd like to head home first. I'll give you guys a good treat sometime."

"You're unwell?" Yan Shaoqing quickly said, "Are you still suffering from jetlag? You'd better get home and rest early, then. Anyway, we're all friends, we can meet another day too."

It was better for everyone if Shen Rou left first.

Otherwise, she could lose it in a while and cause trouble.

Right then, Gong Zeli stood up too.

He placed his hands in his pocket and said casually, "I'll send Rou Rou back."

"Fourth Bro, you're leaving too?" Yan Shaoqing frowned. "But with the both of you gone, I'll be playing gooseberry here."

Nobody bothered about him.

Mo Yesi looked at Shen Rou for a while, then nodded. "Since you're unwell, you'd better get home earlier."

Shen Rou suddenly felt her nose scrunch up.

He hadn't even asked where she was feeling unwell!

Did he only have eyes for Qiao Mianmian now?

"I-I'll get going, then." She held her tears back and turned around slowly.

"Oh, right."

It seemed like she suddenly recalled something as she reached for a little box in her bag.

She handed the box to Mo Yesi. "This is the gift I brought back for you. I've given Zeli and Shaoqing theirs."

Mo Yesi hesitated for a while before receiving it. "Thank you."

That "thank you" was even more tear-jerking for her.

She smiled as if mocking herself. "Ah Si, we've known each other for so long. Do you have to be so civil with me?"

With that, she looked at Qiao Mianmian apologetically. "I'm sorry, Mianmian. I didn't know you and Ah Si were married when I was getting the gifts, so I didn't prepare yours. I'll make it up to you."