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Ning Ran was about to say something when someone else came around.

Actually, it wasn't just that one person. There were dozens of fans.

The room was instantly flooded with 20-year-olds.

Those fans started taking tons of photos the moment they showed up.

Ning Ran wasn't happy about it, but she didn't dare to show it.

"It is her!" exclaimed one of the ladies, "She's even more beautiful in person."

"Of course," gloated Zhang Ying, "And you guys didn't believe me when I told you."

As far as Zhang Ying was concerned, Ning Ran was her trophy, and Zhang Ying was the most powerful person in the group at that moment.

"I don't think she's worthy of Lunlun," complained another woman, "She may be beautiful, but our Lunlun deserves a renowned celebrity. She is unknown and is just using Lunlun to get to the front page."

A chill ran down Ning Ran's spine. She had seen dozens of comments just like this online. The only difference was that those commenting online were meaner.

"I think she's okay," said another fan, "Besides, Lunlun is probably just having fun. It's not like he'll definitely marry her."

"I think so too. Lunlun should be with a celebrity or at least a model. At worst, he could go for a female socialite. This woman is nothing but a nameless actress."

"Everybody, please behave! We still need her help to get Lunlun here."

Ning Ran was surrounded like she was a caged animal in a zoo and was judged incessantly.

Worse still, Ning Ran couldn't talk back because a couple of fans were obviously angry with her, and she may be hurt if she weren't careful.

The tone used by those fans showed that they weren't a good person. A few of the ladies were glaring at Ning Ran with hatred in their eyes.

Ning Ran had reasons to believe that some of these fans were the haters who had been cursing her online.

The truth was that they weren't respectful when they talked about Zheng Lunlun either. It was as if he wasn't their idol, but their slave instead.

They were discussing his choice of partner and his life and were making decisions for him.

It was clear that they knew Zheng Lunlun would never be aware of their discussions, but they were acting seriously.

If Zheng Lunlun's actual life was different from their private expectations, they would turn into haters immediately and would attack him mercilessly just like they had with Ning Ran.

Ning Ran didn't dare to speak and was thinking of ways to get out of that situation alive.

"When is Lunlun coming over?" demanded one of the ladies.

Ning Ran never said that Zheng Lunlun was coming over! That was all in their head!

Unfortunately, Ning Ran couldn't say otherwise because she might enrage them.

"He's busy," replied Ning Ran weakly, "I can't get in touch with him at the moment."

'Then when will you be able to reach him?"

"I'm not sure yet…"

"Are you making a fool out of us?" said one of the women fiercely.

"I'm not! I couldn't reach him just now, but I may be able to do so later..."

Ning Ran had just gotten her phone out when one of the men snatched it away from her. "What are you doing? Are you calling the cops?"

Ning Ran forced a grin and said, "Why would I do that? You are Lunlun's fans while I'm his friend. We're on the same side. Why would I call the cops when I know you won't hurt me?"

Ning Ran's act effectively pacified some of the angry fans, and the situation became calmer.

"When did you meet Lunlun?" asked one of the fans.

"We've known each other for a while," answered Ning Ran honestly, "We met when we were abroad."

'You've been out of the country before?" asked one of the suspicious fans.

"Yeah."

'Then show us your language skills."

Ning Ran had no choice but to speak in a foreign language to prove that she had, indeed, lived abroad before.

"It's passable. How did you and Lunlun meet? Give us some details."

Ning Ran grinned awkwardly, "That is a long story. Let's talk about it some other time."

"Have you two slept together?" asked one of the ladies.

Ning Ran was stunned. Wow, that was direct.

"No."

"Really?"

"Really."

One of the ladies was relieved to hear that and said, "Oh, thank god."

"Have you kissed?"

"No."

Ning Ran felt disgusted. Those fans weren't treating her like she was human, and showed no respect for her privacy.

"You guys stay, I'm heading out for a bit," said Ning Ran as she stood up.

Three men surrounded her immediately and demanded, "Where are you going?"

'To the toilet," replied Ning Ran.

"There's a toilet right here. Why are you going out to use the bathroom?"

"There's a lot of people here, and I have this thing where I can't go when someone else is outside…" grinned Ning Ran shyly and awkwardly.

"You want to call the cops, don't you? We don't intend to hurt you. We're just trying to get you to invite Lunlun over. If you're calling the cops over something so minor, we'll be mad!" threatened one of the men.

"That's right! We love Lunlun, not you. We're already showing our kindness by acting civil despite the fact that you had destroyed his reputation."

"I'm not calling the cops," said the troubled Ning Ran, "You're overthinking it."

At that moment, Ning Ran's phone rang, but she didn't have her phone with her because it was with another man.

Ning Ran looked at her phone and asked, "Can I pick it up? It could be Zheng Lunlun's assistant calling back."

Everyone turned to one another and talked things over before returning the phone to Ning Ran. They demanded that she turn on the speaker so they can listen in though.

The call was from Cheng Xiangyun.

"Ms. Cheng, is Lunlun free now?" asked Ning Ran.

"He's almost done. Which hotel are you staying in and what's your room number?"

Ning Ran was about to tell Cheng Xiangyun when a man snatched the phone and asked, "Who are you?"

"Who are you?" asked Cheng Xiangyun.

"You don't need to know that. Just tell me who you are."

"I am Zheng Lunlun's manager," answered Cheng Xiangyun.

"When is Lunlun dropping by?" asked the man again.

"I don't know who you are and I'm not talking to you," said Cheng Xiangyun, "Put Ding Mi on the phone."

The man had no choice but to hand the phone to Ning Ran because he was sure that he needed Ning Ran to get to Zheng Lunlun.

"Ms. Cheng," said Ning Ran, "There are a couple of fans here who are eager to meet him. You'll let them meet him, won't you? The room number is..."

Ning Ran said the room number like it was just a part of a normal conversation.

"I'll make the necessary arrangements," said Cheng Xiangyun.

The man snatched the phone over again and said, "Don't try anything fishy. If we see cops, we'll toss this woman out of the window!"

"Who the hell are you? What right do you have to toss anyone out of the window?" said Cheng Xiangyun who was acting tough, "Lunlun would be too scared to visit if you're going to act all hostile."

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Cheng Xiangyun's response was logical so the fans didn't fight back. Instead, they softened up.

"We only wanted to meet Lunlun. We're just worried that this woman would have something up her sleeves."

"Don't hurt her, or Zheng Lunlun would never forgive you. Wait there. I'll call as soon as I get an update."

Cheng Xiangyun hung up immediately after.

The young fans turned to one another. No one knew what to do.

Ning Ran was secretly happy at that. It was a good thing that she was in sync with Cheng Xiangyun who would be able to come up with something. All Ning Ran needed to do was to wait patiently.

Ten more minutes passed before the doorbell rang again.

Ning Ran was about to answer the door when a man blocked her path.

Another person went over to open the door and saw a few brawny men standing outside.

The person leading those men was the head of Nan Family's security – Qiao Zhan.

"Who are you?" the fan asked Qiao Zhan.

Qiao Zhan tossed the fan aside and walked in.

Another man rushed forward to stop Qiao Zhan but was knocked out of the way by a single move from Qiao Zhan.

Yet another man stood forward to get Qiao Zhan in trouble, but that man soon had his throat choked while he was being lifted off the floor with his toes barely making it to the ground.

"Quit playing, kids," warned Qiao Zhan coldly, "Or you'll get hurt."

No one dared to make another move. The fans understood then that the man in front of them wasn't friendly, and they were scared.

Qiao Zhan approached Ning Ran and said, "Ms. Ding, so sorry for arriving late."

Ning Ran and Qiao Zhan had spent quite a bit of time together when they were trapped in the jungle so they were old pals at that point.

Friends who had been through hell together formed stronger bonds.

That bond made Ning Ran feel safer and more familiar when she saw Qiao Zhan.

'Thank you for coming," said Ning Ran as she nodded.

"Let's go," said Qiao Zhan.

"Okay."

Ning Ran stood up and walked in the front. Qiao Zhan followed behind her to keep her safe.

The youngsters weren't happy about it, but they didn't dare to make a move either.

"Stop her, won't you? Don't let her get away," said one of the women who couldn't hold it in anymore, "There are so many of you! Can you not take them on?"

Hearing that, one of the men dashed forward to grab Qiao Zhan and constrict him.

Qiao Zhan threw the man over his shoulder and made the man fall hard on the floor. The man was in so much pain that he started to moan.

"I told you not to play anymore! Is there no end to this? I don't give a shit about you being fans, but don't get my young mistress involved! Don't try anything else! The next one will have his legs and arms broken!"

Qiao Zhan's arm swept around as his finger pointed at the fans. No one dared to make another move.

With Qiao Zhan protecting her, Ning Ran finally got out of the hotel in one piece.

A Rolls-Royce was parked at the hotel front door. That was Nan Chen's official ride and was used to pick up and drop off VIPs.

The black Rolls-Royce's plate numbers were all 8 and was a sign of just how influential the Nan Family was in Flower City.

The car wasn't just limited. It was custom made, and there was only one in the whole world.

In addition to the Rolls-Royce logo, the back of the car also had an obvious 'N' which was Nan Chen's personal mark.

Nan Chen was on his way to the airport to pick up a Director of Commerce from the Middle East when he received Cheng Xiangyun's call for help.

He had no choice but to have his chauffeur turn the car around to come and rescue Ning Ran.

The door opened, and Ning Ran saw the man inside the car which made her deliberate about getting into the car.

Her hesitation annoyed Nan Chen.

What? Is my car not good enough for you? This car costs more than an average helicopter. What is there to not like about it?

"Are you getting in or not?" asked Nan Chen coolly.

"Yes!"

Ning Ran replied but felt that their conversation sounded weird.

She got in the car obediently and sat on the back seat.

The car was specially designed to be spacious and comfortable with every seat being separated so that the passengers won't be cramped together awkwardly.

A cushioned table was installed between every seat so that a laptop can be placed on top of it.

That was a car that can be used to conduct a meeting, and Nan Chen was going to use that feature to discuss his Middle Eastern investment with the Director of Commerce when they meet at the airport.

Unfortunately, the woman in front of him didn't give him any peace. She had just caused trouble the day before and was making a mess again that day.

The infuriating bit was that he couldn't ignore her, nor did he feel right sending someone else to save her.

Nan Chen could only lie to himself then. *I worry about her because she's the kids' mother. That's it! There is nothing else!*

Ning Ran secretly examined Nan Chen's face and noticed that he was exceptionally upset that day.

Does he ever get tired of having that bitch face on all the time?

It's a good thing that I don't owe him any money or his face will look even worse.

"Thanks," said Ning Ran who was just being polite.

No matter what had happened between them, the Poker Face had saved her that day. If he hadn't helped, she would be in deep trouble with those young fans.

"Living in a hotel?" uttered Nan Chen.

"Yeah, I didn't have anywhere else to go. Cheng Xiangyun's house was surrounded by fans so I had to stay in a hotel."

"You had it coming."

Ning Ran exhaled angrily but she didn't talk back. Whatever you say.

After thinking about it, she agreed with Nan Chen. If she hadn't gone out to have a meal with Zheng Lunlun, nothing would've happened.

It only took one mistake to have trouble rolling in nonstop.

"You disagree?" asked Nan Chen.

Ning Ran turned to Nan Chen and put her hands up to admit defeat. "I agree. You're right. This was all my fault and I deserve it. Happy?"

Nan Chen sneered but didn't respond.

"Where are you taking me?" asked Ning Ran.

Nan Chen checked his watch. The plane taken by the Director of Commerce was about to land, but they were still some distance away from the airport.

It was impolite to let an official wait at an airport.

Nan Chen's annoyance rose and was even angrier at Ning Ran so he ignored her.

"Where are you taking me? If you won't let me stay in the Nan residence, then drop me off in another hotel... Wait, not. I better not go to another hotel. Someone else might recognize me. Gah! Life is too hard!" groaned Ning Ran.

"Where do you want to go?"

Despite his anger, Nan Chen still wanted to help that woman settle down.

He couldn't take her to meet the Director of Commerce because it wasn't appropriate for someone of her social status to be there. She could only be present if she were his wife.

Guilt welled up inside Nan Chen again as that thought popped up.

She is Nan Xing's lover! You can't have thoughts like that. They're wrong and immoral!

"I don't know where I could go. Looks like my only option was to return to the village or I may be attacked at any time. Gosh, this is too hard!"

Nan Chen sneered again. *Oh, you're just realizing it now?* Where was that epiphany before this whole thing happened?

"Go to the hotel," ordered Nan Chen.

The chauffeur replied quickly.

It was already late anyway so Nan Chen decided to forgo his trip to the airport and head to the Director of Commerce's hotel immediately. As a bonus, he could have that woman settle down in the same hotel too.

"I'm not going," shouted Ning Ran, "Someone else will recognize me!"

Nan Chen kept quiet.

"Let me out of the car. I'm not staying in a hotel," screamed the worried Ning Ran, "If anyone else recognizes me, I will be crushed by Zheng Lunlun's fans!"

Nan Chen remained quiet.

That woman was so stupid that she didn't deserve an explanation.

The hotel that was chosen by a Director of Commerce would never allow outsiders to enter the hotel so there was no one around to recognize her.

Moreover, even if she was recognized, the hotel was managed by the Nan family, and no one would dare lay a finger on her while she was there.

Nan Chen felt rather good watching that woman go nuts with worries though so he just let her act out without explaining anything.

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The Nanting No.1 Hotel. That was one of the landmarks of Flower City. The hotel had an outer appearance that looked like a staircase that reached for the sky and had Nanshi Corporation's logo shining at its side. A tower that tall can be seen from miles away.

That was the only seven-star hotel in Flower City and was the place where Nanshi Corporation served important customers. The hotel had three entrances – one on the Southern side, one on the Eastern side, and one on the Northern side. The entrance on the North was usually shut, and would only be opened for VIPs.

The security was air-tight there and everyone was inspected before they were allowed into the hotel. Even Ning Ran, who was vouched by the renowned Sir Chen, needed to register with her identity card.

However, Ning Ran was already traumatized, and the thought of using her identity card was frightening for her. She stalled for as long as she could as she deliberated about whether or not she wanted to stay there. *Will I be recognized?*

"Please show us your identity card so that we can register you into our system," reminded the beautiful receptionist. The receptionist dared not be rude or slow because Ning Ran was someone that Nan Chen had brought over so the receptionist remained standing while talking to Ning Ran.

"Can I skip that part?" asked Ning Ran.

"I'm sorry, but that is not possible. We are responsible for our customer's safety so we have to insist that every customer registers with us," said the receptionist with a big smile, "In fact, we have a number of politicians staying right now so we can't allow unauthorized individuals to stay here."

"Then forget it, I'm not staying here," said Ning Ran who turned around to leave after hearing that she must register.

Ning Ran was in such a hurry that she almost bumped into the annoyed Nan Chen whose face was practically dripping with irritation. "What?" asked Nan Chen.

"Sir Chen, the lady refuses to show us her identity card," replied the terrified receptionist. It was Ning Ran's fault, but the receptionist was still worried that it would affect her.

"What is up with you?" asked Nan Chen as he glared at Ning Ran with distaste in his eyes. "I... I'm not staying here." "Take it out," ordered Nan Chen cruelly. "What?"

"Your identity card," said Nan Chen coolly. Ning Ran refused to obey him. I'm not staying here anymore. Why should I hand my identity card over?

Someone interrupted with a report at that instance and said, "Sir Chen, the director's car will be arriving in 15 minutes. Will you be greeting him at the entrance?"

"Yes," replied Nan Chen. "Hurry!" said the furious Nan Chen. Ning Ran understood then that there was an important customer heading over, and Nan Chen was needed at the entrance.

If she disrupted Nan Chen's work, the consequences would be dire. Ning Ran had no choice but to fish out her identity card and was about to hand it over when she retracted all of a sudden and asked, "No one will recognize me, right?"

"Hmph, who do you think you are?" sneered Nan Chen. Ning Ran tightened her lips then rolled her eyes at Nan Chen. That spoiled attitude with just a hint of shamelessness was supposed to be vexing, but that woman was able to carry it out in an alluring manner.

Add that to the sweet orange blossom scent that was exuding on and off of her, and Nan Chen suddenly felt like he was being flirted at.

After registering, someone personally brought Ning Ran to her room. Ning Ran almost shouted aloud when she stepped in. That hotel room was extremely different from the one she has stayed in earlier.

The most obvious difference was that the size of the room was at least three times bigger! The second most obvious difference was the luxurious decorations that encompassed a wool carpet, chandelier, and a wine cabinet.

"Ms. Ding, please rest. The restaurant is open 24 hours if you're hungry. If you have other preferences, we can also have someone go to the restaurant bring the food over for you. Also, should you require anything else, please call the butler, and we'll do our best to fulfill your needs," said the waiter politely before he bowed.

"The butler?"

"Yes, we have butlers in the hotel. If you need anything at all, you can inform us. For example, if you are craving roasted meat from a particular restaurant in the East, or if you want a particular drink from a place in the West, we can get it for you, provided that the store or restaurant was still open."

Ning Ran thought that the service provided was really good.

Unfortunately, she didn't care about any of that. She only had one special request that the butler probably won't agree to.

"I don't really feel like eating anything, but I do have a special request that I'm not sure if you can fulfill." "Please do clarify. As long as it can be done within the city, we will be able to carry it out."

"Erm... that's great. You see, I have two kids, and I want to bring them here so they can have dinner with me," said Ning Ran, "Can you arrange that?"

"That is... We've never had that request before. If your kids are adults, we can send a car over, but if they're kids, we..."

"I knew it! You were all confident just a minute ago and were claiming that you could do anything, but you can't even bring two kids around!" complained Ning Ran who pretended to be unsatisfied.

"That..." The waiter looked troubled. "Forget it, it's fine."

The truth was that Ning Ran knew that the butler couldn't do anything about it, but she wanted to try. "Let me ask my manager," said the troubled waiter, "I'll let you know if there is anything we can do."

"Alright, you may leave." Ning Ran didn't want to make things too difficult for the waiter because she understood that there were things that were out of his control.

After the waiter had left, Ning Ran lay down on her bed. She didn't have anything else to do anyway so she could only lie there. After some time, Ning Ran became so bored that she began browsing the internet through her phone.

She realized that malicious news about her had drastically reduced, and the main entertainment news website had practically stopped reporting about it.

Someone must've done some PR management, and the only person who could pull something like that off was Nan Chen.

Later, Ning Ran noticed that there was a new article about how the new actress Ding Mi and the celebrity Zheng Lunlun were at a charity event.

The article stated that about a month ago, Zheng Lunlun's team had decided to donate ten million to build schools for the poor.

That charity event was also participated by the new starlet Ding Mi.

The duo had decided to donate to the same region so the local charity organization had reached out to both Zheng Lunlun, Ding Mi, and the co-organizer of the charity – Nanshi Corporation.

The dinner at the hot pot restaurant was set up so that all three sides could discuss the next charity event.

According to the article, Ms. Ding Mi had donated over 5 million worth of resources.

Ning Ran scanned the article again. Yep, it said Ding Mi.

The photo that accompanied that article was the one where she and Zheng Lunlun were eating together in the restaurant.

But when had she ever donated 5 million? She was so broke that she couldn't even afford rent so donating 5 million was not possible.

Does that mean that the article was fake? That didn't seem to be the case either, because the media company that ran the story was credible.

So what was going on?

Ignoring the fact that the news was faked, the positive impact brought about by that article was real because that news had cleared up any misunderstanding that had arisen from the incident that had gone wild on the internet.

Zheng Lunlun and Ning Ran weren't in an intimate relationship as the rumors had made it out to be. They were just professionals who had a little work to do so they hung out together.

The fact that they had only gotten together for a charitable reason had also boosted both their images.

The article was shared on the internet soon enough, and since Zheng Lunlun was a renowned celebrity, the news had spread like wildfire.

The haters who had been shouting at Zheng Lunlun and Ning Ran had turned around and started to support them!

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The drastic changes left Ning Ran appalled. This was clearly a press statement that was pre-arranged to be circulated across the different media platforms.

In the entertainment industry, press releases were written as news to be disseminated to all media platforms who wish to obtain that particular piece of news. The purpose of the press releases were either to gain publicity or to clarify a situation. At the end of the day, the press release showed one shared viewpoint with no debate at all. When a number of media platforms release a piece of news that all contain similar standpoints, it generally meant that it came from the same press release. Internet users who come across these would then deem the piece of news true since there was a common piece of information being circulated around by the various media platforms.

But this so-called truth could actually be fabricated by the writer who circulated it around and it could be nothing close to the truth at all.

But this was not important, as the so-called truth today refers to information that the majority of the people chose to believe in.

Upon seeing this press release, Ning Ran let out a sigh of relief.

The media surpassed any individual's ability to help one clarify any situation. Just a few hours ago, she was still being misunderstood by everyone but now with the help of the media, she had managed to gain lots of support.

In fact, Ning Ran was still that same old Ning Ran and she had never once changed.

What a magical world.

Perhaps it was this clarification that cleared her mind, allowing her to fall asleep almost instantly as soon she laid down.

Just then, the doorbell rang. Ning Ran woke up and saw a waiter through the peephole.

She opened the door and two young children suddenly popped out, "Mommy!"

Ning Ran was shocked as she did not expect her two children to be fetched to her hotel.

The waiter just said that he had to seek permission from his boss and did not get back to Ning Ran afterwards, so she did not pin high hopes on meeting her children.

"Dabao, Erbao, mommy misses you two so much." Ning Ran said as she hugged them, one each within both her arms, with tears flowing down her cheeks.

"Mommy, we miss you a lot too, how are you doing?" Erbao helped Ning Ran wipe her tears away very lovingly.

"Mommy is good, let's get inside."

As soon as Erbao got into the room, she started wandering off. She was the most active darling.

Dabao was as calm as usual. She was very worried for Ning Ran, "Mommy, what exactly had happened?"

"Nothing much, mommy is pretty good."

"Why can't we meet in Aunt Xiang's house but only in here?"

There was nothing that could be hidden from Dabao as he was really smart.

Ning Ran gave it a thought and said, "There is something wrong, but it is not very serious."

"Daddy said that Mommy likes another guy." Dabao said timidly.

This Nan Xing is such a bastard. How could he discuss such a topic with the children?

Besides, they are so young!

"Don't listen to daddy, there's just some misunderstanding. It is not what he thought it was."

Just then, Erbao heard them discussing this matter and he came over to get involved, "Mommy have you found a boyfriend for yourself?"

Ning Ran stretched her hand out and gently squeezed Erbao's chubby cheeks, "Even you are blabbering nonsense too!"

Erbao started giggling and tried to hide, "Mommy is shy about getting a boyfriend!"

"Si Han, don't blabber nonsense!" Ning Ran exclaimed.

Ning Ran does not usually call people by their names. If she were to do that, she must have been in a serious mode.

Erbao stuck out her tongue, "I didn't say that, but what will happen to Daddy if Mommy were to have a boyfriend?"

This question was too hard to tackle with. Dabao looked towards Ning Ran as he also wanted to know how she would answer this question.

"It will never happen! Don't listen to that mad guy's words, there is something wrong with him." Ning Ran said angrily.

Erbao was unhappy, "Mommy is scolding people."

Nan Xing doted on Erbao the most, and he had never placed a consumption limit on her favorite desserts. Hence, Erbao liked Nan Xing the most.

Upon hearing Ning Ran call Nan Xing a mad guy, she felt the need to stand up for him.

As soon as Erbao said this, Ning Ran felt that it was rather inappropriate for her to criticize Nan Xing in front of the children.

"He was just spouting nonsense, there is no such matter." Ning Ran added.

"I believe in Mommy." Dabao nodded eagerly.

"Dabao is so well-behaved, so obedient." Ning Ran gave Dabao a loving hug.

"I am well-behaved and obedient too." Erbao felt that she was on the brink of falling out of favor and immediately leaned close to Ning Ran coquettishly.

"What did you say about me just now?" Ning Ran rolled her eyes at Erbao.

Erbao started to get smooth and slick, "What I said earlier was wrong, Mommy's words are always right, and Daddy's words are always wrong!"

"You mugwump, acting just like a tailwind!" Ning Ran said as she cuddled Erbao in her arms.

"Mommy, when can we go home?" Dabao asked.

"Are you both used to staying in the Nan family?" Ning Ran asked with concern.

"Very good. There are lots of delicious food." Erbao said, her face full of delight.

"You only care about eating. How about Dabao, are you good?"

"It is indeed not too bad but we want to be together with mommy."

Ning Ran felt upset upon hearing Dabao saying this.

"Mommy has been too busy for the next few days; Aunt Xiang has no time to spare either so you two will have to stay with the Nan family first. Once mommy has settled everything, I will come and bring the both of you back, alright?"

Dabao pouted, "Why can't you move into the Nan family together with us? It's really awesome there."

This was too complicated and Ning Ran could not explain it clearly within a couple of words.

No matter how smart the children were, they will not ever be able to fully understand what was going on in the world of the adults.

"I am not quite used to staying with the Nan family, Mommy has my own reasons but Mommy promises to bring you both back home really soon."

"I trust Mommy." Dabao said obediently.

"I also believe in Mommy." Erbao immediately added as she was worried that she might fall out of favor.

"The two of you are so obedient, you both are Mommy's pride." Ning Ran returned into a good mood.

"But Mommy, your pride is getting hungry." Erbao said as she rubbed her tiny belly.

Ning Ran took her hand over, and said, "Girls cannot do this, we have to remain elegant at all times."

"I know, but with an empty stomach, I can't be elegant." Erbao pouted.

With Erbao saying that, Ning Ran also felt herself getting hungry.

The waiter said that there was housekeeping service so they could get someone to deliver the food up to the hotel room.

"What do you want to eat?" Ning Ran questioned Erbao.

"I need to get to the restaurant to take a look before I can decide." Erbao was rather smart as she knew that there would be a lot of delicious food in such a high-end hotel.

"We will not go to the restaurant; we will just get them to deliver a few good dishes over."

"No, I want to get to the restaurant, there's a greater variety of food over there. I feel uncomfortable eating in the hotel room, it is bad for my health!" Erbao yelled.

How amazing, she could even bring in health as a reason to support her point.

"Si Han, please be obedient." Dabao said as he was standing by the side. He could tell that mommy did not want to go to the restaurant.

"But it has been really long since we last had a meal together." Erbao said, feeling wronged.

Ning Ran gave it a thought. Why should she let the child suffer with her?

Since it was a rare occasion for the three of them to have a meal together, why should the children hide with her in the room for dinner? What's wrong with going down to the restaurant to have a meal?

Besides, this was a high-end hotel so there should be a slim chance of meeting those lowly fans.

"Sure, let mommy bring the both of you to the restaurant."

"Yes, yes!" Erbao started applauding with her tiny hands as she bounced up and down excitedly.

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As they arrived at the entrance of the restaurant, they saw a few bodyguards in black standing there, and two of them were foreigners.

Five chefs from across the globe gathered here to prepare the dishes for the meal that Nan Chen hosted for a commercial director.

Due to the cultural differences, the chef from the hotel was not able to take on this important mission. Hence the main chef appointed for today was the one who was familiar with the culture in the Middle East as they could not afford to have anything go wrong.

Upon seeing the business director and Nan Chen conversing in the restaurant, Erbao shouted loudly, "Third Uncle!"

Ning Ran wanted to hold Erbao back but it was too late.

"How can you be so rude; the adults are having a serious discussion! How can you disturb them like this!" Ning Ran said as she kept her voice low.

When Ning Ran saw the foreign bodyguards at the entrance, she knew that the person Nan Chen was meeting would be a very important figure.

Besides, the female receptionist at the hotel lobby said that there would be an important political figure coming to stay in this hotel today.

Ning Ran was about to quietly bring the children back to the hotel room but Erbao let out this loud yell.

Upon knowing that she did something wrong, Erbao immediately kept her mouth shut and started chewing on her lower lips as tears welled up in her eyes.

She was just excited upon seeing Nan Chen and did not consider that she might be disrupting his conversation.

How could a child be able to consider so much? It is not even possible for an adult to be considerate at all times let alone a child.

Erbao felt wronged as Ning Ran suddenly lashed out at her.

Meanwhile, Nan Chen who was conversing with the business director heard Erbao's tender voice.

Jiang Zhe, who was standing next to him, immediately walked towards them to get them to leave.

This meeting was very important as it involves an investment of a large sum of money. Hence no disruption should happen.

But Nan Chen called Jiang Zhe back, and told the political figure with a smile on his face, "Excuse me for a moment."

He then stood up and strode out of the restaurant.

Ning Ran was about to leave with the children, and seeing Nan Chen walking towards them was making her anxious. *Oh no, here comes Poker Face!*

But she was indeed the one at fault. Nan Chen was having such an important meeting yet she brought her children down and interrupted them.

"I am sorry, my child is not mature enough. I will leave with them right away and not disturb you, I am so sorry about it." Ning Ran immediately said.

Nan Chen froze. Since when does this woman know how to say such things? She was not that unreasonable after all.

From what he could recall, he had never once heard Ning Ran spoke as nicely as this before.

His intention of approaching them was not to blame them, but it was because Erbao called him so he wanted to say hello to Erbao in case she felt that he was giving her a cold shoulder.

"I am sorry Third Uncle, I am the one to blame, I hope that you will not blame mommy." Erbao was on the verge of crying.

Seeing Erbao's eyes turning red, Nan Chen felt himself about to melt. He immediately gave her a hug and said, "It's fine, Third Uncle isn't angry."

"I am sorry, I was just too excited upon seeing Third Uncle, so......"

"I know, Third Uncle understands. There's nothing wrong, you can return to the hotel room with mommy first, I still have some important matters to attend to with that uncle with a big beard. After we get our things settled, I will give mommy a call and the three of you can come down for a meal, is that alright?" Nan Chen said in a very gentle voice, and sounded like he was spoiling Erbao. Even Ning Ran was shocked upon hearing this.

Oh goodness, is this even that same old Poker Face? It has been too long since I have seen him speaking in such a gentle tone.

Does this Poker Face have two personalities? One personality where he is fierce to me, and the other being gentle to children?

"Take your time, Third Uncle. I am not hungry." Erbao was so good in handling unexpected situations. She just said that she was extremely hungry in the hotel room, but now she said that she was not hungry at all!

"Give me a moment, Third Uncle will get things done very quickly. Get back to the room with mommy for now." Nan Chen said gently.

"Alright, Third Uncle. Please get back to work. We will return to the room. Goodbye Third Uncle." Erbao said obediently.

Ning Ran looked at Nan Chen apologetically, "So sorry about it, I did not know that you were hosting a guest."

Nan Chen's face returned into his usual emotionless state, "It is normal for children to not be mature, but if an adult were to be so, that would be called ignorance."

Ning Ran was raging in flames; this man indeed has two personalities!

He was so sweet towards the children yet he could instantly do a mode switch and get so cold towards Ning Ran. *In what way did I ever offend you that you must treat me this way?*

"You are the ignorant one." Ning Ran muttered under her breathe, full of hatred.

Nan Chen ignored her and returned back to the restaurant.

"You bloody Poker Face, I spoke to you so nicely but you just took advantage of it and got harsher towards me. Trying to act like some domineering CEO? How childish!" Ning Ran's blood was still boiling.

"Don't be angry mommy, let's go back first and enjoy delicious food later." Erbao consoled her.

"Aren't you hungry? Shall we get something to eat first?" Ning Ran said in distress.

"I am not very hungry, Third Uncle said that we can have delicious food later." Erbao said as she started salivating, and swallowed her saliva back in, looking so ready to enjoy food.

It seemed like Nan Chen's words carried a lot of weight to the extent that Erbao could even tolerate her hunger.

It did not take long for Nan Chen to send someone to the hotel room to get the three of them to the restaurant.

Upon reaching the restaurant, Nan Chen was already waiting there.

The previous dishes have already been replaced with a new set of dishes and most of them were tailored to suit children's taste.

However, there were still a couple of dishes from the Middle East cuisine and the main aim was to let the two children get an eye-opener of how they tasted like.

Erbao started cheering and clasping her fist, ready to start feasting.

"Take your time and enjoy the food." Nan Chen said lovingly.

"Third Uncle, have you settled your work?" Dabao questioned Nan Chen.

"Yes, it was very smooth. There was no interruption." Nan Chen replied.

Upon hearing this, Ning Ran heaved a sigh of relief.

But Nan Chen treated Ning Ran like as if she was invisible. He only looked after the two children and had no interaction with her at all.

But even if they were to start interacting, their conversations were going to end up in fights anyway.

With so much yummy food in front of her, she could not be bothered to interact with him. She decided to enjoy herself since he was looking after the two children.

She was too aggrieved that she needed to help herself feel better by binge eating.

As Nan Chen saw Ning Ran eating greedily, he thought to himself, *this person isn't afraid of getting fat?*

"That's enough." Nan Chen could not keep it back in anymore.

"Sir Chen, that's so stingy of you. Must you do this? I haven't consumed much food yet. Anyway, you've already footed the bill, I'm sure you wouldn't have to pay anymore if I were to eat more." Ning Ran said as she placed her pair of chopsticks down.

"You're filming the show that I invested in. If you were to grow any fatter, you're going to affect the character's image. This concerns my company."

This was really straightforward. Nan Chen was not concerned about her personal life but rather on the business aspect.

"Eating more for just one meal will not make me obese. If I don't consume enough food, how can I get the energy to lose weight?" Ning Ran said rashly in anger.

She then lifted her chopsticks up again and reached for her favorite braised pork balls.

"That's enough. Don't consume too much of these high calorie foods. Since you are an actress, you are supposed to be professional and be responsible towards the investors." Nan Chen said as he frowned and shook his head.

Ning Ran instantly lost all of her appetite. This Poker Face is really annoying.

"Yes, I will stop eating. You're the only one with knowledge. So annoying, no wonder no woman wants to marry you." Ning Ran blurted out, leaving everyone stunned.

Even Erbao whose lips were completely greasy by now, stopped eating and looked at Nan Chen. She wanted to listen to his explanation on why he was still single.

Nan Chen wanted to smash the entire bowl of braised pork balls onto Ning Ran's head to make her look like a pork ball.

How could she say such a thing in front of the children?

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But Nan Chen held back this impulsive thought and decided to not answer this question. He had to hold back his anger. He swallowed this ball of anger and did not want to argue with such a lowly and uneducated woman. If he were to be so calculative with her, then wouldn't he be of the same level as her?

"Erbao, is the food good?" Nan Chen asked Erbao gently to distract himself and not be angered by Ning Ran. Erbao was so ready to witness a commotion but before she could even sit back and relax, Third Uncle mentioned her name. Erbao immediately nodded and said, "It's nice, very delicious!" Dabao was not interested in poking into other peoples' business but he was particularly interested in Third Uncle's reason for getting married.

In Dabao's eyes, Third Uncle was almost perfect in this world and he could picture how any woman would match up to him. There was a woman he could picture with Nan Chen, yet he was not allowed to do so.

Dabao was surprisingly a little upset that he shunned Ning Ran's question. This was Dabao's very first time being interested in other peoples' business, but Third Uncle did not share.

Third Uncle was indeed someone who does not like gossiping. Everyone continued to dig in silently. Ning Ran regretted saying those words to Nan Chen.

It was not really appropriate for her to say such words in front of the children. Furthermore, everyone was clear of his status in Flower City and that he was the ideal partner of many celebrities.

In fact, Nan Chen was not lacking in the ability to get a wife. Ning Ran's chose to say those words to deliberately offend him as she hated him.

But since Nan Chen did not rebut, she would just let it be. After the meal, Erbao said that she was too full and wanted to go for a swim.

Before this, Erbao already noticed that the hotel had a very big swimming pool that was temperature-controlled as well as a children's pool. She wanted to visit the pool and have fun.

As expected, Ning Ran did not agree and said that it was not good to swim right after a meal. Erbao was unhappy, and she said as she lifted her jaw, "You resent me for being fat, but now you're not allowing me to go for a swim to lose weight!"

"How are you trying to lose weight? You want to go and play!" Ning Ran exclaimed. "What's wrong with wanting to go and play?"

Erbao did not say this as she would not dare to talk to Ning Ran in this manner. It was the Poker Face who said this. *This bloody Poker Face. I am trying to educate my child, why is he poking his nose into my business?*

Erbao was surprised that she had Third Uncle's to get her back. This child was very smart. She will not get arrogant just because she had someone's support as she knew that Ning Ran would dislike it.

Instead, she gave a pitiful look, "I just want Mommy to spend more time with me, it has been too long since Mommy had last accompanied me." How amazing. Erbao's words touched Ning Ran, making her feel grieved and had no choice but to agree. "It is innate for children to like to have fun. If a child does not like to play, how is the child still a child?" Nan Chen was still trying to help.

"Why are you still nagging? Haven't I already agreed?" Ning Ran was angered. "Did I say anything wrong?" Nan Chen replied coldly.

It seemed like they were about to have an argument. Dabao slid from the chair onto the floor and said, "Mommy, Third Uncle, let's go."

Half an hour later, Ning Ran rested on the chair next to the swimming pool and started scrolling through her phone out of boredom.

Dabao and Erbao were having lots of fun in the swimming pool under Nan Chen's company.

Ning Ran did not expect Nan Chen would personally change out into a swimming outfit to accompany the two children to play in the pool.

Just then, Ning Ran received an update. During the upcoming weekend, Ning Ran and Zheng Lunlun were going to be working together again for the second time to visit districts with less well-off families to carry out some inspection and express concern towards them.

They would be visiting the poor children before attending the live ceremony for item donations.

This piece of news was to prove that the information being circulated previously was true and to help the both of them clean up their images by backing up with sufficient evidence.

Perhaps it should not be termed as cleaning up their images as both of them did nothing wrong. It was more of to help the both of them get back to what they used to be normally.

But the problem now was that everyone would have their attention placed on this activity that was coming up. If Zheng Lunlun and Ning Ran did not attend the activity mentioned in the weekend, they would receive a lot of criticism.

Just as Ning Ran was thinking of this problem, she saw that particular someone emerging from the swimming pool.

This man had a wonderful build. He was well-toned and muscular, and she felt that she could even smell his hormones.

He started to walk towards Ning Ran and she could feel her heart racing. What is he trying to do?

Nan Chen took a bath towel and wiped away the water from his body before lying down next to Ning Ran. He stretched his hand out to reach for the glass of red wine and took a sip of it.

She was not used to how close he was to her and felt rather uncomfortable.

However Nan Chen was rather comfortable. He was totally relaxed as he took another sip of the red wine, and threw glances at Ning Ran intermittently.

"I saw the news report that I donated five million to the poorer district. What's going on?" Ning Ran asked Nan Chen.

"That was necessary in order to not let Zheng Lunlun's image be affected by you. The money donated was donated under Zheng Lunlun's name but subsequently the five million were split up to be donated under the name to maintain your image. That isn't fake news, but we have really done a lot for the people in the poorer areas. In fact, the entire Nanshi Corporation donates hundreds of millions worth of material to them every year." Nan Chen got proud of himself as he mentioned his own charitable efforts.

"Thank you then." Ning Ran said.

"You don't have to thank me; you will still have to return the money that was donated under your name."

Ning Ran was shocked. I have to return that five million on my own? How is that possible?

"You should know that I have no money."

"You'll owe me for now. Return me in future." Nan Chen had already spared a thought for Ning Ran.

The amount of debt is so much!

Ning Ran already had a debt of two million and four hundred thousand as she previously caused the filming to stop. Now that she has another debt of five million, isn't that going to total up to eight million?

She would not be able to repay this heavy debt even if she were to sell herself in exchange for money.

"No, I did not get you to do all these. Who are you to make me pay you for this?" Ning Ran was panicking.

"If I do not do this, what else can I do? Are you able to face the allegations against you and Zheng Lunlun? You should know that as long as a celebrity has been blacklisted, there is no way for you to get back on track no matter how hard you work in future. No one bothers as all they will remember is the flaw you had! It serves you right for being blacklisted but you cannot ruin Zheng Lunlun like that!" Nan Chen exclaimed.

Ning Ran was at a loss for words. She really did not have the ability to handle the crisis that she was facing at the moment.

A poor person cannot go far in life!

But thinking about it in another perspective, I shall just be indebted to you. I have no money to repay you anyway, you can just take my life if you want to but I have nothing to repay you with!

"So I must really go to the donation ceremony with Zheng Lunlun this weekend?" Ning Ran asked.

"What do you think?" Nan Chen threw a rhetorical question back at her.

"But isn't Zheng Lunlun going to stammer in front of the crowd?"

"You should think about yourself first, you don't have to worry about others." Nan Chen said coldly.

"You....."

"Mommy, come and play with us." Erbao shouted loudly to Ning Ran.

Ning Ran waved his hands and said, "I am not playing, the two of you can go ahead."

Just then, Qiao Zhan walked over, "Sir Chen, the car is here to pick the children up, I have gotten them to wait in the carpark."

Nan Chen nodded his head.

"How about letting the kids stay the night with me in the hotel?" Ning Ran said.

"They have a home to live in, they don't have to stay in a hotel." Nan Chen said cold heartedly.

This was really mean. Fine, I have no home and it serves me right to live in the hotel.

"The rate of the room that you are sleeping in is at thirty-eight thousand per night. Please remember to pay for this on your own." Nan Chen said again.

Thirty eight thousand?

Ning Ran almost choked to death on her saliva when she heard this. Before she could say anything, Nan Chen had already left.

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During the weekend, Ning Ran was woken by Cheng Xiangyun's phone call in the early morning. Cheng Xiangyun told her to get ready guickly as the car that was designated to fetch her was arriving at the hotel soon. Ning Ran knew that she was going to head down to the rural areas today but she did not expect it to be that early. She immediately got out of bed. As soon as she finished washing up, she received a call from Qiao Zhan to inform her that her car had arrived downstairs. Ning Ran did not expect another passenger in the car, which was actually that Poker Face. "Why are you here?" Ning Ran asked shockingly. "This is my car." Nan Chen replied simply. Ning Ran was so shocked that she couldn't bring herself to say anything. Ning Ran could feel Nan Chen's cold stares projected onto herself as he started to judge her from head to toe. Ning Ran felt uncomfortable as Nan Chen rarely judged people in this manner, "What's wrong?" "There will be a lot of reporters around today." Nan Chen said. "What do you mean by that?" "You have to be aware of the words you say. If you make any mistakes, you will have to resolve them on your own." Nan Chen said. "Oh, I do not have any experience. I don't know what to do." Ning Ran was in a state of panic. "Jiang Zhe." Nan Chen called his assistant who was seated next to the driver seat. Jiang Zhe immediately took out a small notebook from his bag, "Ding Mi, these are the rules and regulations for an artiste's words to the media. It tells you the questions posed by the reporters that you can or cannot answer as well as how to answer them. Please take a look." Ning Ran was instantly relieved. There is such a thing? She looked through it and saw over hundreds of rules. Ning Ran did not dare to neglect any one of them, hence she went through them one by one and tried to remember them by heart. Deep down inside, Nan Chen was secretly laughing at her as he saw Ning Ran trying to memorize the rules just like how a primary school student would. He thought that this woman was really dumb. It was sufficient to just scan through such regulations and get the gist of it. Was there a need to remember it so seriously? Ning Ran realized that Nan Chen was staring at her and she turned her head over to him. Nan Chen then guickly looked away to the other side, out of the car. "Hey, why are you going there? Are you going to the rural areas with us?" Ning Ran questioned him. Nan Chen ignored her. Jiang Zhe, who was sitting in front, explained, "We are going to Tonglin County, which is in close cooperation with Nanshi Corporation. A lot of construction work there are done by Nanshi Corporation. Sir Chen is heading there to discuss the development of the new township with their leader." "Oh." Ning Ran nodded her head. Ning Ran continued going through the notebook on artists' rules and regulations. As she read along, she felt herself getting sleepier. She did not have enough sleep as she did not have a good night's sleep yesterday and had to wake up rather early today. Ning Ran

fell asleep almost instantly after she closed her eyes. As she could not find a comfortable position to sleep in, she laid against Nan Chen after what seemed like a daze. The sudden tinge of the orange blossom scent distracted Nan Chen. After Ning Ran's head came into contact with Nan Chen's shoulders, she felt rather comfortable as there was a support for her head and she stopped moving. She was in a comfortable position, but that was not the case for Nan Chen. He had never let anyone lean on his shoulders to rest, not even once. Ning Ran was leaning so close to Nan Chen. Her warm breath along with the faint orange blossom scent was tantalizing Nan Chen. He had never once expected for this annoying woman to get so close to him! Nan Chen was trying to retract himself by the corner. But Ning Ran would not give up this comfortable position that she was in, given that she had just fallen asleep. She moved her hands and wrapped it around his arms, with her head still leaning against Nan Chen's shoulders. Jiang Zhe heard some weird noises behind and tried to look through the rearview mirror. He saw the entire situation and was in great shock. But it was no big deal for one to lend his shoulders to someone else. It was not even counted as intimacy. But to Nan Chen, this was a great matter as he had never gotten so close to any females. In fact, for the many years that Jiang Zhe had remained by Nan Chen, the number of women that could get in his car was so few to the extent that Jiang Zhe could not even recall any. It was the same for his previous rumored girlfriend, Luo Fei. She had never once rode in Nan Chen's car together with him. Ning Ran had not only gotten into Nan Chen's car but had even lent his shoulders to take a nap. This was a really big deal. But, isn't this woman Fourth Young Master's woman? This...... Eventually, Nan Chen still stretched out his hands and pushed Ning Ran's head to another side. This time, Ning Ran did not lean against him again, but she curled up in the other corner, did a slight adjustment to her posture and continued sleeping. Nan Chen felt a burden lifted off his shoulders after he pushed her away. There were three cars heading towards Tonglin County today. One was for Nan Chen, the other was to pick Zheng Lunlun up, and the last one was to pick up the staff members who were heading down as well. They were able to send out more cars originally, but if there were too many cars, it could be rather suspicious and would not be in line with the theme of a charity event. Hence, they settled with using three cars. It was initially intended for Ning Ran and Zheng Lunlun to ride the same car, but considering the misunderstanding that the internet users have towards their relationship, Nan Chen decided that it was better for them to be in separate cars to prevent further misunderstandings. Furthermore, he also did not wish for Zheng Lunlun and Ning Ran to ride in the same car even though Nan Chen did not have a reason for that. That was why he decided to pick Ning Ran up but he did not expect for her to not only sleep like a pig but also lean against him as a pillow rest. It was ridiculous. "Jiang Zhe, help me contact the other two cars to get their location." Nan Chen said. "Yes, Sir Chen." Jiang Zhe said as he fished out his phone. "Sir Chen, they are already on the expressway." "Get them to gather at Liang Chuan Service Area." "Yes, Sir Chen." Meanwhile, Ning Ran had already fallen into a deep slumber, and had dreamt of the television series that she casted in having an extremely high viewership rate. She even dreamt that she had obtained an award, and Nan Chen was the one presenting it to her. She has overjoyed that she was laughing to herself in her dreams. By then, the car had already

arrived at the Liang Chuan service area. When Nan Chen turned around to look at Ning Ran, he could see her smiling slyly. What is she laughing at? Was she actually awake all these while yet pretended to be sleeping? The car entered into the service area and the inertia resulting from the braking of the car that was initially travelling at a high speed woke Ning Ran from her sleep. Her first reaction was to reach out for her mouth to make sure that she was not drooling. Thank goodness, she did not drool. She then raised her head and saw Nan Chen's cold stares. This state was how exactly a person would look if the other party owed him money. "Are we here?" Ning Ran said as she rubbed her eyes, "So sorry, I fell asleep." Without saying a single word, Nan Chen opened the door and got out of the car. Zheng Lunlun had been waiting at the service center. With a mask on his face, he came up to welcome their arrival, "Third Uncle!" After he finished greeting him, he rushed over to the car as he knew that Ning Ran was in it. Although he was wearing a mask, Ning Ran could recognize Zheng Lunlun. What she was most curious about, was whether his stammering was still there. "Blondie!" "Computer Guru!" Nan Chen who was standing by the side frowned even deeper. What type of nicknames were this? What is Blondie? What on earth is a Computer Guru? When Zheng Lunlun was overseas, he had his hair dyed red, so he was called Blondie. On the other hand, Ning Ran had been letting Dabao use her ID to play computer games with Zheng Lunlun. As Dabao was very skillful in killing the enemies in the game, Zheng Lunlun adulated her and gave her the nickname of Computer Guru. Their revolutionary friendship can never be understood by anyone else, let alone their names which sound plain to many. Nan Chen obviously did not understand their friendship. "Sigh, we cannot talk too much, your Third Uncle will get unhappy." Ning Ran whispered as she gestured to him. "Sure." Zheng Lunlun agreed.

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Ning Ran pouted, and asked Zheng Lunlun softly, "Are you getting better?"

"I am slightly better." Zheng Lunlun replied.

Ning Ran counted the words, "I am slightly better" as four words. In the past, he would start to stammer if he exceeded three words. It seemed like he managed to break through the limit of three words.

"Under five words I will not......not......"

Here it goes again! Zheng Lunlun started to stammer again just right after they thought he was fine.

"Ok, I got it. So you can only keep within five words in order to not stammer?" Ning Ran asked.

"Yes!" Zheng Lunlun nodded his head with some force.

"Zheng Lunlun, get in the car!" Nan Chen signaled to him.

"What?"

Zheng Lunlun thought that Nan Chen's intention of asking him to wait at the service area was to let him and Ning Ran share the same car.

But it seemed like that was not the case. Nan Chen wanted to take the same car as Zheng Lunlun, and let Ning Ran take the other car alone.

But why was that so? Zheng Lunlun could not understand.

Ning Ran was also confused. All she did was to take a short nap in the car, and this has provoked the Poker Face so much that he wanted to switch cars?

But Ning Ran quite liked this arrangement. By having a car to herself, she could sit however she liked without any restraints.

Zheng Lunlun was prepared to share a car with Ning Ran, so that they could even play a few games together when they reached their destination. However, Third Uncle had ruined his plan and now he was really unhappy.

But although he did not like the arrangement, he did not dare to defy Third Uncle. He got onto the car obediently, and sat next to Nan Chen.

Nan Chen was angry when he saw Zheng Lunlun's bothered face.

It seemed like his decision to not let that woman share a car with Zheng Lunlun was totally right. This woman could make men go head over heels for her.

Young men like Zheng Lunlun who was full of lust, would not be able to resist such temptation from her. He had to cut down on their interaction opportunities as much as possible!

Nan Chen glanced at his nephew who was sitting next to him. He could tell from Zheng Lunlun's eyes that he was still bothered, as his eyes darted around and looked out of the window.

"We have spent a lot of energy and resources to handle the public relations side to protect your image this time." Nan Chen said.

"I am aware of that, Third Uncle."

"If you were a normal artist, I would have blacklisted you and not help you in any way." Nan Chen added.

"I am aware of that, Third Uncle." Zheng Lunlun gave him the same reply.

Nan Chen started to get irritated.

Zheng Lunlun gave him perfunctory replies as he was obviously absent-minded.

He is definitely thinking of the woman!

"You have to be aware, don't get too close to her and let her affect your future. I do not wish to see such a public relations related crisis ever again." Nan Chen said in a much stricter tone.

"Yes, Third Uncle." Zheng Lunlun replied sincerely.

However to Nan Chen, it still sounded like a perfunctory reply!

Nan Chen closed his eyes and refused to speak anymore.

Seeing Third Uncle's eyes closed, Zheng Lunlun assumed that he was asleep. He fished out his phone and sent a message to Ning Ran, "Are you having motion sickness yet?"

Ning Ran replied very quickly, "No, what about you?"

"Me neither, but why wouldn't Third Uncle let the both of us share the same car?"

"I don't know!"

"If we could share a car, it would be so fun!"

"Yes, it has been so long since we last had a game together. We had been too busy and there had been no chance to do so." Ning Ran replied.

Although Nan Chen had his eyes closed, he was not asleep.

He opened his eyes slightly and caught Zheng Lunlun busy texting away.

He needed no guess to figure out who Zheng Lunlun was chatting with.

Zheng Lunlun had no precaution taken at all as he thought that Nan Chen was asleep. He did not cover his phone screen so Nan Chen was able to see a few words on the screen.

"So fun", "no time", "no chance".

Anger curled hot and unstoppable in his gut. He could no longer hold it back in and he stretched out his hand to grab the phone from Zheng Lunlun's hands.

He winded down the window and was about to throw the phone out of the car!

But this is an expressway and it would be too dangerous to litter on the road. Nan Chen could not bring himself to throw the phone out so instead, he chose to smash it down onto Zheng Lunlun's legs.

Zheng Lunlun was flabbergasted.

Although Nan Chen had always been rather strict to him, he had never once gotten physical. That was because he did not have to get physical as his coldness alone was able to awe Zheng Lunlun.

This sudden action of his was indeed horrifying.

"Make a U-turn ahead. The activity is cancelled." Nan Chen said coldly.

"Third Uncle, what......what's wrong? Wh......What.....What did I.....Did I do.....Do......Wrong?" He was so nervous that it did not take him to get to five words before he started stammering!

That was a really serious stammer from him. It seemed like the results from the past few days of treatment were gone.

Nan Chen was initially raging with his blood boiling and a loss of his temper. But seeing Zheng Lunlun stammer so badly, his heart turned soft.

He did not know why he could not control his temper just now. What is wrong with him?

"Forget it, continue driving." Nan Chen let out a breath.

What he meant was that no U-turn needed to be done, and that they will continue to get to Tonglin County and finish the activities scheduled for today.

"Third Uncle, I..... I...... I......"

"That's enough, stop stammering. Everything's fine." Nan Chen was really good at adjusting his own temper. He could calm himself down within a split second.

"Please don't be angry." Zheng Lunlun said pitifully.

Nan Chen picked up the phone and returned it to Zheng Lunlun.

"Self-awareness." Nan Chen said these two words to Zheng Lunlun, who could not comprehend what he was trying to say.

Just then, Zheng Lunlun's phone rang. It was a call from Ning Ran.

Ning Ran wanted to ask Zheng Lunlun that since his stuttering was still present, what would he do if we were to face the reporters later?

Zheng Lunlun looked at Nan Chen and he did not dare to answer the phone call.

Nan Chen signaled him to pick up the phone call as he wanted to know what that woman was trying to do.

Zheng Lunlun anxiously swiped the screen upwards to answer the phone call and clicked on the loudspeaker function.

"Blondie, what are you doing? Why did you suddenly stop replying to my messages?" Ning Ran questioned him.

"I am getting a little sleepy." Zheng Lunlun said.

"I bet your Third Uncle prevented you from speaking, am I right? He is so old-fashioned, please don't listen to him! Why bother with him?" Ning Ran said.

Zheng Lunlun did not dare to utter a single word.

"Is the Poker Face really preventing you from speaking? Wow, he really is extremely controlling, isn't he? I just wanted to ask you that since your stuttering hasn't fully recovered, how are you going to face the reporters? Will you get it exposed by accident?"

Zheng Lunlun still remained silent.

"Hey, are you there?" Ning Ran said.

"I am listening." Zheng Lunlun said with his voice trembling.

"You tell me, how are you going to face the reporters? You cannot allow for any mistakes to happen this time round. Your Third Uncle has done so much just to help you recover a positive image. I don't want to drag you down with me anymore. I am just a side character, it is okay for me to be blacklisted, but you're an extremely popular first-class celebrity, it is too wasteful if you were to get blacklisted. You got to perform well later to recover your bubbly and positive image." Ning Ran continued to nag at him, but at least she did not blabber things that Nan Chen did not want to hear.

"Okay, I got it." Zheng Lunlun let out a sign of relief. Luckily Ning Ran said something nice to redeem herself. If she continued to insult Third Uncle, he would not have known what to do!

Celebrity Girl Is My Wife Chapter 189

After a few hours of car ride, they finally reached the isolated Tonglin County. After they exited the expressway, the local cars were already there to welcome their arrival.

Nan Chen got out of the car first, and shook hands with all the leaders of Tonglin County who were there to welcome them.

Ning Ran's car continued to drive ahead, as their destination was not Tonglin County, but an isolated district that was located even further ahead.

The reporters who were waiting at Tonglin County also joined in the queue of the cars. The main entertainment media platforms for Flower City were also here, and they started various shoots to report their process.

Ning Ran suddenly felt nervous.

Just then, Cheng Xiangyun gave her a call and she asked Ning Ran to wait for her in the car for a moment.

Cheng Xiangyun also came along, but she was seated in the car with other staff members. She was able to then meet up with Ning Ran now.

A couple of minutes later, Cheng Xiangyun's car arrived.

She switched over to Ning Ran's car and she looked unusually excited.

"There are so many reporters! I heard that there's more waiting over there! I have never once faced so many reporters before!" Cheng Xiangyun said excitedly.

"What's there to get so excited about? What they do is to write false information and capture photos anyhow. The sight of reporters makes me traumatized now." Ning Ran said.

"Not true, reporters and celebrities have a symbiotic relationship. If celebrities wish to have a high rate of attention and be influential, they require a certain degree of exposure. So what will they have to rely on? Who else could it be but the reporters? If there are no celebrities to report on in the entertainment industry, it would mean no news and hence no jobs for them. So this is a symbiotic relationship, and they are not your enemies." Cheng Xiangyun's point of view sounded rather logical, but it seemed like there were few reporters today that have professional ethics.

In order to get any news, they could do anything to achieve their goals. Some unscrupulous reporters even resort to breaking into the morgue of the late Queen who had just passed away in order to get shots of the dead body.

That was why Ning Ran was especially scared of this bunch of reporters as she felt that she did not have the abilities to deal with them.

"Given that there are so many reporters today, shouldn't you be excited that it is going to be your very first time facing them?" Cheng Xiangyun asked Ning Ran.

"Do I still need to get any more exposure? I have already been attacked so badly on the Internet." Ning Ran threw the question back to Cheng Xiangyun.

"That is different. That attention gained was not deliberate and it was negative. This time round, you're going to gain positive viewership, as you will be working together with Beauty Zheng. You will be all over the headlines of the various entertainment media platforms. How significant is that!"

"Fine, that's a very big deal." Ning Ran still sounded very disinterested.

"Why do I feel like this face of yours is making me angry?" Cheng Xiangyun frowned.

"There's a whole lot of people who get angry upon seeing this face of mine, you can get in the line and wait till it's your turn." Ning Ran joked.

"Let's keep the jokes aside for now. On a serious note, I had just interacted with Zheng Lunlun's team, we will have to coordinate with them for the flow of events today." Cheng Xiangyun said.

"Sure, definitely." Ning Ran said.

"That means that if the reporters ask anything later, we will try our best to answer them all to let Zheng Lunlun not speak as much as possible. He cannot speak as his throat isn't well today." Cheng Xiangyun said.

Ning Ran knew that it was not Zheng Lunlun's throat that was not feeling well. It was his stuttering that made him unable to speak over five words, else he would get exposed.

"Understood." Ning Ran nodded.

"Now look at this, these are the questions that the reporters would likely raise later. Look through the answers and memorize them by heart." Cheng Xiangyun passed two sheets of paper to Ning Ran, which were filled with a lot of words.

"We can even get to know beforehand the sort of questions that the reporters are going to pose later?"

"Yes, the reporters here today are arranged by Nanshi Corporation. The questions that they will ask later are included within two pages. If they happen to ask anything that is out of the scope, remember to remain silent and not reply at all."

"Not reply at all?"

"Yes, you do not reply. Just use silence to tackle those questions." Cheng Xiangyun said.

"Will that be a little too rude?" Ning Ran doubted.

"We already have an agreement with them, if they asked anything out of the agreed scope, it is not considered rude if we were to reply to them with silence. If you try to say anything more, there is just going to be a higher chance of making mistakes. The best option is just to keep quiet." Cheng Xiangyun said.

"Very good, I got it." Ning Ran did not expect the entertainment industry to have so many tactics. She felt that her knowledge was expanding.

"Alright, all you have to do now is to familiarize yourself with these questions that might be posed by the reporters and learn them by heart. Also, no matter how sensitive the questions might be or how emotional or disgusting they might get when questioning you, you always have to always keep that smile on your face as there are many cameras facing you. Don't ever pull a long face." Cheng Xiangyun reminded her.

"I got it; I will try my best."

"You cannot just try your best; you must do it. You have to make good use of this opportunity."

"I got it, stop nagging at me, I need to look through these questions."

After another long distance car ride of over an hour, they finally arrived at their destination, Zhang Zhuang School.

This should be one of the most secluded districts. There was only one school over here, hence the school was not divided into a primary section and a secondary section.

The school was very old and there were construction works going on in its surroundings. They were using the money donated by Zheng Lunlun to carry out a major refurbishment of the classrooms and the hostels.

The students have already lined up in an orderly manner in the school field to welcome the special guests from Flower City.

Ning Ran was also considered one of the main guests today as she had donated five million to the school for the building of school facilities.

Although the money was donated by Nanshi Corporation on her behalf and caused her to be in a heavy debt, she felt that it was worthwhile when she saw these students.

If she was rich, she would also make donations to this school as the students made her feel that it was worthwhile to do so.

"A warm welcome to Mr. Zheng Lunlun and to Ms. Ding Mi. Thank you for paying us a visit." The hundreds of students on the field shouted this slogan. Ning Ran, who was exhausted from the long distance haul, instantly felt energized and was touched till she could feel tears in her eyes.

Apart from materialistic people, there are still sincere people in this world who are full of gratitude.

Ning Ran instantly understood the pride written all over Nan Chen's face when he mentioned his charitable acts. If one were to give back to society, there would be a sense of indescribable satisfaction.

Ning Ran had not even come to her senses when Zheng Lunlun started to wave to the students to show his greetings.

It was until Cheng Xiangyun nudged her, that she realized that she should also be doing the same thing.

The reporters who were tagging along had all these recorded down.

Zheng Lunlun walked over to the field and in between the students, giving high fives to the students who were lined in an orderly manner.

It was Ning Ran's first time doing this as she had never been a celebrity. She started to learn from Zheng Lunlun's actions.

She suddenly felt that she was enjoying this activity. Seeing the youthful faces of the students had made her feel as if she was back in her youthful days.

Around ten minutes later, the images and videos captured of Ning Ran and Zheng Lunlun interacting with students from the poorer district were viral on the Internet.

Everyone was complimenting them.

Next, Ning Ran and Zheng Lunlun had to present a short speech, but because Zheng Lunlun had a "sore throat", he only expressed concern towards the students and handed the responsibility of presenting a speech to Ning Ran.

Ning Ran was extremely nervous, but Cheng Xiangyun told her to just treat the students as Dabao and Erbao and just say whatever she wished to. The main aim was to allow the students to be hopeful and continue to look forward to the future.

Ning Ran was indeed calm enough to present a speech which received applause from the entire school students and teachers.

Nan Chen looked at the video clip sent by the staff member and was smiling cheek to cheek.

Although this woman is rather annoying, she has quite a potential to be a celebrity!

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It was already six at night when they returned to Tonglin County. The relevant departments from Tonglin County had prepared a grand appreciation dinner for Zheng Lunlun to thank them for their contributions towards the education industry in Tonglin County.

Furthermore, with Zheng Lunlun's influence, many Internet users indicated that they were interested to make a trip to this isolated county too. This advertisement was good enough.

As long as a celebrity was able to use his popularity in the right way, he would still be able to bring about positive impacts. The person-in-charge from the local educational system was persistent on having a toast with Zheng Lunlun and Ning Ran, and had a drink first to show his sincerity.

But as Zheng Lunlun had a "sore throat" and could barely speak, he obviously could not have a drink either. And this was how the attention would all be placed on Ning Ran.

Although Ning Ran was not extremely renowned, she was one of the most good-looking ladies in the dinner that night and naturally, she was the focus of the night.

It was almost a norm in socializing contexts where gorgeous ladies would always have a couple of men coming forward to have a drink with them.

Ning Ran could only drink a little and did not dare drink too much.

Nan Chen and a few other executives of Nanshi Corporation had also attended the dinner. However, they did not share the same table as them as Nan Chen was together with other leaders of higher rankings.

Nan Chen was able to see Ning Ran being asked to drink with some men, and signaled for Jiang Zhe to go over to drink on her behalf.

It was a norm that the smaller a place was, the more the attention would be placed on human relations.

These people offering a toast to others would mostly be for socializing, perhaps only a few of them were really sincere in showing gratitude.

The men were really friendly. Although Jiang Zhe took the drinks on behalf of Ning Ran, they still insisted for Ning Ran to have a sip.

Besides, they always proceeded to drink after raising the toast to show their sincerity.

They then signaled for her to take it easy and did not force her to drink too much.

However, seeing everyone offering a toast to her, she felt bad if she were to reject their offers and hence resorted to drinking a few sips to entertain them.

As Ning Ran had an empty stomach, she got drunk.

Nan Chen had to rush back to Flower City that night as he had an important meeting the next day.

As Nan Chen was afraid that the drunk Ning Ran would create negative news, he ordered people to forcefully get Ning Ran onto his car.

Nan Chen said on the seat next to the driver seat, and let Ning Ran lie flat at the back seat.

After a drive of over ten kilometers, Nan Chen felt sleepy and decided to close his eyes to take a short rest.

Just a while later after he closed his eyes, he heard someone singing behind him.

He listened closely, and heard someone singing a children's song.

Nan Chen opened his eyes and saw the bodyguard, who was sitting at the driver seat, laughing away.

It was the drunk Ning Ran who was singing.

Was she about to be a crazed drunk?

"Yellow flowers are yellow, white flowers are white, the wildflowers bloom where my hometown is....."

"The cooling breeze, the sound of the flute, daddy and I herd the cattle and sheep.....

To his surprise, Ning Ran sang it beautifully. Nan Chen suddenly felt that this song was rather familiar and that he might have heard it before.

"What song is this?" Nan Chen asked the driver.

"I do not know." The driver shook his head.

Nan Chen turned around and looked at Ning Ran, "What song are you singing?"

Ning Ran raised her head and scratched her head, "I refuse to tell you!"

She acted extremely different from her usual self. Her voice was rather coquettish and sounded like a spoiled princess.

Nan Chen was shocked. Does getting drunk alter her personality?

But Nan Chen couldn't care less.

Nan Chen continued to recuperate his health as he closed his eyes.

However, the person behind him continued singing and seemed to be getting more excited as she started to clap her hands along.

Nan Chen listened again and felt that the song she sang was very familiar. He really felt that he had heard it somewhere before.

He felt that this song was just like the orange blossom scent, embedded within his memory for an extremely long period of time and had never disappeared from his mind.

Nan Chen fished out his phone and searched for the lyrics she sang. He typed the lyrics "yellow flowers are yellow, white flowers are white, the wild flowers bloom where my hometown is" but he could not get any search results.

Was this her original? But how is that possible? How can someone as lowly as her have an original? What a joke!

"Mmm....."

Just then, a drastic change happened. The person behind stopped singing but instead, she started to cover her mouth!

Nan Chen instantly realized that this person was about to vomit!

"Find a spot to stop the car, she's about to vomit!" Nan Chen said.

He then turned around and pointed to Ning Ran, "Hold it back in, do not vomit on the car!"

Thank goodness, there was an emergency parking lot just in front.

Nan Chen was puzzled again. Is this woman crazy? Why is she running?

Just then, Ning Ran stopped and leaned against the barricade on the expressway and started to vomit.

It seemed that she was not crazy, but she wanted to vomit at a distance away to not gross them out.

Although she was drunk, she still seemed to be on her senses.

After a while of vomiting, she returned to the car.

Nan Chen took out a bottle of water from the back of the car and passed it to her. But for no reason, Ning Ran could not open the bottle cap.

Nan Chen had to choose but to take the bottle back and open it for her.

"Gargle the water first, don't drink it immediately." Nan Chen reminded her, but in a cold voice.

Ning Ran followed what she was told to do.

Ning Ran then squatted on the floor and refused to get up.

"Get in the car, we still have to rush back." Nan Chen reminded.

"I don't want to go. I don't want to go home." Ning Ran suddenly buried her head within her legs and started crying.

What is going on now?

Nan Chen looked at the bodyguard, who shrugged his shoulders, "Sir Chen, I am afraid that she is really drunk. We will have to help her up in the car."

"You do it." Nan Chen signaled to the bodyguard.

"Sure." The bodyguard walked towards Ning Ran.

"Come back!" Nan Chen stopped the bodyguard just as he was about to reach his hands out to Ning Ran.

"Let me do it instead, she just vomited." Nan Chen said.

The bodyguard thought to himself, Sir Chen was a clean freak, why did he not allow me to help Ning Ran but do it himself when she had just vomited?

As he got closer to Ning Ran, he could smell a combination of wine and the unique orange blossom scent.

"Let's go, it's time to go back." Nan Chen held onto Ning Ran's shoulders and tried to lift her up from the ground.

But Ning Ran refused, "I don't want to go home, I don't want....."

"Why? Do you want to spend a night here on the streets?" Nan Chen was getting annoyed.

"I refuse to go home, I have lost my mother, I have no home......" Boo hoo hoo......

Ning Ran got sadder as she cried, with her shoulders bouncing up and down. It did not seem like she was faking it.

Nan Chen was at a loss. Do all women cry when they are drunk? What can I do now?

"Why is your mother gone?" Nan Chen asked.

"My mother's death was caused by Luo Yi. It is all my fault, I didn't even manage to see her for the last time before she left, this is all my fault....."

Luo Yi? Who is this?

Didn't Luo Fei say that Ning Ran was the one who resulted in her mother's death? Why has it become Luo Yi?

What does she now mean by saying that it is her own fault?

Also, why did she say that she didn't get to see her mother for the last time? Where was she when her mother passed away?

"Why didn't you see her for the last time?" Nan Chen asked again.

Ning Ran cried even more hysterically, "I was trying to earn money to pay for my mother's medical bills. Although I have the money now, my mother is gone, this is my fault......"

Nan Chen got even more suspicious; the version of this story sounded different from what Luo Fei had told him in the jungle!