Chapter 451: Why Should I Help You?

"Enough!" Mr. Zhou lashed out. He did not think that Zhou Weiqi's action of not giving his seat away was wrong. He was angry, however, at Zhou Weiqi for not stopping Mrs. Zhou and Zhou Ning's shenanigans at the charity auction.

How could Mr. Zhou not know his wife and daughter's temperament? That was why he was mad at Zhou Weiqi; he did nothing to salvage the Zhou family's reputation!

"I heard from your mother that your buddies know who the Divine Doctor is? It seems like the Divine Doctor is competent, especially in mending broken bones. You know how cousin Du Chen is right now. Why don't you ask your buddies to connect the Divine Doctor to the Du family, and see if he can actually fix his leg for good?" Mr. Zhou said.

Zhou Weiqi lifted his head up abruptly after hearing Mr. Zhou's statement. His lips slowly curled into a wry smile.

"Dad, don't you think it's ludicrous that a lowly person like me, who is also an illegitimate son, can actually do the things that worthy people like you can't even manage to do?"

His tone of voice was sardonic. "Correct me if I'm wrong but didn't you used to say that I'm naïve and dumb, and being taken advantage of by them? Who am I to them now? Their parents? Their superiors? Why should they help me, no, why should they help the Zhou family?"

Mr. Zhou certainly heard the sarcasm and taunt in Zhou Weiqi's reply and understood his anger and disappointment toward himself as his father. He sat there in silence, unable to say anything.

It was true that he did nothing to support his son's career. Ever since he graduated from the military academy, Zhou Weiqi was nothing more than an ordinary salaryman in the platoon. Even after learning of the existence of the Masters of Jindo, Mr. Zhou believed Zhou Weiqi was included in the gang only to be taken advantage of by the rest.

He felt bad and wanted to do something for his son, but the thought only flashed through his mind ever that quickly. Nothing more.

"Go look for Brother Liang, Brother Gu or Brother Lu if you want to meet the Divine Doctor. I don't have the audacity to ask for this favor. Do it yourselves if you want." Zhou Weiqi inhaled a huge whiff of cigarette smoke before extinguishing the cigarette in the ashtray. "Are you done scolding? I have to go now."

"Stop right there!" Mrs. Du yelled.

Zhou Weiqi was dismayed looking at Mr. Zhou, whose expression did not change. Even an outsider like Mrs. Du could holler at him right in front of the head of the family. That was how broken the Zhou family came to be.

Mrs. Du quickly pulled the hands of Mr. Du, turning toward Mr. Zhou, she said, "We, the Du family, helped when the Zhou family got into trouble back then. Now you can't even return the favor?"

"We didn't say we're not going to help." Mrs. Zhou quickly clarified.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Du understood that only Zhou Weiqi could help them now. Without him, they might never get to meet the Divine Doctor.

Chapter 452: Ignorant

Mr. Zhou's expression darkened. Was the Du family holding them for ransom by demanding retribution? Yet, as Zhou Weiqi explicitly said, he himself did not have the courage to ask for the favor, what else did the Du family want?

Coincidentally, the doorbell rang right at that moment. The servant went out, looked, and announced, "Master Lu is here standing outside with a girl."

"Open the doors, let them in!" Upon hearing Lu Xingzhi's arrival, Mrs. Du quickly had the servant open the doors.

"Aren't you getting ahead of yourself here, Mrs. Du? I don't suppose this is the Du family's house." Zhou Weiqi took a jab at Mrs. Du.

He grabbed his jacket and walked out the door.

"Zhou Weiqi!" Mrs. Zhou quivered in rage. How dare Zhou Weiqi insult her sister-in-law!

Seeing Zhou Weiqi's approach, Lu Xingzhi stood outside, scanned the people in the house and said coldly, "Are you hounding Weiqi for the Divine Doctor?"

The occupants in the house were surprised. They did not expect Lu Xingzhi himself to mention the Divine Doctor. Mr. and Mrs. Du's faces lit up.

"That's right! We would like the Divine Doctor's opinion on Du Chen's leg. We are wondering if Master Lu is able to connect us with the Divine Doctor?" Du Shihua quickly asked. His tone softened and was very courteous when he spoke to Lu Xingzhi.

Lu Xingzhi chuckled. "Indeed, I know the Divine Doctor very well. But don't you think it's a little too much for the bastard son of the Zhou family to actually come to me for the favor?"

They had no qualms treating Zhou Weiqi badly. Yet when the situation aroused needing Zhou Weiqi's involvement, they had the audacity to demand his help!

Oh, he knew the Divine Doctor well! Who else knew Jiang Yao—his wife—better than he did?

"Aren't you buddies?" Zhou Ning replied.

"I remember hearing that the Zhou family declared Weiqi as a joke among us, and is not fit to be in our gang?" Lu Xingzhi had no respect for the Zhou and the Du family.

They squandered away Zhou Weiqi's future just like that!

Before they could speak, Jiang Yao added, "Only under two conditions are you allowed to see the Divine Doctor."

"Who are you to speak here!" Mrs. Zhou finally recognized the woman standing beside Lu Xingzhi, she was the same person hanging out with Zhou Weigi back at the charity auction.

"Fools." Lu Xingzhi could not hide his displeasure and immediately left with Jiang Yao.

"Interesting. Very interesting indeed." Zhou Weiqi repeated Lu Xingzhi's remark, "Fools." He got in his car and left immediately.

Interesting, indeed!

The Divine Doctor that the Du and Zhou family wanted to see was right there standing in front of them!

Lu Xingzhi looked extremely frightening even after leaving the Zhou family. He did not start the car immediately, instead, he dialed a number on his cell phone and said, "No matter what it takes, do it quickly. I want to see him inside tomorrow morning."

Once he hung up the phone, he started the car and left with Jiang Yao.

Mr. Zhou could not contain his anger and gave Mrs. Zhou a good, hard slap on the face. "You fool! How could you upset Lu Xingzhi's woman? The audacity you have! Great, now they're never going to help us! Whatever happens to Du Chen is not my concern now! I'm done!"

Chapter 453: Torment

Mr. Zhou left the house infuriated; nobody else knew where he went after.

"Rongzhen! You have got to do something with that awful temper of yours!" Du Shihua was exasperated. Lu Xingzhi was on the verge of granting them an audience with the Divine Doctor, only for his own sister to ruin the whole show.

"I thought she was Weiqi's woman! How should I know that Lu Xingzhi and she are related!" Mrs. Zhou was crying and she buried her face in her hands. "It was her who shoved Ning earlier in the day at the charity auction!"

"I saw Old General Liang and General Chen in a conversation with that woman at the auction today. They seem to know each other very well. Plus, she's also friendly with Chen Xuyao; she's definitely not the person you're thinking of. Lu Xingzhi auctioned off a hair pin with a ridiculous price just for her. If I am to guess, she's either his fiancée or his wife." Du Xingzhi concluded. He was sure that his guess was very close to the truth, yet, the closer it was, the more he hated his sister for her tendency to put her foot in her mouth.

Assuming that the woman really was Lu Xingzhi's spouse, why would Lu Xingzhi agree to help the Du family, after Du Rongzhen's numerous insults against the girl? Knowing Lu Xingzhi, it was a miracle if he decided not to take retribution against the Zhou family.

After some time on the road, Jiang Yao finally tugged on Lu Xingzhi's clothes and asked, "Who were you calling just now?"

"An old friend." Lu Xingzhi answered bluntly as he was still in a crummy mood. "There is no reason for my wife to receive insults again and again! I will never let that happen!"

He felt calmer after saying it out; turning toward Jiang Yao, he asked, "What are the two conditions you had in mind?"

Jiang Yao straightened her back and laughed wryly. "Two conditions. The first is to have Mr. Zhou publish a notice on all major newspapers in Jindo city declaring his severance of a father-son relationship with Zhou Weiqi. As for the second one, you know it's not easy doing a surgery, so I would like some payment as gratitude."

"Surgery?" Lu Xingzhi sneered. "We are only agreeing to connect them with the Divine Doctor. Nobody said anything about fixing Du Chen's leg."

Jiang Yao looked at Lu Xingzhi. From the beginning, he did not plan for Jiang Yao to operate on Du Chen. Was this all part of his scheme to trap the Zhou and Du families?

What a wicked man!

Yet, she loved this devious personality of his.

"I'm not stopping you if you want to do it. You can make Du Chen stand for a couple of years and then back to the wheelchair he goes. See? Give them hope and crush them mercilessly. Hey, that's a pretty good idea!" Lu Xingzhi was pleased with his ideas. "This is even worse than not giving Du Chen a chance to stand up at all."

So, this was how his nickname of 'Hades Lu' came about?

Little wonder that every single person in the platoon knew that the only person they could never afford to offend is Lu Xingzhi.

He usually let things slide but once he had targeted a person, he would do everything he could to take them down.

The Purple Orchid Garden was a massive and age-old traditional Chinese compound. According to the legends, it used to be a general's residence centuries ago. Throughout the years however, the current owner took ownership of it and it became the Purple Orchid Garden that was known today.

Chapter 454: It's Not That Bad

The group of four met in front of the entrance to the Purple Orchid Garden. Lu Xingzhi took a phone call before entering with the others. They walked straight ahead and stopped right in front of a middle-aged man dressed in a blue robe.

It was rare to see someone dressed in an antique robe nowadays, not to mention it was a man in his fifties, who looked charming in it.

"This is my mentor." Lu Xingzhi stood in front of Master Cai and introduced him to Jiang Yao, before turning back and said, "This is my wife, I brought her here for a visit."

Jiang Yao moved her scarf out of her face's way and smiled at Master Cai. She was not sure how to address the master, so after a brief thought, she decided to follow Lu Xingzhi and greeted, "Nice to meet you, Master Cai, my name is Jiang Yao."

Master Cai's sullen face instantly lit up seeing Jiang Yao. "Just call me Uncle Cai, I never did acknowledge him as my disciple. I have to say though, Xingzhi is fortunate to have a wife like you!"

"Tut – tut," he continued, "the same cannot be said for you, young lady. There are so many guys in the world and yet you chose him? That's unfortunate!"

"What's wrong with Brother Lu?" Zhou Weiqi muttered under his breath. "I think they look perfect together!"

Master Cai waved his hands as if to shoo them away. "Go, go! I know you're not here to see me."

Chen Xuyao smirked. Zhou Weiqi did not realize it but Master Cai was actually happy seeing Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao. He pretended to be otherwise because he was probably still upset at Lu Xingzhi's previous antics.

"We'll return later." Lu Xingzhi pinched Jiang Yao's palm and motioned for her to wrap her scarf tighter. There was no heating in the compound, and the winds were getting chilly.

They were just about to leave when they heard a girl approaching, calling out softly, "Gramps!"

"Zhan Qiuhe!"

Zhou Weiqi recognized the person.

"Why are you here?" Zhou Weiqi immediately approached her and asked. He seemed to have forgotten the presence of anyone else in the compound, his eyes fixated on her. He stood speechless for a few seconds before asking, "Is that makeup on your face? Looks beautiful!"

"You know each other?" Master Cai instantly pulled Zhan Qiuhe behind him after seeing Zhou Weiqi's sudden approach.

"Weiqi's crush," Lu Xingzhi explained, seeing Jiang Yao's puzzled look. She instinctively looked at the girl and immediately noticed the dimples on her cheeks. It was not obvious but they became apparent once she started speaking.

Chapter 455: Weiqi's Heartthrob

"Zhou Weiqi is my colleague at work! We work in the same department." Zhan Qiuhe explained and smiled at Zhou Weiqi. She turned toward Master Cai and continued, "I was just with uncle because he seemed like he needed some help. However, my presence did nothing but complicate matters for him, that's why I'm back."

"It's very boring here, go be with your uncle." Master Cai felt sorry for his sister, who lost two young grandsons at once.

The Zhan family was left with Zhan Qiuhe as the only remaining grandchild. Losing her family like that, she had been feeling depressed for some time. As Grandmother Zhan knew that there was an event going on tonight at the Purple Orchid Garden, she asked her brother to bring Zhan Qiuhe along. Perhaps the fresh air and human interactions could cheer her up.

"Master Cai, I can look after Qiuhe for you! I'll make sure she's having fun!" Zhou Weiqi said as he approached Zhan Qiuhe with his hands out wanting to hold her hand.

Jiang Yao noticed Master Cai's expression, took a few steps back and pulled Lu Xingzhi along with her. Just as expected, Master Cai's booming voice was heard. "Get away from her! Qiuhe, look at him, he is a playboy! Get as far away as possible. You might get pregnant just by holding his hand.

Zhou Weiqi was flabbergasted. He looked at his hand and shook his head. "That can't be right, Master Cai, that's not possible."

"Let's go." Lu Xingzhi grabbed Jiang Yao's hand, and gave Chen Xuyao a signal. They left immediately, abandoning a distraught Zhou Weiqi.

Jiang Yao could not hold her laughter in anymore. She roared.

"Serves him right!" Jiang Yao had been hearing Zhou Weiqi's rumors since she came over. According to the gossip, Zhou Weiqi was a lustful male with a different female partner for each day of the week.

Yet, Jiang Yao had never seen Zhou Weiqi together with a woman even after knowing him for so long. Every so often, she would catch a whiff of women's perfume from his body or would catch a glimpse of a lipstick mark on his neck.

Frankly speaking, Zhou Weiqi himself was not a womanizer. He was pressured by the Zhou family to act in a certain way, allowing others to think that he was a good-for-nothing playboy with no ambitions. He did this to cover for himself, so that Mrs. Zhou and the rest would not see him as a threat.

It was tiring having to live his life like that.

After leaving the compound where Master Cai was located, Lu Xingzhi led Jiang Yao and Chen Xuyao to a different compound they passed by on the way here. It was much crowded and more spacious than the previous one. Upon entering, they could see numerous stones, or more accurately rough emerald stones, placed around the compound.

"Are you going to show us your skill, Brother Lu?" Chen Xuyao got very excited. "Or perhaps you could give me some tips?"

He rubbed his hands in glee, looking intently at every stone he passed by. In reality, he was a complete beginner.

"No, I'm just showing Jiang Yao what's going on." Lu Xingzhi shook his head. He had no plans to buy them as he did not bring his tools along.

Everything looked new and fascinating to Jiang Yao. Everyone present here had a flashlight and some other tools in their hand. They would stand in front of a stone and give it a rub, or maybe look at it using a flashlight or even check out the details using a magnifying glass. It was a solemn affair as the expressions of the enthusiasts were serious.

Chapter 456: Mentor

"Isn't Master Cai your mentor?" Jiang Yao scanned the room, observing the people going about their business. "He's located not that far from here, and yet it's not as crowded. What's his business here tonight?"

"Well, Brother Lu cannot actually be considered as Master Cai's disciple," Chen Xuyao explained. He looked at Lu Xingzhi and seeing his lack of reaction, continued, "It was a coincidence that Brother Lu got to know stone gambling back then. He found it fascinating and heard that Master Cai was well-known for his skills among the insiders and decided to be an apprentice under him. I still remember the first time he visited Master Cai; he was dressed in uniform and Master Cai, seeing that, chased him out with a broom!"

"What happened after?" Jiang Yao kept playing the image of Lu Xingzhi chased out of the door by Master Cai in her mind, it was hilarious no matter how she saw it.

"Aren't you familiar with Brother Lu's temperament? The things he set his mind on will be achieved no matter what it takes. Since Master Cai did not want to accept him as his disciple, he snooped in when Master Cai's lessons were ongoing and eavesdropped on his teachings. Two hours after, he had the audacity to approach Master Cai and tell him that since he heard everything, Master Cai is his mentor now. Once again, he was beaten out of the door."

Chen Xuyao got excited as he continued, "I am not kidding when I said he was beaten out of the door. Brother Lu came back with bruises on his body; he had to go to the school clinic to get them treated. Ever since then, Brother Lu would go to Master Cai's whenever he can. Master Cai could not do anything and just let him be. To tell the truth, Brother Lu spent probably less than half a year there with Master Cai, but with his intelligence he managed to pick up a lot of things."

"I see. It was not an official teacher-student relationship." Jiang Yao understood immediately.

"Master Cai's frosty response toward Brother Lu is not caused by this incident, however. Brother Lu left once he learned everything he wanted. There was a time when Master Cai asked Brother Lu to go for a stone gambling conference with him. Brother Lu replied that he was not interested and did not plan to further his career in the field. Once he is done with school, he will enter the army. Master Cai almost choked receiving the news, he was infuriated."

Lu Xingzhi was tenacious and would see to the end whatever he wanted to achieve. His attitude caused Master Cai to misinterpret it as a sign that he wanted to forgo his military career and start anew with stone gambling. Even though Master Cai did not officially admit that Lu Xingzhi was his disciple, he still taught Lu Xingzhi plenty. He would not have invited Lu Xingzhi to the conference if he did not want him to do well in the field.

Who would have thought that Lu Xingzhi gave up on the opportunity, joined the army and actually managed to score big on a rough stone he bought using just three thousand dollars?

Never in Master Cai's life had he seen a person living his life in such a carefree manner and in any way as he pleased. He was offended and thought Lu Xingzhi did that just to mess with him, that explained the frosty reception toward Lu Xingzhi.

Chen Xuyao knew, however, that Master Cai liked Lu Xingzhi. After all, Lu Xingzhi was a very clever person and was a fast learner. Whatever he chose to do, his future was destined to be brilliant.

Chapter 457: A Familiar Face

Jiang Yao listened intently to what Chen Xuyao had to say. She never thought that Lu Xingzhi was such an eccentric person.

If not for Chen Xuyao's account, she would never get to know how Lu Xingzhi was during his schooling days.

He might be a man of few words, but he was an unfettered soul, free and independent—the character typical of a young man. As time passed, he came to be more mature and reliable, leaving his younger, carefree self, behind in time.

Jiang Yao felt a little sorry for herself that she was not there with him during his youthful days.

Lu Xingzhi did not interrupt Chen Xuyao while he was speaking, seeing Jiang Yao's full-fledged focus on his narration. Only when Chen Xuyao was done did Lu Xingzhi grab hold of Jiang Yao and gently pulled her toward himself.

"Mind the crowd here." Lu Xingzhi reminded her, "There're many people carrying rough stones around. It would hurt a lot if you bump into one."

"Weren't you asking what Uncle Cai was here for tonight?" Lu Xingzhi pointed at the people going on about their tasks and said, "He is here to interpret stones. The owner of the Purple Orchid Garden knows Uncle Cai very well; whenever activities are going on here, Uncle Cai will be present as well."

Lu Xingzhi pointed at a rough stone sitting nearby. In his eyes, they looked just like regular concrete bricks found at the side of the road.

"The rough stones are classified into different grades. The event tonight is a pretty interesting one. The rough stones are sold by their weight, the numbers in front of them their price per pound. After you've chosen one, you pay for it over there, and if you want it, you bring it to Uncle Cai to see what's in the stone." Lu Xingzhi dragged Jiang Yao out of the way of a man who seemed to be carrying a stone of at least fifty pounds in weight. "The event has just started, that's why it seemed a little quiet over at Master Cai's location. I suppose it is getting crowded there too, right now."

They strolled along for a while and found themselves in a compound deep inside the venue. It was a quiet place, with less people around compared to the previous compounds they passed on their way here.

The people that were found here were either extremely rich or powerful.

"Is this the place where the rough stones with the highest grades are sold?" Jiang Yao guessed.

Suddenly, she saw a familiar face!

"Mr. Huang!" Jiang Yao had a good impression of Mr. Huang, so after noticing him, she called out.

She was wrapped up like a ball though and looked like a high schooler under all the fluff. Even though Huang Chengjing heard a familiar voice calling out to him, he did not know where it came from, until he saw Lu Xingzhi, and the little ball of fabric standing next to him.

Huang Chengjing spoke quickly to his assistant and walked toward Jiang Yao and the gang. He examined her outfit, and laughed, "This is a little odd for me, Miss Jiang, I thought you looked like Chenchen! If not for Master Lu here, I wouldn't have realized it was you."

Chapter 458: The Stone is Fine

Jiang Yao smiled at Huang Chengjing. "Fancy seeing you here Mr. Huang! Are you here for stone gambling too?"

Huang Chengjing nodded. Seeing Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao empty-handed, he presumed that they were here just to look around. He continued, "I am currently planning to start a jewelry business with some friends. I came over after receiving news that a rough stone trade fair is going on here. Perhaps I may get lucky and make some good purchases."

While Huang Chengjing was talking to Jiang Yao, his assistant came over holding a piece of rough stone which he was earlier observing; he seemed ready to make the payment.

Seeing that, Jiang Yao ended the conversation and urged Huang Chengjing to return to his work. They agreed to have dinner again together once they were back at Nanjiang City and had time off. She had Huang Chengjing bring his daughter, Huang Chenchen, out the next time they meet.

"Who's Huang Chenchen?" Chen Xuyao asked.

"Mr. Huang's daughter." Lu Xingzhi recalled how Jiang Yao used to talk about Huang Chenchen; she looked really fond of the little girl. That was why Lu Xingzhi wanted to have a daughter together with Jiang Yao.

The trio walked around the compound with Lu Xingzhi giving Jiang Yao a quick masterclass on rough emerald stones and stone gambling.

She never knew that there were so many things to learn about emerald stones, including the intricate structure of one such gem.

Curious, she touched the rough stone next to her and thought to herself how expensive it must be.

Just as suddenly, she realized that the stone she touched had started glowing. The originally gloomy stone started radiating a faint green light.

Alarmed, she retracted her hands, thinking that she damaged the stone. She looked at Lu Xingzhi and noticed he was already looking at her, only then she pointed at the stone.

"You want it?" Lu Xingzhi asked.

Jiang Yao shook her head violently. She was just about to say that the stone was damaged, when she looked back and saw that it was back to normal, the faint green light was gone.

Oh no! It was not the stone that was damaged, it was her eyes!

"What's wrong?" Lu Xingzhi was a little concerned.

"Nothing." Jiang Yao smiled, deciding to enter the Medical System later that night and ask for help from the System Admin.

"I think Jiang Yao is petrified by the ugly stone and how expensive it is." Chen Xuyao exclaimed. "Why am I stuck here with my business? I should've gone overseas and dug up rocks, perhaps that's all I need for me to strike gold."

"Right." Jiang Yao did not notice the price tag on the stone.

The trio left the compound just as Zhou Weiqi and Zhan Qiuhe came walking by. The lady was very quiet and sheepish. On the other hand, Zhou Weiqi spoke loudly, with his voice being heard before he was seen.

Chapter 459: Idiot

Zhou Weiqi intentionally bumped into Chen Xuyao, perhaps unhappy that he was left alone just now, before continuing to walk with Zhan Qiuhe.

"Idiot!" Chen Xuyao rubbed his shoulder, his face twisted with pain.

Why did he not do it to Jiang Yao or Lu Xingzhi instead?

Returning to where Master Cai was at, it looked to be more crowded and livelier than before. Standing next to him was a man who looked just like him, his son perhaps.

"It's quite calm in here." Lu Xingzhi, along with Jiang Yao, stood next to Master Cai.

Master Cai heard his voice and looked at them before saying, "This is just the beginning."

He was at the sidelines watching; another master was busy doing the interpreting now.

Jiang Yao allowed her gaze to wander around until she saw Huang Chengjing in an exchange with his assistant. Seeing that her attention was not reciprocated, she decided not to approach him.

The entire process of interpreting a stone could be described as intense and hair-raising. In one swift motion, the stone was slashed apart, revealing a faint green glow. The crowd cheered. The subsequent cut however, had the buyer in tears.

A stone bought for one hundred and fifty thousand instantly became a piece of junk worth nothing more than a hundred and fifty.

Just like life and its ups and downs, people spent huge sums of money and see the promise of an even greater return only for all effort to go down the drain.

Precisely how Lu Xingzhi described it. Stone gambling was exhilarating, but it could be devastating as well.

It was getting cold, so Lu Xingzhi and Jiang Yao left after two hours at the Purple Orchid Garden. Chen Xuyao, however, was very fascinated with the proceedings and stayed back along with Zhou Weiqi, who was there to accompany his crush.

Lu Xingzhi immediately turned on the heating just as Jiang Yao entered his car. He adjusted her hat and said, "Wait here for me," before entering a nearby stall and returning with a mug of hot flower tea in his hands.

"Drink it if you're thirsty. If you're not, just hold it, it'll keep you warm." He shoved the tea into Jiang Yao's hands and started the car.

Lu Xingzhi drove a little faster on their way back home. He had Jiang Yao settled in bed before entering the bathroom to shower.

Looking at his eagerness, Jiang Yao knew that Lu Xingzhi was ready for some action tonight, after a long period of not being able to do so.

After bathing, Lu Xingzhi stood in front of the mirror and looked at his scars. The wounds healed really fast, owing to Jiang Yao's mysterious medicine, only scars remained.

They rest on his chest like a couple of long, ugly centipedes.

A seasoned military man, he was never afraid of going into missions and returning with injuries. And yet, this was his first time looking at the scars he had received and feeling upset about them, wondering if Jiang Yao would find them unappealing.

Despite spending some time in the hospital, Lu Xingzhi looked healthy as ever with Jiang Yao's constant care and the Liang family's homecooked meals.

Chapter 460: You're Dead!

Whenever Lu Xingzhi had errands to run in Jindo City, he would spend the night here. That was why the house was well-stocked with toiletries and plenty of his personal items. After wiping his body dry, he put on a bathrobe and approached Jiang Yao, who was wrapped in a blanket daydreaming.

"Feeling chilly?" Lu Xingzhi asked.

Jiang Yao shook her head and sat up straight. 'So hot!' Her little heart went bonkers seeing the handsome human specimen standing right in front of her.

His hair was still dripping wet, coupled with his clean buzzcut, the water droplets raced down his forehead and landed at his chest, where they continued to flow down to the void hidden behind the bathrobe.

"Your hair's still wet." Jiang Yao realized her voice sounded unusually hoarse.

Lu Xingzhi looked at her and smiled. Pretending not to see her blushed face, he retrieved a clean towel from the wardrobe and quickly wiped his hair dry.

"Where do you want to go tomorrow?" Lu Xingzhi got into the blanket and pulled Jiang Yao toward him.

"Nowhere," Jiang Yao answered honestly. "Let's stay indoors. You've just been discharged from the hospital; you still need plenty of rest."

"Tsk, I'm not that weak." Lu Xingzhi heeded no attention to her concern. "We'll figure it out tomorrow morning."

Jiang Yao did not like the cold and had her jacket on even though Lu Xingzhi had turned on the heating as soon as they arrived.

"Let me take off your jacket."

He did not mind doing it for her.

Not being able to get physical with Jiang Yao, despite seeing her every waking moment was a huge torment for Lu Xingzhi.

That was why he had people come over earlier to clean the place up, as to have some solitary time with Jiang Yao.

"Cut those weird thoughts of yours out, Lu Xingzhi!" Jiang Yao grabbed hold of the hand that was trying to strip her down and glared at him. "Lie on the bed, close your eyes and go to sleep!"

"It has been half a month, plus you're going back to Nanjiang City in two days! That makes it, what, almost ninety days until I can see you again! Don't you think that's unfair?" Lu Xingzhi lamented.

"That's your problem!" Jiang Yao tried to slither her way out of Lu Xingzhi's embrace. He was faster though, and instantly pushed himself down on to her.

Jiang Yao was startled by Lu Xingzhi's sudden movements and could only struggle violently, in hopes of breaking free from his stranglehold.

Suddenly, she felt something hard pressing against her nose, something burning hot at that. She lifted her hand and touched it, to which Lu Xingzhi softly moaned. She knew then and there what she just touched!

"Lu Xingzhi! I'm going to murder you!" Jiang Yao exploded.

There was nothing underneath his bathrobe. And after the struggle in bed, the bathrobe came loose, exposing everything right before Jiang Yao.