Big Shot 281

Chapter 281: Shen Rou, How Long Have We Known Each Other?

"Why did you look for her? What did you say to her?" Mo Yesi sounded overbearing and merciless.

Shen Rou was a little startled by his expression, but she managed not to show her panic. "We didn't have much time to interact with each other the other time, so I decided I'd have a talk with her today.

"It was just a casual conversation. Then she said she felt tired and needed to rest, so I left."

It seemed like Mo Yesi had no idea what she and Qiao Mianmian talked about.

Shen Rou couldn't help but let out a sigh of relief.

But, if Mo Yesi had no idea what they talked about, why did he look so awful?

"Just a casual conversation?"

The man looked at her so deeply, she felt as if he saw through her.

He evidently didn't believe her.

She could see the doubt in his eyes.

Shen Rou could feel the guilt prick her from inside.

But she held out and tried to keep her smile on. "Yeah, just a casual conversation. Why, you don't believe me? You think I went to bully her?"

Mo Yesi smiled insincerely. "Mm, I was worried you went to bully her."

Shen Rou was speechless.

She was losing a grip on her smile.

"Hahaha, you must be kidding me. Mianmian's your wife, how could I possibly bully her? Moreover, nothing happened between us, why would I do that?"

Mo Yesi eyed her and nodded. "Glad you know that."

"Shen Rou."

Just as Shen Rou was about to sigh in relief, she heard him call her name.

It didn't sound too pleasant.

"How long have we known each other?" Mo Yesi asked deeply.

Shen Rou was a little stunned.

She was silent for a few seconds, not knowing why he asked this all of a sudden. But she answered seriously, "About 20 years."

Shen Rou was two years younger than Mo Yesi.

She'd spent her first few years overseas.

When she returned, she and the rest of the Shen family went to visit the Mo family. That was when she knew five-year-old Mo Yesi.

She was too young back then to know what it meant to like someone.

She just felt like this big brother was really good-looking, and naturally gravitated towards him.

After knowing Mo Yesi, she lost interest in all the guys around her.

She just wanted to play with him.

When she grew a little older and understood what it meant to like someone, she realized that she actually liked him.

From then on, she paid no attention to other guys.

Just him.

Her dream since she was a child was to be his bride.

Also, the elders of the Mo and Shen families had the idea of the two families being related by marriage and often teased them about it.

Back then, Mo Yesi always remained silent.

So she assumed that he accepted it.

She was overjoyed and simply justified his lack of advances with his proud character.

In any case.

She was going to marry him eventually, anyway.

She saw him as her future husband, never entertaining the thought that he could marry another woman someday.

Chapter 282: Don't Cross My Bottom Line

She felt awful again when she thought about him being married.

"20 years already?" Mo Yesi nodded calmly, but still sounded distant. "Then you should know me well enough to know that even my closest friends, or my family, in fact, can cross my bottom line."

Shen Rou's expression changed instantly.

She blinked tentatively. "Ah Si..."

Mo Yesi cut her off unpleasantly. "I don't know what you said to Mianmian; she didn't tell me about it. But I hope you weren't finding trouble with her. If our years of friendship still matter to you, then you'd better be good to her.

"She's someone I care about. I don't expect you to treat her the way I do, but at the very least, I hope you treat her well on my account."

"If you can't even achieve that, then it's best we don't see each other often."

Shen Rou clenched her fist, digging her nails into her palm. "So... she's your bottom line now?"

Mo Yesi did not deny it, nor did he respond to her directly. "Shen Rou, don't touch my bottom line. I don't wish to use unkind means to deal with my friends."

He emphasized the word "friends".

"I hope we'll remain friends for the rest of our lives, the way we are now."

Mo Yesi furrowed his brows slightly as he recalled what Qiao Mianmian had just said. He tried to get the point across tactfully.

Shen Rou was a very smart girl.

If she really had an interest in him that way, she should be able to get the subtext.

"Friends for the rest of our lives?" Shen Rou repeated this statement as her face got increasingly pale.

Mo Yesi looked at her with his clear eyes. "Yes, friends for the rest of our lives."

"Ah Si, you..." Shen Rou's lips quivered like she was losing control of her emotions and was about to spill a secret she'd kept for years.

But Mo Yesi didn't give her a chance to do that.

Before she went on, he said, "I still have something to attend to, you can go first."

Shen Rou bit her lip. The coldness on his handsome face was like a stab to her heart. She went a few shades paler as tears began to well up in her eyes.

She turned away the moment her first tear rolled down her cheek. At the very least, she wanted to preserve her dignity.

"Alright, I won't hold you up then."

With that, she turned around and left.

...

After settling this, Mo Yesi did not actually feel any better.

In fact, he felt as bothered as before.

As if there was some unfinished business, some unresolved conflict that gnawed at him.

He unbuttoned his shirt in frustration.

The thought of Qiao Mianmian's red and swollen eyes really upset him.

He wondered if she was still crying.

She was still on her period and shouldn't get too agitated. What if her stomach started to hurt again because of her sudden mood shift?

Was he too harsh with the last few words he'd left her?

He'd never said anything harsh to her since they got married.

Was she able to bear with it?

The more he thought about it, the more anxious he got. His heart throbbed with pain as images of her teary face and her curled up figure flashed through his mind.

Chapter 283: I'm the One Who Should Be Apologizing

He regretted it.

He regretted being so harsh and hurtful with his words.

He shouldn't have been so uptight and impulsive.

They'd only known each other for a while.

It wasn't her fault even if she really did still have some feelings for Su Ze.

After all, they'd been together for so many years.

And were about to get married already.

What he should've done was to treat her even better so he could take the place of Su Ze in her heart eventually, not to agitate her like this.

But what he'd done was only going to make her regret marrying him.

If she really got utterly disappointed in him and wanted a divorce...

Mo Yesi got up and walked out of the study.

He'd just left when his cell phone rang.

He looked at it and immediately stopped in his tracks when he saw Qiao Mianmian's name on the screen.

...

Qiao Mianmian spoke with Jiang Luoli for a while and realized her mistake.

After some self-reflection, she decided to text Mo Yesi to apologize to him.

She'd taken a long time to craft that message before finally sending it to him.

After tapping the "Send" button, she waited anxiously with her clammy fingers wrapped around the cell phone.

Mo Yesi was surely still angry.

Would he forgive her even with that text?

He didn't seem like a petty person though... maybe he would be alright.

Then again, this was the first time she saw him flare up so badly. How could he cool down so quickly?

Qiao Mianmian had no idea what to expect.

She took a look at her cell phone every few seconds.

Checking if Mo Yesi replied to her yet.

But he hadn't...

She waited for a whole minute and he still hadn't replied.

She was getting increasingly anxious and devastated.

Had he seen the message yet?

He mentioned that he was going to do some work. Perhaps he was still busy at work and didn't notice the message.

Should she send another one, then?

But what if he just didn't want to reply to her as yet because he was still upset...

Then was there still a point in sending another message?

Qiao Mianmian felt like she was going insane in those few minutes of waiting.

In one moment, she'd guess that he was too busy to see it, and in the next moment, she'd believe that he'd actually already seen it.

She was so conflicted, she decided to just give him a call.

There was no way she could live with this frustration and confusion.

She would really go nuts.

Just as Qiao Mianmian was about to call him, the door was opened.

She looked up and saw a figure enter.

Her eyes widened. "Mo..."

Mo Yesi had his cell phone in his hand as he strode towards her.

Before Qiao Mianmian could ask "Have you seen my text?", her face made contact with his sturdy chest.

His scent calmed her.

He wrapped his arms around her tightly and, with that hoarse but gentle voice, said, "Baby, it's not your fault. You didn't do anything wrong, I'm the one who should be apologizing.

"It's my fault for saying all the spiteful things in a fit of anger. I shouldn't have hurt you this way."

Chapter 284: Ignoring You Hurts Me More Than It Hurts You

"I'm sorry, Baby. I'm sorry. Forgive me. A man overcome with jealousy loses his rationality sometimes and does the weirdest things.

"I'm just too jealous of Su Ze. I know you and he are never getting back together. You're my wife now, I shouldn't be jealous of a man who isn't any threat to me."

He bared his heart to her now.

"But the thought of him knowing you 10 years earlier than I did, and that he got to accompany you through so much while witnessing your growth over the years... I find it hard not to be bothered by it."

He couldn't be that magnanimous.

Unless he didn't have feelings for her.

Qiao Mianmian was still leaning against his chest, hearing his heartbeat and his voice all at once. She felt a lot better after hearing his explanation.

He didn't directly express that he was jealous because he was too concerned for her.

But these words were enough.

As Jiang Luoli said, he was so bothered and angered only because he truly liked her a lot.

And if that was the case...

Then her words were really overboard.

"I'm sorry." She looked up apologetically, trying not to choke on her words. "Mo Yesi, I'm sorry. I was in the wrong too. I shouldn't have said what I said. I won't say those ever again. Don't be angry anymore, okay?"

"I'm not angry anymore."

Mo Yesi looked down and cupped her face in his hand, stroking her swollen eyes. "How could I bear to be angry with you? Actually, I was already on the way here when you sent me the message.

"Baby, just the thought that you might still be upset and crying hurts me."

How could he bear to leave her alone?

When he was fuming just a while ago, he actually thought of ignoring her for a few days.

But he didn't even manage to make it past the hour, much less the next few days.

He was looking through his documents, but his mind was preoccupied with her.

He'd never thought that someday, he could become this way because of a woman.

Qiao Mianmian blinked and looked at him, a little lost. "When I sent you the message, you were already about to look for me?"

"Mm." Mo Yesi nodded. "So, Baby, don't you think we're rather telepathic?"

She mumbled, "But why?"

Wasn't he still angry with her?

Why would he come to look for her?

Mo Yesi knew what she was asking and stroked her face. "Baby, I couldn't bear it."

The man's voice was low and almost sympathetic. "Ignoring you hurts me more than it hurts you. It was a punishment for myself.

"Can we reconcile?" He wasn't able to go on torturing himself this way. "Let's take it that none of this happened. We'll not fight anymore, alright? Let's not bring Su Ze up again. Whether you have feelings for him, I won't get angry with you over it anymore.

"You can continue to like him, it's alright if you can't forget him. We still have a long way to go. I will do what I can to be the only person in your heart."

"I don't have feelings for him anymore."

Qiao Mianmian was no longer upset about this. She calmly said, "From the moment he betrayed me with Qiao Anxin, he was already dead to me."

Chapter 285: Your Big Brother Isn't Home Today?

"I liked him once, but that's all in the past.

"He gave up on our 10-year relationship when he cheated on me with my sister. How could I possibly still like him? He's a jerk to me.

"Mo Yesi, believe me, alright?" Qiao Mianmian looked sincere and determined. "I admit that I've thought of getting a divorce with you because I didn't think our marriage could last. But..."

"But what?" His eyes were fixed on hers. "What do you think now?"

She could see the eagerness in his eyes.

It wasn't obvious, but it was there.

He couldn't wait to know what she thought.

Qiao Mianmian pursed her lips and considered very seriously. "Now, I won't think about divorce anymore. Mo Yesi, I'll really try and accept you and our marriage. I want to try this out seriously, whether the outcome will be good or bad."

"The outcome won't be bad."

The man hugged her once again once she was done sharing. She could hear his heart beating a lot faster than before. "Baby, trust me with yourself. I promise you won't regret it.

"Thank you for making such a decision. I'm really happy, Baby. Thank you so much."

He carefully held her face as if she was a fragile gem and then kissed the side of her eyes gently. "Baby, thank you for forgiving me, and for giving me a chance.

"I will prove it to you with my actions."

The man kissed her on the lips, but she felt it in her heart.

It was warm, sweet, and fuzzy.

All the sadness, indignance, and confusion dissolved in his gentleness.

She hesitantly reached out and put her arms around his waist.

The man stiffened and then looked down at her. "Baby..."

Qiao Mianmian was a little shy.

She was hardly so proactive.

The only other time she did it was when she kissed him in the car. Besides that, she'd never done something similar.

This time, she was a little abashed as she hugged him.

When he looked at her with those dark and deep eyes, she could feel her cheeks burning up. "I..."

"Uhm."

Before she could say more, he kissed her once again.

It was more passionate than the previous one.

Yet another almost-suffocating kiss for Qiao Mianmian.

Her heart was palpitating wildly and she was on the verge of trembling.

Mo Yesi stroked her warm cheeks and said, "And, you don't have to worry about Shen Rou. I made things clear with her. I believe she won't do anything irrational."

Qiao Mianmian was panting while leaning against him weakly. She looked up all of a sudden. "Y-You made things clear with Shen Rou? How did you tell her about it?"

Mo Yesi's gaze was gentle. "I didn't make it too direct. After all, she's a girl. I should leave her with some face and dignity.

"But, she surely knew what I was getting at."

"... Alright, then." Qiao Mianmian actually wanted to say that she really wasn't that bothered by Shen Rou.

After all, it didn't matter how much Shen Rou liked Mo Yesi. It was one-sided love.

But she wouldn't dare say such a thing again.

She and Mo Yesi had just reconciled; it'd be bad to ruin the atmosphere again.

Moreover, it felt terrible to argue with him.

She never wanted to experience it again.

"If she finds trouble with you in the future, you've got to let me know immediately." Mo Yesi thought for a bit and added, "Don't worry about straining my relationship with her. You're my wife; if they don't respect you, then the relationship I have with them isn't worth respecting too."

Did he mean he'd be her backer?

Qiao Mianmian couldn't help but smile as sweetness spread in her heart. "Okay, got it."

...

She stayed for dinner at the Mo family.

When Qiao Mianmian and Mo Yesi went downstairs, they found that Shen Rou wasn't around.

Madam Mo and Old Madam were already seated at the table.

When Uncle Zhang informed them that Qiao Mianmian and Mo Yesi were here, Old Madam smiled at her and waved her over. "Granddaughter-in-law, come and sit beside Grandma."

Qiao Mianmian was speechless.

She was still calling her Mianmian in the afternoon.

By that same night, she was addressed as granddaughter-in-law?

Mo Yesi smiled upon hearing that too. He whispered in her ear, "Grandma really likes you. She's never been so nice to anyone else besides me."

Qiao Mianmian was a little stunned by the pleasant surprise. "Really?"

"Of course." Mo Yesi nodded. "Big Brother is her actual grandson and she's never even treated him this way. She said that Big Brother was always pulling a long face and looking like a grouchy old man at such a young age. She thinks that's not likable."

"Uh..."

This was the first time Qiao Mianmian heard Mo Yesi mention his elder brother.

She didn't know much about Mo Shixiu.

She saw him on the news often and knew that he was an important figure in the military.

And that he was going to take part in the next presidential elections.

Mo Shixiu was considered the youngest presidential candidate in history. He was only 30 this year.

The other candidates running alongside him were above 50.

But despite his age, he was the most popular candidate among them. In fact, the support he was garnering online surpassed the rest greatly.

Mo Shixiu was like Mo Yesi—they were born with gifts and exceptional traits. Not only were they from a rich and powerful family, but they were also very good-looking.

Compared to Mo Yesi, this man on television looked colder.

No, to be precise, he looked more serious.

He always had that stern look, no matter the situation and setting. It was as if the words "Do Not Approach" were written all over him.

Old Madam wasn't wrong to say that he somewhat had the air of an old man.

Even so, as far as Qiao Mianmian knew, Mo Shixiu did have a lot of female fans.

Jiang Luoli was one of them. She was once such a great fan of his, addressing Mo Shixiu as "Hubby".

Qiao Mianmian looked around and asked out of curiosity, "Your Big Brother isn't home today?"

Qiao Mianmian actually wanted to have a look at this man face-to-face. Did this idol of thousands of women actually look as handsome in person?

But it seemed like Mo Shixiu wasn't at home.

Well, that was no surprise. He seemed to be the sort to fly all year round without much time to stay in any one country.

Chapter 286: This Was a Strange Cause for Jealousy

He was so busy, he probably didn't have time to be home much.

"He's your Big Brother too." Mo Yesi corrected her.

"Uh, so Big Brother is rarely at home?"

Mo Yesi looked at her. "You seem to be very concerned about Big Brother?"

He sounded calm and usual.

But for Qiao Mianmian, who already knew him well, she could sense some jealousy.

She didn't know what to say.

Was he jealous of his brother?

She was just asking casually.

She'd never even met Mo Shixiu.

This was a strange cause for jealousy.

"... Nah, I'm just casually asking. You don't have to answer me."

Mo Yesi eyed her for a while and smiled before saying, "Big Brother is very busy. It'd be good if he could even spend one or two days at home each month. If you wish to see him, I'll let him know. He could make time to come back."

Qiao Mianmian dared not ask for anything in front of Mo Yesi.

He was already getting jealous when she asked casual questions.

If she asked to meet Mo Shixiu now, he'd probably lose it.

"Uh, it's fine. Since Big Brother is busy, we shouldn't bother him at work. I don't particularly want to see him."

She felt bad to put it that way, and so quickly added, "What I mean is that I can meet when he has the time, he doesn't have to specially make time for it."

He was the Minister of the Military Department.

It wouldn't be nice to get him back just to meet a common person.

Even if Mo Shixiu was willing to do that, she wasn't ready to accept such special treatment.

Moreover, she did think she might be afraid of Mo Shixiu when she saw him.

He looked so serious on television, he was definitely even more intimidating upfront.

"Wenpei, look at this young couple, it's really so nice to be newlyweds. They can't stop whispering to each other, I wonder what it's about." Old Madam smiled as she watched the two of them interact.

To her, nothing was better than seeing the young ones settle down in marriage and being loving with their partners.

Of course, things would be even more complete for the family if they could bear her some great-grandchildren.

All her wishes would be fulfilled then.

Madam Mo smiled insincerely. "Y-You're right."

She was unhappy about it, but it wasn't a wise move to show it.

Old Madam was very satisfied with Qiao Mianmian as a granddaughter-in-law now.

If she displayed any unhappiness now or said anything that wasn't in her favor, she'd be pitting herself against Old Madam.

Although she was the mother-in-law, Old Madam had the final say in the Mo family.

There wasn't much she could say in her position.

"Grandma, I was telling Mianmian that you really like her." Mo Yesi came over with Qiao Mianmian and the housemaid immediately pulled the chairs for them.

"Is it?" Old Madam was smiling.

"Mm, Mianmian's happy to hear that."

At the table, Mo Yesi glanced at the seat beside Old Madam and said to Qiao Mianmian, "Go ahead and sit beside Grandma. I used to be the only person who received such treatment, but now there's you."

Chapter 287: People Really Change After Having a Wife

In fact, it seemed like even this grandson of hers had to stand aside.

Old Madam waved Qiao Mianmian over again. "Mianmian, come quickly, Grandma wants to talk to you."

"Oh, Grandma, I'm coming right now."

Qiao Mianmian responded sweetly.

She took a seat beside Old Madam, a little embarrassed by this treatment.

Old Madam placed her hand over Qiao Mianmian's the moment she sat down. "How was your nap? Do you feel alright resting here? Ah Si's room is painted with such dark colors, I find it depressing. It's hard on a young girl like you."

"He should've let us know earlier that he was bringing you home. We could've prepared something."

Old Madam glared at Mo Yesi as she said that. "Bringing your wife home is such an important matter, you should've called to inform us yesterday. If your mother hadn't called you yesterday, would you have brought her back without prior notice?"

Mo Yesi was sitting beside Qiao Mianmian.

He glanced at the dinner table and picked up the ladle, scooping some soup into Qiao Mianmian's bowl before the widened eyes of Old Madam and Madam Mo. It was black chicken and ginseng soup that had taken half a day to prepare.

"Have some soup first," he said to Qiao Mianmian gently.

Only then did he smile at Old Madam. "Grandma, your grandson just wanted to give you a surprise."

Old Madam went quiet for a while as she looked at the bowl of soup in front of Qiao Mianmian. She then sighed and appeared hurt. "People really change after having a wife. You know how to take care of others now.

"Besides this wife of his, even we haven't received such treatment as his Mom and Grandma."

Old Madam was just teasing him. She didn't actually mind it.

But to Madam Mo, it was a different thing.

She recalled what Shen Rou had said to her earlier: It'd be scary if Mianmian means more to him than his own mother.

She hadn't thought much about it then, but now that she saw what Mo Yesi did, her thoughts about it changed.

Instead of being happy that her son was doting on his wife, she felt uncomfortable instead.

As Old Madam said, even she hadn't received such treatment from her son.

And yet this girl who'd barely known his son was an exception to him.

What's more, her son did it willingly.

Madam Mo got angrier as she thought about it. She replied bitterly, "That's right, I've never even had such treatment before. Sigh, as they say, a man forgets his mother when he has a wife. It's true."

Old Madam didn't realize that Madam Mo was being sarcastic and hence played along as if she was teasing them. "Exactly. Back then, you and Yuncheng were just like that too. Yuncheng never did any chores in his life, but for you, he learned to cook and do the laundry. I was jealous too, and I even felt that I'd raised my son in vain."

Madam Mo's expression stiffened.

She didn't expect Old Madam to tease her like that.

At that moment, she felt a little awkward.

Chapter 288: Why Aren't You Taking It? You Don't Like It?

She felt that Old Madam was saying it on purpose to help Qiao Mianmian out.

But even if that was the case, what could she say?

Old Madam had treated her pretty well all these years and hardly made things difficult for her. But she still had some fear towards this mother-in-law of hers.

She was unable to be as close and affectionate to Old Madam like Qiao Mianmian was.

She'd always been very conscious of her place in the family. She felt that as a daughter-in-law, it was best to keep a respectable distance from her mother-in-law, the head of the household.

"Grandma, this bowl of soup is for you."

Qiao Mianmian was a little taken aback by Madam Mo's exchange with Old Madam.

She looked up at Mo Yesi with some surprise in her eyes.

She'd always thought that he took such good care of her because he'd been used to doing this all his life.

But...

She'd only just found out that even Old Madam and Madam Mo hadn't been taken care of like this before?!

Being a new addition to the family and the only one who was pampered this way wasn't a good thing.

It might make her unwelcome.

So Qiao Mianmian quickly brought the bowl over to Old Madam and said sweetly, "Grandma is the head of the household, you can drink first."

Old Madam was slightly shocked at first, but she quickly broke into a wide grin.

"My granddaughter-in-law is such a good girl!"

She patted Qiao Mianmian's hand she was holding and couldn't stop smiling.

"Brat, you've got to learn from Mianmian!" Old Madam chided him. "It's always better to have a girl who knows how to dote on others. You and your dad are the same, ingrates!"

Mo Yesi smiled but did not deny it.

He knew that Old Madam was just making fun of him and didn't mean it seriously.

Of course she didn't.

It was obvious from the way Old Madam refused to take her hands off Qiao Mianmian's. Mo Yesi couldn't help but smile at this scene too.

He knew that Old Madam would definitely like her.

After all, his wife was so beautiful, how could Old Madam not like her.

After handing Old Madam some soup, Qiao Mianmian had to do the same for Madam Mo too.

She scooped some chicken soup into the bowl and handed it to Madam Mo, saying with some uneasiness and embarrassment, "... Mom, have some soup too."

Madam Mo looked up at her and then at the soup. She didn't receive it right away.

Qiao Mianmian waited for a while and looked up, a little surprised.

She was met with Madam Mo's cold eyes.

But the next moment, the coldness disappeared.

It was so quick that Qiao Mianmian wondered if she'd seen it wrongly in the first place.

Qiao Mianmian was in that position for a minute, and Madam Mo still did not take the bowl off her hands.

"Mom."

Mo Yesi furrowed his brows slightly. "Mianmian scooped some soup for you, why aren't you taking it? You don't like it?"

He got up and took the bowl of soup, placing it before Madam Mo directly. "Or did you want me to do it instead? Isn't it better that your daughter-in-law is being filial to you?"

With that, he held Qiao Mianmian's hand and got her to sit.

Madam Mo was being deliberate.

Chapter 289: So Much That She Was Unhappy About

She didn't like Qiao Mianmian and surely did not want her to be "filial" to her.

Just the thought of her son being nicer to someone else than he was to herself irked her.

There was so much about this daughter-in-law that she was unhappy about.

And what Mo Yesi just did only reinforced her bias against Qiao Mianmian.

Her son was completely under that woman's spell.

He was now on her side for everything.

She'd only made her wait for a while longer, and he was already feeling bad for her?

Madam Mo looked at the bowl of soup before her and resisted the temptation to hurl it on the ground. She found an excuse and said, "I haven't been feeling so good lately, I don't think I should have this."

Mo Yesi eyed her deeply.

Old Madam took her word for it and asked in concern, "Why, did you catch a cold? Have you got the doctor to check on you?"

Madam Mo smiled kindly to Old Madam and said politely, "I did catch a cold, but it's not serious. I'll be fine with some medicine. Thank you for your concern, Mom."

Old Madam then went on telling her to take good care of her health.

As her son, Mo Yesi should've offered a few words of concern too, but he did not say a thing. Instead, the look in his eyes deepened when he heard her say she'd caught a cold.

His expression changed slightly too.

*

The meal was considerably an enjoyable one.

"Considerably" so, because Madam Mo hadn't said much throughout the meal.

She'd only respond when Old Madam directed questions to her.

It was completely different from her usual talkative self.

Old Madam didn't notice anything different initially.

But after the meal, she started to find it a little odd.

After the meal, she eyed Madam Mo too and thought about it for a while. She guessed a possibility.

Mo Yesi hadn't intended to stay over at the Mo residence for the night. He was ready to leave with Qiao Mianmian after they had their dinner.

The longing in Madam Mo's eyes was evident when she heard that he was about to leave. "Ah Si, you haven't been back in so long, don't you want to stay for a few more days? You and your brother are the same, you always leave after spending only half a day at home. He comes back only once a month and now you're the same. We don't have many people at home. Without both of you around, your grandma and I can't even find someone to talk to sometimes."

Old Madam looked reluctant to let them go too, but she did not ask for them to stay.

Her grandson had grown up. He had his own life now.

How could he be by their side all the time?

Old Madam had been prepared for this a long time back.

Moreover, her precious grandson had a family of his own now. He'd definitely like to have time with his newly wedded wife. She understood that very well.

"Ah Si, Mianmian, Grandma knows you have your own matters to busy yourself with, so I won't keep you any longer. Just come home whenever you're free. Although you're still young and strong, you still have to take good care of your health. Especially Ah Si, Grandma knows you're busy with the Mo Firm after taking it over recently. But in any case, you've got to take good care of yourself, don't tire yourself out too much.

"You're a man with a family now. Even if you're not thinking for yourself, you've to think for your wife."

Mo Yesi nodded. "Grandma, I'll take note."

He knew this very well even without Old Madam's reminders.

Back then, he didn't have much to take care of and hence spent all his time and energy on his work.

Chapter 290: We Can Talk About It Again When She Graduates

But things were different now.

The thought of someone waiting for him at home was enough for him to want to knock off early and return to accompany her.

As important as work was, it couldn't beat her.

He knew this very well.

Old Madam held Qiao Mianmian's hand, not quite willing to let her go. "Mianmian, Ah Si is the sort of person who sometimes overworks and doesn't watch the time when he's at the office. You've got to watch him, don't let him work too hard.

"He didn't have anything to care about previously, so work was all he had. But with you around now, Grandma doesn't have to worry so much about him anymore.

"You and Ah Si are officially married now, and you've come home to meet us. Have you decided when to host the wedding? If you intend to have it soon, Grandma can get a Feng Shui master to pick a good date for you."

Old Madam brought it up so abruptly, Qiao Mianmian wasn't sure how to respond.

She was stunned for a few seconds before saying, "Uh, Grandma, we..."

"Grandma, we're not in a rush to hold the wedding."

Mo Yesi squeezed Qiao Mianmian's other hand. "Mianmian is still schooling right now, so we didn't think of having it so soon. We can talk about it again when she graduates."

Qiao Mianmian glanced at him gratefully.

If he hadn't come in and offered his input, she wouldn't have known how to reply to Old Madam.

She really hadn't thought much about the wedding.

She wasn't even 20 yet and didn't want others to know so soon that she was already married.

Especially not before she graduated.

Although it wasn't an embarrassment to be married to Mo Yesi—in fact, many girls would die to marry him—she still felt that it wasn't good for others to find out she was married so early.

Even her best friend, Jiang Luoli, had no idea about their marriage.

After all, she'd once declared that she'd be a career woman who wouldn't consider marriage before she carved a career for herself.

But now... she'd shot herself in the foot.

She didn't tell Mo Yesi why she did not want to hold a wedding right now.

But who knew... he'd guessed it already.

Old Madam was just asking casually and nodded when she heard his response. "That's true, she's still very young, the wedding can wait. Anyway, this is a matter between the both of you, you can discuss it on your own.

"I'm just worried that Mianmian is at a disadvantage here."

"It's alright, Grandma. I'm not."

Qiao Mianmian felt touched by the Old Madam's kindness and warmth. She felt as if she was her biological grandmother. "I'm already so grateful that you're all so nice to me. I'm not at a disadvantage at all."

"That's good." Old Madam patted her on the head, treating her like her own granddaughter. "But you're now the official Second Young Madam of the Mo family. Even without a wedding, we should hold a banquet of sorts.

"We just have to invite people who are closer to us, how's that? I've such a good granddaughter-in-law, it will be a torture if I have to hide her from everyone.

"Also, how about you ask your family when they'd have the time to have a meal with us?"

Old Madam's requests weren't overboard at all.

Although Qiao Mianmian had never thought of having the Qiao family meet the Mo family, she couldn't find any valid reason to reject her.