Big Shot 821

Chapter 821: You've Never Seen Me Before

If he saw her scandal with Gong Zeli, she would have to explain and coax him.

They chatted for a while more before hanging up.

After hanging up, an emotionless voice sounded at the same time. "Your manager called you? I heard you mention Fourth Gong. What does it have to do with him?"

Qiao Mianmian looked up.

She wanted to say that it wasn't a big deal, but she knew that her scandals were already spreading like wildfire. If she didn't tell him the truth, it would be even worse if he saw it himself.

After a few seconds of hesitation, she told him everything that happened.

"Anyway, it's a coincidence that he and I were on the same flight. Don't believe those hype things, they're all fake."

Mo Yesi's expression didn't change.

He picked up his cell phone and logged into Weibo to search for the scandal between Qiao Mianmian and Gong Zeli.

After reading through the news, he turned it off.

The man looked up and asked coldly, "What's with that eye mask?"

"Mm?" Qiao Mianmian was stunned.

Mo Yesi pursed his lips and frowned. He looked at her unhappily for a few seconds before saying, "You gave him an eye mask? Aren't you on bad terms with Fourth Bro? Why did you give him something?"

What was most infuriating was that he had taken a look just now.

Gong Zeli's eye mask and Qiao Mianmian's were both pink.

One was a little rabbit and the other was a kitten.

It looked like they were wearing a couple eye mask.

Moreover, what was Fourth Gong looking at her with?

He wanted to gouge that guy's eyes out.

How dare he stare at his wife like that.

Mo Yesi felt uncomfortable thinking about how Qiao Mianmian had never given him an eye mask.

Qiao Mianmian was speechless.

Was he jealous again because of this?

In order to prevent him from getting jealous, she quickly got up and walked to his side. She held his arm and explained anxiously, "I was thinking that he helped me once, and that eye mask wasn't anything valuable. He asked me where I got it from, so I gave him one.

"Really, I bought it on Taobao. It costs three yuan!"

The man's expression was still tense, but because of the girl's timely comfort, his expression was slightly better than before. "You can give me three for 10 yuan? You've never given me one before."

He sounded a little aggrieved.

Qiao Mianmian almost burst out laughing.

Every time Mo Yesi got jealous, he was like a child.

It was very different from his usual image.

She once heard that men would only show their childish side when they really liked a woman.

Hence, although this man was always jealous and petty when it came to relationships, Qiao Mianmian's heart softened when she thought about how he became jealous because he cared about her and liked her.

She couldn't blame him at all.

"Then, what do you want?"

She looked at him in amusement and felt that Mo Yesi was really cute like this. Hence, when she coaxed him, she said in a child's tone, "When you get off work, let's go shopping. I'll get you one too? Mm, I'll get you an expensive one, alright?"

Chapter 822: Young Master Gong, Old Master Qiao Is Here

Mo Yesi looked up at her and his expression softened.

He was obviously pleased by her words.

There was a smile in his eyes, but his face was still tense. "I didn't ask you for it."

"Yes, yes, yes." Qiao Mianmian continued to coax him. "You didn't ask me for it, I wanted to buy it for you."

"Buy me something expensive?"

"Mm, the most expensive one."

"I didn't force you."

"Yes, yes, yes. You didn't force me. I did everything willingly."

"Then, you said you'd go to the mall later." Mo Yesi smiled.

He reached out and pulled Qiao Mianmian into his arms, letting her sit on his lap as he flipped open a document. "Accompany me to read the last few documents, and I can get off work."

Qiao Mianmian wriggled in his arms and adjusted herself into a more comfortable sitting position. She reached out and hugged him. "Then, will my actions affect your work?"

The girl in his arms was fragrant and soft.

The sweet scent lingered in his nose. It was impossible that it didn't affect him at all.

He always felt a little restless when he hugged her.

He wanted to do something else.

But it felt too good to hold her. He couldn't bear to let her go.

He took a deep breath and suppressed the heat from her movements. "Baby, as long as you don't move around, it won't affect me.

"Otherwise, if you twist it a little more, I might not be able to guarantee what will happen later."

As if to prove his point.

Qiao Mianmian felt it as she sat on his lap.

She stiffened in his arms and dared not move anymore.

Last night... this man had gone overboard.

Moreover, her legs were still sore from all the torture.

She didn't want to be tormented before she recovered ...

...

At a private clubhouse.

A handsome man was sitting in a pavilion in a vintage-looking courtyard.

There was a pond around the pavilion, filled with pink lotuses.

The man leaned against the vermillion railings and held a fish food in his hand. His slender and fair fingers pinched the fish food in the small porcelain bowl and threw it into the pond, attracting a group of fish to fight for it.

An exquisite tea set was placed on the stone table at the side. The tea artist in the clubhouse poured water into the teacup with a Yixing clay teapot. Once the hot water was poured on it, the refreshing fragrance of the tea rose and spread in all directions.

The air was filled with the sweet fragrance of tea.

The tea artist handed the teacup to the man who was feeding the fish. "Young Master Gong, please try it."

Gong Zeli tossed some fish food into the pond before turning around. He took the wet handkerchief from the waiter and wiped his hands.

After he was done, he took the cup of tea.

He had just taken a sip when he heard footsteps approaching.

The footsteps stopped.

"Young Master Gong, Old Mister Qiao is here."

Gong Zeli looked up at Qiao Ruhai and smiled.

Chapter 823: It's About Your Daughter

Gong Zeli looked up at Qiao Ruhai and smiled. "Mr. Qiao, please take a seat."

Seeing that he was still standing, Qiao Ruhai didn't dare to sit down first.

In fact, he was feeling very uneasy.

He didn't know why Gong Zeli called him over.

The Gong and Qiao families had never contacted each other.

It wasn't that he didn't want to interact with the Gong family, but the Qiao family wasn't powerful enough to do so.

In the eyes of the Gong family, the Qiao family was nothing.

But now that the Young Master of the Gong family suddenly said that he had something to discuss with him, Qiao Ruhai couldn't guess what it was. Thinking about the comments the people in Yuncheng City made about this Young Master of the Gong family, he felt very nervous and afraid.

Everyone knew that this Young Master Gong had a bad temper and was temperamental. He wasn't someone to be trifled with.

Offending him meant death.

"Young Master Gong, why are you looking for me?" Qiao Ruhai asked politely.

Gong Zeli slowly walked to the stone table and sat down. He was still playing with the teacup in his hand as he looked up at Qiao Ruhai's uneasy expression. He smiled and said politely, "Mr. Qiao, please sit down. I don't like to keep looking up when I'm talking to others. It's tiring."

Qiao Ruhai heard the word "tired" and quickly sat down.

He didn't dare to let this young master get tired.

The tea artist poured another cup of tea and placed it in front of him.

Gong Zeli waved his hand, signaling for everyone to leave.

After a while.

When only he and Qiao Ruhai were left in the gazebo, Qiao Ruhai hesitated for a few seconds before asking uneasily, "Young Master Gong, the Qiao family hasn't done anything to offend the Gong family, right? Young Master Gong suddenly said that he wanted to see me, but I'm really confused and unsure. If Young Master Gong has any instructions, you can just say it..."

Gong Zeli swirled the tea in his cup and took a sip. He then looked up slowly and said, "Old Master Qiao, don't be afraid. I'm just here to ask you something, not to trouble you."

Qiao Ruhai heaved a sigh of relief.

His tense body relaxed, and he didn't look as nervous as before.

"What is it, Young Master Gong?"

Gong Zeli narrowed his eyes. "It's about your daughter."

"My daughter?" Qiao Ruhai was stunned. The first thing that came to his mind was Qiao Anxin. "Is Young Master Gong referring to Anxin?"

Gong Zeli frowned and seemed a little unhappy. "Old Master Qiao has two daughters, right? Why didn't you think that I was looking for your other daughter?"

"You mean... Mianmian?"

Although Qiao Ruhai didn't use Weibo, he knew what was going on online.

He suddenly recalled how Gong Zeli helped Qiao Mianmian clarify the scandal on Weibo.

And today...

Before he came over, he saw the scandal between Qiao Mianmian and Gong Zeli.

Then, he was called over by the Young Master of the Gong family.

He even wanted to talk to him about his daughter.

Qiao Ruhai slowly thought of a possibility. His expression changed as he grabbed the teacup in front of

Gong Zeli nodded. "Mm, what I want to talk about has something to do with your eldest daughter, Qiao Mianmian."

Chapter 824: Think Carefully, You Must Think Carefully

"Young Master Gong, I-I won't sell my daughter." Although Qiao Ruhai was afraid of Gong Zeli, he still mustered up the courage to say it. "Although the Qiao family is short of money now, Mianmian is my daughter who I've doted on since she was young. No matter how short of money I am, I won't exchange her for money."

Gong Zeli frowned.

"Old Master Qiao, are you misunderstanding something?" His expression was awful. "When did I say I wanted you to sell your daughter?"

Qiao Ruhai was stunned. "If Young Master Gong isn't with Mianmian... then you..."

This was the only possibility Qiao Ruhai could think of.

There was no smoke without fire.

With so many scandals, it was hard not to think in that direction.

Moreover, he knew Qiao Mianmian's face too well. It wasn't strange that these rich second-generation heirs liked her.

Hence, when he heard that Gong Zeli was looking for him because of Qiao Mianmian, he immediately thought of keeping a mistress.

Qiao Mianmian wouldn't be able to marry into the Gong family.

She couldn't even be Gong Zeli's official girlfriend.

Gong Zeli said coldly, "Old Master Qiao, why do you think your daughter is so worthless? If I really have anything to do with her, do I have to do it in the form of a transaction?"

Gong Zeli was inexplicably upset by his words.

If she was the woman he liked, he wouldn't have to sell her.

The word "sell" sounded cheap.

Gong Zeli's expression turned cold and Qiao Ruhai said fearfully, "Yes, Young Master Gong is right. I misunderstood you."

He was so afraid that his hand started shaking.

Who in Yuncheng City wasn't afraid of the Young Master of the Gong family?

He heard that he had a bad temper.

It was the sort of thing that would make him lose control of his emotions.

He'd do something irrational.

The thought of Gong Zeli turning someone into a vegetable scared Qiao Ruhai.

Seeing how afraid he was, Gong Zeli furrowed his brows and restrained his anger.

No matter what, he was Qiao Mianmian's father.

He didn't want to treat him the way he treated others.

"Old Master Qiao, what I want to ask is something that happened 10 years ago." Gong Zeli spoke again, his tone much gentler than before. "Do you remember if you brought Qiao Mianmian to the Gong family's banquet 10 years ago?

"That year was my birthday. My parents invited a lot of people from Yuncheng City. The Qiao family should be among them."

Qiao Ruhai was stunned for a few seconds. He then lowered his head and frowned. "A banquet from 10 years ago? I can't remember it right now. It's been too long. Young Master Gong, let me think about it."

"Alright, Old Master Qiao, you don't have to rush. You can think about it slowly."

Gong Zeli looked calm on the surface, but he was already extremely nervous. He pinched the teacup in his hand and drank the tea in one gulp. "Take your time to think about it. Think about it carefully."

Because this was very, very important to him.

He couldn't tolerate any mistakes.

Perhaps he'd already missed it once.

He couldn't... make another mistake.

Although Qiao Ruhai didn't know what exactly White Gong Zeli was up to, he could tell from his tone that he took the matter very seriously.

Chapter 825: Getting Closer and Closer to the Truth

Hence, he didn't dare to let his guard down. After thinking about it seriously for a while, he looked up and said, "Young Master Gong, I don't remember much about what happened 10 years ago. I thought about it carefully just now. If I remember correctly, I should have brought Mianmian to the Gong family's banquet back then."

"That year... was summer." Qiao Ruhai recalled. "That was the first time the Qiao family received an invitation from the Gong family."

This was an honor and a surprise for the Qiao family.

That was why he still remembered this.

If it was some unimportant household that invited him, he wouldn't have remembered.

Gong Zeli looked up, his heart pounding. "Are you sure? You brought Qiao Mianmian to the Gong family's banquet 10 years ago?"

Qiao Ruhai looked up at him and thought about it seriously for a while before nodding. "Yes. It was Young Master Gong's birthday party back then. I thought that Mianmian was about the same age as you, so I brought her along."

Gong Zeli looked calm.

But his fingers were trembling uncontrollably.

"Speaking of this..." Qiao Ruhai glanced at Gong Zeli's expression cautiously. There was a hint of hesitation in his eyes.

Gong Zeli took a deep breath and tried to control his emotions. "What else do you remember?"

Qiao Ruhai still remembered what happened that day. Firstly, it was Young Master Gong's birthday, and it was an honor for the Qiao family to be able to attend it.

He had bragged about it for a long time.

Secondly, it was because of something that left a deep impression on him.

He was still hesitating if he should say it, but since Gong Zeli had already asked, he could only say it.

"I remember that day when Mianmian said she was going to the washroom, she went for a long time. When she came back, I realized that she was all wet, as if she'd fallen into the water. I asked her what happened, but she didn't tell me. I was worried that she'd catch a cold, so I brought her home early."

Back then, he thought that his daughter had been bullied.

He was angry and helpless.

Initially, he wanted to find the person who bullied Qiao Mianmian. But when he thought about how most of the people at the banquet were either rich or powerful, if the other party's family background far surpassed the Qiao family, not only would they not be able to get justice, they might even get into trouble.

He thought for a while and decided to let it go.

Actually, Qiao Ruhai didn't know why he said it.

He just felt that perhaps Gong Zeli's investigation had something to do with this.

Otherwise, why would he ask about what happened 10 years ago?

Moreover, he kept asking him if he brought Qiao Mianmian along.

It was obvious that his investigation had something to do with Qiao Mianmian, and it happened at his birthday party.

That was why Qiao Ruhai wanted to tell him about it.

He only had the guts to say it because he saw Gong Zeli's attitude.

"What did you say?"

Gong Zeli's barely maintained composure was shattered by this statement.

He almost crushed the white jade teacup in his hand.

Chapter 826: Did I... Did I Say Something Wrong?

His eyes were filled with shock and disbelief as he looked at Qiao Ruhai.

In any case, at this moment, his expression was complex.

His expression changed several times in a short period of time.

Qiao Ruhai didn't expect such a reaction from him.

He was a little shocked.

He didn't know if what he said was good or bad.

He looked into Gong Zeli's eyes and asked nervously, "Young Master Gong, did I say something wrong?"

"You said that you saw Qiao Mianmian drenched at the birthday party?"

"Y-Yes..."

"Did she tell you why she was wet?"

"T-This... she didn't say," Qiao Ruhai said cautiously. "I asked her about it, but she didn't say anything. She said that it was because the lights in the backyard were a little dim and she wasn't familiar with the road, so she accidentally fell into the water."

"She'd been to the backyard?" Gong Zeli felt his heart rate increase to 150. His fingers were trembling more and more, and his chest was also shaking.

The answer he wanted to know seemed to be getting closer and closer to him.

"Yes," Qiao Ruhai replied honestly.

"So, she got wet after going to the backyard? Do you remember the time?"

"I can't remember."

It was good enough that he could remember what happened 10 years ago.

He couldn't remember the time exactly.

But to Gong Zeli, what he knew now was enough for him to investigate the truth.

Although he wasn't 100% sure about some things.

But the evidence they had now was close to 90% true.

If... the truth was as he guessed, then...

Gong Zeli clenched his fists as anger rose in his chest.

Qiao Ruhai saw the change in his expression and felt even more uneasy, thinking that he'd said something wrong.

"Young Master Gong..."

Gong Zeli took a deep breath and threw the teacup in his hand away. "Old Master Qiao, thank you for coming today and settling a very important matter for me. If you have any requests, you can ask me. Take it as my gratitude."

Qiao Ruhai was flattered.

God knew how hard it was to get Gong Zeli to say something like that.

He didn't even dare to think about what it meant to be helped by the Young Master of the Gong family.

He saw that Gong Zeli didn't look too good and was worried sick. He thought that he had said something wrong and angered him.

He thought he was going to be in big trouble.

But who would have thought that the next moment, he would be so surprised?

But even though it wasn't easy to get Gong Zeli's help, Qiao Ruhai didn't dare to ask for it.

The other party was being polite.

If he wasn't serious, then his EQ was too low.

"Young Master Gong, you're too kind. I didn't do anything. Moreover, it's my honor to be able to speak to you. I don't dare to ask for anything more."

Gong Zeli smiled. "It's rare for me to take the initiative to help someone, and I've been rejected? Old Master Qiao, you've to think it through. There won't be another opportunity if you miss it. Are you sure you don't need anything?"

Chapter 827: If You Want to Be Grateful, Then Be Grateful to Your Daughter

This time, Qiao Ruhai hesitated.

How could he not need anything?

In fact, he really needed it now.

The Qiao family was in a mess. He had been busy with investing and loans these few days, but not many people were willing to bother about him.

He was so worried about the loan that he couldn't eat or sleep well.

Gong Zeli's help came just in time.

He was the Young Master of the Gong family.

It would solve his urgent problem.

"Young Master Gong, if it won't trouble you, I... I hope that Young Master Gong can help invest in a project of the Qiao Corporation. I'll send the specific project proposal to Young Master Gong when I get back. I promise that it'll definitely be a profitable project and won't let Young Master Gong lose money.

"Of course, if Young Master Gong finds it inappropriate, you can ignore it."

Qiao Ruhai waited in anticipation for Gong Zeli's response.

He was afraid that Gong Zeli would think that he'd gone overboard with his request.

"Alright."

Unexpectedly, Gong Zeli agreed without hesitation.

"Just send the investment proposal to my assistant. I'll tell him about it later and he'll contact you. How much do you need?"

Qiao Ruhai looked at him in shock and excitement. "Young Master Gong, Young Master Gong is willing to invest?"

He hadn't expected Gong Zeli to agree so quickly.

Gong Zeli nodded. "I promised to help you once, I won't go back on my word."

This person was the father of his savior, so Gong Zeli didn't mind helping Qiao Ruhai.

This help was nothing to him.

He owed his savior more than that.

If... the person who saved him back then was really Qiao Mianmian, he would definitely treat her well in the future. He would give her double what he should have given her all these years.

How stupid was he back then?

He actually apologized to his savior.

He trusted Shen Rou too much.

He believed everything she said.

He'd never doubted her.

Qiao Ruhai happily told Gong Zeli about the amount of money he needed. That amount was nothing to Gong Zeli.

Hence, Gong Zeli agreed readily.

Qiao Ruhai didn't expect him to solve his problem.

He kept thanking him. After confirming that Gong Zeli's investigation was beneficial to him, he asked boldly, "Young Master Gong, can I know... why you're willing to help me?

"Is it... related to Mianmian?"

Gong Zeli nodded. "It's because of your daughter."

Qiao Ruhai had already guessed it.

But he didn't know why.

"I wonder what Mianmian did back then to make Young Master Gong willing to help our Qiao family."

"You don't have to know the details."

"I was being too nosy." Qiao Ruhai immediately said, "But Young Master Gong has done us such a huge favor. I really don't know how to thank you."

"You don't have to thank me," Gong Zeli said calmly. "If you want to be grateful, then be grateful to your daughter. I'm only doing this for her sake."

Otherwise, he wouldn't be interested in investing in such a small project.

Even if it was a sure win, the money he earned was nothing to him.

Chapter 828: So She's Such a Cute Girl

"Old Master Qiao, I have one more thing. I wonder if you can agree to it?" After a moment of silence, Gong Zeli picked up the teapot on the table and poured himself a cup of tea. Seeing that Qiao Ruhai's cup was gone, he poured another cup for him.

Qiao Ruhai immediately held his teacup and said, "Young Master Gong, say it. I don't know what you need, but as long as I can do it, I'll definitely do it for you."

"It's nothing."

Gong Zeli played with the small porcelain cup between his fingers and smelled the faint fragrance of the tea. He narrowed his eyes and said casually, "I wonder if Old Master Qiao can tell me some things about your daughter from when she was young.

"I want to know more about her."

Seeing the change in Qiao Ruhai's expression, Gong Zeli smiled. "Don't worry, I don't have any ulterior motives towards her. If I really have any ulterior motives, I'll seriously pursue her and give her a proper status. I won't hide it, and I won't even try to insult her with money.

"To me, she's a woman worthy of my respect."

Qiao Ruhai was overthinking.

But after hearing what Gong Zeli said, he immediately dismissed his concerns.

Given Gong Zeli's status, there was no need to explain so much to him.

If he could do this, it would mean that he respected his daughter.

He lowered his head and thought for a while before saying gently, "Mianmian has been a very obedient and sensible child since she was young. She doesn't need me to worry about her. She's also a very kind and loving child. She loved to help stray cats and dogs since she was young. We used to have a dog named Da Huang at home, and she picked it up from outside."

Gong Zeli listened attentively.

As he listened, he felt like he'd misunderstood Qiao Mianmian too much.

Previously, he was biased against her because of Shen Rou.

He felt that she was a scheming woman.

So much so that every time he saw her, his attitude towards her was very unfriendly.

In fact, when had he ever tried to understand her?

If it wasn't for Shen Rou, he wouldn't hate her.

She didn't seem like the sort of woman people detested.

Qiao Ruhai went on and on, and Gong Zeli listened to him patiently.

He didn't feel the least bit impatient throughout the entire process.

He was even enjoying it.

Then, he thought that she was such a cute girl.

Kind and wonderful.

No wonder she jumped into the pool to save him that night.

She had always been a kind girl.

She was already so loving towards stray animals, let alone humans.

But he actually missed 10 years of such a cute and beautiful girl.

He actually... only knew now that she was the one who saved him that night.

He was upset and disappointed.

He suddenly realized that he learned the truth too late.

If... he'd known a year earlier, the outcome would've been different.

If he'd known a year earlier, if he'd known her before Mo Yesi, he wouldn't have given her the chance to marry another man.

If the person she married wasn't Mo Yesi, he could still snatch her back.

Chapter 829: What's Wrong With You? Are You Angry With Me?

But she was married to his best buddy.

What else could he do?

Was he going to destroy their brotherhood?

Moreover, he knew too well that he couldn't win against Mo Yesi.

He and Mo Yesi were essentially the same type of people.

They were possessive.

They would never give others a chance to snatch something they cared about.

In front of others, he had absolute confidence.

But in front of Mo Yesi, he had to admit that this was a very threatening opponent.

He might not be able to win against him.

Otherwise, Shen Rou wouldn't have been so devoted to Mo Yesi.

No matter how well she treated him, he never wavered.

An hour later.

Gong Zeli sent Qiao Ruhai off.

He sat alone in the pavilion for a long time. Finally, he took out his cell phone and called Shen Rou.

"Rourou, let's meet up now. Where are you? I'll pick you up."

...

At the agreed place.

The waiter led Gong Zeli to a private room and said respectfully, "Young Master Gong, Miss Shen is drinking alone inside. She ordered a lot of drinks. We tried to persuade her, but she refused to listen to us.

"You're here at the right time. Come in and take a look at her. We're really worried that something might happen to her."

Gong Zeli stood outside the private room for a few seconds before pushing the door open.

The lights in the private room were dim.

Shen Rou was leaning against the sofa with a wine glass in her hand.

She looked up when she heard the door open and saw Gong Zeli walking in. She smiled and raised her glass to toast him. "Zeli, you're here. Come and have a drink with me. I'm bored drinking alone."

Gong Zeli closed the door and walked towards her.

"Why are you drinking alone?"

Although the truth was out, Gong Zeli's attitude was still the same.

He walked towards Shen Rou and looked down at her for a few seconds before taking the wine glass away.

"It's not good to drink too much. It won't solve anything."

"What are you doing?"

Shen Rou furrowed her brows and got up to snatch the wine glass. "Give it back to me. I can drink it if I want to. It's none of your business."

"Yeah, it's none of my business."

Gong Zeli smiled. The thought of the woman he doted on and pampered all these years lying to him was ridiculous.

But who could he blame?

Even if Shen Rou lied to him, it had nothing to do with his brain.

He knew very well that he didn't have feelings for Shen Rou. He had wondered why, but he never thought that he might have gotten the wrong person.

He never thought that Shen Rou would lie to him.

He deserved it for being lied to for so many years.

"Gong Zeli, aren't you annoying?" Shen Rou reached out to grab the wine glass and said unhappily, "I asked you to come over because I want you to drink with me. If you're unwilling, then don't hinder me.

"You know, I hate being controlled by others."

"Mm, I know." This time, Gong Zeli didn't stop her.

Shen Rou successfully snatched the wine glass back.

She then looked up at him and frowned. "What's wrong? Are you angry with me?"

Chapter 830: I'm the One Who Saved You That Night

If it was in the past, Gong Zeli wouldn't let her drink anymore.

But now... he didn't stop her.

Women were very sensitive. Shen Rou could tell that something was wrong with him.

Gong Zeli looked at her deeply and shook his head. "I'm not angry."

"Then, why did you..."

"Rourou, let's talk."

Gong Zeli sat down and crossed his legs. "I think we need to have a good talk."

Shen Rou was stunned. "Talk? What do you want to talk to me about?"

"A long time ago."

Shen Rou was stunned again and her heart started racing.

She looked into Gong Zeli's eyes and felt a little flustered for some reason.

This feeling had appeared a few days ago when he asked her if she'd lied to him.

She took a deep breath and tried her best to remain calm.

"What happened a long time ago?" She raised her brows curiously. "What are you trying to say? Why do I feel like you're acting strangely today?"

"Am I weird?" Gong Zeli smiled. "Perhaps. I think we shouldn't beat around the bush. Rourou, what I want to talk to you about is something that happened 10 years ago. Perhaps, you should know what I want to talk to you about."

Shen Rou widened her eyes in shock.

Gong Zeli looked at her and said calmly, "Back then, at my birthday party, I fell into the water and was saved. The person who saved me wasn't you, right?"

"W-What did you say?"

The wine glass in Shen Rou's hand slipped and fell to the floor.

The floor was covered with tiles.

The glass shattered the moment it hit the ground.

Gong Zeli's last bit of hope vanished when he saw her reaction.

She really... lied to him.

She'd treated him like a fool for 10 years.

But why would she do that?

She clearly didn't like him and wasn't willing to accept him, but she had to fabricate such a lie for him to guard her for 10 whole years.

He didn't know why she did that.

"Actually, I should have guessed it a long time ago." Gong Zeli smiled self-mockingly. "So many feelings were wrong, but I never thought that the person that night wasn't you at all. I was really a fool. I believed everything you said.

"Shen Rou, can I ask why you lied?

"What's the point of doing that?

"Didn't you dislike me? Why did you lie to me? You made me think that you were the one who saved me that night?"

Shen Rou turned pale.

She looked at him in shock and fear, unable to say a word.

How could...

How did he know that it wasn't her?

It had been 10 years since that incident.

He had never doubted her for the past 10 years.

Why did he suddenly...

"Zeli, w-what are you talking about? I was the one who saved you that night, who else could it be?" Shen Rou calmed down after a moment of panic.

She felt that Gong Zeli didn't know the truth.

Just like that day, he was just suspicious of her.

He had no evidence.

It had been 10 years since that night.