Chapter 101:

What Do You Want To Do, Ning Qing?

Ning Qing had wanted to go quietly, but things didn't go according to plan. When her little hand let go of the door handle, the door gave a slight squeak. The man in the study suddenly turned his head and looked at her.

His eyes were as bright and beautiful as obsidian, but they were also deep.

At this moment, it was too awkward for Ning Qing to leave, but it was also awkward to stay. She had been caught peeping.

"Haha." She could only laugh and wave her soft white hands at him through the crack of the door. "Hi, what a coincidence."

Lu Shaoming's handsome face was gentle and his mouth curved up imperceptibly. He was amused by the girl.

He walked over with his long legs. He placed a big hand on the door handle. His handsome body blocked the door as he looked at her and asked, "Why are you not in bed? What are you doing here?"

Ning Qing already felt awkward enough, but now that she saw him blocking the door, the grin on her little face froze.

What exactly does he mean by this?

A big man like him blocked a girl like her as if she were a thief, and he was one meter away from her. Was he afraid she would break in?

When he liked her before, he wanted nothing more than to stick to her. Did his alienation meant that he was still sulking or that he had disliked her now?

Either way, Ning Qing felt unhappy!

"I'm looking at you!" He had ignored her entire night of gentleness. Everyone had a temper, and she also had her own stubborn arrogant tantrums.

Ning Qing had a long expression on her small face, and she looked at him indifferently.

Lu Shaoming listened and raised his sharp eyebrows as he said calmly, "Alright, you've already seen it now. Go back to sleep." With that, he was about to close the door.

"Hey!" Ning Qing's eyes burst into flames. One foot slipped through the door. She twisted her little body and squeezed in immediately. She was up against the wall.

Lu Shaoming knitted his sharp brows and looked at her with a sharp gaze. Her voice was a little heavy as he asked. "Ning Qing, what do you want to do?"

It was she who wanted to ask him what he wanted.

Ning Qing was really angry with him. With a do or die attitude, she said crisply, "I can't sleep. You hurt me last night."

Lu Shaoming closed the door. "Where does it hurt?

"I know you're not feeling well, why don't I call you a doctor. It's time for you to take your medicine."

Time seemed to stop, Ning Qing widened her eyes fiercely.

What. Did. He. Say?!

"Lu Shaoming, don't go too far! I..." Ning Qing wanted to scold him, but she'd been picked up by hte collar of her pajamas, and as the door opened, she was hauled out like a tiny chick.

The door clicked shut.

Ning Qing was speechless, "..." Lu Shaoming! Today, you ignored my love. Tomorrow, I make sure it'll be out of your reach!

...

The next morning, Ning Qing went to the set with two dark circles under her eyes. Last night she had scolded Lu Shaoming 800 times in her heart and tossed about until she fell asleep late at night.

Xiao Zhou looked at her listlessness and asked curiously, "Ning Qing, what's wrong with you? Did you quarrel with Young Master Lu?"

Ning Qing pursed her mouth unhappily. "Yes."

"God, Ning Qing, how dare you quarrel with Young Master Lu? Who was the one who made a mistake?" Xiao Zhou asked, shocked.

"It's me. I'm to blame."

"Ning Qing, you're in the wrong then. Now that you know that you're wrong, go and coax Young Master Lu." Xiao Zhou said.

"No, he's too hard to serve. It's no use trying to coax him."

"Ning Qing, what do you mean by this? Not coaxing a man of such high status as Young Master Lu, are you waiting for him to cast you aside? You have to understand how many women covet him! Besides, you're already married. Do you want to give such a premium man whom you've slept with to another woman?" Xiao Zhou asked.

As soon as Ning Qing heard this, it seemed to make sense to her. If she didn't go and coax her husband, was she just going to let others coax him?

Although he had gone too far with her last night, she was still very satisfied and liked her husband.

Besides, she hasn't slept with this premium man yet!

Ning Qing felt that her blood was bubbling with energy now. She had a long way to go in pursuit of her husband. She should work harder.

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So after Ning Qing had filmed an entire day's scene, she asked the driver to take a detour to Guang Qing when she was going home. It was about 5 p.m.

She was going to take him home.

When she walked into Guang Qing's lobby, the people at the front desk quickly greeted her. "Mrs. President, the president is not at the office. He has left for a business dinner party, did the president not tell you? All dinner parties need a girl companion, the president..."

The lady at the desk realized that she had made a mistake and quickly clammed up.

Ning Qing's expression stiffened for a moment, but she soon recovered. She thanked her, left Guang Qing, and got in the car.

Looking out of the window, Ning Qing felt a little gloomy. What dinner party? What girl did he bring with him?

"Driver, turn around, I want to go to..." Ning Qing gave the driver the address she got from the front desk. She might as well go and see it herself instead of guessing about it here.

Once a misunderstanding arises, it must be solved immediately. She doesn't want this to fester in her heart.

...

The problem arose when Ning Qing went to the banquet hall. There was a security guard at the door, checking for invitation cards. She had arrived uninvited and had no invitation card.

What should she do?

"Miss, please show me your invitation card."

Ning Qing grinned sheepishly. She blinked her pair of innocent eyes as she begged, "Security Brother, I have an invitation card but I'm late, but my companion is inside. Security Brother, please accommodate me and let me in."

The security guard looked very apologetic. "I'm sorry, Miss. I can't let you in without an invitation card. It's the rule. Ah!"

Ning Qing ran in while the security guard was not paying attention.

The security guard was doing his job according to the rules. No matter how much she talked to him, her efforts would be fruitless. She might as well break in and find Lu Shaoming.

Upon entering the hall, Ning Qing spotted Lu Shaoming.

His handsome figure had always been the focus of attention. It was too easy to find him.

He was standing at the window of the lobby, talking to several men. The brilliant sunset outside the window covered him with dreamlike gold. His sculpted beauty and his noble temperament caused many women around him to watch him secretly and look admiringly at him.

He also stood beside a girl in a pink dress. She was about 20 years old, young and beautiful.

The two of them stood together and matched each other very well. They were like a noble couple made for each other.

Ning Qing's first thought was that the girl was the one who had poured wine for him last night...Yi Shuang.

Her footsteps stalled completely.

On her way here, she had never thought that he would really bring a girl companion with him.

She had thought that he was just being moody. Yesterday she had coaxed him and he had pranked her. Actually, that was ok, she was wrong so he could ignore her.

But how could he bring other women to a dinner party?

Just then the security guard came after her and said, "Hey, Miss, you can't be here!"

Ning Qing felt her left shoulder grow cold as her rosy-red knitted cardigan was torn apart by the security guard. Her fair and delicate skin was exposed.

The ruckus here quickly attracted everyone's attention, and everyone looked towards her, one after another.

"Wow..." some unknown person gasped uncontrollably. All kinds of gazes from men fell on her shoulder. "Hey, isn't that Ning Qing? It's the new generation goddess indeed. Look at her fine, smooth skin; it's like milk. But how did she get here and look so sorry?"

Ning Qing stretched out her hand to pull her little cardigan and tried to cover her little shoulder, but the security guard was pulling on it too tightly and she couldn't move it.

She gazed across the hall, where there were some familiar faces. In fact, it was not difficult for her to get away, she could just pretend to be someone's partner.

But she did not open her mouth, her usual eight-sided exquisite features were somewhat delighted at this moment because Lu Shaoming was looking at her from a distance.

She had never seen him look so cold. His dark narrow eyes were as cold and fierce as the night's frost. He was looking at her so fixedly.

And that Yi Shuang was looking at her with pity.

Hah, ridiculous.

At this time, "Elder sister..." A familiar voice sounded and Ning Yao came over.

Ning Qing laughed even louder in her heart. What a good day it was today. All kinds of cows, ghosts, snakes, and gods have gathered together.

Ning Yao came forward and took Ning Qing's hand intimately and scolded the security guard, "This is my sister. We came here together. Hurry up and let go of my sister!"

The security guard looked at Lu Shaoming, caught in a dilemma.

Lu Shaoming stood tall and handsome, his face calm and cold. His narrow eyes were gloomy and fierce as he glared at the security guard's hand that touched Ning Qing.

A chill ran down the security guard's back from Lu Shaoming's gaze. He quickly loosened his grip on Ning Qing and turned away.

Ning Qing calmly tidied up her little cardigan and drew an elegant smile from her lips. She had embarrassed herself in front of Lu Shaoming, and had been saved by Ning Yao. Rarely in the past three years had she had such an embarrassing moment.

"Sister, why are you here today? Did you receive the invitation? Did you come by yourself? All the people attending the dinner are rich nobles..."

The implication of Ning Yao's words was that Ning Qing was not a rich noble and was not eligible to receive an invitation.

The gazes that fell on Ning Qing in the hall were slightly contemptuous. Ning Qing looked at Ning Yao with a smile and said, "Yes, our invitation letter for the Ning family was taken away by you three years ago. Of course, only you had been invited to this dinner party."

Ning Yao's face changed greatly. Ning Qing had quietly reminded everyone of her disgraceful past.

Now everyone's unkind gazes on Ning Qing quickly shifted to Ning Yao.

At this time, the organizer of the dinner party came out to smooth things out to ensure that everyone could have a pleasant meal, so everyone's gazes dissipated.

Ning Yao stood in front of Ning Qing and adjusted her mood. Her expression was proud and pleased. "Sister, yesterday my family and the Xu family agreed on the wedding date. Junxi and I will soon be married. You have to come to our wedding of the century, sister."

Chapter 102: She Slapped Young Master Lu

Ning Qing took a glass of red wine from the table next to her. She swayed the wine glass elegantly in her hand as she smiled beautifully. "Sure. When Yaoyao gets married, as your sister, how can I be absent and not give you my blessing? I will definitely be there to wish your marriage to be unfortunate!"

Ning Yao's face grew grave as Ning Qing just cursed her marriage. However, she wasn't angry but she laughed. She looked up at Lu Shaoming who was nearby. "Sister, who's the girl next to Young Master Lu? Would she be Young Master Lu's new lover? Young Master Lu brought his new lover to attend the dinner banquet but forgot about you? How many days has it been? You've already fallen into disfavor?"

Ning Qing took a sip of her red wine as she said lazily and coldly, "If Yaoyao says so... A few days ago in the Ning family's house, I forgot to thank your fiancee for saving me. Yeah. How's CEO Xu's injury on his head? He bled for me."

"You!" Ning Yao was at a loss for words. It seemed that she could never best Ning Qing in a verbal argument.

Ning Qing flashed a condescending smirk at Ning Yao. She turned to leave.

"Sister, where are you going?" Ning Yao asked.

Ning Qing kept walking as she turned around and lifted her index finger at Ning Yao. "Come, I'm going to toast with Young Master Lu. Come along if you think you're brave enough."

Ning Yao was stunned on the spot as she watched Ning Qing's beautiful back shrink in the distance. From the bottom of her heart, she was impressed.

The people who stood around Young Master Lu were all from influential and wealthy families. Ning Qing was in a fix and she had the guts to toast. Wasn't she upset looking at his new lover?

Her sister had guts.

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Ning Qing walked towards and Lu Shaoming. As she approached him, the familiar sound of his deep magnetic voice traveled into her ears. He talked to the few men while the girl stood by him like a little bird relying on him.

"Young Master Lu," she walked over. She didn't care if she interrupted the conversation. She only raised her glass and smiled flirtatiously. "Toast to you."

Lu Shaoming had one hand in his pocket as he turned to look at her. His handsome face was cold and his thin lips formed into a straight-line that looked rather unhappy.

He didn't speak.

There was a man next to Lu Shaoming who had attended Guang Qing's banquet, and he knew who Ning Qing was. The man knew that Lu Shaoming was not in a good mood. When the bodyguards pulled her jacket earlier, the veins on Lu Shaoming's forehead were popping.

When Ning Qing was talking to Ning Yao, the man noticed that Lu Shaoming was focused on her in the corner of his eye. Lu Shaoming was responding absent-mindedly when they were chatting.

Then, Ning Qing had come over to propose a toast and Lu Shaoming's face grew grave. The man quickly chuckled to ease the tension. "Miss Ning, what's the toast to Young Master Lu for?"

Ning Qing took a look at the girl behind the man's broad shoulder. Her delicate face was shimmering with gorgeous elegance as she raised her eyebrows and taunted heartlessly, "I'm here to toast to Young Master Lu for having a beautiful lady in his arms."

"Haha..." Two men who had no idea what was going on started to laugh.

Yishuang blushed and lowered her head bashfully.

Among the few men, there was a young and successful entrepreneur. He'd seen Ning Qing in a movie before and he liked her. Now, he had a chance to meet his Goddess. He asked jokingly, "Miss Ning, you toast to Young Master Lu for having a beautiful lady in his arms. How about yourself? Do you have a boyfriend?"

Ning Qing looked at the handsome entrepreneur and she tucked her hair behind her ears. Then, she replied, "No."

As she replied, Ning Qing could feel the man, who didn't speak at all, let out a heavy breath. A pair of sharp eyes were fixed on her.

The entrepreneur didn't notice the unusual atmosphere but laughed. "Haha. Miss Ning, a girl who is so beautiful and elegant like you must have many admirers. There must be someone you like, right?"

Ning Qing leaned her head sideways and pretended to think. Her eyes were already extremely beautiful, but as she looked around innocently they were even more enchanting.

"Of course, I do have admirers. They are all queueing up to take a number from my assistant." Ning Qing then looked at the glass of red wine in her hand and muttered, "I do like one person. I wanted to bring him home tonight but I reckon he doesn't need it."

Ning Qing looked sideways at Lu Shaoming as her gaze grew gentle, "Young Master Lu, I'll finish my drink first. Thank you... As we are friends after all."

Ning Qing then lifted the glass and chugged the red wine.

Ning Qing didn't look at the man again and turned and walked away.

"Miss Ning..." The entrepreneur saw Ning Qing start to leave and he quickly went after her. Ning Qing was giving out a lazy bearing that night and she let her arrogance and willfulness bloom like a vital poppy. The entrepreneur was carried away.

However, before the entrepreneur took another step, the man next to him stopped him. The man gave him a stare and the entrepreneur saw that Lu Shaoming had left.

Lu Shaoming went to chase after Ning Qing.

...

Ning Qing drank the red wine too quickly and she felt her cheeks were starting to burn. She touched her face and suddenly seized with terror as she felt moisture.

God knows when the tears welled up in her eyes had started rolling down.

Mm... Actually, she didn't want to cry.

"Be careful!" There was a sudden exclamation behind her. Ning Qing knew the voice; it was Ning Yao's.

She turned around and looked. She saw Lu Shaoming was one meter behind her. He bumped the glass of red wine in Ning Yao's hand and it spilled onto his black tailored suit.

Ning Qing straightened her back and smirked. Can't Ning Yao use a better tactic?

"Young Master, are you okay?" Ning Yao quickly came forward. She took out her pink handkerchief from her bag and wanted to wipe Lu Shaoming's suit for him.

Before Ning Yao could reach Lu Shaoming, a crewman in black blocked her with his arm. "Miss, please stay where you are."

Ning Yao wasn't expecting it to turn out this way. Things got real awkward real quick. "Young Master Lu, I'm sorry. Your suit is wet. Please wipe it with my handkerchief."

Ning Yao passed her handkerchief to Lu Shaoming.

Lu Shaoming couldn't be bothered with his suit. He lifted his gaze to look at Ning Qing. The girl stood there quietly with her gaze stubborn and cold.

Lu Shaoming creased his handsome eyebrows.

"Young Master Lu, please change in the changing room," the organizer of the banquet softly told Lu Shaoming after quickly rushing over.

Lu Shaoming nodded then he turned and left.

Ning Yao saw that Lu Shaoming didn't bother looking at her, and her hand that was holding the handkerchief hung in the air.

The crewman in black took the handkerchief and said politely, "Miss, I'll pass your handkerchief to Young Master Lu." Then, the crewman followed Lu Shaoming and left.

Ning Yao was delighted. She turned to talk to Ning Qing. "Sister, look! Young Master Lu took my handkerchief. What do you think it means? The other day he sided with you at the Ning family home, but he accepted my handkerchief today. He didn't even try to hide it."

Ning Qing didn't reply. Yes, she was jealous of Yishuang, who stood next to Lu Shaoming, because she was from a wealthy family and they made a well-matched couple. But who the hell was Ning Yao? Lu Shaoming wouldn't be interested in her nor would she be jealous of her.

But if Ning Yao's not his type, why did he accept her handkerchief? He knows for a fact that she and Ning Yao are enemies.

Ning Qing paused then walked to go after Lu Shaoming.

She wasn't dumb. Lu Shaoming was so far away from her earlier but then he was knocked one meter behind her. If she's not mistaken, it looks like he had chased after her.

Although whatever he did that day made her sad and embarrassed, as long as he was willing to take one step, she was willing to take the other ninety-nine.

Even if she were dead to him, she'd want to know why.

•••

At the corridor where the changing room was, it was really quiet. She didn't know which room was Lu Shaoming in.

When she walked past a room, she could hear noises coming from inside. A woman inside shouted, "Young Master Lu, be gentle."

Ning Qing was shocked. She heard a man's muffled voice. "Yishuang, let me."

Yishuang?

"Young Master Lu, you're so naughty. Don't you have a wife at home? Why are you doing this?"

"Stop bringing her up. No touching no rubbing, just like a log... Who could stand her?"

Ning Qing turned around and left.

How could he say that? She didn't let him touch her? She didn't let him rub her? Was she like a log?

She hurt so badly that night but she endured it in silence. She knew he was enjoying himself. She was crying as she hugged his neck and kissed him.

She never thought about anything. She was willing to do anything as long as he was happy.

Then, she teased him by saying her legs and her chest hurt but he didn't understand that she was just acting spoilt before him. She hoped that he would treat her nicely in the future.

However, he changed so quickly. He became so cold. Three months ago, he barged into her life and gave her a beautiful dream. Then, he pushed her into the abyss.

She felt her nose start to crinkle and tears started to flow. Ning Qing began to run, she wanted to leave the suffocating place.

As she made a turn at a corner, she ran into someone. Xu Junxi.

Xu Junxi was stunned as he saw Ning Qing's face covered in tears. There was pain in his eyes but he sounded unnaturally, "Why are you crying?"

"None of your business!" Ning Qing wiped away her tears with her hand and ran away from him.

But Xu Junxi grabbed her wrist. He heard the noises in the room and he smirked. "Who's Lu Shaoming with? He doesn't want you anymore?"

Ning Qing swung his hand away, "No, Lu Shaoming doesn't want me anymore. I'm upset and I'm crying. Are you happy with that? Haven't you been waiting for that the day he leaves me? Your dream came true. Go ahead and laugh about it. I have no time to bother with you. Can't you just let me cry in peace for a while.

Xu Junxi watched as she lost control of her emotions and he felt bitter. He had been looking forward to the day when Lu Shaoming wouldn't want her anymore, but he didn't want her to cry for Lu Shaoming.

Why was she crying so sadly?

Why did his heart hurt so much when she cried?

"Ning Qing, don't shed tears for him. Why shed tears for him?"

"Heh, you ask me why? It's simple. I'm in love with Lu Shaoming. I fell in love with him!" Ning Qing's eyes were red as she covered her mouth and ran away.

Xu Junxi was in a trance. She'd fallen in love with another man? In just three months?

...

Ning Qing walked past the banquet hall. Her tears blurred her sight and she couldn't see clearly. She bumped into a few people as she ran towards the door.

"Who's this? Why didn't she apologize when she hit someone? Hey, isn't it Ning Qing? What happened to her?" The people in the hall started to gather by the door to see what's going on.

Ning Qing ran very quickly but one of her heels got caught a small stone. She fell and landed on her butt.

It was true. When it rains, it pours.

She supported herself with both her hands as she tried to stand up. She suddenly felt two hands on her shoulders. The man's unhappy voice traveled into her ears. "Ning Qing, are you done?"

Ning Qing lifted her gaze and saw Lu Shaoming squatted down before her. He changed into a green shirt. It appeared that he had come out in a rush as his tie was still hanging on his neck but he wasn't wearing a suit.

Who did he say was causing trouble?

"Pak!"

Ning Qing raised her hand and slapped him.

"Psst..." The crowd who had gathered by the door took a breath. Even the banquet organizer, who had just been running towards them, stopped and watched anxiously from afar.

The surrounding air grew thick with tension. No one could believe that Lu Shaoming had just been slapped.

After three seconds, Lu Shaoming turned around and his slender eyes were like a cold blot of ink. They were extremely dark like two clouds of dangerous whirlpool.

"What's the reason for this? Why did you just slap me?" There wasn't much emotion in his voice, only deeper tone.

"How dare you ask for a reason? What did you do in the changing room earlier? You..." Ning Qing's nose was red and she was choking with sobs as she spoke.

Lu Shaoming could understand what she was trying to say. He cut her off and looked towards the organizer of the dinner banquet, "Come and tell her what did I do at the changing room."

The organizer of the dinner banquet's legs grew weak as he walked over in staggered steps. He said, "Miss Ning, Young Master Lu was changing in the changing room and I was guarding outside."

"Liar, I don't believe in you. You were with Yishuang earlier!" Ning Qing cried as she raised her voice.

Just as she spoke, the man lifted her jaw with two fingers. She was crying so badly and he extended his hand to wipe her tears. He wasn't exactly being gentle. His rough fingers rubbed against her tender skin and it felt painful. Ning Qing shook her head and did not let him touch her.

He got impatient and pulled her face into his chest. His refreshing scent... The warm yet enchanting scent instantly surrounded her.

Ning Qing wanted to get away, but she felt something soft against her cheeks. He wiped her tears away with the sleeve of his shirt.

"In which room did you see me with someone else? Tell me the room number and I'll ask someone to get you the surveillance video. Which Yishuang? Let me think. Is it the woman that you heard about over the phone yesterday? Was it the woman standing next to me today? If I told you that I don't know her and I've never looked at her, would you trust me?"

Chapter 103: Forgive Me, Wifey

"And how do you make sure that it's me in the room? You and Ning Yao are all called Miss Ning. Can you be sure that they were calling you?"

"I don't believe it! If you don't know her, would you take her to a dinner party, she's still standing beside you? You don't even bring me out..." Ning Qing pushed him.

"I didn't bring anyone with me tonight. As the sponsor of this dinner party, I am also the boss. Which boss would you see attending a dinner party with a female companion? That Yi Shuang's dad was standing opposite me. Her standing beside me and had nothing to do with me, Ning Qing. If you really want other men to take your number, you can tell me clearly; you don't need to beat around the bush!" Lu Shaoming released her and stood up. He tugged the tie off his neck and threw it on the ground, leaving with a wave of his sleeve.

"Lu Shaoming..." Ning Qing didn't know what he was talking about. Had she misunderstood him?

She could see his clanking and angry steps, and the legs of his pants that fluttered with his vigorous strides.

"Lu Shaoming..." Ning Qing scrambled up from the ground with her hands and feet. She ran after him, crying as she chased him. "Lu Shaoming, don't go!" Sobs...

Lu Shaoming ignored her.

"Ah!" Ning Qing's slim high heels suddenly got stuck in the water well cover by the roadside. Her foot twisted and she fell down on the ground again.

"Waa..." Ning Qing cried louder and louder. She looked at Shaoming's back through teary eyes. "Shaoming, I've sprained my foot. It hurts so much."

Lu Shaoming paused and struggled for a few seconds before he returned.

When he came in front of the sobbing girl, he squatted down and said, "What's wrong?"

Ning Qing saw him come back and pouted her pink lips in grievance. She spread and showed him her two small hands that had been scrapped by the stones and pebbles on the road, "My palm is so painful. Look at it."

Her little fair hands were still covered with stone and dust. Lu Shaoming helped her wipe them clean. He looked at the red marks that had been left by the sharp stones. He gently blew on them and asked, "Does it hurt?"

Ning Qing cried and laughed. Her tearful little face was like a tabby kitten. She looked at him. How stubborn she had been in the banquet hall was equal to how weak and pitiful she was now.

"No."

Lu Shaoming reached out a strong arm to hold her soft waist and sat her on his squatted thigh. He took off her high-heeled shoes with two big hands. He touched her slender ankle and said, "Where did you sprain it? I'll take you to the hospital."

Because he was squatting down, she was taller than him by a head when she sat on his thigh. She slowly stretched out her slender arm and wrapped it around his neck as she leaned lovingly on his strong shoulder. She said in a sweet and soft voice, "I didn't sprain it, we don't have to go to the hospital."

Telling him that she had sprained her ankle when she hadn't? When did she learn to lie?

Lu Shaoming's sculpted jawline was soft, and he picked her up and carried her. He was also holding one of her high-heeled shoes in one hand. They walked to the Bentley parked on the lawn.

Ning Qing nested in his arms, hugged him tightly, and took a deep whiff of the man's scent.

Very satisfied.

With him, everything was indeed wonderful.

...

Looking at the backs of Shaoming and Ning Qing, who were shrinking in the distance, the people gathered at the entrance of the hall still couldn't recover from the shock. What have they just seen?

Their aloof goddess of the new generation... had given Lu Shaoming a slap. Lu Shaoming was obviously angry but couldn't help but wipe her tears for her, with clear heartache on his face.

Maybe Young Master Lu had realized that his male self-esteem and had left with a flutter of his sleeves again, and then the aloof goddess had given him honey after giving him a slap. Using all kinds of coquettish and flirtatious methods and after finally coaxing Young Master Lu, both husband and wife returned home?

This had completely changed their opinions!

Lu Shaoming, as the descendant of the Lu family and the leader of the Imperial Group, was restrained and luxurious. In his entire life, there were probably only a handful of people who could touch the corner of his clothes, let alone give him a slap to the face.

This aloof goddess of theirs was indeed arrogant and self-willed.

Huh. They felt all kinds of envy, jealousy, hatred.

...

Ning Qing snuggled in Lu Shaoming's arms. From afar, she saw that Xu Junxi and Ning Yao were standing beside the Lamborghini. Their expressions were stiff, probably because they had just taken into account the scene that had just played out.

Ning Yao's jealousy was bone deep.

At this time, a black-clothed attendant came towards them. The attendant held a pink handkerchief in his hand. He did not hand it to Ning Yao, but to Xu Junxi.

The staff member said, "President Xu, this is what Young Master Lu had ordered me to give back to you. Just now in the hall, Young Master Lu was chasing Miss Ning Qing. But Miss Ning Yao had come over with a glass of red wine in her hand and knocked into Young Master Lu and had also spilled red wine on Young Master Lu's suit. Miss Ning Yao handed Young Master Lu her handkerchief. President Xu, a woman handing a man her handkerchief. You know what that means don't you?"

Xu Junxi's expression was grim, and he could be 100% sure that what the staff member said had been instructed by Lu Shaoming. The last sentence reminded him of the day before yesterday at the Ning House. He said to him, "A woman shedding tears for a man, Young Master Lu understands what it means, don't you?"

Now Lu Shaoming has used his words against him!

He did not know that this had happened in the hall, but Lu Shaoming could have just refused the handkerchief. Instead, he asked his men to take it and gave it back to him now. He was indeed sinister and insidious.

All the blood drained from Ning Yao's face.

The attendant continued, "Young Master Lu said that the most important thing for a woman is to abide by the law and know her place. Miss Ning Yao is President Xu's fiancee but she still gave Young Master Lu her handkerchief. This is not knowing her place. Secondly, President Xu regards a sliver of grass as a

treasure, but Young Master Lu sees it as grass no matter how he looks at it, so don't try to climb up to him; be self-aware.

"Young Master Lu can see people through at a glance. He is clearer than anyone else on what kind of person Miss Ning Yao is. Young Master Lu doesn't like to expose people in front of them. This time, by returning her handkerchief to President Xu, it's a small punishment and a big warning to Miss Ning Yao. Next time, if she were to spend these unwelcomed efforts on Young Master Lu, he won't let it go so gracefully."

After saying those words, the attendant left.

Ning Yao's face was burning with pain. For the first time ever, she felt that her spine had been trampled beneath the soles of someone's feet ruthlessly. Lu Shaoming was very cruel.

She finally knew the reason why Lu Shaoming had taken the handkerchief. He had been waiting for this moment to humiliate her.

Because she had made things difficult for Ning Qing at the dinner party, he was protecting Ning Qing. That man had never spoken pretty and extravagant words. His greatest tool to show his love for his woman was to protect her with his immense power, and wait silently for her.

"Ning Yao, what is this?" Xu Junxi clenched his fists and asked her, "You saw that Young Master Lu is rich, so you want to seduce him and cheat on me?"

Ning Yao was shocked upon hearing that. She grabbed Xu Junxi's sleeve and explained in a panic, "I didn't, Junxi. I just took out my handkerchief because I saw that his suit got wet"

"Hmph." Xu Junxi pushed her away. "Are you trying to say that Lu Shaoming framed you? Ning Yao, I know what kind of person Lu Shaoming is better than you do. He is not bored enough to frame you with a handkerchief. You don't have to explain it. You go and reflect on it. I need time to reconsider our marriage."

Xu Junxi opened the door of the Lamborghini and sped away, leaving Ning Yao with a face full of dust.

...

Lu Shaoming carried Ning Qing into the villa. Yue Wanqing and Grandma were asleep. Lu Shaoming placed Ning Qing in the room's big bed.

The girl closed her eyes. Lu Shaoming knew she was not asleep because her long eyelashes, which were like butterflies' wings, were trembling. She was afraid to open her eyes as she didn't know how to face him.

Lu Shaoming touched her little face and said softly, "Ning Qing, a lot has happened tonight. I know you are tired. I'll go back to my room, you go to bed early."

Lu Shaoming got up and left.

When he was at the door, there was a rush of footsteps behind him. A soft and fragrant little body held him tightly from behind. "What exactly do you mean, Lu Shaoming?"

When Lu Shaoming was stiff, the girl stood on her tiptoes, grabbed his strong shoulders with two small hands, and pulled him to face her. His back was against the wall. The girl cried and kicked him with her feet. "Lu Shaoming, how can you do this? I've already let you kiss me and do it, but why are you so cold to me? Do you not like me? Don't you want me anymore? I'm your wife; the law does not allow you to act like this!"

His muscles were very hard, every inch was like a copper wall, Ning Qing was hitting him like how a kitten would scratch him, but her palms became red with pain. She felt more and more aggrieved. She stopped hitting him. Her petite figure looked down, and she wiped her tears with her clenched fists.

"What on earth have I done wrong? Where have I made a mistake? I can change it if you say so. Can you not be cold to me and ignore me?"

The girl's crying voice was full of crisp complaints and pettiness from a young girl. Lu Shaoming listened to her and his heart melted. A big hand grabbed the back of her head, and he held her in his arms.

"Ning Qing, I admit that I was furious that night at the Ning house when my wife had shed tears for another man, when you had been handed over by your grandmother to another man and was later embraced by another man.

"In my knowledge, love and marriage means that both parties must be loyal to each other. I don't like coercion. In bed, it was a very bad experience, and I do not want to remember it. Every time I recall it, I think about your unwillingness, and how it ended just like that, only 10 minutes. My pride does not allow it.

"But it's not that I didn't want you. I just wanted to calm down a little. Because I suddenly found that you can make me lose control; I will lose my mind for you. Just like when you were dressed so enticingly last night to lead me on – I was afraid that I would lose control, afraid that I would personally overturn the promise not to touch you.

"Today's dinner party was a misunderstanding. I have my faults. Wifey, when I married you, I knew I had the ability to give you the most exquisite life, but please forgive your husband for not having experience in love. I would be at a loss when facing you."

Hearing his sincere words, Ning Qing held out her small hand and tightly embraced his fine waist. She wiped her tears on his expensive shirt. "Shaoming, I didn't want to explain what happened that day in the Ning house. It was my fault, all my fault. Believe me. Give me another chance, I will change. But I really didn't shed tears for Xu Junxi. I had scraped a piece of skin around my waist and those were simply tears of pain."

Lu Shaoming looked down and kissed her on the forehead. "Really?"

"Yes!" Ning Qing nodded, feeling very wronged. "I was already in tears when I crashed into the piano. My waist still hurts now, and it has just scabbed."

Lu Shaoming reached for her slender waist. In the quiet room, under dim lights, the layer of fluff on the girl's delicate face was so bright and soft.

Tears still hung on her face, and her entire person was as beautiful as a rose blooming in spring.

"Does it hurt here?" He pinched her waist.

Ning Qing clenched his shirt collar with two small hands and nodded shyly. "Shaoming, that night I was not unwilling. It was because you had hurt me..."

Ning Qing stood on her tiptoes and whispered in his ear, "You made me red and swollen, and now it's still swollen."

Lu Shaoming's eyes darkened and his Adam's apple bobbed. "I haven't gotten serious. Why is it red and swollen? I think you're as tender as a piece of silken tofu. I can't touch you then."

Ning Qing blushed and hit him with a tiny fist.

Lu Shaoming intercepted her little fist and held it tightly in his palm. When their eyes met, they were both smiling at each other and were full of affection and sweetness.

"Wifey, would you like me to apply some ointment for you to relieve the redness and swelling?" He asked.

"No, it's too late now. The drugstores have closed. Don't go out." She wanted him to stay with her.

Lu Shaoming caressed her hair adoringly. "I don't have to go to the drugstore. When I bought you the pants the night before, I passed the drugstore and bought you some ointment. The ointment is in the car."

Ning Qing, "..." Who was the one who had just said that she was as tender as a piece of silken tofu, who was it?

...

Lu Shaoming rubbed some ointment on her and helped her lift her trousers. Ning Qing was extremely shy. Her palm-sized face was deeply buried in the pillow and she dared not look at him.

Lu Shaoming's breathing turned a little messy and he lay beside the girl after looking at her.

Afraid that she would fear him, he was dozens of centimeters away from her.

Ning Qing fluttered her long, quivering eyelashes. A small pink ball moved slowly until she was close to him. Then she put her head on his shoulder.

"Heh..." Lu Shaoming did not move but laughed.

"What are you laughing at, stop laughing!" Rarely did she take the initiative, but he had laughed at it.

Ning Qing hit him in the chest, wrapped two small hands around his neck and pulled his head down slowly.

His handsome face suddenly enlarged in front of her eyes, and their breathing was entangled.

"What's wrong?" Lu Shaoming looked at her flushed cheeks and asked with deep eyes.

"Shaoming." Ning Qing's soft voice was trembling. "Are you still angry? I know I was wrong. Can you forgive me? Mmm..."

Her red lips had been covered.

Lu Shaoming leaned over and stretched out his long arm to pull her into his arms. Her small head rested comfortably on his shoulder. The strength of the man surrounded her.

She was also wearing a rose-red cardigan, which he took off for her. Underneath was a short black dress with thin shoulder straps. He pulled the blankets and covered her tightly, leaving only her small head in his arms to kiss him.

He kissed her gently and meditatively, seemingly to make up two days of tenderness to her. Ning Qing was addicted to his kiss and could not open her eyes.

When he kissed her, he always liked to take different positions, letting her lie on his body and holding her in his arms. Every minute and every second with him was the ultimate gentleman experience.

Chapter 104: Shaoming, Are We Good Now?

God knows how long they'd been kissing before he let her go.

Ning Qing lay in his embrace with her rosy cheeks. Her voice grew soft as there were things that she found embarrassing to say, but she still wanted to. "Shaoming, the night before yesterday, how did you know... I'm not willing to? Any girl with no experience... They'd cry and they'd feel... embarrassed and scared, right? I don't think there'd be anyone who would say... Would say I want, I want..."

Lu Shaoming pressed his thin lips against her forehead. He had not touched her for two days. In his happy voice, there was satisfaction. "Why all I saw was, I want, I want."

Saw?

Ning Qing suddenly lifted her head. She pouted as she questioned him, "You. Where did you see? You liar. You just told me that you've never touched another woman before!"

She looked extremely adorable when she was angry. She puffed up her cheeks angrily and he pinched her cheeks affectionately. "What man hasn't seen any films? The women in the films were all passionate. There are none like you who shivers whenever someone touches you."

Ning Qing quickly punched him with her hand. "Obscene!"

She never thought a man like him, who was a gentleman born in an influential and wealthy family, would watch those things!

Lu Shaoming laughed and pulled the unhappy girl into his embrace. He kissed her face and coaxed, "They aren't as beautiful as you are. Wife, you're the most beautiful one there is!"

He wasn't shameful at all!

Ning Qing's crystal clear eyes beamed with joy. Her insecure heart cool down in his warm embrace as she lifted the corners of her lips slowly. She moved her hand that was originally on his chest downwards and hugged his waist tightly. She asked timidly, "Shaoming, are we good now?"

"Mm, we are. Actually, I never planned to give you the cold shoulder, nor did I want to make a stranger of you. Who would have known that you would throw such a great tantrum this time and cry so much? Normally, you're an unyielding warrior of a woman. The only time I saw you crying like that was outside your mom's ward. I never thought you'd cry like that today."

Ning Qing sniffled and sounded rather aggrieved. "I admitted that I got jealous today. I threw a tantrum and I slapped you. These things are all my fault. My mom was angry then and I thought my mom didn't want me anymore. I was afraid and I didn't know what to do. Same goes for today. I thought you didn't want me, I... I don't want to lose you..."

"Lu Shaoming, whatever I do wrong... you can point it out for me to change gradually, but you provoked me first. You can't give me up. You have to be nice to me."

Lu Shaoming lifted her chin with two fingers and the girl was shy. Her beautiful eyes didn't know where to look but she didn't dare to look at him.

"Ning Qing, in your heart, am I as important as your mom?"

"Mm!" Ning Qing nodded without hesitation. "The other day when I got paid, I went to the mall and bought you a shirt before anything else. Then, I bought a massager for my mom. In the end, I'd only bought myself... a bra. Shaoming, I want to spend the rest of my life with you. I want our family to stay together forever... Mm."

The man pressed his lips on hers again.

Then, he was kissing her harder as though he were telling her that he was very excited, very happy. He wanted to take her deep into his arms and take care of her, to love her.

Ning Qing gripped his shirt on his waist and endured his pressure quietly and gently. The man flipped over and grabbed the back of her head to deepen the kiss.

When he let go of her, Ning Qing was panting. Lu Shaoming buried his head into her neck. In her sensitive ears, she could hear him sniffing her scent against her skin.

Breathe in and breathe out. In his admiration, there was a mature man's unrestrained and willful behavior.

Ning Qing shivered as she straightened her calves. She felt an electric current flow through her body.

"Today, when the other person asked if you had a boyfriend, why did you say no?" Lu Shaoming talked about the matter that bothered him.

"I don't have a boyfriend; I only have a husband." Ning Qing hugged his head and closed her eyes as she touched his sculpted face with her hands. She slapped his left cheek and it must have hurt. Actually, she hurt too. Her hand hurt, as well as her heart.

She moved her hand upwards along his sideburns. Ning Qing felt the stiffness in his hair as she swept through it with her fingers.

His stubble was prickly yet gentle.

Every part of the man's body was delicate.

"Mm, did you really come to bring me home?" He asked again.

"Yeah, I've been trying to cheer you up since yesterday. Can't you tell?"

Lu Shaoming looked at the dark circles under her beautiful eyes. It must be from the previous night when he had kicked her out of his study room and she didn't sleep well.

His heart melted. He likes it when his wife likes him.

D*mn it. How dare he be in doubt of her heart!

He got up from her body and kissed her face. "I'm sorry, my wife. It's all my fault. I guarantee that this will only happen once. It'll never happen again in the future."

"Mm." Ning Qing buried herself in his arm. She was exhausted. Earlier when he was kissing her, she felt so comfortable that she wanted to sleep. Then, leaning in his arms, she loathed to open her eyes.

Lu Shaoming rubbed her face gently and said affectionately, "My wife, sleep. I'll only go back to my room after you fall asleep."

Ning Qing, with her eyes closed, extended her hand to pull his sleeve. "It's too late. You might wake Mom up. Don't go; sleep here."

"This is what you wanted," Lu Shaoming pecked her tender lips. His lowered magnetic voice was so enchanting. He probed, "I'll sleep on the sofa in the room?"

"... But only this room has a blanket."

"Heh, Hehe..." Lu Shaoming chuckled happily. His wife loathed to part with him and wanted him to sleep with her.

Ning Qing buried herself deeper in his chest while Lu Shaoming held her tightly in his arms. He dimmed the lights in the room and blissfully hugged her to sleep.

...

Xu Junxi was drinking at a pub. He poured a strong cocktail down his throat and the fire in his chest raged.

Ning Yao had once again disappointed him. She had been innocent and charming in his impression. He never thought she would attempt to seduce Lu Shaoming behind his back. What did it mean? Lu Shaoming was too charming.

No wonder Ning Qing fell for him in such a short period of time.

Ning Qing, Ning Qing...

Xu Junxi muttered the name and his heart felt as though he were being stabbed over and over again. Ning Yao only made him angry, but Ning Qing made his heart ache. He was in so much pain!

Who is Ning Qing? Xu Junxi knew it better than anyone else. She carried an innocent attitude towards the world and she lived with pride.

Three years ago, she had been kicked out from the Ning family's house. He knew that she went to look for his mom but his mom had said terrible things. Over the three years after, no matter how tough and tiring her life, she never once stepped foot in Xu's house.

Even when she was taking roles as an extra, she never once begged him for anything even though he was the CEO of Emperor Entertainment Group.

It was because she disdained to let go of her elegance to receive charity. She had to live with pride. She didn't allow herself to be in a fix.

But during the dinner banquet... Just how bad of a situation was she putting herself in?

Normally, she was so elegant and presentable. A person who was so well-spoken knocked into everyone in the hall, ran in tears for the exit, fell on the ground, stubbornly gave Lu Shaoming a tight slap, then chased after Lu Shaoming and spread her hand to him with tearing eyes to tell him how much it hurt.

Ning Qing that night was not the Ning Qing Xu Junxi knew.

He found her a stranger that night.

He could tell that she was anxious, lonely and helpless. She wasn't like a hedgehog but like a twenty-year-old girl who was crying her lungs out.

If she would have been willing to treat him like that for the past three years... If she were to have let go of her ego driven imperative to question him when he was involved in sex scandals and would have cried to make him stay, maybe they wouldn't be where they are now.

But why did she do everything, that she hadn't done to him, to Lu Shaoming?

Then, Ning Qing's reply earlier echoed in his mind. "I love Lu Shaoming, I love him". Heh, did she really fall for Lu Shaoming?

Who the hell was he then?

What was their twenty-year relationship then?

Xu Junxi was drunk and his sight grew blurry. He looked up and saw a girl walking past him. White shirt and jeans, just like Ning Qing.

"Ning Qing." Xu Junxi pulled the girl onto his lap. He closed his eyes to kiss the girl.

The girl was frightened. She pushed and hit him as she struggled. "Who are you, let go of me."

Xu Junxi frowned. He took out his wallet from his suit and slapped it on the table. He slurred, "Ning Qing, I have money. I'll give you all my money. Be with me, okay? Heh, I did so many times with Ning Yao

but not once I'm happy. My head is filled with you. I kissed your lips once when I was with the young model. You smelled so good, Ning Qing. Let me kiss you."

Xu Junxi wanted to kiss the girl again but the girl's boyfriend charged over and pulled the girl from Xu Junxi's embrace. He then landed a heavy punch on him.

After a chaotic scene, Xu Junxi lied on the ground.

"How dare you harass my woman. I'll kill you!" The girl's boyfriend kicked Xu Junxi a few times before he brought the girl away.

Everyone in the bar surrounded him and pointed at Xu Junxi on the ground.

Xu Junxi looked at the chandelier above his head. No matter how much his body hurt, it couldn't surpass the pain in his heart. "Heh, hehe..." He took out his phone from his pocket.

Lu Shaoming was a light sleeper. Hence, he quickly opened his eyes when the phone rang.

He moved, "mm..." The girl in his arm was still sleeping soundly but pulled him tighter in her arms. She creased her eyebrows and pouted. "Who is it? It's so noisy..."

Lu Shaoming kissed Ning Qing's forehead and comforted her. He looked up and saw Ning Qing's phone ringing on the side table.

He extended his arm and took the phone. It was Xu Junxi calling.

He lowered his eyes to look at the girl in his arm. He slid to answer the call.

"Hello, Ning Qing. You told me that you fell in love with Lu Shaoming today. Is it true? I don't trust you. I don't trust you. I know you're just doing this to make me angry..."

"Ning Qing, let's start this again. Whatever I may owe Ning Yao, I'll repay slowly. But Ning Qing, don't leave me. I... I love you..."

Lu Shaoming didn't even frown. Xu Junxi drank and he could tell from his voice. He hung up the phone calmly and turned off the phone.

There was a busy tone from the other side of the phone and Xu Junxi quickly called again. However, there was a robotic female voice. "Sorry, the number that you have dialed is currently switched off."

Xu Junxi's right arm that was holding his phone grew weak and he fell on the ground helplessly. There was heat in the corner of his eyes, and when he touched them he realized that there were tears flowing out.

He cried.

...

Ning Qing woke up later the next morning. When she woke up, Lu Shaoming wasn't there.

When she walked out of her room, she could hear the piano playing. It was from Grandma's room.

Where's the piano?

Ning Qing walked over to see.

Grandma's room's door was open. She didn't know when the white piano was put into the room, but Lu Shaoming was sitting by the piano as he played a song on the black and white keys.

Grandma sat next to Lu Shaoming as she pressed on the keys curiously. Yue Wanqing put the hot milk on the table and walked over to stop her. "Mom, don't disturb. Let Shaoming play a song for you."

"It's okay Mom, let Grandma play," Lu Shaoming said.

Grandma had originally kept her guard up around Lu Shaoming, but now she was laughing happily. She played two notes on the left side of the piano with her fingers and Lu Shaoming played according to the tune she played. After some time, Ning Qing could tell that they were actually playing the Little White Poplar.

With such relaxing and melodious music, Grandma's occasionally singing was quite harmonious too. Yue Wanqing smiled widely as she clapped along as taught Grandma how to sing.

A little white poplar, growing by the guard post.

Deep-rooted, strong branches, keeping watch of the border.

Ning Qing's heart was racing. It had been three years since she'd last seen Mom and Grandma happily smiling together. They were glowing under the morning sunlight with such beautiful smiles on their faces.

Ning Qing fixed her gaze on Lu Shaoming. He was in his usual white shirt and black slacks. His sideburns were neatly trimmed. She admired his handsome sculpted face and his elegant demeanor. She didn't know he knew how to play piano. A man like him was top dog in the business circle but was innocent like a pure jade when he played piano.

As she looked at his fingers dancing on the black and white keys, she found it a pleasant view.

Ning Qing couldn't help but lift the corners of her lips. It was already seven, yet he was entertaining her grandma and her mom. Didn't he need to head to the office?

Her heart felt like it was glazed with honey because of him.

"Qingqing." Then, Yue Wanqing saw her and waved. "You woke up? We were waiting for you to have breakfast. I wanted to wake you up but Shaoming said to let you sleep."

Yue Qanqing's eyes were happy.

The music stopped and Ning Qing walked over with a few small steps. She was too shy to look at her man. She didn't want him to see her welled-up eyes.

Ning Qing walked to her grandma and lowered her body. "Grandma, did you sleep well last night?"

"Yeah, very well." Grandma nodded happily. Then, Grandma looked at Lu Shaoming by her side cautiously. "Qingqing, who is he?"

Because Grandma was sitting next to Lu Shaoming, when she squatted down she could see the man's long legs in her periphery. She blushed slightly.

"Grandma, he's Lu Shaoming. He is Qingqing's... Husband. We are married. He's your grandson-in-law," Ning Qing said sweetly.

Chapter 105

: Listen to Ning Qing Confession Of Love?

"A grandson-in-law?" Grandma thought for a moment. "What about Junxi, Grandma remembers that I'd handed you over to him."

Ning Qing smiled and answered naturally, "Junxi and Qingqing are just ordinary friends. Grandma, Qingqing has grown up now. Qingqing has the ability to decide who to give herself to. From the moment I married Lu Shaoming, I have given the rest of my life to him."

As she spoke, Ning Qing slowly extended her small hand and held the man's big hand which had been lying on her knee. She held her hand, Lu Shaoming's hand, and Grandma's hand together. "Grandma, Qingqing likes him, so will you follow Qingqing and like him too?"

Grandma thought with her head tilted and finally tsk-ed. "Alright, seeing as he had played the piano with me, Grandma has decided to like him."

"Haha, Mom, Shaoming is a good boy. You will like him, and our family will live happily together." Yue Wanqing also placed her hand on top of theirs.

Ning Qing was filled with warmth. With a life like this, she would have no more regrets.

She looked up at the man quietly. Lu Shaoming was looking down at her too. His narrow eyes were filled with tender emotions, which caused her to feel weak in the knees.

Ning Qing blushed and looked away.

...

After breakfast, Lu Shaoming personally brought Ning Qing to the set.

When she arrived at the set, Ning Qing began to unfasten her seat belt. "Shaoming, I'm going now."

"Ok," Lu Shaoming answered with one hand on the steering wheel, but he still looked at her with narrow, obsidian eyes.

Ning Qing's face was red. She remembered how both of them had tangled together last night. After a quarrel, it was time to be sweet and sensual with each other.

She leaned over, held his handsome face in a small hand, and landed a loud "muah" on his cheek.

"Shaoming, I really have to get on set." She retreated back to the passenger seat.

"Alright, courtesy goes back and forth." Suddenly the man went near her, grabbed the back of her head and planted his lips on her red lips. He opened the door for her and said, "Wifey, I'll miss you."

Ning Qing jumped out of the car, her small face flushed. She couldn't stand his sweet words. If she stayed any longer, she would be melted by him.

Knowing that he was watching from behind, Ning Qing jumped up the steps and jogged all the way to the door of the set.

Lu Shaoming watched Ning Qing disappear from his sight, then slowly retracted his gaze, curved his lips, and sped away in the Bentley.

...

As she was about to get on set, Ning Qing's phone rang. It was Xu Junxi.

"Hello." She picked up the phone without hesitation.

"Hello, Ning Qing, I have something to tell you. I'm waiting for you at the Java Cafe." The voice on the other end sounded a little hoarse.

"Alright, I'll be right there." Ning Qing hung up the phone and walked back. Even if Xu Junxi doesn't look for her, she still had to find Xu Junxi for something.

...

At the café

Xu Junxi was still wearing yesterday's clothes. His hair was messy and his eyes were bloodshot. His entire person looked sloppy and dispirited.

Ning Qing sat opposite him.

Xu Junxi looked at Ning Qing, who was more beautiful than the freshest of roses. He had always known that she was beautiful, but now she was getting more and more beautiful day by day. The 20-year-old girl was just at the age where she was budding.

The waiter served up two cups of coffee. Xu Junxi's throat felt dry, so he took a sip of coffee before slowly opening his mouth. "Ning Qing, do you remember this cafe? You were about to take the college entrance examination. You were busy with studies. Every afternoon after 5 o'clock, you liked to sit here, have a cup of coffee, and start studying."

"Yes," Ning Qing looked around the cafe with a faint and warm smile on her face. "Every time I come to this cafe, no matter how many guests there would usually be in the cafe, this place would always be empty. Later, I learned that you had reserved it for me."

The hedgehog-like girl who had been on guard in front of him was now much gentler. She bore a bright smile on her face as she thought about her pleasant past.

Xu Junxi's eyes sparkled brightly. He was elated.

Three years, he hadn't talked to her like this for three years.

"Ning Qing, we have 20 years of memories between us, but how did you and Lu Shaoming know each other? You've known each other for such a short time," Xu Junxi asked.

Ning Qing mood remained calm, and she was not agitated. She stirred the coffee in her cup with the spoon in her small fair hand. Her mouth curved. "Three months ago, when you were rolling in the sheets with the young and tender model, I went to the bar to drink my sadness away. At that time, someone wanted to harass me. I met Lu Shaoming then. The second time was when I left the Ning family home. There was a hazy drizzle so he brought me back to my dormitory. We haven't known each other for a long time, but he had always appeared on the right occasion and at the right time. He is like a knight in shining armor, bringing me happiness when I need it most."

"But Ning Qing, Lu Shaoming always appears when you need help. That's ingratiation, not love."

Ning Qing put down her spoon and raised her head slowly. "When I can't see him, I miss him. When I see him, I blush and my heart pounds. I am infatuated with his scent. I even daydream about his sideburns. I would feel unhappy if he were to look at other women. Since meeting him, my eyes are always filled with him. Xu Junxi, you tell me: If this is not love, then what is it?"

Xu Junxi's joyful face turned pale in an instant. He had wanted to seduce her, but he hadn't expected her to be so straightforward.

"Hah, Ning Qing, you've given him your love. What am I then? Our past 20 years cannot beat your three months?"

"Maybe we don't love each other anymore. For example, this place is no longer my favorite. When I first came to this cafe, my favorite place had been taken, so I made do and chose this place. You knew this cup of coffee in my hand used to be my favorite, but I'm sorry, after three years of not drinking coffee, I can no longer taste the goodness."

"No, Ning Qing," Xu Junxi sorrowfully replied. Holding onto Ning Qing's small hand, his eyes were filled with pain and paranoia. "Let's forget the past and start afresh? I've been in pain for the past three years. Ning Yao cut her forehead for me. I only felt guilty towards her. The person I love is you. Ning Qing, we can compensate Ning Yao somehow; let's be together."

"Ha!" Ning Qing pulled back her hand with some effort. The mockery in her eyes was very light, but it still hurt Xu Junxi. "Xu Junxi, what right do you have to ask me to compensate Ning Yao with you? Three years ago, Ning Yao had injured her forehead while saving you, you felt guilty towards her but the way to compensate her was not only to give yourself to her. Medicine is so advanced now. The scar on her forehead would vanish without a trace with just a minor surgery. You've turned this debt into a debt of love. When you were indulging in her gentleness, you lost the right to say you love me."

"Ha...haha..." Xu Junxi's stubborn expression was somewhat menacing. "After saying so much, it's clear that you've met someone better than me. You would naturally not choose me since you have Lu Shaoming. You place your hand to your heart and ask yourself how you feel about him. You said you love him just after three months. I don't believe it."

Ning Qing's eyes showed pity and sympathy for Xu Junxi. "For some people, a person will never know who they truly are even though they have known each other for 20 years, like you. For others, even though we'd just met each other once, it felt like we had known each other for a lifetime, like with Lu Shaoming. It's easy for a woman to fall in love with a man, we just need a heart-pounding moment."

Regarding Lu Shaoming, Ning Qing always felt that they had met each other before. He had a gravitational pull; she'd always be attracted to him.

"Ning Qing, I don't want to hear that. Ning Yao and I have already set the date for our wedding. I'll just ask you, do you want to be with me?"

"I won't let you get married." Ning Qing didn't answer him.

"Ha, Ning Qing, you said you don't love me, but you don't want me to marry Ning Yao, you..."

"Xu Junxi, I don't want you to get married. It's not because I still love you, but because I don't hate you for your mistakes. Still, I will never forgive you. Maybe I know that you'll be more unfortunate if you get married than if you don't, but you two don't deserve to get married in front of me."

"You!"

Ning Qing stood up slowly. "Xu Junxi, I have already made everything clear, take this as the best explanation for our acquaintance. Please don't make any rude moves on me, let alone be self-indulgent. In front of me, keep a little dignity for yourself."

Ning Qing turned and left.

...

After Ning Qing left, a handsome figure appeared behind Xu Junxi. The man was in a black woolen overcoat and looked prestigious.

"President Xu, what did you want to get out of asking me here? Did you want me to listen to Ning Qing's confession of love for me?" Lu Shaoming asked, his sharp brows raised.

Xu Junxi stood up in despair. "Are you pleased? You've finally snatched Ning Qing from me!"

Lu Shaoming looked through the window at the beautiful figure of the girl. His eyes were full of tenderness. "No, it's not that I snatched Ning Qing, but that you lost her."

Lu Shaoming lifted his feet and left.

Lost her?

Xu Junxi laughed. Yes, he admitted that he had lost her.

Last night, he had come to understand that she had fallen in love with Lu Shaoming. He was just unresigned today. He had asked Lu Shaoming to come and listen. He thought that as long as there was a trace of nostalgia for him in her words, he would get Ning Qing and break up with Ning Yao.

But there wasn't.

She was right. After Ning Yao had saved him three years ago, he had tens of millions of ways to compensate her, but he had chosen to date Ning Yao instead and had lost himself in Ning Yao's gentleness.

But Ning Qing, you would never understand, because Ning Yao was your sister. In comparison to you, she is so close, yet so far.

So be it. He should keep a little dignity for himself. She had cut off his retreat.

Just then, his cell phone rang. His mother was calling.

"Hello, Junxi, why aren't you answering Ning Yao's calls? Do you not want to marry her anymore? Just now, Li Meiling called me and said Ning Yao had attempted suicide at home. Fortunately, she was discovered in time. Junxi, your wedding date has already been finalized. What are you doing now?"

"Don't worry, Mom. I'll go and see Ning Yao."

...

Xu Junxi came to Ning Yao's house. He went into Ning Yao's room and heard the mother-daughter duo crying while hugging each other. "Yaoyao, why are you so foolish? You've almost cut your wrist. What happened to you and Junxi? I don't believe that Junxi doesn't want you anymore. It's been three years since your relationship with Junxi first started. Junxi won't be so cruel."

"Mom, I can't live without Junxi. If he doesn't want me, I'll die. I don't want to live. Wahh..."

Xu Junxi saw a sharp pair of scissors on the bedside cabinet, probably the evidence of Ning Yao's attempted suicide.

"Yaoyao." Xu Junxi went in.

"Junxi, you're here." Ning Yao saw him and jumped out of bed quickly. She threw herself into Xu Junxi's arms and cried, "Junxi, you have come at last. I thought you didn't want me. Last night you really misunderstood me. I've loved you for so many years. I even gave you my first time, I really can't live without you."

Xu Junxi's expression was calm. He helped Ning Yao back into the bed and slowly squatted down. He raised his head and brushed away her bangs. He looked at the pink scar and said. "Yaoyao, the wedding will still go on. So don't do any more silly things. You'll be my Mrs. Xu soon. I'll treat you with tender love and care."

"Really?" Ning Yao hadn't expected Xu Junxi to be so easily persuaded. Although his expression was flat and tired, she had achieved her goal. "Junxi, you are so good to me. Let's go and try on the wedding dress in the afternoon. Mother said that in three days, it will be the auspicious day of the zodiac. We'll get married then, I want to be your wife soon."

"Alright." Xu Junxi nodded.

Today, he had finally realized how much life could hurt him when Ning Qing was removed from his heart; it was so painful that he would never have the courage to love again.

At present, this Ning Yao was his choice, then he would stick to his choice to the end.

Anyway, if it's not Ning Qing, anybody would do.

...

So this afternoon, Ning Qing saw the latest entertainment headlines. Xu Junxi's mother had personally issued a statement saying that she was very satisfied with her daughter-in-law Ning Yao. She refuted all the gossip and false reports. In addition, Xu Junxi and Ning Yao will be married in three days. It's supposed to be the wedding of the century.

Three days?

Ning Qing's heart thumped. It was too rushed. She wondered if she could expose Li Meiling before that and stop the wedding banquet.

Then the phone rang. It was Zhu Rui.

"Hello, Madam. This morning, Li Meiling dialed a foreign telephone number. It's suspicious. I've already checked this number and confirmed that it's Xiao Cui's home number."

"Really? What did they talk about?" Ning Qing was very excited.

"We found Xiao Cui's home by this phone. Unfortunately, Xiao Cui had already died three years ago. The hospital records showed that she had advanced cancer."

Ning Qing could not get back to her senses for a long time. She hadn't expected the outcome to be like this. Xiao Cui had died unexpectedly.

The clue with Xiao Cui had been completely cut off. One phone call from Li Meiling could not expose her. She could just explain that she was showing concern for her former servant.

"Madam, Doctor Aaron has gotten Grandma's blood test report, but it couldn't determine which drugs Grandma had taken three years ago."

Ning Qing's heart sank, so both clues had escaped her.

Grandma had blood clots in her brain. The surgery couldn't be done in these three days. Besides, even if Grandma were to recover her memory, Grandma probably doesn't know about Li Meiling's plot.

What should she do now?

Ning Qing stayed on set until three o'clock in the afternoon, during which she did not allow anyone to disturb her. She took out a pen and paper and drew something on it. Finally, she stood up and left.

Ning Qing got on the long-distance bus. She went to Xiao Cui's house according to the address that Zhu Rui had sent her.

She was going to look for the truth.

Chapter 106: They Cast Greedy Eyes Over My man; Do They Think I Don't Exist?

After an almost six-hour car ride, it was already nine at night when Ning Qing arrived at her destination. Xiao Cui's house was in another old village in another city. She pushed open the door and walked into Xiao Cui's house.

Xiao Cui's parents had been taken to the city by their son. It had been a while since someone visited. The brightly colored wall was covered with moss, and the wooden door was teetering.

Ning Qing entered the house and she touched the wall to reach for the switch. Pak! A light in the house lit up.

There's some light at least.

Ning Qing looked around the house and opened the door to enter the room on the west side of the house.

Ning Qing could recognize that it was where Xiao Cui used to live. She looked around and opened the drawer.

There were a few letters in the drawer. Ning Qing read them. Xiao Cui was a filial daughter. She mailed back every check from her job at the Ning family home to her parents to support them. She also exhorted them to take care of their health.

It wasn't difficult for Ning Qing to make a guess that Xiao Cui must have realized that she was in the last stage of cancer. Hence, before she passed away, she had accepted a huge sum of money from Li Meiling and framed Ning Qing's Mom.

Ning Qing saw Xiao Cui's handwriting which was neat and elegant. She was an educated person. She took one of the letters, folded it, and put it in her pocket.

Nothing else of interest could be found in the house, and Ning Qing prepared to leave.

Just as she was walking out the front door, she noticed a group of four or five men dressed in black. With one look, she could tell that the men were gangsters. All of them put their hands on their waist as they eyed Ning Qing up to down indecently.

"Hehe, which city is this girl from? Looks so pretty and delicate. I have never seen anyone so pretty. Girl, aren't you lonely being here alone? Why not let us keep you company? Haha," the crew of gangsters said as they approached Ning Qing.

Ning Qing retreated in fear. She tried her best to stay calm. She looked at them with high alert. "Who are you? Who sent you here?"

"Haha, no one sent us here. We saw a beautiful girl and we were tempted. We wanted to come to have some fun. Baby, come on." The ring leader charged forward in a hurry.

"Humph." Ning Qing didn't dodge but humphed indignantly. In a bright and loud voice, she said, "Do you know who my husband is? My husband is President Lu from Lu Group. He has power and authority. If you dare lay a hand on just a strand of my hair, he will make sure you suffer more than you can imagine! I don't know who sent you over but the person is definitely harming you. Who knows, he might move to kill you if you touch me."

Everyone was threatened by Ning Qing confidence. They had never seen any girl so calm and composed. One of them went forward and commented, "Boss, is what she said true? Is Li Meiling reliable? There are so many cases of murder to keep one's mouth shut."

"What bullshit are you talking about?" The boss quickly gave his underling a tight slap the moment he let the name Li Meiling slip.

"Li Meiling sent you? How much is she paying you? Let me go and I'll pay you in double," Ning Qing said.

The ring leader rubbed his chin as he smiled maliciously. "Money, we have. However, such a beautiful girl... It's our first time seeing one. What are you waiting for, boys? If I were to die beneath a great beauty, at least I'll die happy. Go!"

Ning Qing couldn't dodge in time. The ring leader charged forward and forced her down onto the table. The ring leader covered her mouth and pulled clothes with his other hand.

Ning Qing opened her mouth and bit the ring leader's hand. The ring leader then let go due to the pain. Ning Qing kicked the ring leader's bottom swiftly and accurately.

The ring leader had never once come across such a ferocious woman. He held his bottom as he groaned in pain.

The other four men charged forward. Someone lifted his hand to slap Ning Qing it made her lightheaded.

As her body was against the wall, she grabbed a rusty scissor and stabbed the shoulder of the person closest to her. His blood spattered on her face.

"Go away. Otherwise, I'll kill all of you!"

The four men saw the woman had a weapon in her hand and they were stunned. Ning Qing seized the chance and swung the scissor before them. Everyone moved to dodge while Ning Qing ran out the door.

"Hurry up. Do not let the woman escape!" the ring leader ordered.

Ning Qing ran with all her strength. The village road was full of muddy holes and there weren't any street lamps. Her crystal clear eyes were like a black cat during the night, shimmering with a stubborn and strong will to live.

She wouldn't die there; her life had just begun.

After running quite some distance, she suddenly heard a car driving over. Headlights shone towards her and Ning Qing quickly blocked her eyes. There's a car coming.

Ning Qing looked at the logo of the Bentley and she shouted in surprise, "Shaoming!"

The gang of crooks felt that they were unlucky. The cat was too wild and they let her run away as they had let their guard down. Who would have guessed that the woman could run so fast, they couldn't even catch up with her.

"Oh sh*t, someone's here. Hurry up and leave!" The ring leader waved and quickly retreated.

The car door opened and Ning Qing let out a breath of relief when she saw the familiar handsome figure. She collapsed on the ground, Lucky, lucky. I was this close to getting in trouble.

"Ning Qing, are you crazy? Don't you know how dangerous it is to come here alone?" Lu Shaoming squatted down. He held her cheeks with one hand and stared at her coldly.

"Hehe," Ning Qing blinked her eyes playfully as she pouted and acted spoilt. "Shaoming, I was frightened earlier. Don't scold me!"

Lu Shaoming had nowhere to vent his anger. The girl was still panting. The breeze of the autumn night blew against her beautiful hair and her nose was red from the cold but she was looking up with a smiling face trying to ingratiate herself with him.

She was trying to ingratiate herself with him.

Lu Shaoming suppressed the raging anger in him. He suddenly felt moisture on his fingertip and his pupil contracted. He pulled her into his arms and said, "Ning Qing, where did you hurt yourself? Why are you bleeding?"

Ning Qing extended her arms to hug his neck. "Shaoming, the blood is a gangster's. I stabbed him with a pair of scissors. Shaoming, carry me to the car. I'm so cold. Someone slapped me earlier, my face hurts."

...

Lu Shaoming carried Ning Qing to the car. Her cheek was swollen. Lu Shaoming opened the mini first aid kit and put on some medicine for her to alleviate the swelling.

The man made an effort to be gentle, as he was afraid that he might hurt her. However, his face was tense in distress. Ning Qing immediately hugged his arms and said bashfully, "Shaoming, don't be angry. It doesn't hurt anymore. Those gangsters didn't get to take advantage of me."

Lu Shaoming closed the first aid kit and look sideways at the face on his arm. He responded by sharply asking, "What if you're taken advantage of? What if you have an accident?"

"It won't happen. I learned self-defense in school long ago, especially to fight off those gangsters. Plus, there were many men who have tried to use me over the past three years, and I've found the tactics to deal with them. Let me tell you a secret about your wife; not only am I an academic overachiever, but I am also a champion long-distance runner. No one can beat me."

The girl spoke innocently but Lu Shaoming only felt heartache when he heard it all. The silly girl wasn't even upset about the suffering that she had been through. He was in distress on her behalf.

He drove for over five hours. On the way there, his hands were covered in cold sweat. For thirty years of his life, he had never been this afraid. The moment he thought of her taking the risk alone, he would break out in a cold sweat.

He was so afraid of losing her.

"Ning Qing, if you were to take such a huge risk in the future... I can only get involved in your life and send two bodyguards to look after you and monitor your whereabouts."

"No! You promise to let me grow up on my own. I don't want to be a caged canary. I'll let you know before I do anything else in the future."

Lu Shaoming didn't speak, but his fingers pinched her smooth cheeks hard. It felt refined. Her cheeks were so soft and smooth.

"Ouch!" Ning Qing slapped his hand away and let out a satisfying groan. "Shaoming, why are you here today?"

"Huh? I called you in the morning but you didn't answer so I went to pick you up at the filming studio after work. Your assistant Xiao Zhou told me you'd taken a long-distance bus so I took a wild guess that you'd definitely be here." Lu Shaoming then raised his blade-like eyebrows and looked at her in disdain with a smile. "Why? What do you get from coming here alone?"

Look at his expression, he was obviously belittling me!

Men who are dealing with all of the turbulence of the business circle, like him, naturally wouldn't bother about the battle among the wealthy families. A man had their career and wouldn't get involved in a woman's personal matters.

Just like the humiliation that he inflicted upon Ning Yao, it was so sharp and merciless. However, he wouldn't expose Ning Yao at the banquet hall. It was the way of a man from an influential family.

He disdained to do so and he wasn't used to it.

"Of course. When the gangsters wanted to take advantage of me, I made an audio recording." Ning Qing took out her phone from her jeans pocket then she slid the screen. There was a recording of the gangster's voice:

"Boss, is what she said real? Is Li Meiling reliable? There are so many cases of murder to keep one's mouth shut..."

Lu Shaoming's slender eyes twinkled and turned around to look into the girl's eyes. In her eyes, there was the light of wisdom shimmering. Heh, he did belittle her.

The corner of his lips lifted into a loving arc as he asked gently, "How do you know that Li Meiling would send someone over?"

He instantly knew her plan the moment she played the recording. Exactly, she knew long ago that Li Meiling would send someone over. Hence, she recorded in silence when the gangsters appeared.

"I thought about it carefully in the afternoon. Both trails of clue from Xiao Cui and Grandma were cut off. Li Meiling could sit back and relax. Why did Li Meiling call to look for Xiao Cui in the morning? She definitely guessed that I've been monitoring her, and she wanted to mislead me to Xiao Cui's house!"

"If so, I might as well jump into the trap that she has prepared. You won't get a tiger if you don't enter the tiger's den. I want to know what trick she was playing. There's a flaw in every lie. I'm waiting for her to take action. I had just never guessed that her tricks are forever so low. She had no better ideas than to hire gangsters!"

"Mm." Lu Shaoming kissed her forehead and pulled her into his embrace. "But the recording wouldn't be sufficient to charge Li Meiling for her wrongdoings. What is your plan?"

Ning Qing nestled in his arms and smiled the refreshing scent on him. She thought and said, "I've yet to decide. I won't take action recklessly this time. I will knock her down once I take action."

"Hehe," Lu Shaoming lifted her chin with two fingers and kissed her, "My wife, why do I find you smarter and more lovable?"

She had always been like that. She could come back from death's door and beat someone at their own game. Plus, when she was dealing with the gangsters, she was calm and composed. Even when she stabbed the gangster and the blood spattered on her face, she didn't panic. How many girls in the world would be as determined and brave as she was?

Even if she were homeless, she could still live an amazing life!

Ning Qing's cheeks grew rosy. Actually, her little tricks couldn't be compared to his. He was experienced and mature. She was innocent in comparison.

But he was so happy and treated her as his precious treasure.

Ning Qing hugged his head and responded to him bashfully yet passionately.

That's great. He drove all this way to pick her up!

...

After a deep kiss, Ning Qing lay on the passenger seat. Lu Shaoming took out his jacket and covered her. "Ning Qing, let's have dinner. What do you want to eat?"

"Mm, we'll just eat somewhere in town. Don't have to take a detour." Ning Qing felt heartache for him because he had to drive for so long. Even a man of steel couldn't stand this.

"Okay."

In twenty minutes' time, Lu Shaoming arrived at the nearest town. Ning Qing saw a hotpot joint that was quite clean and she suggested, "Shaoming, let's have hotpot. It's best to have hotpot in autumn."

"Mm," Lu Shaoming parked the car.

The two of them entered the hotpot shop. There were a few other tables of guests and she picked the seat by the window while Lu Shaoming sat opposite her.

The waiter passed them a menu. Ning Qing first picked a few dishes and she passed the menu to Lu Shaoming. The man looked down at the menu and read carefully.

The more time she spent with him, the more she noticed his precious qualities. He used to go to and come from high-class venues, eat and wear the best products, but he still never minds coming to small restaurants. There was an unrestrained manner in his character.

He took off his suit jacket and put it on the chair next to him. The handsome body of the man in the white shirt was like a statue when he wasn't moving. He was elegant and charming.

He looked superior to simple men.

Lu Shaoming picked a few dishes and passed the menu back to the waitress. He then said in a deep voice, "And two glasses of water."

"Okay," the waitress didn't know who the man was but she found him even more attractive than those men on TV. The waitress replied excitedly as she blushed in titillation.

After the waitress left, Ning Qing lifted her eyes to see the few tables of guests eyeing Lu Shaoming. The girls in small towns never see any man who is as elegant and poised as Lu Shaoming. It was quite a shock to the patrons, especially since all the guests were girls in their twenties. The way they covered their mouths and giggled looked just like cats in heat.

Ning Qing felt uneasy.

They cast greedy eyes over my man; Do they think I don't exist?

The waiter brought two glasses of water over and Lu Shaoming raised a glass of water to his lips. Then, Ning Qing said, "Shaoming, I want to drink water."

Lu Shaoming looked up at her in shock and glanced at the glass of water by the side of her hand. He was trying to tell her that she has her own.

Chapter 107: Three Years Ago, It Was She Who Caused Me To Fall Down The Stairs

Ning Qing blinked her beautiful eyes at him, hinting that she wanted to drink the water in his hand.

Lu Shaoming's lips curved in an indulgent manner. He hadn't paid attention to what had happened when he was looking at the menu. After 30 years of life, he was accustomed to such a scene, but after thinking for a moment, he knew that she was jealous.

He took the cup away from his lips and extended his strong arm to her lips, feeding her water.

Ning Qing's little face was very red. She had only wanted the water in his hand and hadn't asked him to feed her.

Ning Qing looked down and took two small sips from his big hand.

Lu Shaoming took back the water she had not finished, brought it to his lips, and drank the rest of the water.

Ning Qing's delicate little face quickly bloomed into a shy but happy expression. She looked up, only to see the girls at that table hang their heads down in great disappointment, and there was also someone who tsk-ed at Ning Qing in displeasure.

Ning Qing raised her small chin and gave them an extremely cold and arrogant "hmph."

...

After that episode, they gleefully ate their hotpot.

Lu Shaoming looked up towards the small pot in front of Ning Qing. The pot was red and bright with a layer of spicy oil. She ate very daintily, taking small bites. One of the fish balls was very hot. She took a small bite and scalded her mouth. She quickly fanned her mouth and cooled off the fish ball with her small hand, then gobbled it down with a very good appetite.

She had only eaten half of it, but a layer of sweat had already covered the fair and smooth tip of her nose. Her cherry mouth was red, with a watery luster.

Lu Shaoming's Adam's apple bobbed. He picked up his water cup and took a gulp before he said, "Eat less spicy food. It's easy to get too hot at this time of year."

Ning Qing raised her little head. The small hot pot in front of the man was very light in flavor. He apparently could not eat chili peppers. She took a piece of mutton with chopsticks and brought it to his mouth. "How tasteless would it be to have hot pot without spicy food? Try it and see if it's good?"

Lu Shaoming frowned at the chopsticks in front of him, but opened his mouth and ate.

"Is it delicious?" Ning Qing asked, biting her chopsticks.

Lu Shaoming swallowed the mutton. The man's Adam's apple bobbed. The girl opposite was nibbling the chopsticks with her fine white teeth. The girl's actions were very cute.

He nodded his head, his gaze dim. "Yes, it's alright."

After dinner, Lu Shaoming took out a card and handed it to the boss. "Paying by card."

The boss stood up apologetically and said, "I'm sorry, sir. We don't have a card reading device here. We only accept cash."

Ning Qing was standing beside Lu Shaoming, his suit jacket hanging from her slender arm. The man was probably not used to carrying cash he went out. She looked down at her wallet.

At this time, a girl appeared out of nowhere and squeezed her aside forcefully with her buttocks. Ning Qing stepped back and the girl smoothly stood beside Lu Shaoming. "Cutie, don't you have any money on you? 220. I'll pay for it for you. Take it as I bought you a meal."

The girl took 220 bucks out and slapped it on the boss's counter.

Lu Shaoming's eyes were cold. He looked at the girl. His thin lips shook. He wanted to speak, but a small and beautiful figure him. Ning Qing was so angry that she took 300 dollars out from her wallet and threw it onto the girl's face. "No need for you to buy us a meal, we don't lack money. This 300 is for you. Keep the change!"

After saying this, Ning Qing pulled Shaoming's hand and dragged him away.

Uggh! She was furious. Where did he get so many rotten admirers?

She still had to make repeated attempts to block them.

When they stepped out of the hot pot shop, Lu Shaoming held the girl's little hand and stopped walking.

"What's wrong?" Ning Qing asked.

Lu Shaoming smiled gently, and as he took one step forward, and Ning Qing took two steps back. It was only when she felt a cold sensation on her back that she realized that her back was against the roadside pole.

With a pa sound, he placed his left hand on the pole and wrapped her in his arms.

"Shaoming, you, what are you doing?" Ning Qing pushed at him with her little hands. The roadside was full of people. Even the girl who had just squeezed her away with her hips was standing by the door and looking at him.

This situation was too embarrassing.

He pulled his big hand out from his trousers pocket and caressed her tender neck, eyes full of adoration for her. "Fool, next time you encounter a woman who likes your husband, you don't have to put in so much effort, just this, kiss..." He bent down and kissed her with his thin lips. "Then tell them who owns me..."

Ning Qing's knees went weak in an instant. Her two little hands clutched at his shirt tightly, and her heart was pounding.

How could he just kiss her like that?

Kabedon had been trending recently, but he didn't seem like the type to watch idol dramas. Nonetheless, he was more charming than anyone else when doing it.

He was speaking as he kissed her. His low, rich voice made her lips vibrate. The words were graceful – "Who owns me?" So aggressive, so wanton. Ning Qing's scalp was tingling.

"I've wanted to kiss you for a long time... I've wanted to eat you up when I was watching you eat, so enticing..." Lu Shaoming pined for her sweetness and kissed her deeply.

•••

It was early in the morning when they returned to the Tea Pavilion Villa. Lu Shaoming left directly for the office. Ning Qing waved him off and entered the door of the villa.

"Qingqing, you are back!" Yue Wanqing went forward and welcomed her. She saw that half of Ning Qing's face was red and swollen and was shocked. "Qingqing, what's wrong with your face?"

"Oh, Mom, I accidentally bumped into a...pole when I was walking yesterday, so my face is swollen. It's all right. It'll get better with a couple days' rest."

Yue Wanqing reproached, "Why can't you walk more carefully? Does it hurt? Mom will apply some medical oils for you."

Yue Wanqing went to the living room to get the first aid kit. Just then, Grandma ran down the stairs joyfully and twirled around Ning Qing as she said, "Why can't you walk more carefully? Does it hurt...?"

Ning Qing was amused by her grandmother. "Grandma, what are you doing? Why are copying how Mom talks?"

Yue Wanqing smiled and answered, "Your grandmother is like a child. She's been copying how we talk these past few days, she's quite good at it too."

Copying how people talk?

Ning Qing's eyes lit up, and she really looked alive.

"Grandma." Ning Qing quickly brought Grandma to the sofa and said with joy, "Grandma, Qingqing shall play a game with you. Whatever Qingqing says, you copy. In two days, Qingqing will have you perform and act."

"Perform and act? That's great, that's great! Grandma loves to perform and act the best." Grandma danced about as she replied.

Yue Wanqing asked doubtfully, "Qingqing, what do you want to teach Grandma?"

Ning Qing laid comfortably in the sofa as she laughed mysteriously. "Mom, you will know then. I will not go to set for a couple days. I shall save my energy and anticipate a tough battle in two days."

...

Two days later, it was Xu Junxi and Ning Yao's wedding of the century.

The wedding was held in a top luxury hotel. Ning Zhenguo and Li Meiling looked energized on this day. They stood by the door to welcome the guests.

Ning Qing appeared wearing a white dress with straps and a light blue crocheted shawl. All 28 media outlet representatives flocked towards her when she appeared. "Miss Ning, are you here for the wedding? Will you give your ex-fiance and your half-sister Ning Yao your blessings?"

Ning Qing smiled gracefully and did not reply.

At this time, both the Xu couple and Ning couple had rushed over. Ning Zhenguo was afraid that Ning Qing would cause trouble and said hurriedly, "Qingqing has naturally come to bless the couple. Qingqing, isn't that right?"

Ning Qing looked at the nervous Ning Zhenguo. "The wedding will happen whether I give my blessings or not, so my blessings do not matter... But how can you not invite Grandma to Yaoyao's wedding? This is her granddaughter's wedding after all."

"Grandma?" Ning Zhenguo was stunned.

Li Meiling's face changed. She forced herself to stay calm and said, "Qingqing, Grandma's mind hasn't been sound since she fell down the stairs. She's not in good health. She's not fit to attend the wedding."

"Oh, why not? Grandma had been treated by a British brain specialist after I took her in. She has already regained her sanity. Look, Grandma's here."

Ning Qing stepped aside, Yue Wanqing was helping Grandma walk in through the wedding banquet's doors.

Grandma wore a rusty red coat today. Her silver hair was pinned back with black pins. Grandma straightened her back when she walked, and her energized spirit brought out some air of dignity around her.

Ning Zhenguo almost doubted that he had lost his sight. His mother was walking towards him as she had three years ago.

In fact, his mother had always been the decision maker of the Ning family and Ning corporation. Ning Zhenguo was naturally weak in character, so he had listened to his mother's counsel all his life. He was happy with his arranged life.

So he was very filial, and he was very dependent on his mother.

"Mom!" Ning Zhenguo was elated. He quickly stepped forward and went to Grandma. He reached out to hold her arm and said excitedly, "Mom, have you really recovered?"

Grandma sniffed at Ning Zhenguo coldly and shook off his hand fiercely. "Unfilial son!"

Ning Zhenguo was stunned.

Li Meiling's eyes flashed again and again. She hadn't expected that Ning Qing would bring her grandmother to the wedding today.

In fact, she was full of confidence and had no fear when Ning Qing took Grandma home with her. She was sure that Ning Qing could not find anything useful, and Grandma would not recover.

But just in case, she had brought the wedding forward by so many days; she had to make sure that everything went smoothly.

But what does Ning Qing want to do with her grandmother here now?

Had Grandma really recovered, or was Ning Qing lying to her?

Ning Qing's killer move had caught her by surprise.

Li Meiling stepped forward and said with a laugh, "Mom, you are finally in good health. Zhenguo and I have been looking forward to this day." She went to help Grandma.

Slap! Grandma immediately raised her hand and slapped Li Meiling. She said, "Who is your mother? My only daughter-in-law is Wanqing. Get away from me, you Judas who destroys other people's families!"

"Wow..." The wedding banquet burst into chaos instantly. The media were taking pictures furiously, and the nobles invited to the wedding banquet turned pale, one after another.

This slap sobered Li Meiling up. She had finally understood. Ning Qing had brought her grandmother to ruin everything today!

She looked up. "Mom, you were pushed down the stairs by elder sister three years ago, and then you lost your mind for three years. I know you've misunderstood me. Today is Yaoyao's wedding. Let us finish the wedding. I'll even kneel for you when all is done."

"Yes, yes, Grandma. Today is my son's wedding with your granddaughter. If there's anything, let's wait till we go home and have a chat. Someone come over and invite Grandma to have tea in the banquet hall." Mother Xu came to smooth things out.

Two bodyguards came over.

Ning Qing knew that these two women would not let Grandma have a chance to speak. She went beside Grandma and protected her. When the bodyguards reached for her, she cried out in panic, "What do you want to do? My Grandma is 65 years old this year. Is this your way of hospitality? Ah, Grandma!"

Ning Qing pulled Grandma's sleeve backward and preemptively made the illusion of being pushed down.

The two bodyguards were innocent. They hadn't even touched the corners of their shirts yet.

"Stop it! Mrs. Xu, Mrs. Ning, Old Madam Ning is already very old. Not only are you insulting the nobles by pushing her around so rudely, but it's also unfilial!" a respectable old man in the banquet hall stood up and shouted.

The entertainment media were also on Grandma's side.

Mother Xu dared not make a move, and Li Meiling clenched her fists tightly. She had a very bad feeling. Ning Qing was getting more and more difficult to deal with. She could no longer anticipate her moves.

Then Ning Qing winked at Grandma. Grandma got what she meant. She pointed to Ning Zhenguo's nose and scolded, "You unfilial son, you have been enticed by this b*tch and have destroyed a perfect family. What do you mean by this now? Asking two bodyguards to shut me up?"

Grandma pulled her sleeves up as she spoke, "Look, this is the mark that Ning Yao had left when she had purposely pinched me the other day while pulling me in the room. You let that bastard Ning Yao bully your mother! Now your mother is going to expose the truth of the staircase incident three years ago at this wedding banquet and reveal the true face of Li Meiling. Do you allow it or not?"

"This..." Ning Zhenguo looked at the blue and purple marks on his mother's arms and his face sank. He gave Li Meiling a cold look.

And today his mother had said "B*tch" and "bastard," which made things sound very ugly. His mother's momentum was so aggressive and he had never seen this side of his mother.

Ning Zhenguo was stunned. He was a little confused about the situation.

Ning Qing showed her grandmother's arm to the flash of the media indignantly. "Auntie Li, Auntie Xu, you guys kept telling Grandma to wait until the end of Ning Yao's wedding, but look at what Ning Yao has done to Grandma. Grandma was not sound in mind at that time. How could she do this to her? Does she have any humanity at all?"

The reporters kept taking pictures as the sound of criticism poured in from all sides.

"Mrs. Ning, did your daughter really pinch her grandmother? A 65-year-old mentally unsound old woman. What was Miss Ning Yao mindset when she was doing something so cruel?"

"Mrs. Xu, Miss Ning Yao pinches her grandmother like this, as her mother-in-law, do you know about this? Are you still satisfied with this daughter-in-law?"

Mother Xu and Li Meiling were speechless.

"Alright Grandma, now in front of everyone, you can tell us who pushed you down the stairs three years ago and why had they done it?" Ning Qing said.

Grandma pointed to Li Meiling and said, "Three years ago, she was the one who had drugged me. It was she who made me stand on the stairway and feel dizzy. It was she who caused me to fall down the stairs. It was she who ordered Xiao Cui, the servant, to frame my good daughter-in-law, Wanging!"

Grandma's words caused an uproar.

"Old Madam Ning, what had happened three years ago? Li Meiling had also criticized your daughter-inlaw Yue Wanqing at her media conference half a month ago, saying that if Yue Wanqing hadn't pushed you down the stairs three years ago, your son would not have gotten a divorce, and that she would not have asked for a title even after putting in 18 years of silent effort."

Chapter 108: CEO Xu, Is Your Wedding Going As Planned?

"Humph." Grandma smirked coldly. "It was all her lies. She seduced my son and I found out about it. I..."

Just as everyone was listening to her with full attention, Grandma suddenly stopped.

Grandma supported her chin on her one finger as she looked up in the sky. What's the next line? Aiya, I'm too old. I'm getting useless. I practiced for two days but I've already forgotten.

As Grandma stopped talking, it stirred a commotion among the crowd. Li Meiling looked suspicious too.

"Mom, I know you're feeling heartache and you can't continue to story. Let Qingqing finish up the story for you." Yue Wanqing quickly lifted her sleeve to pretend to wipe tears away for Grandma.

When Yue Wanqing reined back her sleeves, Grandma's eyes were red and there were tears in the corner of her eyes. She patted Ning Qing's hand and choked with sobs, "Qingqing, finish the story for me."

"Mm," Ning Qing nodded. "Three years ago, Grandma found out about Dad and Aunt Li and she got angry. She wanted to dismiss Aunt Li with a payoff. However, Aunt Li clamored before Grandma and insisted that she must become Mrs. Ning..."

"Bullshit. I did not!" Li Meiling cut Ning Qing off. She really didn't.

Ning Qing's eyes grew bright. She chuckled and said calmly, "Then, it means Aunt Li admits that my Grandma looked for you when your scandal was revealed three years ago. Right?"

The reporters nodded in agreement.

"You..." Li Meiling knew that she'd been framed and wanted to explain herself.

However, Ning Qing quickly waved and cut her off, "For Aunt Li's character that endures humiliation for the sake of a greater objective, how is it possible that she clamored war against my Grandma? You definitely played the pity card and put on a show where you said you only love my Dad but not his money. I was only joking with Aunt Li earlier."

Ning Qing guessed that her grandma would have talked to Li Meiling but she couldn't guess the context of their conversation. Actually, it wasn't difficult to guess Li Meiling's attitude. It was either one or another. She could easily tell by testing her.

In Li Meiling's eyes, there was a glimpse of viciousness. Ning Qing had changed so much. She spoke so meticulously and she was so cunning. She could find flaws in almost every sentence and counter-attack her.

Ning Qing was growing up.

"My grandma and my mom were mothers and daughters for thirty years. Even if they're not blood-related, they're close enough. No matter how great you were at singing Chinese Opera, my grandma wouldn't be fooled. You saw my grandma as your stumbling block so you had a wicked idea.

"You bought the maidservant, Xiao Cui, to the Ning family house with the incentive of a lump sum. Then, you instructed Xiao Cui to poison Grandma's food. That day when Grandma was talking to my mom on the stairs, the medication took effect and Grandma rolled down the stairs. Then, Xiao Cui brought a false charge against my mom for pushing Grandma off the stairs!"

"No, Qingqing, it is all your imagination. It's not true! Do you have evidence?" Li Meiling emotionally cut Ning Qing off. She was sure that Ning Qing had no evidence.

Although every single word she uttered about what happened three years back was true.

Li Meiling was starting to panic.

"Evidence? Sure," Ning Qing took out a letter turned yellow from her bag. She opened it and raised it before the cameras so that they could capture the image. "Three years ago, Xiao Cui was in her last

stage of cancer. At the brink of death, she wrote that she felt sorry to my grandma and my mom. She then wrote down the ins and outs of the story. It's written in black and white. Aunt Li, there's no point in denying it.

Li Meiling shook her head in disbelief. It was impossible that Xiao Cui left behind any letters. Where did she get the letter from?

Li Meiling felt that the world was magical. The truth lay under the lies for twenty years and no one could truly bury it.

She ran forward and grabbed the letter in Ning Qing's hand. It really was Xiao Cui's handwriting but she acted as though she'd retrieved a piece of powerful evidence. She pointed at Ning Qing and reprimanded, "Ning Qing, you're lying to everyone. I know Xiao Cui's handwriting. This is not Xiao Cui's handwriting. This is a piece of fabricated evidence!"

Then, there was a low voice. "How do you know if it was Xiao Cui's handwriting?" Ning Zhenguo walked forward slowly, his face green, as he asked the question.

"I..." Li Meiling felt her heart drop. She felt she was doomed!

She looked at Ning Qing subconsciously and saw Ning Qing's wide smile.

Ning Zhenguo walked closer to Li Meiling., "Three years ago, when you married me, Xiao Cui had already quit. Yes, when Wanqing was still there, Wanqing always invited you over as a guest but why would a guest be familiar with a maidservant's handwriting? Li Meiling, tell me. What is going on?"

"It's simple. This woman who said she loves you for twenty years, who didn't ask for status nor return, had actually already started to do painstaking planning when she first met you. She lied to my mom. She removed Grandma from the equation and finally made you marry her as Mrs. Ning. Now ask yourself: did she ever really love you? She only loves your money and social standing. She ruined your happy family and kept you under her thumb like a silly man. She only loves herself!" There was a chilly gleam in Ning Qing's eyes as she spoke sharply.

"No, Zhenguo, listen to me. I can explain..."

"Pak!" Ning Zhenguo swung and gave Li Meiling a tight slap.

Li Meiling fell on the ground.

"Li Meiling, I never thought you would be such a person. You've lied to me for the past twenty years. You're so wicked!" The man's eyes were full of anger and hatred.

Ning Qing could understand his anger. Li Meiling, who was a cool Goddess back in her day, became his lover for twenty years in silence. It had always been something he was proud of in his life. But then, he lost his pride. His Goddess framed him. Used him. She only loved his money, not him as a person. What a joke he's become.

Ning Zhenguo, as the only son of the Ning family, had never once experienced a setback or grievance. Yue Wanqing was married to him for thirty years and treated him as her world. He was used to being flattered and he was an egotistical man.

Then, Ning Qing exposed Li Meiling's tricks before everyone and Ning Zhenguo became a laughing stock. In the future, whenever he thinks about how Li Meiling had cheated him for twenty years, he will feel needle at his heart.

Ning Qing dared say that Ning Zhenguo and Li Meiling are over!

"No, that's not it..." Li Meiling was covered in tears and her face was burning with embarrassment. She lifted her gaze and looked at everyone around her pointing fingers at her and looking at her in disdain. She never thought she would lose like this.

She put in great effort to plan it all, and she lived in seclusion for so many years. Every step she took, she reminded herself of her life in twenty years. At the last press release, she was dumbfounded by Ning Qing's empty document and she had lost.

Then, she ensured that there were no flaws in Grandma's incident. But how would Grandma suddenly regain lucidity?

She's been defeated by Ning Qing again!

Was she doomed?

"Mom!" Ning Yao ran over.

She was still in her white wedding gown. She was having her makeup done by the top makeup artist in the bridal makeup room earlier. Her bridesmaids were showering her with compliments. Just as she was enjoying the flattering remarks, someone went to inform her about what happened in the hall, so she ran over in a hurry.

"Mom, what happened to you? Who hit you?" Ning Yao scanned the three people standing there and looked at Ning Zhenguo, who was crossing his arms. She asked, "Dad, did Sister slap mom? Sister is going overboard. You have to get justice for mom."

"Yaoyao, is it because of hereditary, or was there something wrong with your upbringing? Why do you like to slander and frame somebody else when you speak? The person who hit your mom is your dad!" Ning Qing said.

"What?" Ning Yao stared and pulled Ning Zhenguo's hand. "Dad, why did you hit mom?"

Ning Zhenguo swung Ning Yao's hand away. "Ask your mom yourself about what she has done!"

Then, a reporter shouted, "Miss Ning Yao, the incident where your mom poisoned your grandma and she rolled down from the stairs has been exposed. Upon learning this, your dad slapped your mom."

"No way, it is impossible that my mom would push grandma down the stairs. It's you!" Ning Yao pointed the finger at Ning Qing. "It must be you who framed my mom. There must be a misunderstanding."

"Heh," Ning Qing laughed coldly as she looked in disdain. "Yaoyao, it is Grandma who exposed your mom's plot. Are you saying Grandma framed your mom? This is ridiculous. Grandma, who was a victim, exposed the truth from three years ago, but you said that Grandma framed your mom? In broad daylight in the universe, how dare you deny her?"

"..." Ning Yao was at a loss for words by Ning Qing's imposing aura.

Suddenly a man said, "What happened, what's going on?"

Xu Junxi had entered the scene. He was in a white suit, looking rather dashing.

Upon seeing him, the reporters were excited and the cameras clicked non-stop.

"CEO Xu, your bride, Ning Yao... Miss Ning pinched her grandma and left a bruise. Did you know that? What do you think?"

Then, Grandma rolled up her sleeves to show Xu Junxi her bruise.

Xu Junxi's pupil contracted as he looked at Ning Yao by his side. A grave look instantly overcame his face.

Ning Yao had always been a fragile girl who was gentle and kind. He never thought Ning Yao would do such a wicked thing to her own grandma.

Ning Yao noticed his upset gaze and she wanted to explain herself but the media continued to throw out questions...

"CEO Xu, today, Madam Ning exposed the truth about her fall down the stairs three years ago. It turned out that it was your mother-in-law, Li Meiling's plot. What do you think about this?"

"CEO Xu, your mother-in-law had been a backdoor lover for twenty years; she plotted to kick the original wife out, poison an elderly, destroy the other's family to gain social status. I'd like to ask: will you still marry Ning Yao?"

"CEO Xu, your bride to be, Ning Yao, doesn't seem to be as fragile as she looks. Do you really know her? Would you become the second Ning Zhenguo? Would you regret it in the end as well?"

"CEO Xu, will the wedding go on as planned? Please answer."...

Dealing with one question after another, Xu Junxi's face grew grave. His wedding has become a joke?!

He lifted his gaze to look at Ning Qing. The girl stood there, straightened her back with a tinge of arrogance. She looked at him in disdain as she sneered.

Xu Junxi clenched his fist as he saw her look of disdain. The reporters' bombarding questions couldn't compare to that single glance. His heart was aching again.

Then, "Junxi, my personal matters never had anything to do with Yaoyao. Yaoyao has loved you for many years. Now that the guests are here, hurry up and carry on with the wedding," Li Meiling stood up and said.

"Junxi..." Ning Yao called Xu Junxi softly but she didn't say anything else. Her eyes were full of tender feelings that she wanted to express but held back.

They never thought their wedding would end up like this. They were angry that their special day became a sideshow in front of the wealthy families of T City.

Mother Xu was unhappy. Li Meiling held the shares in her hands and Emperor Entertainment Group was her top priority. She knew that he must marry Ning Yao soon, then it wouldn't matter if he cast her aside.

Mother Xu advised Xu Junxi, "Junxi hurry up and continue the wedding. Don't miss the prosperous timing."

Xu Junxi's facial expression looked complex. His wedding was a mess and it was such a joke. He was arrogant all this while but he couldn't let himself down before the media.

Looking at him hesitating, Ning Yao went forward to hold his arm. She said softly, "Junxi, do you not want me anymore? You don't have to put yourself in a difficult position. It is I who embarrassed you. I won't force you. I will leave now."

"Yaoyao!" Xu Junxi quickly held Ning Yao's hand as she was going to leave.

Ning Yao lived for him. If he didn't want her, she would definitely do something stupid again. Plus, Ning Qing had brought her grandma to his wedding. She wanted to see him as a joke.

He wouldn't let Ning Qing win!

"Yaoyao, let's talk about Mom's matter later on. Let's continue our wedding," Xu Junxi said.

"Wow..." The reporters never expected Xu Junxi to continue the wedding. They were shocked.

Then, pak pak pak. There were three loud claps. Ning Qing clapped as she took two steps forward. She lifted the corner of her lip and looked at Xu Junxi with a lazy yet enchanting smile, "CEO Xu's affection towards Yaoyao has moved me. I can't help but clap for you."

"Ning Qing, what are you trying to do? We are past that affair about Grandma. If you want to ruin Junxi's wedding, I'll ask the guards to escort you out of here!" Mother Xu reprimanded.

Ning Qing didn't bother but smiled even wider. Her voice was loud and bright, calm and confident as she said, "Aunt Xu, why are you so nervous? Are you afraid that I'll expose the hidden deal behind this wedding? CEO Xu, aren't you tired of pretending to care so much in front of everyone? You are willing to let Ning Yao into your family just because you want to get her abundant dowry!"

The reporters were going crazy. Were they going to get a glimpse of another exclusive secret?

The reporters had yet to ask but Xu Junxi asked coldly, "Ning Qing, what do you mean?"

"What do I mean? CEO Xu should know better than anyone else. Li Meiling gave your mom a share transfer contract by a director of Emperor Entertainment Group with a different surname. With the share transfer contract, you can remove everyone against you and be in total power again. CEO Xu's going to marry Ning Yao today. You didn't give her up, all because of your career! You step on a woman's shoulder for your career. Xu Junxi, I disdain you!"

Xu Junxi, I disdain you?

Xu Junxi's eyes grew bloodshot red as he heard that. He clenched his fists and asked his mother, "Mom, is what Ning Qing said true?"

"This..." Mother Xu glared at Ning Qing. She didn't know how Ning Qing got the news.

Then, the guests were whispering among themselves.

"No wonder CEO Xu is willing to marry Ning Yao. Even when her mother-in-law is problematic, he is determined to carry out the wedding. It turns out that the wedding is a transaction!"

Chapter 109: Is There Any News From Your Stomach?

"Yes, President Xu had always been very successful in business all these years, but I didn't expect that you had relied on these means to get everything that you have now. This is too dark."

Ning Qing saw that Xu Junxi was pretty furious. His chest began to fluctuate violently. In fact, she knew Xu Junxi was not aware of it. She had just said that to agitate him.

This man was too proud and conceited. He would never exchange his rights by marrying Ning Yao. That was his bottom line and principle.

Now that she has slandered him and questioned his achievements over the years, he wouldn't be able to stand it!

Sure enough, Xu Junxi pulled out the groom's flowers on his white suit and threw them on his mother. "The wedding is canceled, if you want a Xu to marry Ning Yao, you should marry her yourself!"

Xu Junxi strode towards the road and left.

"Junxi!" Ning Yao rushed to chase after Xu Junxi.

The bride and groom of the wedding were gone. Ning Zhenguo stood frozen at the side. Li Meiling and Mother Xu glared at Ning Qing viciously. Ning Qing gracefully tucked her silky hair on her cheek behind her ear, took her grandmother's arm, and laughed. "Okay, Grandma, the wicked have gotten their retribution. We should go home too."

"Alright, Qingqing, let's go." Ning Qing and Yue Wanqing helped Grandma along, and the family of three returned home victoriously.

"Sister Xu, what about the wedding? Let's wait for Junxi to get a grip. Yaoyao will surely be able to get Junxi back," Li Meiling said as she laughed apologetically.

Mother Xu pushed Li Meiling aside angrily. "Look at all the good you've done. Now it's affecting our family! How can I not know my son? He'll never come back. The wedding is canceled!"

The Xu couple walked out under the escort of bodyguards, got in their luxury car, and sped away.

Li Meiling was left on the spot. She looked at Ning Zhenguo and raised her foot to walk toward him. She tried to soften her voice. "Zhenguo, if you have anything to say, let's go home and talk. There are so many journalists here..."

"Hmph!" Li Meiling hadn't even touched Ning Zhenguo's sleeve yet, and he had already walked away with a wave of his sleeves.

Li Meiling's face turned red, then white. She was so full of hatred that she wanted to kill someone. They had all left her. Had she been forsaken by her friends and family?

But the reporters hadn't let her go yet. Everyone rushed to surround her.

"Li Meiling, please say a few words. How do you hurt so many people? In fact, it is legendary that you've made it this far in life. We've seen a lot of bad people, but you are absolutely the master of them all."

"Li Meiling, are you emulating the operas and dramas you've worked on? Are you not afraid of retribution? Now that your daughter's wedding has been canceled, do you repent, and do you think you're wrong?"

In just three months, the reporters' had changed how they addressed Li Meiling, from "Madam Li" to "Mrs. Ning", and now they've just called her "Li Meiling" directly.

Li Meiling did not know who pushed her, and then someone hit her. Although she had worked hard scheming for so many years, she had no fighting experience at all.

Being surrounded by so many people, she panicked and said. "Stay away, I don't accept any interviews, and won't answer any questions. Please go away!"

But no one went away. Instead, louder and louder cries could be heard from Li Meiling.

"Who pushed me? Who's pulling my hair?"

"Ah, I've fallen down. Don't step on my hand. It hurts."

...

In the luxury business car, Ning Qing, Yue Wanqing, and Grandma sat in the back seat.

"Qingqing, you were too bold today, Grandma had obviously not recovered, but you were not afraid that she would give you away. You asked her to memorize and recite all those lines. I was scared to death watching it unfold!"

Ning Qing held her mother's hand and laughed. "Mom, this is the only way we can win. It's called adopting full measures and taking the necessary risks to win. Besides, what are you afraid of? I knew you'd be able to improvise. As soon as Grandma doesn't remember her lines, you can just pretend to wipe her tears away. Now, these so-called nobles won't embarrass an old lady. Just leave everything else to me."

Yue Wanqing looked at her daughter's bright little face and touched her head lovingly. "You little girl, using even your mother for your performance."

"That's necessary. Mom is the protagonist. You have been wronged for three years. Today, Qingqing had finally avenged you."

Yue Wanqing's eyes sparkled with tears of agitation.

Because Grandma had fallen down the stairs, she had been wronged for three whole years and had lost her marriage and family because of it. Now the truth was out there. Her daughter had helped her clean up her good name.

How could she not be agitated?

Then Grandma went near Ning Qing and asked her for credit. "Qingqing, was Grandma great today?"

"Grandma was great!" Ning Qing stuck her thumb up. "Later, Qingqing will take Grandma to pick out some toys. I promised you rewards yesterday, so Qingqing will buy whatever you want."

"Great, great!" Grandma clapped her hands.

At this time, Zhu Rui, who was in the front passenger's seat, looked at Ning Qing through the rearview mirror. The longer he interacted with her, the more he was impressed by Ning Qing's tenacity and wisdom. His eyes flashed with admiration.

"Madam, you have won a very hard-fought battle today. What do you want to do next? Li Meiling is not a fool. Once she finds out that Grandma has not regained her sanity and that all this was a play directed by you, she will take action! As long as this person remains, you will suffer endlessly in the future."

Ning Qing nodded. "Rest assured, I already have the countermeasures in place. I will take advantage of this victory to follow up with an attack, completely defeating Li Meiling. I have arranged a decisive blow that will put her in her proper place."

Zhu Rui looked at her soft little face bathed in the brilliant sunshine. Her eyebrows were moving, and her youthful pride and vitality could not be concealed.

He laughed. "Madam, when the president comes back from his business trip, he will certainly praise you."

Speaking of Lu Shaoming, Ning Qing's heart bubbled with sweetness. He had been on a business trip for two days. She hadn't seen him this whole time.

Every night, her feelings sunk away like a raging tide without him.

Zhu Rui looked at Ning Qing's shy and girly appearance and thought it was interesting. She had just been aggressive and domineering at the wedding banquet. But when he mentioned the president, she instantly turned into an 18-year-old innocent girl and became incredibly shy.

Sure enough, women in love had no IQ.

"Madam, it's best to call the president at this time. It's probably night time where the president is now, and he's probably close to falling asleep," Zhu Rui suggested.

"No, it's alright," said a red-faced Ning Qing. She murmured, "I'll call...call him again when I've completely settled matters with Li Meiling."

He always watched her actions from a high pedestal. She wanted him to see her achievements, and she wanted him to look up at her with great surprise!

Girls loved to show off.

He would surely be happy for her.

Zhu Rui saw through the girl's thoughts and just laughed but did not reply.

Ning Qing was a little shy. She changed the subject and asked curiously, "Secretary Zhu, don't you have to go to the office? Are you here with me every day?"

She always remembered that Zhu Rui's salary was very high.

"The president has gone on a business trip, but the president is still worried about Madam, so I must take good care of you and help you during his absence. To the president, Madam will always be more important than the company."

Ning Qing hadn't expected Zhu Rui to be such a smooth talker too. Lu Shaoming was indeed surrounded by talented people. Ning Qing laughed a couple of times in her head. Alright, she admitted that her heart was in full bloom.

...

The Ning family Villa

"Mom, what should we do now? Junxi is ignoring me and has turned off his cell phone. Junxi doesn't want me anymore. I can't get into the Xu family as Mrs. Xu anymore. And I've even become the laughing stock of the entire city now," Ning Yao complained.

Li Meiling's face was red and swollen. Ning Zhenguo's slap was too powerful. She was applying medicinal liquor to her face now.

She had been surrounded by reporters and had fallen to the ground. Someone had stepped on her hand, while others had stepped on her foot. Fortunately, the hotel security came in time, otherwise, her life would've been in danger.

She had never been so pathetic in her life.

"Yaoyao, don't worry. I still hold the equity documents in my hand. Xu Junxi's mother is bound to want these equity documents. After Xu Junxi calms down, he will surely marry you and bring you into the Xu family."

"But how long do we have to wait? Now everyone knows that we have exchanged equity documents for the marriage. I don't think Junxi will forgive us in the near future."

"What can we do then? We can only wait." Li Meiling's disgust bubbled up and her tone was heavy.

She had been abandoned at the cannibalistic wedding banquet, and nobody had helped her; nobody cared about her. She went home in shambles, and her daughter did not give her even a word of comfort. Everything she said was in regards to her own selfish interests.

She was also human and needed warmth and comfort.

Ning Yao was frightened by her mother's snapping tone and appearance. She immediately stumbled back with tears in her eyes.

When Li Meiling saw that she was about to cry, her heart softened immediately. She reached out and held Ning Yao's small hand and pulled her to sit beside her. "Yaoyao, the wedding has failed this time. We can only wait for Junxi to marry you, but you have to work hard. Some time ago, I gave you Chinese medicine to help you get pregnant every night. Have you bedded Junxi? Is there any news from your stomach?"

Ning Yao stretched out her hand and caressed her flat stomach. her eyes were full of joy. "Mom, I'm not sure. I did it a lot of times with Junxi previously, and my period has been late for a few days."

"Really? That's great. Mom will ask someone to buy you a pregnancy test kit later. You can have it tested. You have to know that mothers in noble families rise in status through their sons. As long as you are pregnant with Junxi's child, you needn't be afraid that you will not be able to enter the Xu family.

Ning Yao was confident, but she was filled with resentment. "Mom, it's all that little b*tch Ning Qing's fault today. Why does she have to come and ruin things every time?"

Li Meiling looked grim. "Mom hadn't expected your grandmother to regain her sanity in time for the wedding. And she caught us unaware and massacred us. If I had known this would happen, I would've sent people to kill Ning Qing directly instead of raping her. Let me think about it; I will find a way to kill her!"

"Alright!" Ning Yao nodded heavily. She believed in her mother, who had helped her clear all the obstacles in her growth path all these years. She believed this time was no exception.

Ning Yao looked around the villa and asked, "Mom, where's Dad?"

Speaking of Ning Zhenguo, Li Meiling's expression became defeated. She knew that Ning Zhenguo's heart would be hard to recover.

But she consoled Ning Yao and said, "Your father has gone to the office. He is still angry. Mom will coax him. You don't have to worry about our affairs. As long as you marry into the Xu family, Mom will rely on you to take care of me."

"Yes, Mom, you can rest assured that I will support and take care of you in the future," Ning Yao said sweetly.

Li Meiling smiled a little. Her cell phone rang. "Hello." She picked up the phone.

"Hello, Auntie Li." It was Ning Qing's voice.

Li Meiling's eyes grew dark, and her fierce and vicious eyes seemed as if she wanted nothing more than to eat Ning Qing up. "What are you calling me for? You're laughing at me!"

"Oh, Auntie Li, why are you so fierce? Now the entirety of T City is laughing at you. You haven't been this popular after even years of acting, have you? I'm helping you."

"You!" Li Meiling breathing was unstable. "Ning Qing, what do you really want to say?"

"Oh, I want to have a chat with Auntie Li. I'll wait for you at the Java Cafe." Ning Qing hung up.

..

Ning Qing took a sip of coffee; Li Meiling had arrived.

Her face was covered with a veil, her eyes were covered by sunglasses, and she kept looking around as she walked. The woman snuck around in fear that others would recognize her.

Ning Qing sneered.

Li Meiling sat opposite her. She took off her veil and sunglasses and looked at Ning Qing hatefully. "Talk. What do you want to talk to me about?"

Ning Qing looked at her red and swollen face and her beautiful lips curved up. "Auntie Li has come earlier than I had expected. You are a rat crossing the street now. I'm really afraid that you will be recognized by passers-by and everyone will yell and chase after you."

"Hmph!" Li Meiling took a sip of her coffee and said, "Ning Qing, do you think you've won? I was careless this time. It won't be long before I can gain the upper hand again."

"Gain the upper hand again? Auntie Li, are you kidding? Will Xu Junxi marry your daughter? Their marriage had been tied to a business transaction. Even if they actually get married, they would not receive any blessings from anyone. You have an equity document, but I believe you know Auntie Xu better than I do. Once she gets the equity document, she would turn her back on you faster than she could flip a book. A wife of nobility is never free. Do you think she will give your daughter a good life? Stop dreaming!

"Let's talk about your husband Ning Zhenguo. He has been playing with you for 20 years and is still not tired of you. Don't tell me that you don't know that a large part of the reason is that you used to be the goddess of the opera industry, right? Men are all like that. He married a goddess and would naturally look up to you. But now the goddess has turned into a street rat. He would surely kick aside a woman who has no value, who gives him trouble instead of prestige. Besides, Ning Zhenguo is only 45 years old. There are a lot of young and beautiful women in the company. What's a haggard old woman like you to him?"

Li Meiling banged her coffee cup on the table and said grimly, "Ning Qing, have you've called me out just to taunt me today?"

"What do you think? Aren't you and your daughter the best at being dependent on men? Aren't you two the best at using them? I'm giving you a taste of what it's like to be abandoned by men. Does it taste good? You've schemed for a lifetime, and eventually, you ran out of schemes and everything you've achieved has turned into nothing instantaneously. Does it feel good to lose things? You used my mother's body as a stepping stone and gotten a title, and you swept my mother and me out of the house three years ago. Does it feel good to be defeated by me now?

"Li Meiling, you have been dreaming your entire life. Now that your dream has ended, you should wake up!"

Chapter 110: Why Did You Hit Me When You Came Back?

"You!" Li Meiling was quivering in anger. Ning Qing's words were too vicious. Every word she uttered stabbed her right where it hurt most. She was at the verge of collapsing. She was going to lose control.

Just before she lost control, she suddenly stood up. "If you only wanted to say these things, I will not entertain you."

"Aunt Li, why are you leaving in such a hurry?" Ning Qing knew that her emotional line of defense was on the verge of breaking down and her smile grew even wider. She took out her phone from her bag, "I haven't even reached my point yet. Aunt Li, let me play something for you to listen to."

"What?" Li Meiling asked with her guard up.

Ning Qing tapped the phone and the recording of the gangster's conversation played.

"Boss, is what she said real? Is the Li Meiling reliable? There are too many cases of murder to keep one's mouth shut..."

Li Meiling heard the recording and her face changed. "Where did you get this voice recording?" She extended her hand across the table to grab the phone in Ning Qing's hand. "Hurry up and give it to me!"

"Heh, why should I give it to Aunt Li? I have to give this to the police. You hired gangsters to rape me. This is the evidence. Aunt Li, couldn't you have chosen smarter gangsters? If you would have, it wouldn't be so easy for me to find leverage against you. What would Xu Junxi and Ning Zhenguo think if you were to be imprisoned? Haha..."

Looking at Ning Qing laughing hysterically, Li Meiling's blood began to boil. Those dumbasses. They didn't rape Ning Qing but their voices were recorded.

Her bloodshot eyes aimed at the phone in Ning Qing's hand. She only had one thought in her mind. No way. This voice recording can't go to the police. Otherwise, she would be doomed.

She was at a disadvantage in the situation. The recording would only make it worse.

No, just as Ning Qing had said: she had planned for twenty years. It can't go to ruin in a flash. She didn't want to be abandoned. She didn't want the taste of losing and being defeated.

She had always been the winner.

Li Meiling walked around the table and ran to Ning Qing. She pushed Ning Qing onto the sofa. She extended her hand to grab her phone. "Ning Qing, give me the phone!"

Ning Qing gripped the phone tightly and smirked coldly. "I won't give it to you. You switched the prop gun with a real gun in the filming studio with the intent to kill me. You hired gangster to try to rape me.

But where have you succeeded? God knows what you've done. You've been involved in so many inhuman affairs; today's is the day for retribution!"

"Humph, Ning Qing, retribution or not, we will know when all is said and done. The recording wouldn't be enough to convict me. I won't lose. I will never lose," Li Meiling roared emotionally.

"Li Meiling, stop dreaming. Wake up. You took my mom's husband and taught your daughter to use the same methods to take my fiance. In the end, it proves that nothing you've taken has ever been rightfully yours!"

"Shut up, shut up!" Li Meiling slapped Ning Qing hard. She didn't want to listen to Ning Qing. She didn't want to listen to her precise dagger-like words.

Li Meiling extended her hand to seize Ning Qing's throat. She roared as though she were possessed, "I'll kill you now. Let's meet death together!"

Ning Qing suddenly felt difficulty breathing and she pushed and hit Li Meiling as she struggled.

Then, the waitress at the cafe saw what happened. She shouted, "Murder! someone's trying to kill! Hurry up call the police; Call 110!

The waitress ran away.

When Li Meiling heard "call the police", she regained awareness. She saw Ning Qing's face was red from her grasp. She grew as pale as a sheet. She quickly reined her hands.

"I didn't kill anyone. I didn't..." Li Meiling panicked and she got up to run.

However, her sleeve was tugged by a delicate hand. She turned around and saw Ning Qing smiling widely. "Li Meiling, now that I have you, do you think I'd let you go? Yes, I wouldn't be able to press charges with the audio recording but what if there's another attempted murder?"

Li Meiling's pupil shrunk and she felt threatened. "You... What do you mean?"

Ning Qing quickly extended her hand and grabbed the knife beside Li Meiling. There was a chilly gleam and psst, the sound of a knife stabbing into one's flesh was heard. Ning Qing's left shoulder was covered in blood.

Li Meiling was dumbfounded. Everything happened too quickly, too suddenly.

Ning Qing was so merciless. She didn't even blink when she stabbed the knife into her shoulder.

There was a spark in Li Meiling's mind when she recalled a few details.

Ning Qing had been wearing a set of white gloves that day. It was autumn and it was normal that a girl would wear a scarf and gloves. However, when she had arrived at the cafe earlier, the cutlery beside her was scattered. She arranged them to the side when she sat down. In other words, her fingerprints were on the knife.

But Ning Qing was wearing gloves so her fingerprints wouldn't be on the knife.

Plus, it was in the afternoon. No matter how quiet a cafe was, it was impossible that there was no one there. In other words, Ning Qing took control of the cafe.

Great. Ning Qing had planned everything beforehand. She set up a banquet as a trap for the invited so she could never return.

She first provoked her with sharp verbal attack then led her on with the audio regarding the gangsters. After that, the waitress saw that she tried to seize Ning Qing by her throat. In short, there was an eyewitness and evidence. She wouldn't be able to get out of this.

"Ning Qing, you're so despicable. How dare you frame me!"

Ning Qing was aching and her face was pale. She pushed Li Meiling off with all her strength then Ning Qing fell on the ground. She covered her bleeding shoulder as she crawled on the ground. "Somebody, help. Someone is trying to kill me..."

Li Meiling was speechless. She had been acting all her life. This was an act that she had used countless times; she never knew Ning Qing would play her trick at a higher level.

She finally admitted that Ning Qing was too strong of an opponent to fight against.

What should she do now?

"Don't move. Raise your hands!" The police had arrived. Li Meiling saw two black holes aiming at her head. The police were aiming their guns at her.

It was autumn but Li Meiling was covered in cold sweat. She muttered dully, "It wasn't me. It was her. She stabbed herself..."

The police came to Li Meiling and took out a pair of cold handcuffs to cuff her, "We suspect that you're involved in an attempted murder. We are arresting you according to the law. You have the right to remain silent, whatever you say can and will be used against you in a court of law."

The two police arrested Li Meiling while a doctor began taking emergency measures to tend to Ning Qing's wound. Li Meiling shouted, "Ning Qing, you framed me! I will not let you go..."

Ning Qing lifted her head from the doctor's arms. The corner of her lips lifted and flashed a cold smile of disdain at Li Meiling. Li Meiling, prison is the final destination I've prepared for you.

Don't think about running away this time!

Li Meiling was arrested by the police.

•••

Tea Pavilion Villa.

The doctor was changing the dressing on Ning Qing's wound once again while Yue Wanqing hugged Ning Qing in her arms with tears flowing down her cheeks. "Qingqing, how could you go and meet Li Meiling alone. She is such a treacherous person. See what happened now? She stabbed you. Luckily, she only got your shoulder. Otherwise, what would we do?"

Ning Qing hugged her mom. Her mom would never know the truth behind the incident in the cafe and she would never tell her.

Then, Zhu Rui, who was standing nearby, comforted, "Old madam, you won't get a tiger if you don't enter the tiger's den. Madam made it through the danger and defeated Li Meiling. She won't be able to stir up any trouble in the future."

"Yes, Mom. You have to lose some to gain some. I only have a small injury but I sent Li Meiling to prison. This is something to be happy about."

Yue Wanqing thought otherwise. Her daughter's safety was everything. She'd rather Li Meiling run around before her than have her daughter be wounded.

"Madam, stay at home to rest and I'll take care of everything at the police station. Li Meiling will definitely be imprisoned. You only need to make an appearance at the trial."

"Mm, thank you Secretary Zhu."

Then, there was heavy footsteps outside the door. Aunt Zhang said, "Sir, you came home?"

Ning Qing felt a tug at her heartstrings and she lifted her gaze. The bedroom door was pushed open and there was a handsome figure standing outside the door. He was in a grey wool jacket that looked travelworn.

It was Lu Shaoming.

Yue Wanging stood up and said in surprise, "Shaoming, you came back?"

"Yes, Mom," Lu Shaoming replied in a tired tone.

"That's great. It's dinner time. Let me take care of the dinner with Aunt Zhang. Shaoming, talk to Qingqing. This child makes me worry all the time," Yue Wanqing exhorted lovingly.

Zhu Rui then bid farewell and left the room with Yue Wanging. They closed the door behind them.

Suddenly, there were only two of them left in the room. The two of them didn't speak and it was quiet.

Ning Qing was blushing in embarrassment. She looked at the man's slender cold gaze fixing at her as he looked her over with anger and aching tenderness in his eyes.

There's a solemn boldness that he was born with. She was especially anxious when he was quiet.

They'd been apart for three to four days and her gaze couldn't be redirected the moment it connected him.

They can't just stay there like that. Ning Qing stood up and walked towards him.

His grey wool jacket was very long, all the way to his knees. The jacket was long but his legs were even longer. The well-tailored slacks wrapped around his long legs below his knees. They were straight, strong and proud. His body was in nice shape and the firm texture of his clothes set off his sharp yet cold aura.

There was weariness on his face. His beautiful jaw was covered with a layer of stubble. However, his handsome face and sculpted jawline were obvious and his weariness only made him look like a mature man.

Especially charming.

Ning Qing stood by him and wanted to touch him. However, she felt embarrassed under his sharp gaze. She extended her finger and pushed his chest probingly, "What are you doing? You just came back and you're mad at me."

The man quickly wrapped her finger into his palm while his other hand hung by his side with a document held by two of his fingers. "Do you know why I'm mad at you? Didn't you just promise me that you'll discuss it with me before you take any action? The moment I got off the plane, I heard that you'd been hurt. Do you know how worried I was? Huh?"

"I know. It's my fault... Ah..." His other hand that was holding his document suddenly held her delicate waist and pulled her into his embrace while his other hand slapped her perky butt.

He looked down and bit her lips. His breathing grew heavier. "Naughty girl, do you still think you're very smart? Using yourself as a bait to defeat your enemy. The loss outweighs the gain. That was so stupid."

Although her butt and her lips hurt, Ning Qing punched him with her small hands as she flirted, "Why did you hit me when you came home? Actually, I was also afraid when I made a scene at the wedding. I felt pain when I stabbed myself with the knife. Forget the fact that you don't understand me. On top of that, you hit me?!"

The girl moved vigorously. Lu Shaoming was worried that she would open her wound so he seized her arms and kissed her lips. He gulped and said, "Why do I have to understand you? Why don't you try to understand me? I went for a business trip and I nearly lost my little wife before I could return. Do you know how scared I was?"

Her lips were covered in moisture along with the refreshing scent of his mouth. Ning Qing grew weak all over as she held onto his jacket.

Under his jacket, he wore a clean white shirt with black striped tie. He exhibited the character of a careful elite.

Ning Qing quickly closed her eyes. She didn't dare to take another look at him. She was worried that she would grow even more fond of him and grow even weaker.

"Little wife," Lu Shaoming closed his eyes and called as he kissed her lips slowly.

Ning Qing's hands that were gripping his collar moved upwards to his shoulders and then hugged his neck tightly. She felt safer as she hung on him, as she was afraid that she might fall if she grew weak.

He was kissing her so tenderly. She was nice and sweet and he was like a bee collecting honey. He wasn't tired no matter what. He was using his kiss to tell her how much he missed her.

He had missed her so much over the last three days.

He'd just returned from his business trip and heard that she'd been injured. How could he not be angry?

After a long tender kiss, Ning Qing felt light headed. The man's sexy thin lips were still lingering around her lips. Her skin emitted a warm, refreshing scent. Their breaths intertwined.

"Does your shoulder hurt?" He asked gently.

"Mm, it doesn't hurt much now. I didn't stab it too deep. I just had painkillers."

Then, he grabbed her perky butt and she was lifted up. Lu Shaoming carried her to the bed. He carried her and kissed her on her lips.

Lu Shaoming sat on the bed and he supported Ning Qing's beautiful back with his arm around her to embrace her. His other hand ran through the hair by her cheeks as he deepened the kiss.

They had not seen each other for three or four days. The moment they kissed, they couldn't help themselves.

When Lu Shaoming let go of her, Ning Qing lay in his embrace with her rosy cheeks. He rubbed his jaw against her bright forehead. She found it ticklish yet prickly.

The atmosphere after they kissed would forever stick out in her memory. Ning Qing leaned on his broad warm chest leisurely.

"Why would you risk yourself? Do you think there'd be endless trouble in store if Li Meiling kept hanging around?" His deep voice was hoarse and Ning Qing found it extremely sexy.

"Mm, yes. There's something wrong with Ning Yao's wedding and Ning Zhenguo abandoned her. She was definitely in a fix. I couldn't give her a chance to gasp for air. I had to eradicate the source of the trouble!"

"Heh," Lu Shaoming looked down and kissed her clean face as his bright black eyes shimmered. "Besides risking yourself, little wife is quite smart. Well done."

Chapter 111: Most Improper, Most Improper

"Really?" Ning Qing raised her little head and looked at him ostentatiously.

She liked it when he praised her.

Lu Shaoming nodded with tender eyes. He handed her the document, which he'd been holding between two fingers since he had entered the room. "Look, this is a gift from your husband."

"What is it?" Ning Qing opened it curiously.

Inside was the transfer of shares of Emperor Entertainment Group's Director with a foreign surname!

"Shaoming, wasn't this in the hands of Li Meiling? How come you have it now?" Ning Qing's surprise was beyond replication.

Lu Shaoming held her in his arms like a little girl. "When you told me about this equity document the other day, I sent someone to investigate it. It turns out that Li Meiling had bought over the gangster boss and had set a trap for the director's son, and got the equity document through improper means of

threats and intimidation. I've already sent someone to settle the gangster boss. The equity document in Li Meiling's hand was invalidated. This is the equity document signed by the director with a foreign surname, which is legitimate in the eyes of the law."

Ning Qing instantly smiled like a blooming flower. "Great. With this equity document, I'd like to see how Ning Yao can marry into the Xu family!"

"Mmm," Lu Shaoming answered lazily, kissing her tender little earlobe. "Wifey, I have transferred this equity document to your name. You are a major shareholder of Emperor Entertainment group now. I heard that Xu Junxi's mom once looked down on you and was mean to you. You can hold your head high in front of her now."

Ning Qing was startled. She looked sideways at the man. His handsome face was just inches away from her. In his narrow eyes, there was warmth and light that shone brighter than stars.

Him?

"Shaoming, I can't accept this. It must have cost a lot of money to get this. Besides, don't you mind the relationship between Xu Junxi and me? If I become the major shareholder of Emperor Entertainment Group, I will come into contact with him."

Lu Shaoming reached out and pinched her delicate snow-white nose, telling her adoringly, "Little fool, my Guang Qing and Lu Corporation are all yours, let alone a mere Emperor Entertainment Group? I don't mind you seeing Xu Junxi, because I know my wife loves me."

He had to thank Xu Junxi for that. He had heard her confession to him in the cafe. He confession had been so naked, honest and passionate.

Ning Qing was moved. To be honest, she needed his trust and support most, so that she could bear no burden later.

Ever since they had gotten acquainted, he treated her better and better.

His words echoed in her ear. He had said that Xu Junxi's mother was bitter and mean to her. He asked her to hold her head high. The man's tone was so indulgent and adoring.

Mmm, the feeling of a brother and a father's adoration had returned.

They were husband and wife, after all. If they were too polite, they would feel unacquainted. Ning Qing's long eyelashes that were like butterflies' wings fluttered shyly as she whispered, "Shaoming, since you gave it to me, then I shall accept it. Thank you."

Lu Shaoming held out his two fingers and clasped the girl's sharp jaw. He laughed and said, "Thank you? These two words are useless. If you really want to thank me, say something else."

"You... What do you want me to say?" A light-switch was flicked on in the room. The handsome man's face was blanketed by a charming shadow. Ning Qing's eyes were dazzled.

"Say you love me."

That day, she had told Xu Junxi that she loved him, that she was infatuated with scent and even his sideburns, and that since she had met him, her eyes were filled with him.

He didn't know when she had these thoughts. He didn't have any experience in love. He only knew that every time she was in front of him, she would be shy and her heart would thump wildly.

He knew she had feelings for him, but he didn't know when she had fallen in love with him.

Such a shy girl, he wanted to hear her say that she loved him personally.

Ning Qing didn't know why he had made this request. How embarrassing it was for her, being asked to confess. She had very thin skin.

It was amazing to think that she had fallen in love with him so quickly.

He felt really familiar to her, as if they had known each other very early and already had a heart-pounding moment.

Or perhaps, hatred was just like spring grass, gradually fading away and returning life. Love was also like that; when one person has turned and walked away, another person would walk towards her.

Lu Shaoming's gaze was expectant. Ning Qing could not bear to disappoint him. "Lu Shaoming, I love you!"

Her little face was hot, and she spoke quickly.

"Haha..." Lu Shaoming was in a good mood. Whenever he saw her shy appearance, he couldn't help but tease her. "Ning Qing, what did you just say? Speak louder."

He had obviously heard it, but still wanted to tease her!

"Lu Shaoming, you're annoying, go away!" Ning Qing put her two small hands on his strong shoulders and pushed him down on a big soft bed forcefully.

Lu Shaoming kept laughing. Ning Qing reached out to cover his mouth, pursed her lips, and said with her beautiful voice, "Stop laughing, stop laughing!"

Lu Shaoming enveloped her soft little palm that felt boneless and gave a loud "muah". He lifted his sharp brow and said arrogantly, "I'm going to laugh. What can do you to me?"

The little palm that he had kissed seemed to be energized by electric currents. She retracted her hand like at the speed of lightning. The look on the man's face when he raised his eyebrows was very charming. In her impression, she seldom saw him indulging in something so much. It was a very romantic couple's moment.

Playfulness bubbled up in Ning Qing's heart, and she remembered that when he punished her, he had liked to hit her little butt best. She pulled on his left shoulder with two hands and turned him over with difficulty. A small hand went up to his hip.

"Slap!" A very crisp slap sounded.

She also rode on him arrogantly. After the slap, she leaned in his ear and provoked him, "Do you dare to laugh? Laugh again and I'll teach you a lesson."

Lu Shaoming looked at the girl's delicate and beautiful little face. She was all smiles. This girl was growing bolder and bolder. She had pinched his ears and slapped him in the face. Now she had even slapped him on the buttocks. He had lived for 30 years. Even his mother dared not do this to him.

"Mmm, it doesn't hurt." Lu Shaoming half-narrowed his eyes, grabbed the back of her head and covered her red lips. "You're so weak, gather all your strength and make me feel pain."

This...pervert!

He had a masochism complex for sure.

Ning Qing giggled and laughed while avoiding his kiss. He refused to let her go. His thin lips rubbed against her face and tender neck. His masculine scent was enticing her so much. Her small hands smacked his buttocks a few times. Damnit... A man's butt could be so sexy; it could still bounce back after smacking it.

"Shaoming, Qingqing, it's dinnertime." They were playing around very happily.

The door was pushed open, and beside it stood Yue Wanging and Auntie Zhang.

The two people in the room stilled, and for a moment, the four of them just stared at each other.

Ning Qing: May I die first?

She looked so indecent at that moment, putting aside the fact that she was sitting on the man, her little hand was placed on his butt, an absolute image of a dominant female boss.

Yue Wanqing and Auntie Zhang, who are nearly 50 years old, blushed in the doorway. Never have they seen a couple fooling around like that in their room. Most improper, most improper!

Yue Wanqing coughed softly and scolded, "Qingqing, what are you doing? How can a woman ride on a man, and you, you..." Yue Wanqing was too embarrassed to tell her daughter about her spanking her son-in-law. Her son-in-law was a big president and of his status was noble. But she hadn't thought that he would be bullied like this by her daughter at home.

It was unbelievable.

Ning Qing was speechless. Compared with her embarrassment, Lu Shaoming was calm and composed. He straightened up and sat Ning Qing down beside him while holding her in his arms. "Mom, it's okay, it's just for fun. Are we going to have dinner now? Let's go downstairs."

...

Grandma had already had her dinner upstairs and had gone to bed early. The family of three sat at the table for dinner.

Yue Wanqing felt it was necessary to remind the young couple. She said, "Shaoming, you can't spoil Qingqing too much in the future. The most important thing for a wife and mother is to be gentle and virtuous. The more you spoil her, the more demanding she would be."

Ning Qing choked on the rice in her mouth. Her mother just had to bring that up right now. "Ahem, ahem..." She coughed twice violently.

Lu Shaoming reached out and patted her on the back while handing her a glass of water with another hand. "Eat slowly. Is it uncomfortable? Drink some water."

Ning Qing sat up. She had a hand on her chest but did not accept a cup. She just drank two mouthfuls of water from Shaoming's hand.

Yue Wanqing looked at her daughter's immature appearance and Lu Shaoming's indulgence in giving her daughter water. She even sighed that it was her fault as a parent to have raised her but not taught her. Back then, when she had entered the gates of the Ning family. Grandma had given her the most traditional feminine education. She had been married to Ning Zhenguo for more than 20 years, and she hadn't even spoken loudly once.

She also did not know how she should discipline Qingqing.

She heard that the Lu family was a rich family. She had not met this family-in-law yet, and didn't know if they would like or dislike her spoilt daughter.

When Ning Qing stopped coughing, Lu Shaoming put down his cup and looked at Yue Wanqing, gently saying, "Mom, I married my wife to dote on her. It doesn't matter if Qingqing is a little spoilt. I can afford to spoil her."

Yue Wanqing couldn't say anything anymore. In family conflicts, the attitude of the man was the most important. Her son-in-law was good to her daughter. She nodded her head with gratification and satisfaction in her heart.

Lu Shaoming's words made Ning Qing very happy and touched. Before, she hadn't noticed what a sweet talker he was. Now, the more he spoke, the smoother he became. Indeed, she had to cultivate her own husband herself.

Ning Qing quietly picked up a stick of celery and quickly threw it into Lu Shaoming's bowl as a reward.

Lu Shaoming looked sideways at the girl and ate the celery with a smile on his lips.

Auntie Zhang looked at the couple's sweet interaction. She smiled and said, "Madam, I think the relationship between Mister and Missus is so good. Why don't we cook some soup tomorrow to nourish Mister's body? While the Missus is still young, she can give birth to a fat grandson and allow you and Old Madam to embrace him as soon as possible."

Yue Wanqing agreed right away; having a child is a major life goal, they needed to hurry up and start while they were young.

"Shaoming, what kind of soup do you like to drink? Eel soup, sea cucumber soup, or shall I stew some ox penis soup tomorrow?" Yue Wanqing asked.

Ning Qing choked again. What soup are they talking about, they hadn't even consummated yet.

Did mom and Auntie Zhang ever consider their feelings when they were discussing the couple so openly and honestly?

Ning Qing glanced at Lu Shaoming. The man's mouth was hooked in a smile. It seems that he doesn't disapprove.

She gave him a good kick under the table.

Lu Shaoming knew that his little wife was shy again. He looked up and said, "Mom, we are still young. It's not good for us to drink these soups too early."

When Ning Qing saw her mother nodding, she was secretly impressed. Every word this man said was reasonable and convincing.

Ning Qing took a small bite of rice at ease, but then she heard the man slowly and leisurely saying, "Mom, besides, I sleep in my study every night nowadays. Qingqing does not let me go back to my room." The man's tone became very apologetic. "So it may be a long time before Mom can hold her grandson."

What?

What did Lu Shaoming just say?

"You!" Ning Qing shook with anger. He was the one who had promised to sleep in the guest room. How did he have the face to tell her mother about it on the dinner table, making himself look like the victim.

He was too insidious, too cunning.

Despicable man!

"Qingqing, what's the meaning of this?" When Ning Qing was about to fly into a rage, Yue Wanqing rushed ahead. She placed down her chopsticks heavily and looked at Ning Qing sternly. "How can you be so mischievous? How can a newly married couple sleep in separate rooms? Besides, Shaoming is so kind to you. Why don't you know how to cherish him? Let Shaoming go back to the room tonight. Mom will make a surprise check."

Surprise check?

Ning Qing: ...Lu. Shao. Ming!

...

Ning Qing returned to the room angrily as she scolded Lu Shaoming thousands of times in her heart.

She wanted to lock the door so that he could not come in, but she was afraid that they would cause a scene. If her mother were to know about it, she would scold her again.

After contemplating, she didn't lock the door again. She decided that she would teach him a lesson when he came in. She took the pillow from the bed and hugged it.

Lu Shaoming did not return to his room even after she had waited for more than an hour. He was probably working in the study. Ning Qing grew drowsy while she waited and fell asleep gradually.

When Lu Shaoming came into the room, he saw the girl lying in the big white bed. The little tender ball was curled up in bed, and looked very cute. The little bear slept beside her, and she held a pillow in her arms.

"Why don't you cover yourself with a blanket when you sleep?" Lu Shaoming went over, propped a knee on the bed, and reached out to pull the blankets over her.

He also tugged the pillow in the girl's arms.

The sleeping girl held onto the pillow and didn't let go. Her pink cherry mouth muttered discontentedly as she called out, "Bad man, hmph, I'm going to throw the pillow at you!"

Lu Shaoming laughed out loud. He looked down and kissed her on the forehead. He murmured in a low voice, "Fool, do you think I'm so stupid, I knew you were going to hit me. So I had deliberately worked so late then returned to the room. It's called taking evasive action. Your husband has taught you another trick. I'm increasing your knowledge. Do you know that, huh?"

The girl sleeping in bed did not respond. There was a bright spot on her beautiful lips. She was already a 20-year-old girl but still drooled when she slept.

Lu Shaoming reached out his rough fingers and wanted to help her wipe it away, but when his finger touched the corner of her lip, he stopped. He leaned over slowly and kissed the shining spot.

Even the saliva of the tender girl was sweet.

Feeling someone kiss her, Ning Qing opened her sleepy eyes. She pushed the pillow into the man's arms and pushed him away. She hummed and hawed, "Bad man, what did you just do?"

Lu Shaoming looked at the little girl who could barely open her eyes. His ears were a little red. His head felt hot just now and didn't know what had come over him!

Kissed her drool?

It was too obscene.

His upbringing did not warrant this sort of behavior!

Lu Shaoming stood up straight, took a deep breath, and went to the bathroom to take a bath.

Chapter 112: Ning Yao's Pregnant

The second morning when Ning Qing woke up, Lu Shaoming had already gone to work. He didn't sleep on the bed the previous night but on the sofa in the room.

Most of the grievance that Ning Qing held against him vanished. Humph, at least he had some sense!

However, Ning Qing felt heartache as well. He went for a business trip for four days and worked until late at night, and he had to sleep on the sofa as well. She was too tough on him.

Ning Qing had breakfast and went directly to the Emperor Entertainment Group.

When she reached Xu Junxi's office, she could see three individuals fighting vigorously through the gap in his office door.

Ning Yao tugged on Xu Junxi's sleeve as she pleaded, "Junxi, please, save my mom. My mom wouldn't kill anyone. It must be Ning Qing who framed my mom. Please bail her out."

Xu Junxi's Mom pulled Ning Yao's hand and pushed her away. "Ning Yao, your mom attempted murder. There's solid evidence and a witness. Not can she not be bailed out, but she also can't be saved. My Junxi won't participate in your nonsense regarding you and your mother. You pair mother and daughter didn't drag Junxi down deep enough?"

"'Mom, how could you say that? I'm your daughter in law. How did my mom and I alienate you?"

"How dare you call me your mom. To begin with, I was already in disdain of your origins. I was a thousand and one percent against you passing through the gate of the Xu family. However, your mom used the share transfer contract in exchange for the marriage. Hence, I agreed to the deal. But not only did your mom's scandal ruin the entire wedding and embarrass the family, but more importantly, we've yet to see a trace of the contract! This morning, the director with a different surname came to Emperor Entertainment Group and made a scene. He said that your mom hired gangsters to blackmail him and said that we are accomplices. We are now unable even to fend ourselves, let alone to look after you. How could you come and annoy Junxi further?"

Ning Yao shook her head as she pleaded, "Junxi, I have no idea about anything. It has nothing to do with me. Junxi, I've loved you for so many years. I'd even risked my life three years back for you. Now that my mom is locked up in the police station, can't you just lend me a helping hand?"

Xu Junixi's shirt was crumpled from Ning Yao's grip and he looked in distress. "Yaoyao, how do you want me to help you? Because of the botched share transfer contract that you put together behind my back, the Emperor Entertainment Group is facing trouble internally and externally. It's okay that my reputation is ruined but Emperor Entertainment Group is the Xu family's property!"

"Exactly. From what I see, you are taking advantage of the fact that you saved Junxi three years ago. However, regarding your mom being involved in the share transfer contract, Junxi can't get involved. Why don't you go look for your dad, Ning Zhenguo?" Mother Xu asked.

Ning Yao wiped her tears and continued, "My dad has not been home for two days. I went to look for him at his office. He said he wouldn't be bothered about anything related to my mom but that he would let her run her own course. Woo woo. What should I do now? What should I do for my mom?"

Ning Qing saw Ning Yao crying her eyes out helplessly and it occurred to her. For twenty years, Li Meiling paved the way for Ning Yao to live her life. She sheltered her and helped her remove all the obstacles. Then, Li Meiling was defeated and Ning Yao didn't know what to do.

Heh, she wondered if Li Meiling helped Ning Yao or harmed Ning Yao.

The response of the pair of mother and son was just as she had expected. Lu Shaoming took care of the gangster and the director with a different surname stirred a great commotion. Xu Junxi was withstanding the pressure of how the outside world viewed his marriage as a deal while he was lost on how to deal with the chaos in the Emperor Entertainment Group. Read latest chapters at vipnovel.com

He was a filial son and Emperor Entertainment Group had always been on his top priority.

Mother Xu didn't disappoint Ning Qing. She was a chameleon after all.

Just as they were arguing in the office, Xu Junxi slammed the table and stood up as he roared, "Alright, stop it. It's so annoying. All of you, get out!"

The two women were stunned. Then, Xu Junxi saw Ning Qing outside the door.

His expression suddenly stiffened.

Mother Xu then saw Ning Qing. Her anger was boiling and she ran to the door to open the office door. She then pointed at Ning Qing and reprimanded, "Ning Qing, how dare you come here? You're the root of the problem! You're the one who put us in this situation!"

Ning Qing flashed a cold smirk and slowly uttered, "Aunt Xu, please behave like a cultured person. Do not shout abuse in public like a virago."

"You!" Mother Xu looked at many staff members walking along the corridor outside and she quickly retrieved her hand and smoothed out her mink coat.

Ning Qing glanced at the two people in the office and smiled. "When you're unhappy, you know to cry, to blame, to feel pain. Three years ago, when I was kicked out of the house, when I was humiliated as you wished, when I was having a tough time in the entertainment circle, which of you helped me? Everything that I've done so far has only been the interest of everything you've done to me. It is the pernicious consequence of the evil deeds that you've done!"

Mother Xu was green in anger. Ning Yao was unhappy and she ran forward to tease, "Ning Qing, you're arrogant now but what are you? You're only a woman who climbed onto a rich man."

"Rich man?" Mother Xu looked at Ning Qing in disdain. "My Junxi gave you up and you sought connection with another man? What kind of a man could you find? It's either a man who's old enough to be your dad or a rich man's kid from second marriage. Sigh, so pitiful."

"Exactly, Ning Qing, who allowed you here? This is the territory of the Xu family's Emperor Entertainment Group. Please leave now or I'll call the guards," the two people who were fighting ferociously earlier were now on the same page.

Ning Qing straightened her back and she flashed a cold smile on her delicate face. There was elegance and arrogance that she was born with.

Xu Junxi saw that his mom and Ning Yao were chasing Ning Qing away. He walked to the door. Ning Qing was wearing a red shirt with black pencil pants. Her black silky hair was in a bun. She looked elegant and beautiful, with a tinge of intelligence and maturity.

Xu Junxi's throat grew bitter. They had known one another for twenty years and they'd become so distant.

"Ning Qing, please leave," Xu Junxi said. He didn't want his mom and Ning Yao to humiliate her nor did he want her to see him in fix so arrogantly.

Ning Qing didn't speak but stood where she was.

"Ning Qing, why aren't you leaving? You really want me to call someone to chase you out, huh? Hey! Guards! Come here and chase this woman out for me!" Mother Xu shouted.

The guards walked over and were ready to take Ning Qing away.

Then, "Stop!" A huge bunch of directors walked over.

It was the Emperor Entertainment Group's shareholder meeting. The one who spoke was the director with a different surname. He walked ahead of everybody. He was the second biggest shareholder in the company.

The director with a different surname ran over and stood by Ning Qing. He pointed a finger at Xu Junxi and the other two as he reprimanded, "I will not let it slip. Whatever the Xu Family did to my son, I'll definitely press charges against you and make sure you are utterly discredited."

Mother Xu reined her arrogance and quickly smiled, "Director Huang, that really has nothing to do with the Xu Family. It's her," Mother Xu pointed at Ning Yao. "She went crazy thinking about how to get into our Xu Family, then her mom, Li Meiling, hired the gangster to frame you."

Ning Yao saw that Mother Xu had pointed the finger at her then she refuted, "Mom, how could you push the responsibility to me? If you didn't want the share transfer contract, would my mom have done any of this? Didn't you agree to the deal?"

"You!" Mother Xu was angry. She never though Ning Yao would be so inconsiderate and rash when speaking in front of so many people. She left no room for the Xu family to retain any grace in this situation.

Ning Qing looked at the two women fighting each other and it was even more ferocious than a dog fight.

Ning Yao was extremely idiotic without Li Meiling whispering in her ear.

"Enough! None of you speak anymore. Are you not embarrassed enough?" Xu Junxi let out a low bellow.

"Humph!" Director Huang humped then he bent down slightly to pass a document to Ning Qing politely, "Miss Ning, this is my transfer document. From now on, you're the second biggest shareholder in Emperor Entertainment Group. These few shareholders are my best friends. I've talked to them and they will follow Miss Ning's lead."

"Director Huang, thank you." Ning Qing thanked the shareholders politely.

Then, the three of them took a sharp breath. Xu Junxi's face grew grave while Mother Xu and Ning Yao's eyes opened wide in disbelief.

"Ning Qing, you..." Mother Xu stammered.

"What's wrong with me? Aunt Xu, that's right, believe what you heard. Director Huang transferred his shares to me. I am now the second biggest shareholder in the company. I came here today to join the shareholders meeting."

"What, how did you... How did you obtain stock ownership?"

"Oh, that's simple. Just as Ning Yao said, I live off a money bag but I disappointed Aunt Xu. This man is much better than Junxi. He took care of share transfer contract easily and gifted me half of Emperor Entertainment Group," Ning Qing said proudly as she blinked playfully.

Mother Xu had yet to truly grasp the situation and she fell two steps backwards.

She never thought Ning Qing, who'd silently taken her humiliation three years ago, would become the second biggest shareholder in the company. In other words, Ning Qing running riot above her.

"Mom!" Xu Junxi held his mom.

Then, a secretary walked over. "Miss Ning, this is the information for today's shareholders meeting. Please read it through to see if there are any problems."

Ning Qing didn't take the document.

Xu Junxi's face was extremely unhappy, even the veins on his forehead had begun to show. It was absurd that Lu Shaoming gave Ning Qing all these shares of the company as a present.

Lu Shaoming was giving him a heavy slap to the face.

"Ning Qing, why didn't you take the information?" Xu Junxi looked at Ning Qing in distress. He had always been arrogant. But then, his arrogance and dignity was trampled on by Lu Shaoming.

Ning Qing looked calmly at the secretary and spoke elegantly. "Inform everyone that the shareholders meeting today is cancelled!"

"What? Why?" Xu Junxi asked closely.

Ning Qing moved her body lazily and smiled, "CEO Xu, how dare you ask me why? Ever since three months ago you brought your fiancee back to the country, you have been in the midst of scandal. You first put yourself between two sisters. Then, you were involved in that car sex incident. After that, your wedding erupted in chaos. You've already affected the image of Emperor Entertainment Group greatly. Over the past three months, the share price has fallen by fifteen percent. You alone dragged the entire board of directors down. I would like to ask CEO Xu, what do you do for the Emperor Entertainment Group?"

Xu Junxi didn't reply. He clenched his fists as his eyes grew red.

She was humiliating him!

Ning Qing looked at Xu Junxi calmly. She raised her beautiful eyebrows and said casually, "I hope that CEO Xu will reflect on his past during this time. If you can't be up to your position as the CEO of Emperor Entertainment Group, why not give up the throne and make way for a more worthy candidate!"

After she spoke, she turned to leave. The group of shareholders left behind Ning Qing.

"Hey, don't leave, don't leave!" Mother Xu saw that the shareholders listened to what Ning Qing said but forgot about her son's existence so she panicked. She ran next to Ning Qing and tugged her sleeve. "Hehe." She tried to ingratiate herself with Ning Qing. "Qingqing, let's discuss things. Actually, for the past three years, I have been thinking about you. I've never disapproved of you entering the Xu family. All this while, I've thought Qingqing as my only daughter in law."

"Heh, hehe..." Ning Qing chuckled and pulled her sleeve back.

"Mom, don't speak anymore!" Xu Junxi walked over quickly and pulled his mom aside. Today, all of his dignity had been thrown out by his mother.

He looked up at Ning Qing. The girl's brown eyes were crystal clear and the way she looked at his mom was disdainful.

Then, Ning Yao ran over. She pulled Mother Xu's hand emotionally, "Mom, what do you mean? I am your daughter in law. How can you talk to Ning Qing like that?"

Mother Xu had nowhere to vent her anger and pak, she slapped Ning Yao.

"Your evil deed. It is you. It is you and your mom who ruined Xu Family. If Junxi were to marry Qingqing... Who are you? You are just an illegitimate child born of a mistress.

Xu Junxi felt helpless. Before all the shareholders, before Ning Qing, his mom and Ning Yao were like two clowns. They were a joke.

Now he was a joke too.

Ning Qing had no interest in watching the two women fighting one another. She smirked and turned to leave.

But she had yet to take another step before dong, Ning Yao fainted on the ground.

"Yaoyao, Yaoyao." Xu Junxi went forward and carried a pale Ning Yao into his arms. He shouted, "Call an ambulance. Quick, call an ambulance!"

•••

In the hospital.

The doctor congratulated Xu Junxi, "Mister, congratulations! The patient has been pregnant for forty days. Recently, she was emotionally unstable. That's why she fainted. In the future, try not to provoke her."

Xu Junxi stunned. Pregnant?

Actually, he never thought of having any children with Ning Yao. He always used protection when they were together. However, as he wasn't in a good mood recently because of Ning Qing, he was always drinking and he had done it quite frequently with Ning Yao. When he was drunk, he never thought of using protection either. He thought Ning Yao would take medication after. He never thought she would be pregnant.

Ning Yao, who lay on the hospital bed, hugged Xu Junxi's waist and cheered, "Junxi, that's great. I have your child. This is the fruit of our love. This is our first baby!"

Xu Junxi stiffened and didn't respond.

Ning Yao then looked at Mother Xu by her side. "Mom, I am pregnant with your grandchild, the bloodline of the Xu family!"

Mother Xu didn't look too good. She didn't like Ning Yao. After what happened at the office, she hated Ning Yao even more. However, Ning Yao was pregnant with Xu's child. Her first grandchild.

She still wanted her grandchild.

"Fine, rest well here. Give birth to my healthy grandchild."

Chapter 113: Farewell, Li Meiling (Li Meiling Finale)

"Mom, your grandson can't do without his maternal grandmother, right? Can Mom help my mother for the sake of the child in my stomach? Junxi, I'm already carrying a child for you. Can you just bail my mother out by pulling some strings?" Ning Yao shook Xu Junxi's arm and acted coquettishly.

Ning Qing idly leaned against the door and looked at her. The corners of her mouth turned up in a sneer. Mothers indeed rise in status through their child in noble families, but Ning Yao's child in her belly was only 40 days old, and she wanted to take credit for it. She was simply as slow and stupid as a pig.

How could Xu Junxi's mother agree to it?

Sure enough, Mother Xu was furious and pointed to Ning Yao's nose and scolded, "Ning Yao, what are you thinking? You think you're the Missus of the Xu family just because you're pregnant with Junxi's child? And you want to get a reward from us? Let me tell you if you want to give birth to this child, then do it, if not, then get rid of it as soon as possible. We, the Xu family, are not short of noble ladies to give birth to our children. There are many hens who can lay eggs!"

As she spoke, Mother Xu took her bag and went out. "She doesn't even know her place. If not for the baby in your stomach, you would have no value at all. If you're smart, you should just remain quiet and take care of the fetus. If you create any more trouble, the Xu family would not want your child."

Mother Xu came to the door and saw Ning Qing. She changed her acerbic and bitter look and smiled kindly at Ning Qing. "Qingqing, are you free anytime soon? Auntie wants to invite you to our house for dinner?"

"I'm not free." Ning Qing answered curtly.

Mother Xu couldn't find a way out of this embarrassing situation. At this time, "Mom!" Xu Junxi growled and stopped his mother from saying anything else.

Mother Xu closed her mouth sadly. "Qingqing, I have to go."

Mother Xu walked away and left.

Tears kept falling out of Ning Yao's eyes. She hugged Xu Junxi's waist and cried pitifully. "Junxi, how can Mom scold me like that? I still have your baby in my stomach."

Xu Junxi was frustrated and upset. Ning Qing was standing beside the door. He was not in the mood to comfort Ning Yao. He reached out his hand and redirected the woman. "Yaoyao, you have a rest first, I'll go and pay the medical fees."

Xu Junxi left.

Ning Yao was in a bad mood. She was pregnant with child, But Mother Xu and Xu Junxi were not enthusiastic at all. They didn't even have a caring and thoughtful word for her.

This was quite different from what she had previously imagined. Weren't mothers supposed to rise in status through their child?

But Ning Qing was standing by the door. She could only raise her chin proudly and laugh. "Sister, you must be disappointed. I am pregnant with Junxi's baby."

"Ah." Ning Qing looked at Ning Yao with her smiling beautiful eyes and asked, "What has changed since you were pregnant with his child? Did Xu Junxi promise to save your mother? Would he marry you and allow you to enter the Xu family gate? You haven't got anything. What are you happy about?"

Ning Qing had poked at Ning Yao's sore spot, but she replied stubbornly, "Hmph! When my child is born, I will naturally rise in status through my child. Sooner or later I will pass through the Xu family gates."

"That's hard to say, Xu Junxi's mother had said very clearly that they only wanted the child in your stomach. There would be a noble lady to be the child's mother, or even, with a nod from me, your child would have to call me mother. But unfortunately, I do not want it!"

Ning Yao's heart was in pain from the fury she felt. Thinking of how Mother Xu had flattered and sucked up to Ning Qing, she gritted her teeth in hatred.

How did Ning Qing become a shareholder of Emperor Entertainment Group? Why was her life so good, allowing her to latch onto to Lu Shaoming?

Remembering that dinner party when Lu Shaoming had stripped her disguise layer by layer. He was cruel and ruthless, but he was so kind to Ning Qing.

And she had latched onto Xu Junxi, but she was so tired from doing so.

At this time, Xu Junxi entered the ward and an idea suddenly came to Ning Yao. She quickly covered her stomach with a painful moan, "Junxi, my stomach hurts, just now my sister had said a lot of ugly words to agitate me."

Xu Junxi hugged Ning Yao's shoulder and looked at Ning Qing in displeasure. His lips were pressed together in frustration.

Ning Qing stood up straight; she had no time to play with them. She said to Xu Junxi, "President Xu, don't always be so indecisive as a man. Don't be led around by the nose by a woman. Ning Yao saved you once three years ago, but she's held you back for so long. Now that she is pregnant, it's very likely that she will hold you back for a lifetime. Don't you realize that this woman had been taking from you all along? Think about it carefully. I don't think even know what you really want in life. Now that you've added an additional innocent little life to the mix, it would be a pity for the child."

Ning Qing spoke her piece and walked away.

Ning Yao saw Xu Junxi's grim expression. He appears to have some grievances. She was afraid that Xu Junxi would ask her to abort the child.

She hugged Xu Junxi. "Junxi, touch my stomach. I have a fresh life in my stomach. This is your baby. You'll love me. You'll love your baby, won't you?"

Xu Junxi did not embrace Ning Yao. He was very tired. Ning Qing was right. He did not know what he wanted in life anymore.

"Yaoyao, this child is our first child after all. You should take good care of it. But in the meantime, don't cause any more trouble, or I won't protect you. I can't settle your mother's business. I can't marry you in the near future. You behave and take care of yourself. I need to calm down too."

Ning Yao's entire heart sank completely.

...

Li Meiling's trial went very smoothly. There were both witnesses and material pieces of evidence. The court soon opened its session. Li Meiling was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

At the door of the courthouse, Li Meiling was escorted by the police, and Ning Qing had her last conversation with the woman.

"Auntie Li, did you expect to end up in prison?"

Li Meiling was haggard. She had been confined in a dark cell all day long. Her unwillingness had slowly turned into despair. During this period, no one had come to visit her. Only Ning Yao came once.

Her life was so hopeless and desolate. 20 years, hah! When she gets out, she will be almost 70 years old. Her life has been ruined; it would be better to die.

Li Meiling did not reply. She looked around like she was looking for someone.

Ning Qing smiled gently. "Stop looking for someone. Ning Zhenguo didn't come. You have already become a stain in his life. Now, he wishes that he had never met you."

"Hah...haha." Li Meiling gave two sad laughs. She squinted at Ning Qing. "I didn't expect that Ning Zhenguo and Yue Wanqing could have a daughter like you!"

"Thank you for your compliment," Ning Qing said with a smile on her lips as she looked forward. "Auntie Li, my mother and my grandmother have come to see you off."

On the cobblestone ground ahead, there was a luxury business car. The rear window slid down. Grandma was sitting in it. She was naughty like a child, snatching the lollipop in Yue Wanqing's hand.

Yue Wanqing coaxed gently, "Mom if you eat too many lollipops, your teeth will decay."

"None of your business, I want to eat it." Grandma placed the wrapped lollipop in her mouth, turned her head and laughed twice at Li Meiling, "Hehe."

Li Meiling's pupils shrank sharply and trembled all over. She broke away from the prison guard. She lost control and wanted to strangle Ning Qing as she snarled, "Grandma hadn't regained her sanity at all. Ning Qing, you lied to me at Yao Yao's wedding banquet!"

Looking at Li Meiling's primal, menacing expression, Ning Qing laughed calmly. "Auntie Li, do you know why evil never wins justice in this world? Because the evildoer has ghosts in her heart!"

"Ning Qing, I'm going to kill you, I'm going to kill you! You destroyed me, in fact, I have already succeeded! I was born with both brains and beauty but I had suffered from belittling gazes just because I was born to a poor family. I had worked so hard to sing in operas, but those women were jealous of me and put me down. Those men harassed me and tried to sleep with me. I didn't get anything. But what about your mother? She had been adopted by Grandmother in the orphanage. She was so lucky and she got everything. Why?

"I swore in my heart that one day I will be honored, wealthy and powerful. I took advantage of my beauty to get to this point today, but how did you come along?"

Ning Qing stood up straight and said with some pity and compassion, "There were so many people in the orphanage. Why had my grandmother chosen my mother? That's because my mother is pure, clean and kind. Nobody in this world could get what they want for nothing. It's not because I have harmed you, but because you have harmed yourself because you have chosen the wrong way and died of your greed."

Li Meiling burst into tears.

At this time, "Mom!" Ning Yao ran over.

"Yaoyao." The mother and daughter hugged together and wept bitterly.

Not far away, the door of the luxury business car was opened, and a handsome figure walked out. Lu Shaoming had come to pick her up.

Ning Qing stepped down and went to the man with a gentle expression.

"Ning Qing, do you think this is the end?" Li Meiling shouted fiercely at her from behind.

Ning Qing did not look back. She looked at Lu Shaoming's bright and beautiful narrow eyes and said slowly, "I don't know if it's the end, but I know it's your end!"

The cool autumn wind dispersed Ning Qing's hair, and the late afternoon sunset swept across the earth, it was warm and quiet. Ning Qing smiled and put her small hand into Lu Shaoming's big hand.

Farewell, Li Meiling.

...

"Wind and Dust" had officially finished filming. Half a month later, "Wind and Dust" was released in various cinemas. On the first day, the box office broke through \$800 million. The film with the theme of the old Republic of China, a theme which was not in popular demand, was successful in setting a record the history of the film industry.

Ning Qing's fame and status in the entertainment industry had been booming all the way. She had occupied the first place in Baidu's pop star index for three consecutive weeks, overtaking the four famous actresses in China in a second. She had become the most popular first-line actress in China.

The 32nd White Flower Awards for films announced the shortlisted actresses. Ning Qing, with the role of Meng Yao in "Wind and Dust", had been shortlisted as the best actress and became a popular candidate.

Today it's the White Flower Award ceremony. Tens of thousands of people were gathered and red carpets covered the floors. Popular stars have all gathered and the entire place was sparkling and bright. Xiao Zhou opened the car door and Ning Qing stepped down from the luxury nanny car.

She wore a light purple sequined fishtail skirt, a light colored V-neck that showed off her cleavage, and a white beaded handbag, which exuded the beauty and charm of an elegant woman.

The moment she appeared, she instantly became the focus of the audience, the media's cameras flashed from all sides while enthusiastic fans chanted "Ning Qing".

Ning Qing's eyes curved as she hooked her beautiful lips in a smile and waved to the fans.

Another limo pulled up; Xia Xiaofu had arrived.

Xia Xiaofu was wearing a white dress with handmade flowers at the edge of her elegant fluttering skirt. The delicate design of her lace lantern sleeves made her look like a flower fairy, as beautiful as a nymph.

As soon as she appeared, there was another uproar.

"Xiaofu." Ning Qing saw her, picked up her skirt, went forward, and gave her a hug.

"Ning Qing, I've been invited to be an award-presenting guest this time. I heard that you have been nominated as the best actress. You are worthy of the title of best actress in my mind. Your skills are obvious to all. Ning Qing, congratulations." Xia Xiaofu embraced Ning Qing.

Ning Qing was very touched. "Xiaofu, thank you. Let's walk on the red carpet together."

"OK." Xia Xiaofu took Ning Qing's hand and they walked on the red carpet together.

"Wow..." The crowd erupted in excitement. The two goddesses had become the most beautiful spectacle on the red carpet. Everyone's eyes shone with amazement.

"Wow, that's my goddess Ning and my goddess Xia. They're really beautiful. I want to take pictures. I want to take pictures with them."

The crazy fans kept pushing around. Mother Xu and some rich ladies were almost squeezed into meat pies. Mother Xu was very fashionable and she would often attend fashion shows like the Milan fashion show. She also liked to chase after stars. She would often come to these festivals to get a glance at the stars' beauty.

A rich lady shouted, "Oh, what are you squeezing for? My hair is all messed up. Hey, Mrs. Xu, don't you like Xia Xiaofu best? Here comes your idol. Is the female star next to her Ning Qing, the new generation of goddess in the entertainment industry? My sons and daughters love her so much, I must get her autograph."

Mother Xu's expression was very stiff, she could hardly believe that the focus of the red carpet at the moment was Ning Qing, who had been severely humiliated by her three years ago.

Another rich lady said, "Mrs. Xu, didn't you say that Ning Qing was your ex-daughter-in-law? What a muddlehead you are. Ning Qing is worth hundreds of billions of dollars now. But you've gone and chosen that Ning Yao instead of this daughter-in-law worth hundreds of billions. You are really blind."

"Yes, Mrs. Xu, if Ning Qing is your daughter-in-law, you'd be able to show off all you want. We can all show off behind you too. Now, look at us, squeezing here while she walks comfortably on the red carpet; the treatment is very different."

Mother Xu gritted her teeth without saying a word. How could she not hear the rich ladies' sarcasm? Yet, she regretted it all so much. Three years ago, who knew that Ning Qing would be what she is today.

Ning Qing was a diamond, but she had insisted on seeing her as gravel.

An unknown fan beside Mother Xu heard Ning Yao's name, and immediately interrupted, "I heard that Ning Yao has left the film industry now, and she's no longer filming "Pink Lady." Hmph, President Xu of Emperor Entertainment Group had always supported her and suppressed our Ning Qing back then. Now that Ning Qing had followed Director Wang and had made a name for herself, and had brutally given that f*ckboy and b*tch a sound slap."

"That's right, let's not mention Ning Yao anymore. With Li Meiling as her mom, how good could she be successful? She is just a clown when compared with Ning Qing. Only President Xu would regard her as a treasure, haha."

The fans sneered contemptuously.

Mother Xu's anger was stuck in her chest, her precious son had been called a "f*ckboy." But she could not refute it, just because she felt very humiliated.

All this was because of that b*tch Ning Yao.

...

Ning Qing and Xia Xiaofu were walking on the red carpet when another wave of cheers came. Looking back, they saw that Ou Luo Xi had arrived.

Chapter 114: Became A Queen At The Age Of Twenty

Ning Qing and Xia Xiaofu were walking on the red carpet while there was another wave of cheering. They turned back and looked; it's Ou Luo Xi.

Xia Xiaofu felt her heart skip a beat. Her heart started racing.

Ou Luo Xi was wearing a white shirt with a black tailor made suit. It was a classic masculine suit. However, he wore a black bow tie at the collar and the collar brought a strong sense of young fashion and individuality.

In Xia Xiaofu's head, it was her first time seeing Ou Luo Xi in formal wear. He was normally in a black coat and jeans. When he was in his suit, he didn't look like the general public. He wasn't tainted with any worldly aura but he was extremely clean and elegant. Everyone's eyes twinkled as they saw him. It was a soothing sight.

Just as Xia Xiaofu was stunned, she felt a soft hand tug her. She looked to the side and saw Ning Qing blinking at her, "Xiaofu, what are you looking at? I called you a few times but you didn't seem to hear me."

Xia Xiaofu's cheeks grew rosy. Her gaze was fixed on Ou Luo Xi without any subtlety. She reckoned Ning Qing had seen it all.

Ning Qing smiled and said, "Xiaofu, we are surrounded by the media. Every word we say and every action we take is under their watch. Luo Xi is here. Let's wait for Luo Xi to walk on the red carpet."

Ning Qing reminded her to behave properly.

Then, Xia Xiaofu blushed hard.

Ou Luo Xi put one of his hands in his pocket while he waved with another. He didn't smile. His delicate features were cold and lifeless like a painting. However, it didn't affect his passionate fans.

Ou Luo Xi walked to the two Goddesses and he lifted his gaze to greet, "Ning Qing."

He ignored Xia Xiaofu's existence.

Xia Xiaofu's blushing face grew pale. The young man was always behaving like that. He wouldn't look at her nor would he call her by her name.

She reckoned he didn't even know her name.

"Luo Xi, let me introduce you." Ning Qing held Xia Xiaofu's hand. "This is my best friend, Xia Xiaofu."

Xia Xiaofu reined back her sorrow. She lifted her head and flashed a gentle smile. She then extended her hand generously, "Ou Luo Xi, nice to meet you. I've been looking forward to meet you."

Ou Luo Xi then looked at her. The young man's eyes were beautiful. The black and white in his eyes were crystal clear like the murmuring mountain creek and in the water, there was her reflection.

Xia Xiaofu was caught by surprise.

She extended her hand but Ou Luo Xi took very long and didn't shake her hand. Ning Qing saw and quickly smiled as she said, "Luo Xi..."

"Ou Luo Xi, why don't you shake my hand?" Xia Xiaofu cut Ning Qing off. Her courageous tone had a tinge of stubbornness of a young maiden, "There are so many media and reporters here. You don't shake my hand and tomorrow, the two of us shall be on the headline for entertainment paper."

Ning Qing saw admiration in Xia Xiaofu's eyes. As a talented lady and her appearance like a fairy, there was a side of her with natural manner.

Ou Luo Xi heard and raised his hand slowly to shake her delicate hand.

Their skin touched for a second. His fingers only glided against Xia Xiaofu's soft palm slightly but Xia Xiaofu was already smiling.

He couldn't see her so she would work hard for him to notice her. There was no other man who dared to ignore her in Xia Xiaofu's life.

Very good, Ou Luo Xi. He already successfully caught her attention!

"Alright, we can consider ourselves friends then. Luo Xi, walk the red carpet with us. Walking down the red carpet with two big beauties, you're very lucky," Ning Qing tried to ease the situation.

Ou Luo Xi didn't reject the proposition. Ning Qing moved to Ou Luo Xi's side while Xia Xiaofu stood on his other side. The three of them walked down the red carpet.

...

The award ceremony started at seven sharp. White Flower Award's king and queen of the silver screen was a big event. When they announced the list of candidates for queen of the silver screen, everyone was holding their breath.

The presenter for the award of the queen of the silver screen, was of course Xia Xiaofu who made an appearance during the climax. She took the list of candidates from the host and her beautiful pair of eyes looked towards Ning Qing seated on the third row as she smiled. "I officially announce here that the thirty-third White Flower Award for Queen of the Silver Screen, is Ning Qing! Ning Qing has won the laurels of Queen of the Silver Screen at the age of twenty and she has become the youngest Queen of Silver Screen in the history of the White Flower Award Ceremony. Let us congratulate her!"

The camera aimed at Ning Qing as she stood up elegantly. With all eyes focused on her, she slowly walked to the stage.

Xia Xiaofu passed Ning Qing the trophy and they hugged.

The host passed Ning Qing the mic and invited her to share her thoughts about her victory.

There were tears simmering in her eyes. For the past half a year, it was like a dream. She rose from the lowest point in her life. She climbed up to the peak and welcomed an era of prosperity.

That day, she finally proved to everyone with her blood, sweat, and tears that she was no longer the fallen no.1 socialite in T city. She wasn't a broken vase. She wasn't surrounded by scandals about being kept as mistress. She wasn't a toy for people to bully and play with.

Her name was Ning Qing. She escaped humiliation and won herself recognition, respect, and dignity.

"I've received the title of Queen of the Silver Screen today. What I'd most like to say is: Thank you Director Wang, who was willing to give me this opportunity to take up the role as Meng Yao. Thank you all the crews of Street Walker for working so hard through the strenuous filming process. Thank you to my fans, my friends, my family. Also, the one who I'd like to thank the most..."

Ning Qing locked her gaze with the man who was seated on the first row. Lu Shaoming came. Although he was busy, he wouldn't miss such an important moment in her life.

Just like the day when her mom had been discharged from the hospital. Just like the day Li Meiling had been sent into prison. Just like today when she stood right in the middle of a glorious stage...

He treated her like his wife, like his daughter.

So embarrassing yet so great.

He sat in his black wool jacket and full black suit of the same design with a light grey scarf. His sculpted handsome face was cold yet elegant. Only his pair of slender eyes were gentle when he looked at her.

"Thank you, my lover. Thank you for the most beautiful dream that you've given me." Ning Qing kissed the trophy in her hand gently as though she kissed the man's lips.

Then, enthusiastic applause burst throughout the venue.

That very moment, Xu Junxi was seated in the second row, diagonally behind Lu Shaoming. The Xu family couldn't compare to the Lu family. The front seat could only be taken by Lu Shaoming.

He was just there to set him off.

He looked at Ning Qing on the stage. She was in a sequin mermaid dress that set off her beautiful body. Her silky hair was in a bun and two strands of hair hung by her cheeks which added charm and style. She didn't wear any luxurious accessories but only a pair of elegant pearl earrings. She looked very refined.

She'd won the title of Queen of the Silver Screen at the age of twenty and she was in full bloom that day.

She blossomed at the beautiful age of twenty, with the help of that other man.

Did he regret it?

He had been asking himself that question for the past one month. Yes, he actually really regretted it all.

The girl, he missed her after all.

...

After the award ceremony, the media quickly surrounded Lu Shaoming...

"Young Master Lu, influential people of high social status like yourself never attend such entertainment ceremonies. May I ask the reason for your attendance?"

"Young Master Lu, for the past month, we've constantly found you and our Goddess, Ning Qing going everywhere in pairs. May I ask if the two of you are in a relationship?"...

Zhu Rui and a few bodyguards stood in front of Lu Shaoming. He raised his blade-like eyebrows. He looked like he was in a good mood that day. He asked in a deep voice, "This question, you'd better ask Ning Qing."

He answered and there was a sudden commotion near him. It turned out that Ning Qing, who was walking over, was surrounded by the media and under the protection of Xiao Zhou and her bodyguards.

The bodyguards opened a route for Ning Qing to walk to Lu Shaoming's side. Lu Shaoming took a white fur garment from Zhu Rui and covered Ning Qing gently.

The reporters were surprised at the sight. For the past month, the two of them had not been responding regarding the rumors but then they'd been displaying their affection in public. It seemed that they have decided to publicize their relationship.

"Miss Ning, we asked Young Master Lu earlier if you are in a relationship but Young Master Lu said to wait for your answer. Please tell us, Miss Ning. What is the answer?"

"Miss Ning, earlier when you were giving a speech, you said thank you to your lover. We are very curious who you are referring to as your lover? Is it Young Master Lu?"...

Ning Qing looked at Lu Shaoming and felt like her heart had been dipped in honey. The two of them had a mutual agreement earlier that if she were to win the title of Queen of the Silver screen, they shall make their relationship public.

At first, Ning Qing didn't agree. If she were to tell everyone that she was Mrs. Lu, she wouldn't be able to work properly. In the end, both took a step back and decided to announce that they're together.

Lu Shaoming was right. They weren't seeing one another stealthily. Their marriage had to be make known one day.

"Mm, we are together. The lover that I am referring to is naturally him, Lu Shaoming," Ning Qing admitted.

"Wow..." The reporters gasped. The Lu family is an aristocratic powerful family on a global scale. They never expected that Ning Qing would climb up to his level.

"Young Master Lu, when did you start dating? I heard that you're the largest investor for Street Walker. Did you invest the movie for Miss Ning?"

Lu Shaoming looked at the girl next to him and smiled, "When I first laid my eyes on Ning Qing, I fell in love with her. I got to know Ning Qing because of Street Walker."

The way the man replied was very tactful. When the reporters asked if he'd invested in the movie because of Ning Qing, he had to answer carefully. If he were to reply yes, Ning Qing's success was due to his assistance. However, he only replied that they got to know each other because of the movie.

The reporters knew that they wouldn't be able to get anything from him. Plus, the reporters didn't dare to ask when he was around.

"Miss Ning, you won the title of Queen of the Silver Screen today. May I ask where you'll focus next in terms of your career? Will you be filming another movie? Or will you be getting involved in a TV drama?"

It was a realistic question. When she won the honorable title of Queen of the Silver Screen, it mean that she was at the peak of her acting career. Her next step would be especially important.

It would determine if she could continue to guard the honorable title.

There have been too many people who had average results and found it hard to break through after they reached the peak.

Ning Qing looked at Lu Shaoming as they had talked about the question before. Ning Qing replied, "During the upcoming year, I won't be acting at all. I am twenty this year. I will return to school to continue to pursue further studies in my profession to recharge myself."

"What? Miss Ning, you're planning to stop doing films for a year? You're resigning at the height of your career? Aren't you too spoiled, too stubborn to make such a choice?"

"Miss Ning, where would you further your studies? Would it still be Beijing Film Academy?"...

The reporters were asking one question after another excitedly, "Excuse me, the interview session ends here today. Please move aside," Zhu Rui said.

The bodyguards opened a route and Lu Shaoming held Ning Qing's shoulder as they walked out.

...

After they exited the plaza, Ning Qing had an interview session about becoming Queen of the Silver Screen. She followed Xiao Zhou to the VIP room that organizer had arranged while Lu Shaoming waited by the car.

After the interview ended in thirty minutes, Ning Qing met Xu Junxi's mother on the way out.

Xu Junxi's mother looked resentful as she walked to Ning Qing. She lowered her voice and asked, "Qingqing, you really don't want my Junxi anymore? Are you really going out with the what Lu Shao?"

"Aunt Xu, his name is Lu Shaoming. Do you think I'd still want Junxi after I dated him?" Ning Qing stood straight as she asked in reply.

Mother Xu was at a loss for words. She heard the few rich men's wives chatting about Lu Shaoming's family background and she was frightened.

Every wealthy and influential person in T city would have to bow before the Lu Corporation.

She stole a glance at Lu Shaoming. The man was mature yet charming. He was like a business tycoon that stood above the clouds for people to worship him. He was so high above. He was so elegant.

She didn't know why Lu Shaoming would like Ning Qing.

Ever since the Xu family had abandoned her, Ning Qing seemed to be more and more valuable.

Ning Qing didn't want to speak more with Mother Xu so she took huge stride to walk forward.

She took two steps forward and saw Xu Junxi, who was walking towards her. His footsteps were slow. She reckoned that he heard the conversation between Ning Qing and his mom.

Ning Qing didn't do anything but brushed past Xu Junxi without even looking at him.

Xu Junxi was stunned on the spot as her scent filled his nostrils.

...

Ning Qing came to the car and she saw Lu Shaoming chatting with another man.

The man was thirty-two years old, wearing a light gray wool jacket outside a silvery gray suit and a white shirt. His features were good looking and the shape of his face was sharp and handsome. He was standing next to Lu Shaoming and having a brief discussion. His temperament was gentle.

The man shared the same aura as Lu Shaoming. Both of them were in a high position. Every single movement carried a natural and smooth strong aura. However, Lu Shaoming was an aristocrat as his family background was significant, while the other man appeared to have accumulated shrewdness over time and his gentle appearance couldn't conceal his sharpness.

Ning Qing walked towards them and heard them talking.

The man laughed, "Young Master Lu, I wonder – how do you view the project about developing Jing field. I did a statistic report when I had some time. I wonder if you are interested in taking a look?"

Lu Shaoming lifted the corners of his lips, "CEO Ying, are you making fun of me. Guang Qing is not suitable to develop refined oil. Even if it could generate billions of dollars. As CEO Ying liked the project and is determined to win, I will tell my underlings to cancel their attention on the project."

"Haha, thank you Young Master Lu. I'm flattered."

"No problem," Lu Shaoming replied politely.

Then, Ning Qing walked over. Lu Shaoming saw her and he extended his hand to hold her waist. "CEO Ying, let me introduce you. This is my wife, Ning Qing. Ning Qing, this is finance tycoon, Ying Muchen, CEO Ying."

Ying Muchan looked at Ning Qing with his black eyes and smiled faintly, "Qingqing, long time no see."

"Brother Ying, how do you do."

Lu Shaoming was stunned, "Ning Qing, you knew CEO Ying?"

Ning Qing didn't reply but Ying Muchen answered, "Oh, the Ying family and the Ning Family have been friends for a few generations. Qingqing grew up with my sister Shuiling. They're best friends and Qingqing is of course my sister too."

Chapter 115: What Kind Of Past Was She Hiding?

"Oh, is that so?" Lu Shaoming lifted a sharp brow, and his deep narrow eyes were filled with light amusement as it lingered on both faces.

Ying Muchen lifted his lips, and his dark eyes met Lu Shaoming's as he parted his thin lips. "Of course, is there a need for me to lie to Young Master Lu?"

Men who were as mature and wise as each other only needed one look to peep into each other's inner thoughts. Lu Shaoming laughed softly, "Haha, I didn't expect that I had such a strong fate with President Ying. When your sister is free, let's gather and meet each other."

Ying Muchen shifted his body, his eyes were obscure and deep, without a single ray of light reflected from them. He laughed and answered, "Shuiling has gone abroad three years ago and hasn't come back. When she returns, we shall gather together. Young Master Lu, Qingqing, I still have something on, so I'll go first."

"Okay, Mr. Ying, I shall not send you out."

Ning Qing watched Ying Muchen turn around and get in a luxury business car. Behind him was a very young and beautiful secretary in a white shirt, a hip-hugging skirt, and a capable and experienced gaze.

Ning Qing took a couple more glances at the secretary.

She saw the secretary get in the car after Ying Muchen. In the back seat, the female secretary bent towards Ying Muchen. Her fair hands took off Ying Muchen's overcoat and unbuttoned the buttons on his shirt collar. Their actions were intimate and natural.

Ying Muchen leaned into the back seat, raised his hand and pinched the bridge of his nose.

The 32-year-old man was in his prime. Ying Muchen's every move revealed a silent and stable masculinity, and was especially charming.

The driver closed the door and blocked Ning Qing's sight.

The luxury business car sped away.

"Ning Qing, if you look anymore, I'll wonder if your relationship with him is really as simple as one between brother and sister?" Just as Ning Qing's gaze was following the car, the man's joking tone rang out beside her ear.

Looking back, she saw that Lu Shaoming was looking at her tenderly.

Ning Qing flashed a delicate smile, and her exquisite body approached him. His right arm was still on her small shoulder. She went into his warm and broad embrace and muttered while pouting. "Shaoming, are you jealous? He's my best friend's brother, it's really that simple."

Lu Shaoming looked down at the girl. The night sky's stars were scattered and sparkled in her beautiful autumn eyes. They were bright and pure, and she wasn't lying.

Lu Shaoming believed her about Ying Muchen.

There was no need for a man like Ying Muchen to deceive him.

But with how sharp his eyes were, he could see at a glance that Ning Qing's smile was a little forced. She could not hide things, and her absent mindedness was written on her face.

She had something on her mind.

Why did the appearance of Ying Muchen make her absent-minded?

What kind of past was she hiding?

Lu Shaoming did not ask. If she wanted to tell him, she would tell him on her own accord. Similarly, if he wanted to know, he did not need her to tell him at all.

He just wanted to wait for her to take the initiative and rely on him wholeheartedly.

With a tug of the hand, Lu Shaoming took off his black tweed coat and wrapped her small body tightly in his arms. Rubbing her delicate face with his firm jaw, he kissed her and asked softly, "Is it cold?"

Ning Qing's face was a little red. Occasionally, passers-by would pass by on the way, but he did not shy away.

"Not cold." Ning Qing buried her flushed little face in his chest and took a deep breath of his clean and warm scent. She put out her small hand to encircle his tight waist contentedly. Her voice was soft as she asked, "Shaoming, could Big Brother Ying steal business from you?"

What was Lu Shaoming's status, he was the successor of the Imperial Group Lu Corporation. Who could rival him?

But she had overheard their conversation unintentionally just now, Lu Shaoming had given that Jingtian development project to Ying Muchen.

"Well, it's not considered stealing business from me. Jingtian development is an oil refining project. As the hottest financial tycoon today, Ying Muchen is best at stir-fried millet processing and oil refining. He specializes in technology. I'm not keen on this field. I've only paid a little attention to it, and since Ying Muchen wants it, I shall give it to him."

Ning Qing nodded. She raised her head and kissed the man's jaw. "Shaoming, do you do a lot of business with Big Brother Ying?"

Lu Shaoming held her in his arms and felt happy.

"I don't have much interaction with him, but he is one of the people that I admire. Starting from scratch and making a name for himself in T City, and even the entire world in just three years... A financial tycoon needs only a notebook and with a move of his finger, his status could be multiplied by several times, he is sharp and smart."

Ning Qing's long fluttery eyelashes covered her eyes as she looked down. She was absent-minded. Her reactions were slow; he didn't know what she was thinking.

What an excellent person he must be to get Lu Shaoming to praise him so much.

Just starting from scratch, hah.

"But Ying Muchen is by no means a good man. The men in the business industry are used to romance. The female secretary is a packaged lover of his. Looking at the female secretary, she must have been his already."

Ning Qing did not expect that he would mention this to her. She looked up unexpectedly and bumped into his deep but bright and sparkling eyes that were like diamonds.

Ning Qing, who responded, couldn't help but laugh. When had she seen this man slander a person? He would always disdain to talk about them.

But just now, he had slandered Ying Muchen in her ear. For the first time, he had done something petty. He had said that he did not care, but he was jealous in his heart.

It turned out that he was pretty petty.

The absent-mindedness in her head disappeared in an instant. She held the man's handsome face in her two small hands. The more she looked at him, the more lovely he was. "Yes, yes, yes, you are the only good man in the world. You are clean and self-conscious. You have found a male secretary. Ying Muchen can't compare with you."

Lu Shaoming's ears were a little red; she had read his mind.

He had lived for 30 years, and his heart had always been calm and gentle, but when he met her, his IQ would often drop and he would do some childish things, like kissing her saliva that night, and bad mouthing Ying Muchen now.

His good upbringing had taken the back seat.

Lu Shaoming coughed lightly. There was no embarrassment on his handsome face. He just straightened up and wanted to pull her away.

But Ning Qing's laughter sounded like tinkling bells, and she reached out and pinched his angular cheeks as if she had not seen enough of his face.

Lu Shaoming frowned immediately. This girl was acting more and more boldly. She twisted his ears, slapped him, smacked his butt, and now she was pinching his face.

She was almost lawless.

"President..." Zhu Rui walked over with a document in his hand.

When Ning Qing saw someone coming, she quickly let go of Lu Shaoming and stepped back.

Once the warm jade in his arms had left, Lu Shaoming frowned at Zhu Rui and asked, "What's wrong?"

Zhu Rui hadn't expected to disturb the president's pleasure. Embarrassment and awkwardness hung on his face, but he said stiffly, "We just met the boss of Da Xing Industries, and we have a project to discuss with him..."

Lu Shaoming nodded to indicate that he got it. He looked at Ning Qing and said, "You go back to the hotel room. I'll take you back to T city after I'm done."

"Alright." Ning Qing nodded.

...

Ning Qing had something on her mind. She took out her room card from her bag, put it in the card reader, and unlocked the hotel room door.

She stepped in with one foot and groped around the wall with her little hand to turn on the light.

But then, behind her came a tall figure, and she was kissed.

After a long kiss, Ning Qing was felt weak in the man's arms. She felt powerless. "Shaoming, don't you have to work?"

The man's voice was low and hoarse, very magnetic and charming. It rang through Ning Qing's ear and caused a tingling sensation, "How do you want me to work with such a worried expression on your face? Nothing is more important than my little wife. No more work; I'm going to spend time with you."

Ning Qing's pink lips pouted. A feeling of femininity rose inside her; she had been spoilt by him.

Actually, it was alright if she felt lonely by herself, but he had to come and provoke her.

It felt so good.

She grabbed the collar of his shirt and said in a sweet voice, "What little wife, how much younger am I than you? Calling out such a mushy nickname, you have some psychological problems!"

"Oh, 10 years younger? So what should I call you then, dear wife, Qingqing baby, honey..."

Ning Qing's slender back was against the door, panting and letting out sweet puffs of breath as she pushed him away. She couldn't stand his charming murmuring, especially the "honey", with him calling out to her with an adoring laughter a pure British accent, and in a low and enticing tone... So fatal!

It had been rumored that he was proficient in many languages and very knowledgeable in general.

At the age of 20, she wanted to grow up faster.

She couldn't refuse such a stunningly handsome man.

Ning Qing wrapped her arms around his neck. She did not know whether it was the intoxicating light or the handsome appearance and distinct sideburns that got to her the most. She looked at him with heavy eyes and kissed him.

But the man dodged and turned his face sideways. Lu Shaoming smiled with hidden meaning as he asked, "Ning Qing, you really have nothing to confess to me?"

She was so abnormal.

"Yes," Ning Qing said with a languid smile. "Lu Shaoming, I like you."

She kissed him.

Lu Shaoming did not close his eyes. He opened his eyes and watched the girl's shy, trembling rows of long, slender eyelashes as she kissed him slowly. Her lips were thin and pink, and her cheeks were full.

The more he looked, the more beautiful she was.

A big palm held the back neck of her neck, as he supported her and hung her around his neck.

Another long kiss ended. Looking at the girl's slightly red and swollen lips, Lu Shaoming was a little satisfied. He reached out and lifted her shirt. He drew circles on her flat and smooth stomach with his big rough palm.

"I've heard that women feel a lot of pain during their periods. Is that better? Or should I prepare some brown sugar water for you?" The room was quiet and his voice was so soft as he held her in his arms, murmuring intimately to her like husband and wife.

Chapter 116: Fought For Ou Luo Xi

Ning Qing was originally in his arms but she lifted her head when she heard that. "Shaoming, where did you hear that a woman would hurt when she is having her period? Look at how skilled you are when you're massaging my stomach. This isn't your first time?"

Lu Shaoming's hand paused and he looked down at the girl's crystal clear eyes that were shimmering with the light of wisdom.

"Tell me, where did you get such experience?" Ning Qing gripped on his collar as she continued to ask persistently.

Lu Shaoming raised his blade-like eyebrows and answered casually, "In the past, there was a daughter from a wealthy family who was close to me. There was this one time when she had her period and she bugged me..."

"So you made her dessert and massaged her stomach?"

"No, I didn't touch her but my mom nagged me. I heard it from her so I could roughly remember."

"Humph!" Ning Qing pouted as she wasn't too happy.

His mother nagged him for no reason? Hadn't she hoped that he would do those things to the daughter from a wealthy family?

It seemed that his mother liked the daughter from the wealthy family.

Family of a similar background.

Lu Shaoming lifted the girl's chin with two fingers as he chuckled. "Why? Are you angry? Why are you angry? She was in pain and that was her business, I had nothing to do with it. Am I even guilty for hearing my mom nag?"

Ning Qing knew that she shouldn't be angry. Men like him are decisive and blunt when it comes to relationships. He kept himself to himself. It was those women who were interested in him but he never gave women a chance to get close to him.

Ever since she got married to him, he never talked about it, but she knew that the Lu Family wasn't easy to enter.

"Shaoming, would your parents like me?" Ning Qing rubbed her eyes.

"Silly girl. I like you and they will naturally like you too." Lu Shaoming kissed her eyes. "Plus, you are married to me, Lu Shaoming, but not to the Lu family. You are spending the rest of your life with me so you don't have to worry about anything. You only need to believe in me."

"Mm." Ning Qing nodded. She kissed the corner of his lips with joy beaming in her eyes.

Lu Shaoming thought it wasn't enough so he pushed her back onto the bed and flipped around to kiss her red lips.

"Ning Qing, you want to go back to school. Have you decided on what you want to major in?"

"Mm, I've decided that I don't want to act for my entire life. I want to further my studies in media school. I want to be a director if I have a chance in the future."

"Heh, that's great, my little wife. Your husband will forever support you."

...

Xia Xiaofu went to the changing room backstage to change. She made an arrangement with Ning Qing to go watch the night scene while having supper that night.

She took off her fairy-like dress and put on a white lace shirt. The shirt was all the way to her ankle. As there was an air conditioner in the changing room, she didn't put on her jacket but sat on the chair after she'd worn heels all day. Then, her assistant, Xiao Li helped her remove her makeup.

She didn't really put on makeup on a normal basis. Her oval face was beautiful on her own. Her eyebrows were like ink painting and she didn't need any embellishment or decoration.

The White Flower Award Ceremony was a solemn event, she put on rouge and lipstick to fit in there.

When Xiao Li was removing makeup for her, Xia Xiaofu heard two to three Korean female stars chit chatting next to her. Xia Xiaofu looked sideways and saw a very famous Korean star.

"Hey, I finally got to see Ou Luo Xi in person. He is really good looking. He lived up to his reputation as the most good looking young male celebrity in China. But he's so cold. When I stood next to him, he didn't even bother looking at me."

"Exactly, I took the initiative to talk to him but he just walked away. He is so arrogant. Humph, actually, what's so great about him? He's such a bounder underneath his veneer, he's so rude."

"Sigh. Let me tell you something. I heard that Ou Luo Xi is gay. He was bought off by a mysterious rich man. Look at his appearance and you'll know it's only natural that he is. We can't blame him for not being able to see a woman in his eyes. Haha."

There was disdaining ridicule from the Korean stars which were so wanton and it lit a fire in Xia Xiaofu. She clenched her fists tightly.

She looked at herself in the mirror and she laughed softly, but loud enough for the three Korean stars to hear her. "There is a saying in Chinese: people who cannot attain the grapes will respond by saying the grapes are too sour to eat anyway. Just as you are forsaking the others who have no manners, you should first examine yourself."

The Korean stars quickly turned to look. They were invited guests of the night. They were in China and they were conversing in Korean thinking that no one would understand. That was why they spoke slightly louder. They never expected that the woman could speak Korean so fluently.

The three of them recognized Xia Xiaofu at first glance. The number one Goddess of China was so elegant and intelligent. Wherever she went, she caught everyone's attention.

There were too many beautiful woman and she was the one and only who was so elegant.

The Korean stars didn't want to offend Xia Xiaofu and they quickly smiled, "I see, it's Xiaofu. We've been looking forward to seeing you in person. Hello, nice to meet you."

The three of them extended their hands wanted to shake Xia Xiaofu's hand as a friendly gesture.

Xia Xiaofu pushed away Xiao Li's hand that was removing her makeup and she sat straight lazily. She pushed her beautiful ash green hair that was hanging by her cheeks and flipped them to the back of the chair which was at her waist line. Her silky hair shined as it was well taken care of with treatment. Her hair was elegant like her person. One could still smell her pleasant scent from afar.

Without looking at the three, she lifted her beautiful chin arrogantly and aloofly. "You like Ou Luo Xi but you mock him for being an ignoble man because he didn't bother with you. How many times have you imagined how things would happen between you and him? You couldn't get him so you made him wicked in your minds. Just how despicable you people are!"

"You!" The Korean stars stood up from their chairs and their faces grew grave.

"Xiaofu." Xiao Li looked at Xia Xiaofu in disbelief.

She'd been following Xia Xiaofu for three years and she'd never seen the woman start any fights. She never had any verbal arguments with anyone since she'd first entered the entertainment circle, but then she was attacking these Korean stars with words as sharp as a porcupine's quills.

It was the backstage of the award ceremony and those were famous Korean stars. What she did caused damage on both sides; she'd been too impulsive.

Xiao Li wanted to advise Xia Xiaofu.

But then, the Korean star pointed at Xia Xiaofu's nose as she spat, "Xia Xiaofu, don't forget who you are after we show you some manners. Who are you scolding?"

Xia Xiaofu stood up slowly as she glared at the three stars. She moved her lips and formed a mocking smirk. "I'm scolding you. Can't you hear?"

"Heh, Xia Xiaofu, what does our conversation about Ou Luo Xi have to do with you? Could it be that you had a thing with Ou Luo Xi? Ou Luo Xi dates both men and women?"

"Well, you got it right. I have a thing with Ou Luo Xi. I might as well tell you. He's ferocious in bed. He lasts a long time and he is very skillful. Are you jealous? Are you green with envy? Why not pee a puddle and take a look at your reflections? Your faces after so much plastic surgery... there isn't anything real about you. How are you qualified to like him? Hurry up and go back to Korea. Don't embarrass yourselves here!"

Xiao Li was gawking in shock. She simply couldn't believe that Xia Xiaofu had said such things!

Luckily, there weren't many of them in the changing room. Otherwise, if the rumors were to spread, the outcome would be beyond one's imagination.

"Tsk tsk. You have a thing with Ou Luo Xi? We don't buy it. Ou Luo Xi is born to be f*cked by men. He is a toy for those old CEOs..."

The Korean stars ridiculed her sharply and suddenly pak. One of them felt a sharp pain on her cheeks and it went pitch quiet.

It turned out that Xia Xiaofu charged forward and gave the Korean star a tight slap.

Xia Xiaofu was shivering all over. There was almost fire in her eyes. She clenched her fists tightly and spat, "Don't you dare speak another word!"

"How dare you hit me? Girls, go!"

The situation suddenly devolved into chaos. The three Korean stars entangled with Xia Xiaofu and started fighting. Xia Xiaofu wasn't just for show; she exploded in anger and she kicked them with her heels. Someone pulled her seaweed like hair and she scratched the person's face before her.

Thud. The few women fell on the ground as they continued to fight.

Xiao Li covered her mouth as she was extremely terrified. She looked at Xia Xiaofu who looked ferocious on the ground and she thought she had blurred vision.

Was it really the fairy Xia Xiaofu?

"Stop fighting, let go!" Xiao Li charged forward to help Xia Xiaofu.

However, Xia Xiaofu couldn't pull the three women off with her strength, "Stop fighting, I'm going to call for help," Xiao Li ran out in a panic.

The three women tore Xia Xiaofu's lace shirt and slapped her really hard. Then, they got up. "Girls, let's stop. We can't let the media see this. Let's go now!"

The three Korean stars walked out.

Xia Xiaofu sat out and she was like a lioness that was provoked. She was giving out a cold aura. She lifted her hand to wipe away the blood stain at the corner of her lips. She stood up and walked out too.

She walked out and realized that it was cold outside. The chest area of her lace shirt had been torn to pieces and she could only cover her chest with her two arms to block the fabric that was torn.

How could they say that about Ou Luo Xi?

How would they know if Ou Luo Xi was gay?

She didn't allow anyone to badmouth Ou Luo Xi!!!

She walked towards the elevator with quick footsteps. Suddenly, she saw a few men smiling maliciously. "Who's that woman? Revealing her arms and legs in the winter. Looking at her back, I can tell she is gentle and graceful. She's definitely a beauty. Haha."

There were even men who called her from behind. "Hey, miss, how much a night? I have money. Have fun with me tonight."

The men whistled.

When had Xia Xiaofu been treated with such embarrassment and humiliation? This was a bad time for this. She was in rags and she couldn't be recognized then. She could only clench her teeth and walk quickly to the elevator.

She quickened her pace but the perverts behind her quickened their pace as well. "Miss, why are you running? There's no one in the corridor, have fun with me. You want to go into the elevator? Even better. You can't escape then. Haha."

Xia Xiaofu was panicking. She saw many men. These men have evil thoughts at the sight of a woman. Were they planning to rape her?

As she was panicking, she suddenly paused. In Xia Xiaofu's view, there was a man in white shirt and black slacks. The man took off his suit and was holding it in his hand. He put one of his hands in the pocket as he walked over.

If it wasn't Ou Luo Xi, who else would it be?

Then, Ou Luo Xi looked at her. His crystal clear eyes were like babbling brook in the mountain.

Even more beautiful than the starry night.

He gave her a quick look-over and glanced at men who were chasing after her. There wasn't much changes on his face but he saw her embarrassment.

Xia Xiaofu saw him and felt the fire in her was replaced with bitterness. Her nose grew red and her eyes welled up with tears.

She couldn't think clearly anymore, then she heard the elevator ding. She could only run into the elevator.

As she got into the elevator, she stood sideways to hide herself on the inner side of the elevator. She only revealed her eyes as she looked outside with her guard up.

The bunch of men ran over and they obviously wanted to enter the elevator as well.

Xia Xiaofu felt a tug at her heartstring. She looked at Ou Luo Xi who stood very near to the elevator. She wouldn't believe if he couldn't tell the men's wicked intention. Would he help her?

That bunch of men came closer while Ou Luo Xi stood handsomely without any intention to move.

Xia Xiaofu felt her face burning as the tears in her eyes rolled down. She shouted to complain with her hoarse voice, "Ou Luo Xi!"

Those men tried to walk past Ou Luo Xi and he suddenly extended his arms at lightning speed. Then, he blocked the man at the front of the group.

The people behind him walked into the back of the man who'd been blocked and they stopped.

One of them clamored arrogantly, "Who are you? Boy, I suggest you to mind your own business. We are trying to relax here. You..."

No one saw Ou Luo Xi throw any punches. Actually, Ou Luo Xi didn't throw any punches. He only swung his hand that was holding his suit and those men fell backwards and formed a pyramid.

"Aiyo..." The men groaned in pain.

"Leave!" Ou Luo Xi spat.

The men realized Ou Luo Xi's ability and knew that he was a person who has practiced martial arts.

Xia Xiaofu, who was in the elevator, began tearing up even more. They were tears of grievance. She fought for him but he intended to not make any effort to save her. He only willing to help when she pleaded.

However, she was delighted still. He helped her after all.

Didn't he turn a blind eye to her?

The men left and when Xia Xiaofu lifted her gaze, she saw Ou Luo Xi walk forward with no intention of entering the elevator.

Such a cold man.

"Hey, Ou Luo Xi, can you keep me company in the elevator? My clothes are torn and I am quite a sight to behold. Any man who sees me will have wicked thoughts. Be a nice person and escort me downstairs, okay?

Ou Luo Xi paused but no one could tell what he was thinking.

Xia Xiaofu's eyes were red and there were still tears on her delicate oval face. But she lifted her head to look at Ou Luo Xi very gently yet stubborn as a mule.

She decided that if he were to leave, she'd follow him.

She fought because of him. She was twenty three years old and it was her first time fighting.

Just like a virago.

A behavior that she had once scorned.

Ou Luo Xi paused for one minute and then he turned around to enter the elevator with a numb expression.

Xia Xiaofu lifted the corners of her lips and a beautiful smile grew across her face like a blooming lotus flower. She then closed the door of the elevator.

The man stood by her side and she could see him in the corner of her eyes.

He looked so beautiful and his jawline looked as though it had been outlined by a meticulous artist. His skin wasn't just fair like a young boy but honey coated with a tinge of sexiness.

Xia Xiaofu suddenly recalled the other day when he had blocked the bullet for Ning Qing. He was like a hero descended from heaven. He was always reserved, but he was so charming.

Maybe from that moment onwards, she sort of liked him.

Chapter 117: Shuiling, You're Back

Because she liked him, she couldn't allow others to say anything bad about him, so she had gotten into a fight for him.

But does he need to be standing so arrogantly and haughtily in front of her?

She was a goddess of the generation after all. Since birth, she had always lived under other's awed gazes. She'd always been the target of their pursuit. She had her own self-esteem and pride!

But he wasn't even looking straight at her; he didn't like her!

He was terrible.

The big bad man.

Xia Xiaofu's tears blurred her eyes. She quietly looked at the thin figure of the man. Suddenly, she remembered that she had said that he was "very fierce in bed." At that time, she was just talking hotheadedly. Now that she thought about it, her face grew hot.

She didn't even know what she was thinking then. She was not like herself for him.

The funniest thing was that he had done nothing.

He stood there dignified, while her clothes were in tatters.

There was no heating in the elevator. Xia Xiaofu was shivering cold. He was holding a suit jacket in his hand, but he didn't even lend her his jacket.

Achoo. Xia Xiaofu deliberately sneezed loudly.

However, the man beside did not respond. He did not look askance. He looked ahead as if a flower would bloom once the elevator doors open.

Xia Xiaofu pouted her pink lips behind his back.

Helplessly, she stretched out two dainty fingers and grabbed the corner of his suit weakly. "Ou Luo Xi, can you lend me your jacket? I'm so cold."

Ou Luo Xi paused for a few seconds, then slowly turned his eyes to her, locking his gaze onto her delicate fair oval shaped face. Her beautiful curls were in a mess, a few strands of hair stuck to her tender neck and cheeks, giving her a different style.

"Ok." Ou Luo Xi replied and handed Xia Xiaofu his jacket.

A smile appeared on Xia Xiaofu's face quickly, she was actually an easily satisfied little girl.

"Thank you." She reached for it.

When the jacket was in the palm of her hand, her chest felt cold. Without her small hand holding up the torn material on her chest, the dress slid down quickly. She had worn a fairy dress today and only had a Nubra beneath.

Her delicate skin like fine lamb's fat was exposed in the cold air, and Xia Xiaofu shivered.

Forgetting to cover herself with her little hand, she looked up quickly and saw that the young man in front of her did not shy away from it and was staring at her beautiful full arc.

"..." Xia Xiaofu instantly forgot to react.

Her oval shaped face was red. Didn't he know how to avoid looking? She had been accidentally exposed. Didn't he know how to avert his gaze?

After god knows how long, Ou Luo Xi averted his gaze sideways calmly. There was not a trace of embarrassment or anomaly on his face, as if he wasn't the one who had just peeked.

Xia Xiaofu, "..." What does he mean?

He didn't have any reaction even after seeing her body?

Dammit!

Turning around, Xia Xiaofu looked at herself through the elevator mirror. The woman in the mirror was as beautiful as a rose. Her waist was thin and her butt perky. Her legs were fair and slender. Any man would be tempted if he were to see it.

Otherwise, the men would not have thought evil thoughts just by looking at her back just now.

Xia Xiaofu was angry, she turned her eyes and said in a dissatisfied tone, "Hey, Ou Luo Xi, you just looked at my chest."

Xia Xiaofu wished she could bite her tongue after she had said that. She wanted to be more euphemistic, but her words were so straightforward.

"So what?" Ou Luo Xi replied, his voice tinged with the brightness of a teenager.

"[..."

Just then, the elevator dinged opened. "If there's nothing else, then I'm out of here." Ou Luo Xi walked

Xia Xiaofu was so angry that she could vomit blood. How she wanted to run up to draw and ruin his beautiful face. Who asked him to be so arrogant!?

"Xiaofu." Xiao Li and several crew members also rushed over. "Xiaofu, are you alright? When we went up just now, you were already gone."

"I'm all right." Xia Xiaofu clutched the jacket on her tightly. His scent remained on the jacket. It smelled so clean.

Xia Xiaofu rubbed her delicate face against the collar of the jacket and looked uncontrollably at the tall and handsome figure of Ou Luo Xi beside the door.

She blushed.

Out of the door, Ou Luo Xi was surrounded by his assistants and ushered into a luxury limo. Two colleagues were gossiping and whispering behind him.

"We heard someone quarreling in the dressing room when we passed by just now. I also heard the voice of the national goddess Xia Xiaofu. I don't know if I had heard incorrectly."

"Probably only Ou Luo Xi knows about this. He had stood by the door and listened for a minute before he drove us away. He had come down so late. Forget it, let's not gossip anymore. Be careful what comes out of our mouths."

•••

Lu Shaoming had flown to the United States on business, and Ning Qing had gotten off the airplane.

When she entered the airport lobby, Xiao Zhou was there to pick her up. After handing Xiao Zhou the suitcase in her hand, they walked out together.

Xiao Zhou was still talking excitedly when she suddenly realized that Ning Qing had stopped walking.

Following Ning Qing's gaze, she saw that a very beautiful and eye-catching girl was walking towards them not far from the lobby.

The girl had shoulder length hair. The ends of her hair curled inwards, giving her the aura of a little woman, she wore a red, wide-collared, off shoulder blouse, revealing her fair and flat abdomen when she walked. Her delicate clavicle appeared at times. She had on a pair of black tights that wrapped around her long legs and augmented her exquisite figure.

The girl was taking off her sunglasses. Xiao Zhou's eyes shone, the girl had single-lidded eyes with a naturally winged eyeliner giving her an unspeakable sense of allure.

The girl was full of youth and romance.

This girl was so different from Ning Qing and Xia Xiaofu. Ning Qing's disposition was mostly gentle as water, her character like a lamb, while Xia Xiaofu was full of spirit and like a fairy. On the other hand, this girl was aloof and gorgeous, as if, if she wished, she could be hot as fire and burn away her youth heartily.

Each of the three girls had their own style.

The girl walked out of the door of the airport lobby and Ning Qing jogged after her.

"Ning Qing, wait for me." Xiao Zhou chased after her.

Outside, the girl was trying to flag down a taxi. Ning Qing walked up and smiled at her. "Shuiling, you're back?"

Yin Shuiling looked sideways at Ning Qing. Her beautiful single-lidded eyes were emotionless, without a trace of surprise or shock. She replied, "Yes."

Ning Qing was at a loss. "Shuiling, where do you want to go now that you're back? Get in my car and I'll take you there."

"There's no need."

Just then, a taxi stopped for her. Yin Shuiling placed her suitcase in the back compartment, got into the back seat, and the taxi drove away.

Ning Qing watched the taxi depart with disappointment and gloominess in her eyes. She knew that Shuiling had not forgiven her.

Nor was she entitled to extravagant forgiveness.

They had been such good sisters once, sisters who could share anything other than men. But three years ago, it had come to an end.

How could Ning Qing not be melancholy?

Xiao Zhou also looked at the taxi. She wondered, "Shuiling? Why is the name so familiar?" Xiao Zhou gasped as her eyes widened. "Ning Qing, could she be Yin Shuiling? Yin's family's young mistress, well known in T City, spoiled by her father and brother from the moment she was born? The Yin Shuiling who led a princess-like life, and is arrogant and domineering."

Ning Qing did not speak, the young mistress of the Yin family? That was three years ago.

Three years ago, the Yin family had collapsed and died.

Only Yin Shuiling's brother Yin Muchen, who had no blood relationship with the Yin family, lived well. He was like the sun shining brightly in the sky.

Others had died and or were imprisoned, while Shuiling wandered around, away from home for three years.

Had she healed the double trauma of the mind and body?

...

Yin Shuiling put on her sunglasses when she got into the taxi. She looked out at the changing scenery.

A sentence hovered in her mind – What is in the future after the past and present?

Things were not as they are now.

Her mouth curled up with a hint of mockery.

The taxi driver was a middle-aged man in his thirties. He looked at the girl through the rearview mirror several times. The broad sunglasses covered half of her face. Only her lips that were soft and thin was exposed. There was a delicate, natural and healthy red flush in her lips.

Extremely eye-pleasing.

The taxi driver glanced at the girl's figure again. He liked to look at beautiful women most while driving daily and studied beautiful woman's figure most.

The girl's figure was nice and proportionate, she had a rare golden proportioned figure.

The taxi parked in front of a small condo, which was not high-end. It was very ordinary, but the environment was elegant, clean and tidy.

"Mister, how much is the fare?" Yin Shuiling took out her wallet.

"Oh, the fare is 50," the driver answered with a laugh.

Yin Shuiling's small hand that was taking out money from her wallet stilled. She looked up, smiled and said slowly, "I went out once, and the fare doubled? Mister, have you made a mistake. What's the telephone number of your taxi company? I'll make a call to confirm it for you."

The driver's face grew hot. He had seen that the girl was young and had just returned from abroad. He had wanted to ask for a bit more money, but he hadn't expected to meet someone so clever.

"It's all right lady, the fare is 20 dollars." The driver corrected himself.

Yin Shuiling did not say anything else. She took the money out of her wallet and handed it to the driver. She took her suitcase and went into the condo.

Before the driver left, he sneered, "She's so beautiful but turns out to be broke!"

...

Yin Shuiling entered the 60-square meter condo, it was second-hand and she had rented it. There were one living room, one bedroom, and one kitchen. Although space was small, it was enough for her alone.

Putting the suitcase down, she rolled up her sweater sleeves and cleaned the apartment thoroughly three times.

She then opened her suitcase again. There were several outfits in it. There were also hand-drawn comic books. Finally, there was a Hello Kitty soft toy.

The corners of her mouth lifted in a smile, the corner of her eyes crinkling with a natural charm as she hung the soft toy on the wall of her bedside. She used her naturally red lips to kiss the soft toy's face. Her voice was innocent and charming. "Kitty, thank you for accompanying me for 10 whole years. This shall be our little house for the time being. I don't have much money now. When the third season of my comic book gets published, I'll take you with me, and we'll move into a big house."

The soft toy couldn't speak. Yin Shuiling pinched the soft toy's face, then got up from the bed and went to the living room.

...

Ning Qing has enrolled in the Director Studies course at Communication University. She could work in a wide range of industries, such as broadcasting and hosting, and writing film manuscripts after graduating.

Ning Qing had thought it over carefully; actors and actresses rely on their youth and appearance. That was not a stable job.

Most importantly, she had considered that an actress who was always in the spotlight was not suitable for a man of Lu Shaoming's position, and the noble Lu family.

She wanted to retire behind the scenes and make a slow transition.

If in the future, through accumulating experience and training, she would be qualified to be a real director and tell a story through a film. That was her dream.

Ning Qing entered the Director Studies' third class. As the new best actress of the generation, her face was a label for her; a gold-lettered signboard.

Fortunately, the students did not go into a frenzy as the school principal and teaching directors had explicitly instructed them not to chase after stars during school hours.

After class, Ning Qing signed several autographs and snuck out the school's back door.

At this time, "Ning Qing." Two female students walked over, one of them opened her mouth and called Ning Qing.

Ning Qing looked back, it was Lin Xuemei, an old friend from her childhood.

"Xuemei, are you in this school, too?" Ning Qing was very happy that she had met her old friend in another place.

"Yes, Ning Qing, After I knew that you would be coming to our school, I was very happy. We haven't been in touch for three years. I thought you had forgotten me."

"How could I? I have always remembered you," Ning Qing replied.

"That's great! Ning Qing, did you know that Shuiling is also in our school? She's an excellent exchange student. She's returned from her studies in Britain. She's a cartoonist now. She has published eight comic book series in the past three years. The current issue is going to be publishing its third season and has gained a great reputation on the Internet," Lin Xuemei told Ning Qing.

Ning Qing was really happy for Yin Shuiling. "Is that so? Then make plans with her. Let's have dinner together when she's free."

"Sure," Lin Xuemei patted her chest and promised.

"Xuemei, I have something else to do, so I have to go." Ning Qing bid farewell.

"Ok."

Lin Xuemei was watching Ning Qing leave, when the girl beside her said excitedly, "Wow, Xuemei, I didn't expect you to know the two famous women in T city. Ning Qing is the top socialite in T city and is now the queen of movies. While Yin Shuiling is the little princess of T city, with a cold and arrogant nature. Any man's dream in T city is to one day be able to break her wings and possess her. She's a princess in name, but she's actually a little demon. But that's strange, weren't they good friends? Why do you have to ask Yin Shuiling to come out for dinner? Why doesn't Ning Qing ask her out herself?"

Lin Xuemei's face was somewhat grim. She sighed, "Oh, they had a falling out three years ago."

"How come? Why?"

"Why else? For a man. Haven't you heard of T City's Mu Yunfan?"

"Wow." The girl's eyes lit up as she covered her mouth covered in excitement. "Mu Yunfan is the young master of the Mu family. The Mu family is a big household, having a hand in both illegal and legal matters. They have a high status. Mu Yunfan's peach blossom eyes are beautiful and devilish. When he was here, he was the dream lover of all the girls in T City.

"Mu Yunfan and Yin Shuiling have been engaged since their childhood. One was aloof and beautiful while the other was devilish. They were a legendary couple of T city."

Chapter 118: Yet The Mountain Rain Came Pouring Down

"That's right." Lin Xuemei nodded wistfully. "At that time, the Ying family were considered to have close ties with the Mu family. Mu Yunfan, Ying Shuiling, Xu Junxi and Ning Qing grew up together and hence had closely intertwined ties. After Mu Yunfan and Ying Shuiling got engaged to one another, Xu Junxi and Ning Qing silently started to grow feelings for one another. Everyone watching on the side-lines were immensely jealous of them, until only..."

"Until only what?" the other girl curiously asked upon seeing Lin Xuemei suddenly quiet down and not continue speaking.

"... Until only until 3 years ago. Mu Yunfan and Ning Qing had a falling out which directly caused these four families' relationship to be broken. After that the Ying family crumbled down due to multiple deaths, Ying Shuiling decided to move overseas."

"Xue Mei, what exactly happened back then? Let me know please, the suspense is killing me!"

"I am also not clear with what happened back then, after all it was Ning Qing's personal matter. It would be better if we do not speculate further. Let's go home now."

Ning Qing left for school in the morning, Her last lecture in the afternoon was a course on political science held in the large lecture theatre. It was held with multiple classes of students.

Ning Qing arrived slightly late, and all the seats had been taken by the time she had arrived at the lecture hall. Upon seeing her arrival, many female and male students excitedly volunteered to give up their seats for her. "Ning Qing, come sit here..."

Ning Qing nodded her head in thanks, but at this moment, a girl called out to her, "Ning Qing."

Ning Qing lifted her gaze and saw Xu Junxi's cousin, Xu Lin waving to get her attention with an empty seat next to her.

Ning Qing did not have good feelings about Xu Lin, although they had past interactions. Xu Lin had a penchant for befriending the rich and was materialistic in her needs, just like the mother of Xu Junxi.

However when Ning Qing scanned her surroundings, there were no extra empty seats available and hence she hastened her steps towards that direction.

"Sister Ning Qing, we have not seen each other for three years. I have yet to have the chance to congratulate you on your 'Best Actress' accolade." Xu Lin congratulated her sweetly.

Ning Qing opened her book and placed it on the desk. Her lips curled up into a stiff smile and politely said, "Thanks..."

Xu Lin saw Ning Qing lowering her gaze and not engaging in conversation with her. Her eyes glimmered with a cryptic light and she let out a satisfied smile.

Deeply immersed in her book, Ning Qing heard the sound of footsteps coming in her direction. Lifting her head, she saw Ying Shuiling, together with another female classmate, coming towards her.

The duo stopped in front of her, the female classmate looked at Ning Qing and said with a frown," Xu Lin, I thought I asked you to reserve a seat for Shui Ling; where is the seat now?"

Xu Lin was put on the spot and said," I did reserve one for Shui Ling but when Ning Qing arrived, she said she wanted the seat for herself. I even told her this seat was reserved for Shui Ning but she still sat down nonetheless. I could not chase her away for no reason right?"

Once Ning Qing heard the first words from Xu Lin's mouth, she immediately understood what was going on. Xu Lin was trying to frame her!

This empty seat was clearly given to her by Xu Lin but now she turned the tables on her by claiming that she had snatched the seat. Ning Qing did not have any idea that this seat was reserved for Shui Ying!

The female classmate snorted haughtily while looking at Ning Qing, "People nowadays are just too arrogant. Just because of the title of 'Best Actress', she thinks she has a pass to not put others into consideration. Some people just like to snatch their friend's belongings, just like three years ago. Now it has gotten out of hand. The snatching has gotten even more brazen. I can't bear to watch any longer."

Ning Qing's face was a little pale but she stood up graciously and looked directly at Ying Shuiling who stood silently at the side. "Shuiling, I do not care if you believe me or not. I never intended to snatch anything from you. This seat was given to me by Xu Lin who called me over. The classmates here can be my witnesses. I did not know that seat belonged to anyone beforehand."

"Hmph, you can romanticize your words now. We've all been clear on who you are for the past 3 years!" the female classmate said bluntly.

"It is okay," Ying Shuiling said, interrupting her classmate. "It is merely a seat."

"Shuiling, how you could defend her now? Was the harm she brought upon you 3 years ago not enough?"

Ying Shuiling gazed at Xu Lin with her naturally crimson lips curled up slightly, she'd always been a cold person. Her slanted eyes pointed upwards and she proclaimed naturally with an air of arrogance, "The seat that the 'Best Actress' wants... I am confident that 90% of those present now would all give up their seat for her naturally. But why would she want this particular seat out of all seats? Let's not let others make use of us!"

"What?" that female classmate looked at Xu Lin with a puzzled expression.

Xu Lin was shell-shocked, she had no idea that even with all that had happened 3 years ago, Ying Shuiling's level-headedness has not wavered at all.

Ying Shuiling raised her eyebrows and glanced at Xu Lin before leaving to ascend the steps towards the last row of the theatre.

The female classmate followed closely.

Xu Lin's fists were balled up tightly, she was childhood friends with Ning Qing and Ying Shuiling and had always trailed behind them. In the past, when the Ying family still held prestige, she could accept Ying Shuiling's underestimation and scorn. But now even with the sorry state of the Ying family, how she could still dare to give her that attitude with the look of distance in her eyes? What privilege did she have?

Ning Qing gave Xu Lin a brief glance and also moved towards the last row of the hall.

Ning Qing exchanged her seat with the classmate seated beside Yin Shuiling and positioned herself next to Shui Ling.

Yin Shuiling was sketching with her pencil and Ning Qing said, "Shui Ling, thank you for your trust in me just now."

Ying Shuiling paused in her actions and her curled eyelashes fluttered, casting a silhouette on her beautiful face. "I did not believe in you; I purely trusted my own intelligence to make a judgement. I, Ying Shuiling, am not that foolish to be used by others as a tool."

"Yes." Ning Qing curled her lips up and playfully said, "Shuiling, how could you know that I was awarded the 'Best Actress' accolade. You haven't been keeping tabs on me, right?"

Ying Shuiling burst out in laughter. "Such thick skin!""

A smile blossomed on Ning Qing's delicate face. "You have not changed all these years. Your bark is worse than your bite."

Ying Shuiling did not reply to what she said, and instead her palm sized face softened as past memories that brought immense joy came flooding back to her all at once.

"Shui Ling, the school is organizing a New Year's Gala today. Will you be in attendance? Could we have a meal together then?" Ning Qing asked with hesitation.

Ying Shuiling shook her head and said," I will not be attending. I have a part time job at night to earn a living.

Ning Qing was not surprised at Shui Ling's rejection. They had a wedge between them. Ning Qing could not cross over, and Shui Ling could not come to her either.

She needed a job to earn her keep?

Ning Qing wanted to help her but she knew that Shui Ling would not accept her help. Ying Shuiling was the most proud and haughty girl she'd ever met.

Neither of them had anything else to say. They each bore their own troubles.

After leaving the lecture hall, Ning Qing called out to stop Xu Lin." Xu Lin, we've never had any grudges between us. Why would you want to frame me in front of Shuiling today?"

Xu Lin innocently replied, "Ning Qing, I don't understand what you are talking about. How did I frame you?"

Ning Qing gave a snort and said, "The things that you've done on your own accord... You are clearly aware of these things." She then turned and left.

"Hmph. Ning Qing, after tonight, let me see how much longer you can stay like this," Xu Lin said with her eyes full of hatred. She then walked off with a sway to her hips.

After a mere two steps, her heels slipped onto colorful marbles that appeared out of nowhere. With a slip, she screamed, "Ah!" She collapsed completely onto the floor and it left her totally embarrassed.

Because it was previously raining, the floor was muddy. Her face fell into a hole, leaving her face full of dirt.

"Ha, haha, who would this be? This is so embarrassing! Hahaa..." The students that were leaving the lecture theatre surrounded her and made their vile comments. Then they started bursting out into laughter.

After getting mocked by the crowd, Xu Lin's face burned hotly. Ignoring the immense pain on her thigh, she hurriedly got up and ran away.

After running to a secluded spot, she opened her palm to reveal some colorful marbles. If she was not mistaken, these beads came from the bracelet on Ning Qing's wrist.

No wonder Ning Qing had stopped her in her tracks; she was silently plotting to break the beads to see her end up in such a sorry state.

How dare Ning Qing!

She wiped the mud on her face and fished out her phone from her pocket. "Hello, Yaoyao. The things that you asked me to accomplish, I have completed them. However, the relationship between Ying Shuiling and Ning Qing was deeper than we previously thought. Ying Shuiling is very bright; it is impossible for her to be tricked."

"Okay, I understand. This time I am merely testing her. Do not pay attention to Ying Shuiling for now, and do not give the game away yet. I have plans of my own. Lingling, are you prepared for tonight's New Year's gala?"

"Of course I am ready. The New Year's gala board sent invitations to all parents and I persuaded my aunt to attend. At that time we could then reveal the dirty matters that occurred 3 years ago that made Ning Qing fall from heaven and land in the mud below."

"Hoho, we've given Ning Qing too much freedom all this while. With tonight's sudden attack, we have to render her helpless and make her concede defeat. Falling from heaven into the Earth is the lightest possible outcome. This time, let's make sure no other man would want her. Would Young Master Lu want her after this? Haha, let us just wait to see a good show occur tonight."

"Yao Yao, this piece of dirty news has yet to see the light of the day. This is her achilles' heel. You will definitely succeed with your plan."

"Um, Lingling, I know that you recently had your eye on a branded bag. I have already transferred 100,000 to your bank account. Please purchase whatever you favor."

"Really? Thank you sister in law! I hope that you bear a son soon and enter the doors of the Xu family!"

"That is a must! Okay, Junxi is back. I am ending this conversation now. Bye-bye."

Ning Yao ended the call and the doors of the villa opened at that moment, with Xu Junxi walking in.

Ning Yao hurriedly came forward to greet him, taking his briefcase from him. She stood on her tiptoes to remove his coat for him with a gentle smile adorning her face. "You are back? Are you exhausted from work today? I prepared dinner for you with all your favorite dishes and even boiled soup!"

Xu Junxi entered the living room and saw the dining table brimming with steaming hot dishes that looked appetizing. Ning Yao was in the kitchen with bowls and chopsticks and was dishing out the rice.

Xu Junxi lifted his gaze towards Ning Yao, she was dressed in a white jumper with a pink cashmere coat. She was bare faced. Her pure petite face was adorned by a satisfied smile. She gave off an adorable homey vibe.

Ever since Li Meiling had gone to jail, Ning Yao continued to stay in the villa that he purchased for her. The conditions were just like her time in America. Sweet, polite, and with a flair of elegance. She never questioned his after work social events, and whenever he returned home, she was always ready with a smile and a piping hot meal.

Bit by bit, he fell in the habit of coming here after work.

He'd always wanted a woman like this, giving him warmth and a comfortable home.

Xu Junxi walked over to her and embraced her from the back. He nested his head into her neck. There was no longer perfume but just a faint hint of her natural scent. He relaxed and was instantly delighted.

"It has been hard on you, Yao Yao."

"It has not been hard for me, speaking of hard work, it has been hard on you instead. You have worked restlessly hard to earn money for both me and our child." She used his large palms to slowly cup her belly." Junxi, I am showing a little now. I have a belly now. Today I went for the pregnancy checkup and the doctor said that in a month's time, I will be able to feel its movements."

Xu Junxi kissed her face and asked, "You went for a pregnancy appointment today? Why didn't you ask me along? Did you go alone?"

"Yeah I did." Ning Yao innocently nodded her head. "I can attend these pregnancy appointments alone. Jun Xi you are busy enough with your own workload. I know I've made many mistakes in the past. Mother has many misconceptions about me. You are under much stress. I don't want you to be troubled by this. I am very satisfied now. I have you and the baby in my stomach. I am the luckiest woman in the world."

Xu Junxi felt embarrassed yet touched. His heartstrings ached immensely. Using his palms to caress her small bump, his tender love for her multiplied significantly at this moment. He said, 'Yao Yao, it has been hard on you. after the baby is born, I will give you both official status in the family."

"Okay, Junxi. I am not in a hurry to do so; I just do not want our baby to be wronged," Ning Yao said, while nodding her head.

Xu Junxi kissed Ning Yao's face with a hurried breath. embracing her into his arms, he asked, "Yao Yao, how long have you been pregnant for? We haven't been together for too long."

Ning Yao looked at him with flushed cheeks and lowered her gaze. Kissing him on the lips, she replied, "It has been three months now."

Xu Junxi was delighted and swept her up into his arms and ushered her into the room.

"Ay, Junxii, have your meal first." Ning Yao used her hands to push him away.

Her rejection but yet welcome expression made Xu Junxi feel even worse. He kicked open the room door, and placed her on the bed. "I will eat later," he responded.

"The baby..."

"Don't worry, I will be gentle."

A smile appeared on Ning Yao's lips, it seems like what mother said before going to jail was absolutely right. Just quietly and gently stay by Xu Junxi's side. This course of action could enable her to eliminate Ning Qing and lead her to become the greater winner after all.

Hmph.

At the New Year's Gala

Ning Qing attended the gala with Lin Xuemei. The moment she stepped foot in] the hall, the sound of streamers and bubbles filled the air. "Pa!" A man carrying a bouquet of fresh flowers walked towards Ning Qing and knelt down on one knee and said, "Ning Qing, from the moment I first saw you, I have been deeply attracted to you. I like you, would you agree to be my girlfriend?"

Ning Qing was dumbfounded, she'd only entered the school days ago. Someone already pined for her?

Ning Qing had an impression of the bubbly boy in front of her. He was the president of the student council and also renowned as the school hunk.

"Ning Qing, hurry up and accept his request! Date! The students attending the gala surrounded them with cheers and applause.

Ning Qing broke out into laughter. What would Lu Shaoming think if he knew that his wife was being courted by others?

"I am sorry that I cannot accept your proposal. I am dating someone else already," Ning Qing said as she rejected him.

Taking a step back, the boy proclaimed, "Ning Qing, it is alright that you have a boyfriend. I only want to be your friend and accompany you silently."

"[..."

"Of course she would reject you, can't you see the men that the newly crowned 'Best Actress' is surrounded by? They are either wealthy or possess mighty backgrounds. Also, at the recent White Flower Awards, Ning Qing announced that she was in a relationship with Young Master Lu of Emperor Entertainment Group. You are merely a broke student. Why would she have any interest in you?"

Xu Lin's sharp voice permeated the air.

Chapter 119: Ning Qing's Humiliating Past

"You..." After he had been humiliated by Xu Lin, the school beau stood up quickly with a dark expression.

"Hey, Xu Lin, do you know how to talk? Love is irrespective of social status. Besides, our school beau only wants to make friends with Ning Qing and had not intended to woo her. Are we wrong for wanting to be closer to our goddess?" The president of the student union naturally had many classmates' support, and someone came to his defence.

"Hah, you're not wrong, but I wonder what your goddess thinks about this?"

Everyone's gaze shifted to Ning Qing's face.

Everyone was waiting for Ning Qing's answer.

Ning Qing met Xu Lin's provocative gaze, and she said to the school beau, "We really are not suitable to be friends."

"What?" The school beau and the other students' faces changed.

"Haha, you heard it yourself, how could the goddess be friends with you mortals? If you want to be friends with her, wait until you have power and money, then try again." Xu Lin laughed.

Ning Qing ignored Xu Lin. She just looked at the school beau frankly. "You want to be friends with me because you like me, but I don't want to be friends with you because I don't want to hold you back. I don't want to make use of your love for me and turn you into one of my back up plans, let alone give you hope and waste your time. It's best for both of us to keep our distance from each other."

Xu Lin had provoked her. If she were smart, she would have agreed to be friends first and given Xu Lin a slap in the face late, but she was unwilling to do so.

If she had promised to be friends with the school beau today, many other pursuers would flock to her tomorrow. She couldn't afford to waste other people's youth. Similarly, Lu Shaoming would be angry and jealous when he figured it out.

There was no place for any jealousy in the world of love.

Ning Qing's words were cold but rational, and the school beau was impressed. "Ning Qing, no matter what, I still like you. I'm willing to do as you say, and I'll still pay attention to you silently in the future."

"Alright, you guys!" The crowd gathered to praise Ning Qing and the school beau.

A spurt of anger flashed on Xu Lin's face, but she laughed quickly. She turned around, hooked her arm in Mother Xu's arm, and brought her in front of everyone. "Auntie, do you remember Ning Qing? She used to be your soon to be daughter-in-law."

Mother Xu had seen the scene clearly just now. The more people chased after Ning Qing, the better Ning Qing's life was, the more her expression soured.

Remembering how Ning Qing had made things difficult for them in front of Emperor Entertainment Group's board of directors and her disdain for the Xu family, she gnashed her teeth in anger.

"Hmph, who is Ning Qing now? Does she still have me and our Junxi in her eyes? We are not worthy to claim ties with her," Mother Xu sneered.

"Auntie Xu, what you've said is too heavy. When Ning Qing was chased out by her father three years ago, did you help her? How could you blame her for being ruthless when you had abandoned her in the first place?" Lin Xuemei spoke up to fight for Ning Qing.

"You!" Mother Xu was furious.

Xu Lin laughed and said, "That's right, but my auntie is Ning Qing's elder after all. Does she know nothing about her upbringing of respecting the old and loving the young?"

Lin Xuemei wanted to speak, but Ning Qing grabbed her sleeve and shook her head gently.

She stepped forward, straightened up her slim back and looked at her Mother Xu, smiling coldly as she said, "Three years ago, I was chased out of the house. Even the college tuition fees had become a problem. I went to your door to borrow money from you. Have you forgotten how you had treated me? My upbringing has never been about respecting the old and loving the young, but clearly distinguishing between love and hatred. For those despicable people who have cast misfortune on those already unfortunate, I shall make you unworthy to claim ties with me, and I shall make you look up to me with resent!"

"Good!" As soon as Ning Qing's words fell, the crowd echoed loudly.

"Hmph, Ning Qing, you've said so much, but isn't it because Young Master Lu is richer than my cousin Xu Junxi in the end? You dumped my cousin so quickly and landed Young Master Lu. It's clear that you were the one clambering over the dragon and attaching yourself to those in power!"

Ning Qing sneered, "You are two-faced and this is only your side of the story. If I had left your cousin and found a poor guy, what would you have said? Look, Ning Qing could only find someone like that after leaving the Xu family. Now I've found Young Master Lu, who is richer, better and more considerate than your cousin. You say that I'm clambering over the dragon and attaching myself to those in power. It's funny. Does my future depend on you? Since the moment you abandoned me three years ago, how poor or how rich I become has nothing to do with you anymore. What are you even? You can't give me anything, but yet you are jealous of what others have attained!"

"Great, what Ning Qing said is very good!" All the students' passion was kindled, as a flood of applause broke out.

Mother Xu's face turned dark red, while Xu Lin's face turned pale and red. She had long since heard that Ning Qing's mouth was sharp and had indeed experienced it for herself today.

"That's right. Besides, Auntie Xu, three years ago, it was Xu Junxi himself who had cheated with Ning Yao, and he had also generously admitted it in public. Do you still expect Ning Qing to stay in place and wait for Xu Junxi to return?" Lin Xuemei asked.

Xu Lin smiled immediately. Look at this, Lin Xuemei had finally mentioned today's focus.

She was not here to argue with Ning Qing tonight.

Xu Lin stepped forward and approached Ning Qing step by step. "Ning Qing, was it really my cousin's fault that you had broken up three years ago? There are so many people here today. Would you like to tell them the dirty things you have done?"

Ning Qing stood still. She looked at Xu Lin's confident face and her heart sank.

She had a very bad feeling.

"Xu Lin, you'd better not slander people. What Ning Qing did three years ago, you can say it if you dare," the school beau roared.

"Oh," said Xu Lin, looking at Ning Qing's pale face with a smile. "Do you guys remember the legendary Master Mu Yunfan of T City?"

Mu Yunfan?

When she heard the name again three years later, Ning Qing's heart felt as though it had been crushed by a ton of bricks. She was in so much pain she could hardly breathe.

She finally knew Xu Lin's purpose for coming tonight.

But how could this be? She had always thought that nobody knew except for the few parties involved.

"Remember. How could anyone in T city not know of Master Mu?" the school beau said.

"Master Mu and Ning Qing's good sister, Yin Shuiling, were engaged since childhood, and three years ago Ning Qing and my cousin Xu Junxi were also engaged to marry. The children of these four families had all became couples. They were the legendary couples of their generation. It was a pity that..."

"What's a pity? Don't leave us hanging anymore," someone shouted.

"Unfortunately, just three years ago, at Master Mu's 20th birthday party, 18-year-old Ning Qing had quietly climbed into Master Mu's bed!" Xu Lin pointed at Ning Qing and said fiercely.

"Wow." The entire place was in a mess.

Everyone looked at Ning Qing in disbelief.

"Ning Qing." Ning Qing stumbled back a few steps, and Lin Xuemei quickly reached out to help her. "Enough, Xu Lin, you weren't there three years ago, and there wasn't any evidence. You are framing her!"

"There is no impervious wall in this world. Ning Qing, dare you swear in front of so many people that you haven't been in the bed of Master Mu?" Xu Lin asked Ning Qing aggressively.

Did she dare swear?

Ning Qing dared not.

Because that was the...truth.

But...but what had happened three years ago, she hadn't known how it had happened.

When people saw Ning Qing staring silently at the ground, they were shocked. The school beau was disappointed with Ning Qing and stepped back.

At this moment, Mother Xu ran forward in shock. She grabbed Xu Lin and asked, "What, is what you have said true, Ling Ling? Why don't I know about it? Did Junxi know that?"

Xu Lin patted her aunt's hand and nodded slowly. "My cousin knows about it."

Ning Qing was shocked, her pupils constricted sharply. Xu Junxi...he knew!

Xu Lin saw that she had shocked the crowd. She turned to Ning Qing and said, "Ning Qing, you always thought that my cousin had failed you by cheating on you, but how would you know the suffering and pain in his heart all these years? His fiancee and his good brother had slept together. He couldn't accept it and couldn't expose you. He couldn't face the both of you. He didn't dare to ask you, do you know why? Because my cousin loved you so much. He was afraid of blowing things up. He was afraid that you would be utterly discredited and would never be able to hold your head high again in T City.

"How righteous and magnificent you were at my cousin and Sister Yao Yao's engagement dinner. Everyone saw how aggressive and domineering you were. My cousin could only endure the suffering silently and put all the blame on himself. He was so restrained and honest, so gentlemanly. You ask yourself, can you honor his deep feelings and conscience?"

Ning Qing was unable to refute any of Xu Lin's words. Three years ago, that incident was her magic barrier and her insurmountable calamity.

Mother Xu wept inconsolably. She hammered herself in the chest and cried out, "What sin have I committed? How has that child Junxi survived these three years? Why did he ever meet Ning Qing?"

At this time, Mother Xu's crying was more effective than any criticism. People looked at Ning Qing with even more unfriendly gazes and shook their heads one after another.

Xu Lin saw that she had controlled the entire situation, and Ning Qing could not refute her. She was feeling more pleased. She believed Ning Yao's words. As long as she told everyone about this incident, it would be Ning Qing's weakness.

"At that time, the Mu family was the most influential family in T city. How many people admired Young Master Mu? Ning Qing, why did you climb into his bed? Was it because of the Mu family's power or Master Mu's good looks? You know Master Mu was your good sister Yin Shuiling's fiance. It's very shameful for you to snatch away her love!"

"No, I didn't, I..." Ning Qing wanted to explain that she hadn't meant it.

But Xu Lin interrupted her, "What's the use of discussing how she had climbed into his bed now? Now we should talk about the consequences of climbing into his bed."

Ning Qing's face turned pale and she could hardly stand. Her heart was in agonizing pain. Warm liquid dripped from the corners of her eyes, and she burst into tears in an instant.

"Three years ago, Yin Shuiling, the little princess of T City, was best friends with T City's richest socialite Ning Qing. It was said that they could share everything except men. But do you all know why the sisters have become strangers now? That's because not only did Ning Qing snatch her love away, but the most

important thing was that the Yin family had encountered a financial crisis at that time, but they were keen to protect their daughter. So Father Yin had slapped Mu Yunfan in public, which led to the break of the two families. Later, the Mu family did not help the Yin family. Mother Yin died of a heart attack on the spot. Father Yin was sentenced to life imprisonment. He is still in prison now. Yin Shuiling changed from a princess to an orphan daughter and fled to other places.

"After some time, the Mu family moved to Singapore three years ago. The four families of Mu, Yin, Xu, and Ning grew further and further apart, and the friendship between generations had been broken overnight."

When Xu Lin finished, the audience was silent.

She looked at Ning Qing, who was full of tears, and asked with a sneer, "Ning Qing, you've hurt so many people alone, do you know you are guilty?

"But your crime does not stop there. The darkest and most selfish thing about you is that you know you're guilty, but you don't say it out loud! You think that nobody knows about it. You want to deceive yourself and others all your life!"

"No, it's not like that. I didn't..." Ning Qing lost control and screamed. She threw aside Lin Xuemei's hand and ran away.

The people left behind exclaimed in shock and started whispering amongst themselves.

The situation seemed turbulent this evening; it was doomed to be an extraordinary night.

...

Ning Qing went back to the Tea Pavilion Villa. Auntie Yang had taken a day off to take care of her grandson and was not in the villa.

And this month, Grandma had a craniotomy, and her health was improving day by day. Her memory was returning slowly. Her mother had brought Grandma and moved away from the villa, back to their own little condo.

The big villa was empty, with not a single soul in it. It felt very lonely.

It aptly reflected Ning Qing's mood, grey and hazy like it was covered in fog. She couldn't see herself. She couldn't see the way ahead. She was completely lost.

She felt very cold, as if she were walking alone on a path with the cold wind biting at her face, landing like the sharp blade of a knife.

Down in spirit, she went upstairs and into the cellar. She took out a glass of fine red wine and drank it.

Her little body was huddled in the corner by the wall. She looked up and downed a glass of red wine.

Three years ago, she had attended Brother Yunfan's 20th birthday party with Shuiling and Junxi. The four of them had grown up together, and on such a happy occasion, they had laughed and played. They had been so happy.

She drank some wine, this was her first time drinking, and she felt drunk and dizzy after drinking it. She got up and went to the bathroom to wash her face.

Not knowing which room it was, she opened it and went in. She fell into the soft bed as she blacked out.

She wanted to get up, but she was powerless.

In a daze, she heard the door open. It was Brother Yunfan's voice. With a little drunkenness, he was laughing with some male friends. "Is this the room?"

"Yes, this is our 20th birthday gift for you. The chick's out of this world. 16 years old, she's very tender. She's going to help you become a man."

At that time, she had not understood the meaning of their words. She wanted to get up, but could not get up. At that time, a hot body pressed down on her.

It was the smell of Brother Yunfan. The faint scent of men's cologne lingered with the scent of wine.

Someone came to kiss her. She was scared and avoided the kiss.

Then she felt the buttons of her clothes being ripped off, and she struggled to hide her body shamefully, but she felt dizzy and everything went dark.

When she opened her eyes again, she was lying in the arms of her Brother Yunfan. Her scream woke him up and he was surprised.

Then Shuiling arrived, and Auntie Yin and Auntie Mu. She didn't have any clothes on. She shrank into the blankets, scared.

Her mind was a mess. She held her head, and she could not hear what the people around her were arguing about. She only remembered that later her Brother Yunfan had held her in his arms and said that everything was his fault.

Shuiling looked at her and turned away without saying a word.

Chapter 120: I Really Want To Invite Each One Of You To Shut Up

After returning home, she locked herself in her room. She could not accept it; she was unwilling to do so.

She was unable to believe that she went on... Brother Yun Fan's bed. Worse, she was unable to believe that she was... by her best friend Shui Ling's finance.

She had no time to recollect her breath, as the next day, she found out that Father Ying gave Mu Yunfan a tight slap, causing both families to officially cut ties.

That was a winter day with massive snow. She dashed out of her room, completely forgetting to put on her shoes, and ran barefoot to the Ying residence. All she saw was a warrant from the court hanging on the door. The Ying family was under investigation and everything had been seized.

The maids said that Shuiling went to the Mu residence, that she ran over barefoot. Her feet were icy cold. The floor was covered with blood. She did not know where it came from, but it was covering the entire floor. Maybe it was from being pierced by a sharp object, but she did not feel any pain.

When she arrived at the Mu residence, she witnessed the most heart-breaking scene ever. Shui Ling... kneeling before the door of the residence.

Shui Ling donned a thin red jumper. Red has always been her favourite colour. Youthful age, carefree character, her life was just like that of an arrogant princess.

That princess pitifully kneeled in the snow, tears streaming down her face, softy begging the Mu family to help her father.

But the door to the Mu family was firmly closed.

When she stepped forward, Shui Ling fainted and fell on the ground due to the extreme cold.

Just like what Xu Lin said. The other members in the Ying family all met their ends. Shuiling left the country. Even when she was leaving, Shuiling was unwilling to give her an opportunity to see her again.

She did not know that everything would end like this. Everything happened too quickly. It'd gone to hell within two days without any warning signs, just like a nightmare.

She did not have any energy to explain how she'd ended up on Mu Yunfan's bed. All she knew was that she harmed everyone. She harmed the Ying family. She harmed Shuiling.

She was only 18 at that time, yet she was stuck in a dilemma coming from every direction, and she did not have any solutions to ease her panicked mind. She was surrounded by those she loved. She lost what was deemed most precious to a lady. She did not dare tell anyone, not even one soul.

For a long period after that, she thought of herself as an unlucky star. It was as if she'd contracted a psychological illness. This sickness led to amnesia. She told herself again and again to forget the past, just like nothing had ever happened.

This was the only way she could continue on living.

It was a pity that this kind of hypnosis methodology was of no use. When Mother Ying passed away, she suddenly thought of the slap she wanted to give Mother Ying when she pushed the door open and received the look of hate and disdain that Mother Ying had given her.

Xu Lin was right all along. She was too scheming and too selfish, and this was a secret that she kept in the depths of her heart.

How could she be this type of person?

However, that was not to say that nobody would believe that she did not have any intention to scam anyone, but rather she was unwilling to face her past, unwilling to face that side of herself.

Maybe this was better. If everyone in the world knew of this, she did not need to be this helpless anymore. Only she knew of how much pain and guilt she'd been enduring tirelessly this whole time.

Without knowing, Ning Qing consumed an entire bottle of red wine. The empty wine bottle rolled onto the ground. Her entire body lay flat. She closed her eyes absentmindedly, drunk.

Hot fat tears burst down her face, without an ounce of control.

Her mind was unclear and when she slipped into unconsciousness, she murmured with a hint of fondness, "I am sorry, Shaoming."

She did not dare think of him, but at that moment, she missed him most.

Ning Qing was jolted awake the next day with an incessant ringtone interrupting her slumber. She wiped the sleepiness in her eyes, there was no air conditioning in the wine cellar. Her body lay stiffly on the floor. Her limbs were numb. Her head and sinuses hurt; it felt like she was about to contract the flu.

With a single glance at her phone, she saw that it was a call from Xiao Zhou. She answered the call but did not open her mouth to speak.

The situation on Xiao Zhou's end was a mess. "Ning Qing, what are you doing now? What was the meaning behind the words that Xu Lin said at the gala last night? Did you know that you are in the entertainment headlines right now? This matter has blown up the entertainment industry!"

"Our office's landline is jammed with calls. The web is full of negative coverage of you. Comments on your Weibo have been filled with curses and personal attack on you."

"Ning Qing, I do not care if the claims are true or not. It has been a struggle to get to the position that you are at today. I believe that if you were willing to do so last night, based on your intelligence and quick wittedness, you would have been able to handle the situation at hand. Why did you not defend yourself? Did you give up on yourself?"

Ning Qing silently listened but did not respond. Xiao Zhou has been friends with Ning Qing for years. She understood Ning Qing very well. She calmed the fury inside her and said, "Ning Qing, there was a picture that was uploaded onto the internet today. It was a picture of you and Mu Yunfan taken in bed three years ago."

Ning Qing's hands froze; her pupils dilated.

"Ning Qing, things are on a level that cannot be controlled. We are all waiting for you to recharge and move on. I don't believe that you have yet to notice this incident had been clearly premeditated beforehand. There is someone going after you."

"Ning Qing, I suggest that you go on the internet to see. Emperor Entertainment Group's share prices have risen significantly today. This matter has caused Xu Junxi to become the ultimate winner. On the other hand, Guang Qing Company's share prices have plummeted significantly due to the controversy surrounding you.

Ning Qing's dry eyes immediately burst out into tears, she bit her fist, controlling her immense sadness. "Shaoming, he... won't want me anymore."

Xiao Zhou did not know how to comfort her, it was only up to her to overcome these trials, and nobody could help her to do so. "Ning Qing, if you do not make any effort, how would you know that Young Master Lu would not want you anymore? Never give up on yourself. The office team supports you/ We're waiting for you to regain your footing. Once you have a solution, call me anytime. We will be waiting for you."

Xiao Zhou ended the call.

Ning Qing wiped her tears and used the wall to help her stand up. She dragged her numb limbs and switched on the notebook to open the webpage.

Today's entertainment headline read, "This generation's Best Actress Ning Qing hungry for power, 3 years ago went to bed with Mu Yunfan, Xu Junxi endured great shame."

She scrolled to that picture, her 18 year old self seated on the bed in fear, covered with a thin blanket, with a shirtless Mu Yunfan embracing her in his arms.

Ning Qing read the comments left by netizens....

"Never imagined that the Best Actress Ning Qing would snatch away her best friend's fiancé, by engaging in adultery. I was fooled by her elegant and poised appearance."

"I agree, I never thought Ning Qing would be such a person, I used to be her super fan. I can't continue supporting her anymore."

"The actresses nowadays have a lack of honesty. I still remember when Ning Qing won against Xu Junxi and Ning Yao with her wit. We applauded her actions. I did not expect her to betray them first. Xu Junxi is a good man, and Ning Yao comforted his scarred and insulted heart."

"Ay, never thought that this generation's Best Actress would be that pathetic, it is hard for us to swallow..."

Ning Qing stared blankly as she scrolled through the website, at this moment, her phone rang again. It was a call from Emperor Entertainment Group's Director Wang.

"Hello, Miss Ning, what exactly went down? Xu Junxi's popularity has skyrocketed overnight. This controversy has led to a surge in Emperor Entertainment Group's shares. This has led to the board of directors to follow his preferences. Everyone is discussing the removal of your position as director."

Ning Qing hung up.

Her beautiful eyes were blank and unable to focus. The eyes on her pale face were fixed on two comments before her.

"Young Master Lu, your girlfriend seduced her best friend's fiancé 3 years ago. Did you have any idea of this? She even got together with President Xu Junxi. Would you still want a girl that is unclean?

"To the comment above: maybe Young Master Lu is just playing around. The more men that she has been with, the better her technique, haha..."

Pa! She slammed her notebook shut.

She was shaking uncontrollably, and she did not dare to look further.

Her delicate small face was wet with boiling tears. Everyone knew of Lu Shaoming's background and status and was reluctant to comment freely. In the vast sea of comments, she could only find these two comments, but these two comments were enough to represent the opinion of the entire population.

Everyone was mocking Lu Shaoming.

He was such a clean and pure man just because of her. He dirtied himself.

Guang Qing Company's share prices have fallen heavily because of her. This was the biggest and most heartless taunt the citizens had given to Lu Shaoming.

How could she allow him to be the laughing stock of others? A man like him should always be regarded highly.

Ning Qing's feeble shoulders continued to shake as she sobbed helplessly.

Just then, she received a call from Xu Junxi.

Ning Qing bit her fist, and tried to regulate her breathing to a normal range. She answered the call and said, "Hello."

"Hello, Ning Qing." Xu Junxi replied with a hoarse voice.

"You knew everything from the start?"

"Yes."

"So you distanced yourself from me due to this matter and fell in love with Ning Yao instead?"

"Yes, that's the biggest reason! I cannot accept my fiancé going to bed with someone I consider a brother. I felt utterly insulted," Xu Junxi proclaimed through his teeth. These things that were buried for 3 years finally came to light. He felt free. He hated this. He hated this too much.

He was arrogant and said every word harshly. Now he was unbound and had the freedom of revenge.

Ning Qing always thought this was all his fault, now looking back, whose fault was it exactly?

"Ning Qing, now you know the reason that I fell in love with Ning Yao. You always thought that it was my fault. Actually I held in all those grievances. It was you who let me down."

"Xu Junxi, stop bullshitting!" Ning Qing stood up and yelled.

On the opposite end of the line, Xu Junxi was shocked. This was probably the first time he had ever heard Ning Qing curse.

He broke out in laughter. What she did mean. Was she mad? It was her betrayal 3 years ago, but today, she still did not feel an ounce of guilt and shame. She was even shouting at him now?

"Xu Junxi, did you know that to a woman, as long it is not done with the man she loves, any another person would be considered rape! Did you ever know, everyone else ever know, I was drunk that day so I climbed into bed. Fate was cruel to me. I was the true victim 3 years ago. I am the innocent party in all of this!

"I closed my eyes and my entire world changed. I lost something that was most dear to me. I shouldered the Ying family's downfall. I am guilty of all this. But what did I do wrong? Can you tell me what I did wrong?

"Why should I shoulder everything?

"I was only 18 then. I was injured badly. I sobbed for the entire night. I dreamt of Aunty Ying. I had numerous nightmares. I almost went mental. I kept this a secret in order to live on. Who did I offend? Whose profit did I steal? What authority do any of you have to be pointing the finger at me?

"I really want to invite each one of you to shut up!

"Xu Junxi, do you think by letting me know that you knew this matter beforehand, everyone else would be praising you? Let me tell you: You are wrong! I despise you even more now! I only regret that I did not stab you during your engagement ceremony with Ning Yao!

"I slept with another man. Did you not have even one word to say? Other than distancing yourself from me, you were also disgusted. You think I was willing to be used? Do all the young victims of sexual abuse have to shoulder all responsibility for the perpetrator's misdeeds? How much more shameless are you? How pathetic? How scheming? You chose to ignore your fiancé's innocence! You dumped me when I needed you most! Just because I slept with another man, you turned and left to Ning Yao, who was 'clean and innocent'. No wonder you value a woman's chastity so greatly; whoever you choose to love, you only actually love yourself!

"Xu Junxi, I would rather it was the guilt you had for Ning Yao that led you to fall into her embrace, instead of your cowardly actions. Please remember, even if I, Ning Qing, owe the entire world, I do not even have one cent of debt that I owe you!"

Ning Qing sobbed as she shouted all these words. There was a mirror in the room. She saw her tear-filled eyes in the reflection. Her eyes and nose were red. Her red features on her pale face were a visual shock to her. Her hair was in a mess. Her emotions were out of control.

Xu Junxi was stumped and froze. He did not have any response to her criticism.

She was drunk when she got in the bed?

Oh. He recalled the night. At that time she did have a lot to drink. Her face was crimson pink, pretty like a rose in June.

The 18 year old Ning Qing was a woman that made all men fall in love at first sight.

She said she wanted to go to the restroom. He wanted to escort her there but she rejected him.

After that, when Father Ying slapped Mu Yunfan, he had been present; he knew everything that happened.

Now she was seeking responsibility for the matter. Whether she was a willing party or not, she'd been soiled. What gave her such privilege to be shouting at him?

The more stubborn she was, the more he wanted her to have her heart broken.

The blood in his entire body was boiling hot. His eyes were cold and he laughed eerily. "Ning Qing, what is the use of being so emotional? You only dare to shout loudly at me. How about Lu Shaoming? Do you dare to repeat the story of your innocence during the rape to him?

That voice on the other end immediately went silent, Xu Junxi could only hear her breathless sobbing, which was immensely heart-breaking.

Haha, he just knew that he'd get to her by mentioning Lu Shaoming. He was her ultimate weakness.

She was in pain.

But, but why was his heart in such pain, In such agony? The girl that once belonged to him, there finally came the day where he had to rely on using another man to provoke her pain.

Such a joke!

This was such a fucking joke!

"Ning Qing, which man on earth would be obliged to accept dirtied second hand goods? Oh, let me guess, you have yet to tell Lu Shaoming that you are no longer a virgin, right? That's not right, you have slept with him already. How did you fool him? Did you get any reconstructive surgery in the hospital?

"Lu Shaoming is a man of high status. He has an iron grip on the market. He has been standing on the peak of power since birth. This is good. You've dragged him down with you. You have turned into his only blemish!"